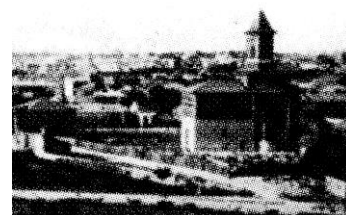


BOOK REVIEWS

The anniversary album of the "George Enescu" Arts University from Iași

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Atena Elena Simionescu (Coord.) *155 ani de învățământ artistic modern la Iași*, vol. I-II, 192 p.; 193 p.

(155 Years of Contemporary Artistic Education in Iași, vol. I-II), Iași, Artes, 2015,

In 2015, "George Enescu" Arts University celebrated 155 years since the establishment of the first institutions of artistic education in Romania – the School of Music and Declamation (Iasi, 1 October 1860) and the School of Fine Arts, together with the National Museum which keep the art collection of the most important artists of Iasi (October 26th 1860).

The Arts University of Iasi went through many and difficult processes of reorganization. After the 1989 revolution it was supported the idea of reconstituting the Academy of Fine Arts based on modern principles of teaching and operating, having the purpose of maintaining the prestige of

superior artistic education in Iasi, *the continuer of the great tradition of the Fine Arts School in Iasi in 1860 and the Academy of Fine Arts from 1931*¹. Thus, in 1992, the Conservatory became The Academy of Arts “George Enescu” comprising the fields of music, theater, fine and ornamental arts which over the years have been accredited several new specializations.

In 1997, the institution received the title of The University of Arts “George Enescu” and the interest is *better defined for enrollment the institution in the new guidelines, principles and organizational structures concerning the evolution and development of higher education in Romania*.²

The Arts University “George Enescu” from Iasi, by the *union of three domains of art – music, visual art and art on stage – can result in the startling releasing of creative energy*³ with the objective of *formation of the future people of art and at the same time, vigorous affirmation of students and teachers in the artistic life of today, in a richer, more contradictory and provocative way*.⁴

Thus, to mark this anniversary at the initiative and under the direction of the University Rector Atena-Elena Simionescu, PhD Prof. at the Publisher House Artes from Iași, it was published the Monograph of Arts of “George Enescu” University, *155 Years of Contemporary Artistic Education in Iași*, a historical bilingual album, conceived with the aim of achieving a comprehensive picture of the existence and evolution of the Art School from Iasi.

The contribution of the authors involved a major creative effort for the success of these volumes both for making or adapting texts and for selecting photos. For the section of music, the authors are: Laura Vasiliu PhD Prof., Carmen Chelaru PhD Prof. and Dalia Rusu PhD – they also used the texts of George Pascu professor and Mihail Cozmei PhD Prof. The authors who have texts for visual arts are Valentin Sava PhD Prof., Laura Codrina Ionita PhD Assoc. Prof., Ioana Olaru PhD Lecturer. The section of theater contains the texts of authors: Anca - Maria Rusu PhD Prof., Anca Doina Ciobotaru PhD Assoc. Prof., Raluca Bujoreanu Huțanu PhD Assoc. Prof, Irina Scutariu PhD Lecturer, Vasilica Bălăiță PhD Lecturer, Ioana Petcu PhD Lecturer, Anca Ciofu PhD Lecturer, Dumitriana Condurache PhD Assistant Professor, Iulia Cretu PhD Assistant Professor, Ioana Bujoreanu PhD Assistant, also integrating the texts of Ștefan Oprea Prof., Sorina Bălănescu PhD Prof. and Natalia Dănăilă PhD Prof.

¹ Sava Valentin, *Învățământul artistic național ieșean și vocația lui europeană*, Artes, Iași, 2010, p.77.

² Mihail Cozmei, *Pagini din istoria învățământului artistic modern din Iași la 150 de ani*, Artes, Iași, 2010, p.236.

³ *Ibidem*, p.288.

⁴ *Ibidem*.

In the last volume about 2015, it is presented the current process of education and artistic creation from the University of Arts “George Enescu”, connected to quality requirements both nationally and internationally.

These volumes have a modern and attractive format, presenting the artistic establishment and development of higher education in Iasi, put in best light by the great artists and professors who founded artistic education in Iasi, thereby contributing to the development of national culture. The publication of the monograph is an opportunity for young artists to know the history of “George Enescu” Arts University and to cherish Romanian artistic values.

Each volume is designed based on three sections Music, Theatre and Visual Arts in which it is presented the political context for the preparations of the opening of the first forms of art in higher education in Iasi.

Thus Alexandru Ioan Cuza, at the proposal of Mihail Kogalniceanu, approved on September 1, 1860 the foundation of the School of Music and Declamation, and on October, 26, in the same year, in the presence of the Ruler, two cultural institutions of national importance were inaugurated: the first modern university and National Museum of Art together with the first School of Fine Arts.

Within each section, it is provided for the reader important information about art personalities – professors, principals, artists – who have contributed to the foundation of modern artistic education, the coordination of activities of teaching, research and artistic creation and the development of the cultural life from Iasi.

There are also presented in this book some distinctive stages of reorganization, closing, re-establishment of art institution, depending on the social and political context at the time. The chance of a new beginning is marked by the revolution of December 1989, at which point new processes of development and modernization of the teaching and administration appeared, spurring the opening to the contemporary educational and artistic values.

In the context of globalization, the artistic education was geared to current European and global levels through the artistic achievement of various intercultural exchange programs between universities, academies, and other cultural institutions from Spain, Italy, France, England, Austria, Greece, Turkey, Cyprus etc.

Although artistic education from Iasi went through difficult processes of consolidation, the manifestations of artistic creation and research from music, theater and visual arts reflect an increasing trend, dominating the local and national cultural life.