

**Rodica Gabriela CHIRA.** With a PhD in Philology (Babeş-Bolyai University, Cluj, 2002), her fields of interest imply the history of French literature and civilization, comparative literature, imaginary studies, interdisciplinary and intercultural studies.

She authored 5 books: *Cyrano de Bergerac–du burlesque à la science-fiction* (Alba Iulia: Ulise, 2002); *Incursiuni literare*, (Sibiu: Imago, 2003); *Littérature et idées au Siècle des Lumières* (Sibiu: Imago, 2005, 2008); *Autres mondes. Approches SF* (Iaşi: Ars Longa, 2015), *Connecting Worlds Through Science Fiction* (Alba Iulia: Aeternitas, 2020). She (co-) authored 10 books, 1 dictionary, over 60 articles and book chapters published in international and national publications such as: *Caietele Echinox*, *JoLIE*, *Trictrac: Journal of World Mythology and Folklore*, *Columna. Finnish & Romanian Culture*, *Studia Universitatis Babeş-Bolyai*, *Cahiers Tristan l’Hermite*. Translator from French into Romanian (Mircea Eliade, *Sacrul și profanul*, Bucureşti, Editura Humanitas, 1992 Michel Ducobu, *Un belgian la capătul plajei*, Cluj-Napoca, Limes, 2012), Horia Liman, *Scadența* (Iaşi: Ars Longa, 2019), le recueil *Des hommes et des cages* (Iaşi: Ars Longa, 2020), and from Romanian to French, with Doina Puşcău (Iacob Mârza, *École et nation. Les écoles de Blaj à l’Époque de la Renaissance nationale*, Col. „Bibliotheca Rerum Transilvaniae“, Institutul Cultural Român. Centrul de Studii Transilvane, 2005), member of 5 national and international scientific committees. Co-editor of *Annales Universitatis Apulensis. Series Philologica*, *Incursiuni in imaginar* (*Incursions into the Imaginary*), *Caietele Echinox*, *Imaginaire et illusion*, vol. 23, 2012, *Incursiuni în imaginar*, etc. Vice-president of CIEL - Centre of Research and Innovation in Linguistic Education she directed the research group on Plurilingualism and Interdisciplinarity.

Scholarships: 2005-2006 New Europe College. Institute of Advanced Studies, Bucarest, with an individual research project *Du comique et de la science-fiction – à la rencontre du réel/d’une réalité*; July 2010, International Writers’ and Artists’ Residency – Val David, Québec, Canada with an individual research project: *Religious Symbolism in Four Fairy-Tales: Cinderella, The Story of the Pig, The Story of the Wonderworking Wolf and the Golden-Haired Ileana, The Fire Bird*.

She was visiting professor at Université de Caen, Basse Normandie in March-April 2018.

As a member of the Romanian Writer’s Union, besides the above mentioned translations, she published a personal volume of poems *Dar din dar*, poeme cu ilustrații de Anca Sas, Alba Iulia, Aeternitas, 2012, a pseudo-journal, *Casa mea de sticlă*, Ars Longa, 2018 and several tales for kids.

**Professor Dr. Habil. Maria-Ana TUPAN** is currently appointed to the Doctoral School of Alba Iulia University, Romania (m\_tupan@yahoo.com). From 1991 to 2014, Tupan taught courses in the history of British literature and in applied literary theory at Bucharest University. Senior Fulbright Grantee in 1994-5. Member of *The Romanian Writers’ Union*, and of *Die Gesellschaft für Fantastik Forschung*. Author of 15 books, book chapters and articles published in Romania, U.K., Germany, India, Australia and U.S.A.. Papers read at conferences in Athens, University Park (Penn State University), Madrid, Manchester, Salzburg, Vienna, Dresden, Graz, Rome, Cologne. Member on the Editorial Board of Cambridge Scholars Publishing, *Rupkatha Journal on Interdisciplinary Studies in Humanities* (E-ISSN 0975-2935), *Journal of Humanistic and Social Studies* (ISSN 2067-6557), Associate Editor of *The International Journal of Learning in Higher Education* - Volume 23. Awards from the Romanian Writers’ Union and literary reviews. Publications in the fields of literary history and theory, comparative literature, genre theory, discourse analysis, and cultural studies. Relevant titles include: *The Shakespearean Search for Archetypes*, Newcastle upon Tyne: Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2020, *The Key to Change. Interdisciplinary Essays in Cultural History* (Saarbrücken: LAP Lambert Academic Publishing, 2017), *The Kantian Legacy of Late Modernity* (Newcastle upon Tyne: Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2016), *Realismul magic* (Bucureşti: Editura Academiei Române, 2013), *Relativism/ Relativity: The History of a Modern*

