



GRUPE DE  
RECHERCHE  
ESPACE(S)  
DE LA FICTION



## THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

# IMAGE, IMAGINARY, REPRESENTATION

MAY 8-9, 2014

### ORGANIZERS:

“VASILE ALECSANDRI” UNIVERSITY OF BAC U – The Faculty of Letters  
The Research Groups *INTERSTUD* and *CETAL*

### CO- ORGANIZERS:

“JEAN MONNET” UNIVERSITY of SAINT-ETIENNE, FRANCE  
UNIVERSITY of POITIERS, FRANCE  
UNIVERSITY of WESTERN BRITTANY (UBO), FRANCE  
UNIVERSITY of ATATÜRK, ERZURUM, TURKEY  
NATIONAL TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY of SEVASTOPOL, UKRAINE  
The FACULTY of PHILOLOGICAL STUDIES, WROCLAW, POLAND  
HELMO/ESAS, ECOLE SUPERIEURE D’ACTION SOCIALE, BELGIUM  
FRANCOPHONE UNIVERSITY AGENCY (AUF)  
ABDEF

The conference *Image, imaginary, representation*, coordinated by the Faculty of Letters from “Vasile Alecsandri” University of Bac u, reunites the annual scientific manifestations organized by the research groups and centres: **INTERSTUD (Espaces de la fiction, the 10<sup>th</sup>**

edition and **Cultural Spaces**, the 4<sup>th</sup> edition), **CETAL** (the 8<sup>th</sup> edition), **GASIE** (the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition). This unitary project, whose relevance will hopefully find an echo in the scientific and academic communities across the nation and other countries, seeks to offer the opportunity to have various interdisciplinary discussions on specific topics.

### Call for Papers

The universe of images and concepts such as imagination, imaginary and imaginariness have drawn the public interest since ancient times. In the 20<sup>th</sup> century their systematic analysis was approached from diverse (inter)disciplinary perspectives (metaphysical, psychological, sociological, political, mythological or religious, aesthetic, linguistic) and was undertaken by Humanities and Cultural Studies following different research trends: phenomenology and the phenomenology of religion and of perception (E. Husserl, H. Bergson, J.-P. Sartre, M. Merleau-Ponty, M. Eliade etc.), philosophical and biblical hermeneutics (M. Heidegger, H.-G. Gadamer, P. Ricœur, J. Baudrillard, G. Dumézil, Cl. Lévi- Strauss, G. Durand, H. Corbin etc.), psychology and psychoanalysis (J. Piaget, S. Freud, J. Lacan, C.-G. Jung, etc.), anthropology and sociology (R. Caillois, E. Morin, etc.), literature and art history (G. Bachelard, Ch. Mauron, R. Barthes, J. Starobinski, E. Faure, H. Focillon, etc.). The nature of the image itself encourages the multitude of these approaches and explorations; J.-J. Wunenburger, for instance, distinguishes the subject's *interior images* (dreams, daydreaming, phantasms) from *exteriorized images*, which are shaped into works of art, myths and utopias.

In the case of pictures, paintings and drawings we face the elusion of the referent's material nature (as they do not render a simple 'imitation' of the object, instead the visual representation produces and even enhances an *absence effect*). The mental images, mere products of subjectivity, relate closely to imagination, losing their *reproductive function* (J.-P. Sartre refers to the mental image's 'weakness' when compared to perception), thus providing specific forms to the perceived objects. The Imagination is no doubt "the capacity of deforming the images offered through perception, allowing us the choice to get rid of/eliminate the primal images, to change them" (G. Bachelard). Imaginary and imaginariness do not exclusively define the fictional nature of our representations regarding certain objects, these concepts should be more perceived as "an independent reality" (L. Boia), with internal structures that allow a better understanding of the reality.

How could we define an image's nature, which is real and imaginary at the same time? What relations are there among simulacrum, image, the unreal and the supernatural? What connections could we establish between different types of representation produced by the imagination (*reproductive representation* and *imaginary representation*) and the categories of *time* and *space*? Or among representations, perceptions and thought? Is an image the instrument of power? What does an image reveal or veil from the perceiver? Such questions have always aroused the researchers' interest and to such questions, we will try to find some answers.

A particular section is dedicated to corporeality and to the imaginary body. In the last decades, the human body has evolved from a marginal issue into a matter of central concern to a series of debates dealing with concepts such as race, gender and sexuality. This call for papers encourages the researchers to explore the representations of the body in cognitive sciences, philosophy, linguistics, semiotics, cultural anthropology, literature, gender studies and so on. In literature and arts, the body has been a theme, a motif or a symbol from antiquity onwards, significantly highlighted by Renaissance humanists, so the representations of the body differ between genres of writing and across different literary movements.

The body is the place that mirrors the socio-cultural practices, hence its importance and interest in Humanities and Social Sciences; its intentional alteration (through fashion, tattoos, make-up), its degeneration (through illnesses, aging or decay) lead to new interpretations of corporeality.

