

That is why I find the insistence of realizing this bibliography interesting, which of course, covers the most beautiful German writings of children's literature in Romania from the communist era.

At first sight a bibliography is nothing but a heap of dates that is interesting only for a very few people. However, intrinsically – this is the case also with the bibliography that we are reviewing now – bibliographies can illustrate and evidenciate entire periods of cultural and social histories. Beyond the “data” and information offered by this bibliography too, this places the values respectively in order to employ them today in the services of democratic freedom.

Váczy Leona (1913-1995)
The Library, the Intellectual Space of Man
Or,
“ The Past as the Future”

*“I love this work, and if I had to start life again, I would still be a
librarian, that is as a bibliographer at the Cluj University Library.”*

(Váczy Leona)

*Kinga TAMÁS,
“Lucian Blaga” Central University Library*

In the twentieth century the library actually represented the main place of study, of research for all who were thirsty for science and knowledge. Today, in the twenty-first century, the library is not necessarily the main place of study, as we can find the required information at home as well as in the office – due to the modern electronic techniques (internet, electronic books, on-line databases, etc). However, I disagree with the point of view that the modern library, where the accent is placed on the modern technique instead of books, might totally overcome the traditional library. Maybe there still are some of us, “nostalgics”, so to say, who enjoy holding a book, turning over the pages of a magazine. We, the ones who continuously, utterly “feel” the librarian profession, we come daily into this astonishing intellectual place, to the “Lucian Blaga” Central University Library in Cluj-Napoca...

And by remembering – for the history of our institution – the former colleagues (i.e. from the past), their skilled librarian contributions, we must recognize the importance and responsibility that we have

towards books, towards culture, and last but not least towards library, the specialists of which we are.

I came across Leona Váczy's statement – a former employee of our institution – by turning over the pages of her manuscripts, a quote, which I placed at the beginning of this paper. Searching to find more details about her life and activity, I met her elder daughter, Katalin Bartók. I believe that it was in her that I recognized Leona Váczy. Her simpleness, kindness and friendliness with which she greeted me in her house, and put at my disposal the manuscripts of her mother, confirmed the assertions of the colleagues who had known Leona Váczy, a colleague remembered affectionately by everyone. In the memory of our colleague, I shall outline her intellectual activity within our institutions as well as outside of it.

A first point that I would emphasize is the fact that Leona Váczy had worked for twenty-nine years (1941-1970) at the University Library in Cluj-Napoca, the only workplace that she could imagine for herself due to her passion for book and culture. There had been and still are hardly any colleagues, who chose the library as the only work place of their entire career, especially due to the fact that the library is a state funded institution and the wages are not comparable with those of other institutions. Mrs. Váczy had been thus an atypical case, who until the age of eighty daily came to the library, and she worked also daily on her typing machine. Only a person with great passion towards books and culture could do this “intellectual sacrifice”.

Before establishing herself at the library Leona Váczy had obtained in 1940 the title of Doctor *in Law*. With this title – of Doctor – she continued the tradition of the Doctor colleagues in different sciences, which started in the first years of establishment of the library until the 60's, 70's when due to the influence of allegiance to the Romanian Communist Party, the number of the academic titles of Doctor dropped, but which shall reappear at the end of the twentieth century as an “intellectual trend”.

She confesses about her function and passion in her manuscripts “*before everything else I would like to set something straight. The title of bibliographer is a function in the library. I had been the Head of the Classification Office under this title, and I carried on on my own the passionate work of bibliographer.*” I deciphered from this sentence that Leona Váczy had been the **Head of the Classification Department, as main bibliographer**. She carried on the tradition of great bibliographers in our library, the men whom she considered not only forbearers or

contemporaries, but even “idols”: Szabó Károly, Valentiny Antal, Entz Géza, Ion Muşlea, Monoki István, Dumitru Petruţiu, Réthy Andor, Victor Chereşteşiu, Teofil Bugnariu, Ioan Domşa, Gábor Dénes etc.

Before presenting in chronological order her complete intellectual activity (volumes, studies and articles, translations, reviews, etc.) I would underline some things that marked her entire life.