*Concept*. (Newcastle upon Tyne: Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2013), *Modernismul si psihologia. Încercare de epistemologie literara. Modernism and Psychology. An Inquiry into the Epistemology of Literary Modernism* (Bucuresti: Editura Academiei Române, 2009); *Genre and Postmodernism* (București: Editura Universității din București, 2008).

**Niculae Liviu GHERAN** is a researcher, currently a collaborator as Assistant Professor at the Department of Foreign Languages for Specific Purposes, Babeș-Bolyai University. He has a PhD in Comparative Literature on the influences of the 19th century symbolic geography on the 20th century negative utopias. The author has edited post-conference volumes on the topic of Monstrous Geography, published in Oxford, UK, as well as presented several papers on similar topics at conferences in the United Kingdom, the Czech Republic and Romania.

**Alina BAKO** Assistant Professor, Department of Romance Studies, Faculty of Letters and Arts, "Lucian Blaga" University of Sibiu. Postdoctoral studies at Academia Română (2014-2015). Member of several research centers among which: the Center for Intercultural and Philological Research in Sibiu, the "Speculum" Center for the Research on the Imaginary in Alba Iulia, the European Narratology Network (ENN), Centre de Recherche sur la Littérature des Voyages. Volumes: *Dinamica imaginarului poetic. Grupul oniric românesc*, 2012 (Prize of the Writers' Union, Cluj section, Prize of the Writers' Union, Sibiu section, for Critical début); *Voies et voix de l'imaginaire roumain: Le groupe des poètes oniriques. Leonid Dimov, Emil Brumaru, Vintilă Ivănceanu, Virgil Mazilescu, Daniel Turcea*, Sarrebruck, Allemagne, Éditions universitaires européennes, 2012; *Reprezentări ale bolii și maladii ale sistemului socio-politic în romanul românesc (1960-1980)*, 2015. Contributions in collective volumes abroad: *L'exil onirique. Dumitru Tsepeneag et Leonid Dimov*, in *Exils et transferts culturels dans l'Europe moderne*, Cahiers de la Nouvelle Europe. Interest in the geocritical studies: the article *Geocritical Readings of Romanian Literature: Maps and Cartography in Rebreanu's Canonical Fiction*, in the indexed Web of Science Journal „The Slavonic and East European Review”, Volume 99, number 2, 2021. Collection du Centre Interuniversitaire d'Études Hongroises et Finlandaises, no 21, Paris, L'Harmattan, 2015; *L'espace fermé et les représentations des maladies imaginaires et imaginées dans le roman roumain des années 1960-1980*, Aracnee Editrice, Palermo; *La subversion de l'imaginaire: le cas de la littérature roumaine*, in *Anais do II Congresso Internacional do Centre de Recherches Internationales sur l'Imaginaire: A teoria geral do imaginario 50 anos depois: conceitos, nocoies, metaforas, Imaginalis*, Porto Alegres, Brazilia, 2015. Participations at national and international conferences. Collaboration at different journals: *Transilvania, Steaua, Annales Universitatis Apulensis, Anuarul Institutului de Cercetări Socio-Umane, Caiete Critice, Studia Universitatis Petru Maior, Caietele Echinoc, Text și discurs religios, Langue et Littérature. Repères identitaires en contexte européen*, Communication interculturelle et littérature etc. Chief Editor of the journal „Caietele Lucian Blaga”. Scholarships: Université "Michel de Montaigne" of Bordeaux, Sophia Antipolis University of Nisa, Oxford Brookes University of Oxford, Macedonia University of Salonic. Invited Professor at ISMAI Porto University, Université "Stendhal" Grenoble, BLCU (Beijing Language and Culture University).