Possible topics could include, but are not limited to the discussion of the following aspects:

- Areas of cultural, political and linguistic imaginarieness;
- Theories of reference and representation; representations of the self and of the Other within different discourses;
- The Imaginary and the symbolic; myths, symbols, stereotypes; the images of the dreams;
- The imaginarieness of the body: construction and deconstruction of bodies – mutilation, rejection, transformation, fragmentation; adorned vs. naked bodies: nudity, veiling, fashion;
- Representing the body in contemporary media and arts;
- Body and non-verbal/paralinguistic communication, proxemics;
- Literary/ photographic/ cinematic images; photo-literature;
- Mediology and image;
- Psychology and politics of images: images and mass-media; social representations; self-image in the social game; the power of the image; the image of power.

### **Contact persons:**

- **ROMANIAN LANGUAGE and LITERATURE**  
Petronela Savin - [gabureanupetronela@yahoo.com](mailto:gabureanupetronela@yahoo.com);
- **ENGLISH LANGUAGE and LITERATURE**  
C t lina B lini teanu - [bcdum79@yahoo.de](mailto:bcdum79@yahoo.de)
- **FRENCH LANGUAGE and LITERATURE**  
Raluca B l i i - [ralucabalaita@yahoo.com](mailto:ralucabalaita@yahoo.com)
- **COMMUNICATION and PUBLIC RELATIONS**  
Cristina Cîrti -Buzoianu - [cristina\\_buzoianu@yahoo.com](mailto:cristina_buzoianu@yahoo.com)
- **Fee Treasurer :**  
Brîndu a Am l ncei - [brandusa\\_amalancei@yahoo.com](mailto:brandusa_amalancei@yahoo.com)

### **Scientific Committee:**

**Michel Beniamino** – University of Limoges, France  
**Ahmet Bese** – University Atatürk –Erzurum, Turkey  
**Iulian Boldea** – “Petru Maior” University of Târgu Mure  
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**Elena Croitoru** - “Dun rea de Jos” University of Gala i, Romania  
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**Liviu Dospinescu** – University of Laval, Canada  
**Stelian Dumistr cel** – “Alexandru Ioan Cuza” University of Ia i, Romania  
**Anca Gâ** – “Dun rea de Jos” University of Gala i, Romania  
**Mihaela Gheorghe** - „Transilvania” University of Bra ov, Romania  
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**Jean-Christophe Pitavy** – “Jean Monnet” University of Saint-Etienne, France  
**Costin Popescu** – University of Bucharest, Romania  
**Floriana Popescu** - “Dun rea de Jos” University of Gala i, Romania  
**Adriana-Gertruda Romedea** – “Vasile Alecsandri” University of Bac u, Romania  
**Vasile Spiridon** – “Vasile Alecsandri” University of Bac u, Romania  
**Brîndu a-Elena Steiciuc** – “ tefan cel Mare” University of Suceava, Romania  
**Mükremi n Yaman** – University Atatürk, Erzurum, Turkey  
**Zdzisław W sik** – “Adam Mickiewicz” University & The Faculty of Philological Studies, Wroclaw, Poland

## ORGANIZING COMMITTEE (COORDINATORS):

**Elena Bonta**

**Simina Mastacan**

**Elena Ciobanu**

**Nicoleta Popa Blanariu**

**Cristina Cîrti -Buzoianu**

**Brîndu a Am 1 ncei**

**Lumini a Drug**

**Nadia Mor ra u**

### ➤ **INFORMATION REGARDING THE CONFERENCE**

- Papers will be presented in Romanian, English or French.
- Papers will be presented and defended in concurrent sections. The presentation time (and discussions) will be 20 minutes.
- Conference fee – **50 €** – includes conference materials, festive dinner, coffee break refreshments.
- All travelling and accommodation expenses are covered by participants (accommodation at the university hostel is possible, but limited by the availability of the rooms). Further details will be offered in the second call for papers.
- A selection of papers will be published in the faculty's scientific journals.

<b>Contributions:</b>	<b>Dead-lines</b>
Dead-line for registration forms (see the attached form) and abstracts (title, abstract - 250 words - and 5 key words in English and French)	<b>January 27, 2014</b>
Confirmation of acceptance and final list of accepted papers.	<b>February 3, 2014</b>
The second call for papers.	<b>February 24, 2014</b>
Dead-line for payment of fee – 50 €(or its equivalent value in RON), which will be communicated in the second call for papers.	<b>April 1, 2014</b>
Conference	<b>May 8-9, 2014</b>

### ➤ **Registration form:**

- Surname and first name:
- Title (Prof/Mr/Ms/Dr):
- Affiliation:
- Interest areas:
- Important publications (max. 3):
- E-mail address:
- Telephone number:
- Regular mail address:
- Paper title:
- Presentation language:
- Publication language:
- Section:
- Key words (5):
- Abstract (250 words):
- Technical devices (if necessary):