As a result of long research, in 1964 appeared *Repertoriul alfabetic al clasificării zecimale: Medicină, Biologie*. (The Alphabetic Repertoire of the Decimal Classification: Medicine and Biology.) The work is used on a national level by people in this domain. And the instruments of this work the records have been inherited by another remarkable person in our library, Mária Újvári.

In most of her free time Leona Váczy dedicated herself to **bibliographies**. This passion is reinforced by such published works as *Contribuţii la bibliografia bibliografulor personale, aflată la Biblioteca Centrală Universitară din Cluj* etc. (Contributions to the bibliography of the personal bibliographies, situated at the Cluj Central University Library) (See below the list of the publications), as well as the biographies (e.g. at request) that remained unpublished.

Reading further the manuscripts and notes of Mrs. Váczy I found some questions addressed to her regarding her bibliographer activity: “my work as a bibliographer seems to be easy, but in reality this requires lot of attention and perseverance, it is a meticulous and exhaustive work.” Being asked about her model, she answered: “My model? I admit, Szabó Károly. I love him as a man. I respect him as librarian and as a man of science...” Szabó Károly was the first director of the Central University Library in Cluj, the author of the three-volume work *Régi Magyar Könyvtár (Old Hungarian Library)*, and Mrs. Váczy had probably “known” most about his life and activity, intending to dedicate a book to him.

Among her manuscripts I found crumpled the complete clustered correspondence with Szabó Károly, and also tens of pages about him that – as I said – were to be published. The daughter of Mrs. Váczy remembers that her mother used to tell so much at home about Szabó Károly as “we all thought at home that he was a man who is still alive.” Mrs. Váczy’s passion for bibliographies, as well as for the great bibliographer Szabó Károly, has marked her entire intellectual activity from the beginning until her collaboration with the *Romániai magyar irodalmi lexikon* (Hungarian Literary Dictionary from Romania), one of the most important reference works in Transylvania, to which she

brought her contribution of professional bibliographer in the last years of her life.

The fifty years of (the 40's – the 90's) intellectual activity is reflected in:

- Specialty works (historical, personal bibliographies; the C.Z.U. [Universal Decimal Classification] indices used at a national)
- Cultural works (literature, ethnology)
- Reviews
- Translations
- Participations at symposiums

Leona Váczy Bio-bibliography:

1. *Tájékoztató munka a tudományos könyvtárban*, (Informational work in the scientific library) In "Előre" (Forward), 1954
2. *Népköztársaságunk egyik kiváló botanikusa. Nyárádi Erasmus Gyula*, (An outstanding botanist of our republic. Nyárádi Erasmus Gyula), In "Előre" (Forward), 25 March 1954
3. *A Kolozsvári Egyetemi Könyvtár*, (The University Library from Cluj), In "Előre" (Forward), 8 April 1955
4. *A Kolozsvár Egyetemi Könyvtár támogatja a vizsgák eredményét*, (The University Library from Cluj is in favor of the results of the exams) In "Előre" (Forward), 15 May 1955
5. *Importanța microfilmelor în biblioteci*, (The importance of microfilms in libraries), In "Călăuza Bibliotecarului" (Guide of Librarians), 1955, nr.12, p.35-36
6. *Ismét benépesült az egyetemi Könyvtár*, (The populated University Library) In "Igazság" (The Truth), 17 Nov. 1955
7. *Din activitatea bibliotecilor sindicale*, (From the activity of the syndicate libraries) In "Călăuza Bibliotecarului" (Guide of Librarians) 1955, nr.1, p.44-45
8. *Cărți pentru orbi, în biblioteca noastră*, (Books for Blinds in our library) In "Călăuza Bibliotecarului" (Guide of Librarians), 1956, nr. 7, p.25-26
9. *Új dokumentációs segédeszköz a Kolozsvári Egyetemi Könyvtárban*, (New apparatus for documentation in the University Library from Cluj) In "Előre" (Forward), 6th Nov. 1956
10. *A Kolozsvári Egyetemi Könyvtárban levő "Régi Magyar Könyvtár"*, (The Old Hungarian Library at the University