**Sibusiso Hyacinth MADONDO** was born in Ladysmith, in the province of South Africa. He obtained a BA degree from the University of Natal (Howard College), specializing in English, French and Spanish Literatures. He was awarded a French government scholarship to study in

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**Alexandra GRUIAN**. Senior Curator of the collection of old ethnographic photography and of glass plates at ASTRA National Museum Complex, Sibiu. PhD in 2013 with the thesis "The Thresholds - the Exceeded Limit, explore the theories of passage between the realms in the Romanian folk tales". Since 2010, a member of "Speculum" Research Center on the Imaginary, Alba Iulia. Articles published in: "COLUMNA Finnish & Romanian Culture", University of Turku, Finland; "Transilvania", Sibiu; „Incursiuni în imaginar, Alba Iulia; „Annales Universitatis Apulensis” – Series Philologica, Alba Iulia, „Cibinium”, Sibiu, etc.

**Cosmin-Gabriel PORUMB-GHIURCO** is a teacher and a postdoctoral researcher at the Department of Human Geography and Tourism, Faculty of Geography, "Babeș-Bolyai" University, Cluj-Napoca. His doctoral research was on the touristic image of Transylvania, also involving a literary perception. As a poetry writer, he is a member of the "Vox Napocensis" Literary Club and

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**Liliana DANCIU**, PhD in Philology, with a thesis on the novel "The Forbidden Forest" by Mircea Eliade at 1 Decembrie 1918 University of Alba Iulia (2017). She graduated from the Faculty of Letters, Philosophy and History, Department of Philology, University of Craiova (1995). MA in Romanian Language and Literature, Faculty of Humanistic and Social Studies, Aurel Vlaicu University of Arad (2013). Since 1995, she is a high school teacher, Romanian Language and Literature Department. Member of the Research Center on the Imaginary "Speculum", Alba Iulia. Author of the volume *Romanul din roman: Noaptea de sânzienă, de Mircea Eliade (The Novel in the novel: "The Forbidden Forest" by Mircea Eliade)* (2017), *Zmei, draci și strigoii. Eseuri de hermeneutică a basmului popular românesc (Zmei, devils and undead. Essays on hermeneutics of the Romanian folk tale)* (2021). She published articles and studies in various scientific and cultural journals, such as the *Journal of Humanistic and Social Studies, Annales Universitatis Apulensis. Series Philologica, Incursions into the Imaginary, Journal of Romanian Literary Studies, TricTrac: Journal of World Mythology and Folklore, SÆCULUM, Gnosis*. She has participated in several scientific sessions, colloquia, symposiums, etc., in Romania (Arad, Alba Iulia, Târgu Mureș etc.) and abroad (Rome).

**Maria Holhoș**, PhD, with *The Fairy Tale - source of knowledge* (2009). Member of The Research Center on the Imaginary "Speculum" (2007). Author of the volume *Basmul – lecturi critice* (2010), *The Fairy Tale - moments of reference* (2011), *Lecturi sumare* (co-autor) (2020).

Articles and critical studies published in collective volumes (*Incursions into the Imaginary*, 2007-2011, 2017, 2018; *Education from the Perspective of Values. Ideas, Concepts, Models*, 2013-2019), in cultural and scientific periodicals (*Annales Universitatis Apulensis. Series Philologica*, Alba Iulia, *Journal of Romanian Literary Studies*, Târgu Mureș).

**Andra Gabriela Holhoș**, Teacher of English and Spanish at Sports High School, Alba Iulia. She graduated from the Faculty of Letters in Cluj Napoca (2010), master degree (2012). Member of the Research Center on the Imaginary "Speculum" (2015). Articles and critical studies published in collective volumes (*Incursions into the Imaginary*, 2017, 2018; *Education from the Perspective of Values. Ideas, Concepts, Models*, 2014-2019), in cultural and scientific periodicals (*Annales Universitatis Apulensis. Series Philologica*, Alba Iulia, *Journal of Romanian Literary Studies*, Târgu Mureș). Co-autor *Lecturi sumare* (2020).

