

Abstract

This habilitation thesis, entitled *À la recherche des interférences entres littérature, anthropologie et cinéma (In Search of the Interferences between Literature, Anthropology and Cinema)*, aims at retracing my intellectual evolution, after the two Ph.D, the first one in 2007 (at the University of Geneva), the second one in 2011 (at Babeș-Bolyai University, Cluj-Napoca).

In the *First part*, the presentation of the researches is made on three different directions: the literary axis, the axis of cultural anthropology, the axis of cinematographic studies.

1. In my literary studies, I often took as a starting point Baudelaire's writings, with inciting new contributions, through a book (*Baudelaire, la plural*, 2008) and numerous articles. The widening of the investigation sphere to the 19th century as a whole was natural, in order for me to place the literary fact in a complex net of significations (social, political, moral, aesthetical ones).

2. In my anthropological studies, the focus was made on different theories of social representations, on risk and on visual anthropology. Two research topics were important for me: magic and witchcraft (I published a very significant book treating this subject, *Magie și vrăjitorie în cultura română. Istorie, literatură, mentalități*, 2014) and the so-called "merry cemetery" of Săpânța, in the historical region of Maramureș. The theatrical anthropology, through the seminal work of Eugenio Barba, also interested me, in an attempt to widen the horizon of my scientific and cultural problems.

3. In my cinema studies, I privileged two domains closely linked one to the other. First, I focused my attention on adaptation, studying the cinematographic transposition of the writings of Flaubert, Maupassant, Rousseau and trying to develop new approaches of the interactions between literary narration and cinematographic narration. Secondly, I was interested in aesthetical problems, such as the perception, the theatricality of the cinema, as well as the place and the role of the spectator.

Writing the *Conclusions* of the *First part*, I underlined *Ŕ* regarding my scientific activity *Ŕ* its *international ambition*, its *high level*, the *quantity* and *quality* of publications, the *capacity of adaptation*, as well as *the effort of building a coherent synthesis*, which have always animated me.

More than that, I described briefly my theoretical orientation, speaking about my fascination for psychoanalysis, for semiotics and for some recent patterns of interpretation borrowed from cultural anthropology. Because I wanted to put a personal mark on all my researches, I have often described my work method as a *psycho-semiotics*. This psycho-semiotics would like to have the ambition to become a sort of cultural theory, able to explain the cultural evolution of the human being.

In the *Second part*, I described my future projects, respecting the three levels of the *First part* and showing that it is possible for them to be united under the sign of my present activities in a Cinema and Media Department. So:

- 1.** On the literary axis, in order to bring more nuances to the relations between cinema and poetry and to continue my baudelairian researches, I will write a book on Baudelaire and cinema, focused on the way in which the directors searched for inspiration in the poet's works.
- 2.** On the axis of cultural anthropology, I will continue my researches on Săpânța and I will bring together the results in a book. In parallel, I will write and publish two volumes meant to change and bring innovations to the approaches and methods of visual anthropology: *Witches and magicians in horror and fantastic cinema*, *Visual representations of the witch in Romanian culture*.
- 3.** On the axis of cinema studies, I will develop two projects, which could be either lectures, articles or teachings: *The myth of Universal Language in Film Theory*, *Mutations of Aesthetics in the Century of Cinema*.

The main goal of this habilitation thesis was to show that I have a clear plan of developing my professional and academic career, for the next years, structured on three levels, in a perfect continuity and solidarity with my past researches. I hope all these aspects will be able to allow

me to take another step in my academic evolution and to direct doctoral dissertations in the domain I chose (Philology, with an opening to Cinema and Performing Arts).