- Library from Cluj) In "Călăuza Bibliotecarului" (Guide of Librarians), 1957, nr.2, p.23-25
11. *Cântec despre Lupu Vodă*, (Song about Lupu Vodă) In "Călăuza Bibliotecarului" (Guide of Librarians), 1958, nr.5
 12. *Jó könyvtáros, jó pedagógus*, (Good librarian, good pedagogue) In "Könyvtárosok tájékoztatója" (Guide of Librarians), 1958, nr.3, p.25-27
 13. *Szabó Károly könyvtárosi munkássága*, (The librarian activity of Szabó Károly) In "Könyvtárosok tájékoztatója" (Guide of Librarians), 1958, nr.3, p. 39-42
 14. Turnowski, Sándor; Vita, Zsigmond, *Könyv a nagyenyedi Bethlen Könyvtárról*, (Book about the Bethlen library in Aiud) review in "Előre" (Forward), 11 June 1958
 15. *Elkészült Kolozsvár és Kolozsmegye helyismereti bibliográfiája*, (The bibliography of location knowledge of Cluj and the county of Cluj) In "Előre" (Forward), 7 Jan., 1958
 16. *Operele necomplete*, (Incomplete works) In "Călăuza Bibliotecarului" (Guide of Librarians), 1959, nr.3, p.43-45
 17. *Bibliotecarul și legătoria de cărți*, (The librarian and the bookbinding) In "Călăuza Bibliotecarului" (Guide of Librarians), 1960, nr.5, p.41-42
 18. *A földrajzi jelzettek katalógusának szerkesztése*, (The catalogue compilation of the geographical cards) In "Könyvtárosok tájékoztatója" (Guide of Librarians), 1962, nr.3, p.94-95
 19. *A borítólap megőrzése a Kolozsvári Egyetemi Könyvtárban*, (The preservation of the covers in the University Library from Cluj) In "Könyvtárosok tájékoztatója" (Guide of Librarians), 1963, nr.3, p.94-95
 20. *Reportorial alfabetic al clasificării zecimale: Medicină, Biologie* (Alphabetic reportoire of decimal classification: Medicine, Biology), București, 1964
 21. *Prețuirea muncii științifice. Catalogul colectiv al revistelor științifice străine intrate la bibliotecile din Cluj. 1945-1958*, (The appreciation of scientific work. The collective catalogue of the foreign scientific magazines entered in the libraries from Cluj) In "Călăuza Bibliotecarului" (Guide of Librarians), 1965, nr.10, p.444-445
 22. *40 éves a "Korunk"*, (The *Korunk* is 40 years old) In "Könyvtári Szemle" (Library Revue), 1966, nr.2, p.85-86

23. *Az "Erdélyi Múzeum" repertórium*, (The repertoire of the Erdélyi Múzeum) In "Korunk" (Our Age), 1966, nr.4, p.1354-1356
24. *Könyvtári katalógusok*, (Library catalogues) In "Könyvtári Szemle" (Library Revue), 1966, nr.4, p.170-172
25. Domokos, Sámuel, *A román irodalom magyar bibliográfiája*, (Hungarian bibliography of Romanian literature) Review in "Könyvtári Szemle" (Library Revue), 1966, nr.2, p. 138-148
26. *Egyetemes tizedes osztályozás*, (The universal decimal classification) In "Könyvtári Szemle" (Library Revue), 1967, nr.2, p.75-78
27. *Clasificarea zecimală a bibliografiilor la Biblioteca Centrală Universitară*, (The decimal classification of bibliographies in the Central University Library) In "Probleme de bibliologie" (Problems of Bibliology), vol. II, Cluj, 1967
28. Dima-Drăgan, Corneliu, *Egy román humanista könyvtára. Constantin Cantacuzino*. (The library of a Romanian humanist. Constantin Cantacuzino), Review in "Könyvtári Szemle" (Library Revue), 1968, nr.3, p.139-140
29. Fochi, Adrian, *Egy új román néprajzi bibliográfiáról*, (About a new Romanian ethnographic bibliography) review in "Korunk" (Our Age), 1968, p.643-644
30. *Contribuții la bibliografia bibliografiilor personale aflate la Biblioteca Centrală Universitară din Cluj*, (Contributions at the bibliography of the personal bibliographies situated at the Central University Library from Cluj) Cluj, 1969
31. *Bibliografia istorică a României, vol.I, 1944-1969*, (The historical bibliography of Romania, first volume, 1944-1969) Review in "Anuarul Institutului Istoric și Arheologic", (The annuar of the historical and archeological institute) Cluj, 1971, nr.3, p.317-319
32. *Organizarea bibliotecilor din antichitate*, (Organizing libraries in antiquity) In "Biblioteca și învățământul", (Library and education), vol. II, 1971, p.909-918
33. *A bibliográfiák bibliográfiája a kolozsvári Egyetemi Könyvtárban*, (The bibliography of bibliographies in the University Library from Cluj), "Könyvtári Szemle" (Library Revue), 1971, nr.2, p.61-63
34. *A legifjabb olvasó nevében*, (In the name of the youngest reader) In "Igazság" (The Truth), 12 Jan. 1972