**Sonia ELVIREANU**, poet, literary critic, essayist, prose writer, translator; member of the Speculum Research Center of the Imaginary and of the Francophone Association AMI Alba-La Manche. **Volume de autor:** *Cântecul mării în umbra cocorului*, Iași, Ars Longa, 2020 (poeme); *Le chant de la mer à l'ombre du héron cendré*, Paris, L'Harmattan, 2020; *Măruț și Zmeurica*, Iași, Ars Longa, 2020 (povestiri ilustrate pentru copii); *Piu în grădina mea*, Iași, Ars Longa, 2020 (poeme ilustrate pentru copii); *Le souffle du ciel*, Paris, L'Harmattan, 2019 (poezie); *Șoaptele luminii*, Iași, Ars Longa 2019 (poeme); *Ceața*, Iași, Ars Longa 2019 (roman); *Le silence d'entre les neiges*, Paris, L'Harmattan, 2018 (poeme); *Pe firul Ariadnei*, Iași, Ars Longa, 2017 (critică); *Umbrele curcubeului/Les ombres de l'arc-en-ciel*, Iași, Ars Longa, 2016; *Metamorfoză*, novel, 2015; *Printre*

priviri de nuferi/À travers des regards de nénuphars, verse, 2015; Între Răsărit și Apus/Entre le Lever et le Couché, verse, 2014; Rodica Braga-reprezentarea interiorității, 2014; Fața întunecată a lui Ianus, 2013; Singurătatea irisului/ La solitude de l'iris, verse, 2013; Gabriel Pleșea, O perspectivă asupra exilului românesc, 2012; Le retour de l'exil dans le roman L'Ignorance de Milan Kundera, 2011; În umbra cuvintelor, verse, 2011; Dincolo de lacrimi/Au-delà des larmes, verse; Timp pentru doi, verse, 2010; Itinerarii literare, 2009 (coord. vol.). Translations from French: Giuliano Ladolfi, *În mijlocul vadului*, Ars Longa, 2021; Michel Herland, *Tropice urmat de Miserere*, Ars Longa, 2020, ed. bilingvă; Marilynne Bertocini, Wanda Mihuleac, *Nisip*, Ars Longa, 2019, ed. bilingvă; Patrick Devaux, *Atâta fericire să dai florilor*, Le Coudrier, 2019, ed. bilingvă; Michel Ducobu, *Loc calm. Catrene pentru meditație*, 2015; Denis Emorine, *Dintotdeauna*, 2015; Translations from Romanian in French: Silviu Mihăilă, *Le balancier amoureux*, Iași, Ars Longa, 2020; *Eva dans la galaxie des couleurs*, Iași, Ars Longa, 2019; Marian Drăghici, *lumière, doucement*, Paris, L'Harmattan, 2018; José Maria Paz Gago, *Manuel pour séduire les princesses*, Skopje, Poetiki, 2010. Articles and studies published in: Cahiers de l'Echinox, Incursiuni în imaginar, Faire vivre les identités francophones. Actes du 12-e congrès mondial de la FIPF, Québec, 2008, Proceedings of The First International Conference on Linguistic and Intercultural Education, Aeternitas, 2008; Le français, une langue qui fait la différence. Actes du premier Congrès européen de la FIPF, Vienne 2006; Les presses de Zakład Graficzny Colonel s.c., Krakow, 2008; Evaluare alternativă, 2005; Metodele gândirii critice, 2004. Numerous book presentations, essays, translations, poems, prose in: Viața Românească, România literară, Luceafărul de dimineață, Scriptor, Apostrof, Steaua, Tribuna, Echinox, Neuma, Vatra, Verso, Familia, Nord literar, Discobolul, Caiete silvane, Litere, Annales Universitatis Apulensis, Rupkatha, Baaadul literar, Boema literară, Gând românesc, Dialogues et cultures, Pietrele Doamnei, Théorie et Pratique, Nouvelle Approche du français, Universul catedrei, Glasul, Claviaturi.

