

SUMMARY, No.9 (96), 2010

The ninth issue of the magazine “Arche” is totally dedicated to Slovakia, namely to the different aspects of its political and cultural life, as well as modern Slovakian literature. The issue opens with the preface by the compiler **Siarhej Smatryčenka**.

The first block of texts is dedicated to different aspects of old and modern Slovakian history. In the article “Our (Slovakian) Identity? How was It Formed Politically and Territorially?”, **Lubomír Ďurovič** writes about the myths and reality in the formation of Slovakian national mentality. **Gabriela Múcsková** follows the history of the Slovak language development in her article “The Slovak Literary Language: Historical Changes in Its Status and Inner Form”. **Peter Zajac** tries to define the Slovakian intellectuals’ crucial features and typology of views in the text “The Slovakian Intellectual of the XX Century”. As far back as the 60s of the XX century, **Antonín J. Liehm** did an interview “To immortalize Oneself” with one of these intellectuals — a prominent writer and dissident **Dominik Tatarka**. The problem of ecology is raised in Luba Lacinová’s article “To the West and East from Bratislava”. **Ladislav Mlynka** describes religious architecture in his research “Wooden Churches of Slovakia”.

Contemporary Slovakian essay writing is represented by the following texts: “The Science of Real Socialism” (**Martin M. Šimečka**), “Their Komárno and My Trianon” (**Daniela Kapitáňová**), “Bratislava, a City of a Hundred Towers” (**Lubomír Smatana**), and “Feminism as a Manifestation of Freedom” (**Lubica Kobová**).

A review of contemporary Slovakian prose and poetry is done correspondingly in the articles by **Marta Součková** (“Some Criticisms of Slovakian Prose after 1989”) and **Ján Gavura** (“From Revolution to Evolution”).

One of the most noteworthy recent Slovakian novels is “A Book about a Graveyard” published by Daniela Kapitáňová under a pseudonym **Samko Tále**.

Contemporary Slovakian prose is represented in this issue by the works of **Balla** (“An Infection”), **Pavel Viličkovský** (“All I Know about Central Europeanness”), **Lajos Grendel** (“The Problems of Building a Real World”), **Jana Beňová** (“A Plan of a Send-Off (A Café “Hyena”)), **Igor Otčenáš** (“Krowiak and Kalashnikov”), **Michal Hvorecký** (“The First Victory of Hypermarkets”), **Dušan Taragel** (“A Murder in the Theatre”), **Pavol Rankov** (“And There Came the First of September, or Some Other Time”), **Irena Brežná** (“The Best of All the Worlds”), **Marek Vadas** (“A Mulatto Here, a Black

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One There”), **Monika Kompaníková** (“Rabbits”), and **Peter Pišťanek** (“One Endlessly Long Winter”). The issue represents poems by **Peter Macsovszky**, **Ján Ondruš**, **Erik Jakub Groch**, **Ivan Štrpka**, **Lýdia Vadkerti-Gavorníková**, and **Nora Ružičková**. There are also published some fragments of the comic book “Janošík” by **Dušan Taragel** and **Jozef Dablár**.

Two interviews are published in the issue: one with **Magda Vásáryová** — “Not to Waste Efforts on a Dead-Lock Way”, and the other with **Janette Maziniová** — “Bratislava Is More Tolerant towards Us”.

The analytical section is represented by the following articles: “The New Language Legislation in Slovakia” (**Slavomír Ondrejovič**), “Posttransformational Slovakian Politics Identity Dilemmas” (**Juraj Marušiak**), and “The Religiousness of Slovaks in Comparison with Other Europeans” (**Ján Bunčák**).

In a review “Slovakian Hope for Subjugated Nations” **Siarhej Salaš** analyses a book by Paviel Raago “Slovakian Hope: Experience of Democratic Transformations”. **Volha Patapava** (“Slovak Grammar for Belarusians”) reviews “Concise Grammar of the Slovak Language” by the same author.

In the issue there are also published selected literary and culinary recipes from **Peter Pišťanek**’s book “Recipes from the Family Archive”.