35. *Könyvet mindenkinek*, (Book to everyone) In "A Hét" (The Week), 10 March. 1972
36. *Réthy Andor 1904-1972. Könyvészeti munkáinak jegyzéke*, (Réthy Andor 1904-1972. Catalogue of hi bibliographical works) In "Könyvtári Szemle" (Library Revue), 1973, nr.3, p.124-126
37. *Az "Erdélyi Helikon" költészeti anyagának repertoriuma*, (The repertoire of the Erdélyi Helikon's poetry material) In collaboration with Kelemen Ilona, Réthy Andor, In *Az "Erdélyi Helikon költői"*, (The poets of the Erdélyi Helikon), București, 1973
38. *Kalotaszeg helyismereti könyvészete*, (The bibliography of location knowledge of Kalotaszeg), In "Korunk" (Our Age), 1973, nr.3, p.1752-1765
39. *A "Korunk Évkönyv" tanulmányaiban szereplő fontosabb sajtótermékek bibliográfiája*, (The bibliography of the main press-products from the studies in the *Korunk Évkönyv*), In "Korunk Évkönyv" (Korunk Annual), 1974, p.313-332
40. *Un mare bibliofil și bibliograf maghiar: Szabó Károly*, (A great Hungarian bibliophile and bibliographer: Szabó Károly), In "Târgoviște, cetate a culturii româneșt. Lucrările Sesiunii științifice din 21-23 Dec. 1973, (Târgoviște a fortress of the Romanian culture. The papers of the scientific session of 21-23 December, 1973), București, 1974, p.445-454
41. *Organizarea bibliotecilor din antichitate*, (Organizing libraries in antiquity), In "Biblioteca și învățământul" (Library and Education), 1974, p.909-919
42. *Obsevații asupra listei de autori a lui Plinius Secundus. Contribuții la istoria bibliografiilor antice*, (Observations on the author list of Plinius Secundus. Contributions at the history of antique bibliographies), In "Biblioteca Universității din București. 75 de ani de activitate", (The University library from Bucharest. 75 years of activity), jubilarian volume, București, 1975, p. 72-75
43. *Rhédey, Ádám, Însemnările călătoriei mele*, (The notes of my journey), overwritten in Hungarian by V.L., In "România literară" (Literary Romania), 1976, nr.53, p.8
44. *Rhédey Ádám utazásai*, (The journeys of Rhédey Ádám), In "A Hét" (The Week), 1977, nr.11, p.5