**Lucian Vasile BĂGIU** is a Senior Lecturer in Romanian Studies at Lund University (2020) and has been the journal manager of *the Swedish Journal of Romanian Studies*, Centre for Languages and Literature, Lund University, since October 2016. He received a Ph.D. in Philology (Romanian literature) *magna cum laude* in 2006 from *Babes-Bolyai* University, Cluj-Napoca. He became a member of the Romanian Writers' Union in the same year. He has also occupied the position of lecturer of Romanian language at the Norwegian University of Science and Technology in Trondheim (2008-2011), Charles University in Prague (2012-2013), and Lund University (2014-2017). He is the author of several books on literary criticism, fiction, and language. Relevant publications include the following: *Romania at Lund University*, edited by Lucian Vasile Băgiu, Alba Iulia, Aeternitas, 2019; *Receptarea textului scris și oral. Manual de limba română pentru studenții străini / Understanding Written and Oral Texts. A textbook on the Romanian language for international students*, Alba Iulia, Aeternitas, 2018; *Introduction in the Study of Romanian Language. A textbook for foreign students*, Alba Iulia, Aeternitas, 2018; *Despre Sebastian, Sorescu, Dosoftei, Derrida și limba română / On Sebastian, Sorescu, Dosoftei, Derrida and the Romanian language* (Iași, Tipomoldova, 2016, award for monograph *ex aequo*, Romanian Writers' Union, Alba-Hunedoara branch); *Lucian Blaga și teatrul. Eseu despre absolutul estetic / Lucian Blaga and the Theater. An Essay on the Absolute Aesthetic* (Iași, Tipomoldova, 2014, award for essay, Romanian Writers' Union, Alba-Hunedoara branch); *Valeriu Anania. Scriitorul / Valeriu Anania. The Writer* (Cluj-Napoca, Limes, 2006, award for criticism and literary history, Romanian Writers' Union, Alba-Hunedoara branch); *Sânziana în Lumea Poveștilor / Sânziana in the World of Fairy-Tales* (Iași, Tipomoldova, 2015); *Bestiar. Salată orientală cu universitari închipuiți / Bestiary. Oriental Salad with self-conceited Academics* (București, Cartea Românească, 2008).

**Gabriela CHICIUDEAN**, PhD in Philology (since 2005), she teaches Theory of Literature, Literary Criticism, Introduction in the Science of Imaginary, Comparative Literature. She is the author of 4 individual volumes (*Incursiuni în lumea simbolurilor*, Sibiu, Imago Publishing House, 2004; *Pavel Dan și globul de cristal al creatorului*, București, The Romanian Academy Publishing House, 2007; *Obiectiv/ Subiectiv. Încercări de stabilizare a fluidului*, Iași, Tipomoldova Publishing House, 2013; *Studii literare. Abordări pe suportul Științei imaginarului*, București, The Romanian Academy Publishing House, 2016). She is the co-author of 8 volumes and coordinated 7 study volumes. She published over 100 articles and studies in dedicated periodicals in Romania and abroad. She is the executive manager of Speculum Centre for the Study of Imaginary, 1 Decembrie 1918 University of Alba Iulia. She is the organizer of Speculum Conferences and the editor of *Incursiuni în imaginar*, the literary journal of Speculum Conferences, and editor of *Swedish journal of Romanian studies*, Lund, Suedia.

**Corina BOZEDEAN** is an Associate Professor at the UMFST of Tîrgu-Mureș, where she presently teaches translation studies, literary translation and literature in French and Italian. She single-authored two books (*Henry Bauchau, une poétique du minéral*, Paris, Honoré Champion, 2017 and *Exerciții și reflecții traductive*, Tîrgu Mureș, University Press, 2021), and co-authored various collective works. She published articles in specialized magazines from Romania and abroad. Corina Bozedean is also the translator of several works from/into French and Italian.