45. Váczy, Leona; Stirban, Marcel, *Contribuții la bibliografia bibliografilor istorice, aflate la B.C.U. Cluj*, (Contributions to the bibliography of the historical bibliographies at the Central University Library from Cluj), Cluj, 1978
46. *Caius Plinius Secundus mint bibliografus*, (Caius Plinius Secundus as bibliographer), In "Művelődés" (The Culture), 1979, nr.4, p.19-20
47. Váczy, Leona, *Az "Erdélyi Múzeum" tárgy és névmutatója 1938-1946*, (The index of the Erdélyi Múzeum 1938-1946), Cluj, 1980
48. *A Kolozsvári Egyetemi Könyvtár Ősnyomtatványai*, (The incunabula of the University Library from Cluj), In "Művelődés" (The Culture), 1980, nr.3, p.8-9
49. *Templomot a tudománynak. Mikó Imre és Szabó Károly*, (Temple to science. Mikó Imre és Szabó Károly), In "A Hét" (The Week), 1981, nr.6, p.11
50. Réthy, Andor; Váczy Leona, *Magyar irodalom románul*, (Hungarian literature in Romanian), București, 1983
51. *Könyvborító régen és ma*, (The Bookcover in the past and today), In "A Hét" (The Week), 1983, nr.34, p.VIII
52. Busa, Margit, *Kazinczy Ferenc bibliográfiája*, (The bibliography of Kazinczy Ferenc), Review in "Foaia Noastră" (Our Paper), Budapest, 1984, nr.26, p.6
53. *A román - magyar kulturkapcsolatok egy fontos dokumentuma.*, (An important document of the Hungarian and Romanian cultural connections: Szabó Károly: „Old Hungarian Library” I-III In "A Hét" (The Week), 1984, nr.7, p.VIII
54. *Csak kinyitjuk az újságot. Egy kis sajtótörténet*, (We just open the newspaper. A little press-history), In "A Hét" (The Week), 1985, nr.6, p.11
55. *Dokumentumok a levelesládában*, (Documents in the mailbox), In "A Hét" (The Week), 27th May 1985, p.8
56. *Könyvgyűjtés, könyvgyűjtők...*, (Collecting books, book collectors...), In "A Hét" (The Week), 10th Apr. 1986
57. *A vakok könyvéről*, (About the book of the blinds), In "Korunk" (Our Age), 1986, nr.12, p.928-930
58. Sebestyén, Géza, *Útmutató a tanszéki könyvtárak számára*, (Guide to the department libraries), translated by Váczy Leona, Cluj, 1986

59. *Nem jótékonyság, hanem emberség*, (Not charity but humanity), "A Hét" (The Week), 1987, nr.41, p.4
60. *Könyvtár és társadalom*, (Library and society), In "Korunk" (Our Age), 1989, nr.5, p.357-358
61. *Romániai magyar néprajzi könyvészet 1919-1944*, (Hungarian ethnologic bibliography 1919-1944), compiled by Váczy Leona, In "A Kriza János Néprajzi Társaság értesítője", The announcement of the Kriza János Ethnological Society), Cluj, 1998, nr.1/2

Lastly I would like to end with a wish of Mrs. Váczy Leona: "***I believe that it would be better if this work had been continued...***" (a message from the past for the future). Therefore as the next generation of librarians we have the obligation of keeping the memory of our colleagues, but we also have the responsibility to continue their professional work. I believe that it is very hard for us to rise up to the level of professionalism that Mrs. Váczy Leona had put forth, but we must consider it a challenge for the **future**.

Passion for Books and Art
- **Gábor Dénes** -

Melinda SZÁSZ
"Lucian Blaga" Central University Library

1972 was proclaimed by UNESCO "The International Year of the Book", on this occasion within the symposium "The Art of the Book in Romania" an ex libris exhibition opened in the hall of the Central University Library (B.C.U.) Cluj, the first exhibition its kind in our city and the second in the country. The organization of this was due to Gábor Dénes, a librarian of this institution, whose name had already been known countrywide in the bibliophile branch, not only for his passion of the collection of book-plates, but also for his numerous articles in the field that appeared starting from the end of the sixties, writings with a remarkable contribution to the renaissance of the interest for the ex libris and for bibliophilism in general.

Gábor Dénes was born in 1936 in Braşov, he graduated from the high school in Odorheiu Secuiesc, his "adoptive home town", and between 1954-1958 he studied biology-chemistry at the Bolyai University in Cluj. After graduating from university he married a girl