

**The Adrian Marino Archive Collection of the “Lucian Blaga”  
Central University Library**

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**Introduction**

This presentation aims to give a general view of the social-political life of the literary critic, historian and theoretician, Adrian Marino from the point of view of the librarian-archivist, illustrated by the materials which form his archive collection.

The formation of the archive collection had already begun from the year 1992 when Adrian Marino donated the first dossiers from his personal archive to our Library. This donation had a clause which stated that A. Marino’s original organization of the inner contents of each dossier should be respected. Because of this several dossiers are not organized according to the archival principles of arrangement. Later on, to be more precise, in the year 2004, A. Marino reconsidered this clause permitting the intervention in the inner organization of the dossier contents and the application of the archival principles of arrangement and classification.

Nowadays this collection – accorded the name the “Adrian Marino” Collection – consists of 467 dossiers in which numerous materials were carefully collected. These outline the whole personality of the literary critic, historian and theoretician. Thus, even the titles of the dossiers, formulated by Adrian Marino himself, reflect his interest in some aspects of the cultural and political life of the Romanian society.

In addition to manuscripts of his works, he also gathered scientific materials in the course of time which he used as a support in his research work. These were classified in different dossiers, in many cases being specified whether they were used or not.

**Literary activity**

Naturally, most of the titles reflect A. Marino’s literary activity, illustrating once more, if it was necessary, all the significant themes he discussed in his works and which animated his entire life as a writer. The titles were incorporated into the collection according to the critic’s editorial and publishing chronology.

The materials referring to the life and work of the poet Alexandru Macedonski have been gathered in four<sup>1</sup> dossiers, two of them having the same title<sup>2</sup> inscribed upon them as the published volumes. The dossier<sup>3</sup> containing the original manuscripts of Alexandru Macedonski's plays *La mort du Dante*, 21 October 1916 and *Le fou?* (the four acts of his dramatic creation in original), as well as the translation made by his son, Nikita Macedonski, of the play *Nebunul* (The fool), produced in Paris in 1913, is of special importance.

In the year 1999 the collection was enriched with 120 new dossiers having the titles: *Dicționar de idei literare* (Dictionary of Literary Ideas), *Biografia ideii de literatură* (The Biography of the Idea of Literature), *Hermeneutica ideii de literatură* (The Hermeneutics of the Idea of Literature), *Hermeneutica lui Mircea Eliade* (Mircea Eliade's Hermeneutics), *Ideea de modern* (The Idea of the Modern), *Critica literară* (Literary Criticism) and *Estetica literară* (Literary Aesthetics). On the bibliographical record accompanying the donation Adrian Marino noted: "Thematic documentary materials, photocopies, clippings, versions, drafts precursory to some personal works."

He accorded special importance to the idea of the modern, respectively to the notions of modern,<sup>4</sup> modernism,<sup>5</sup> modern arts,<sup>6</sup> ancient and modern,<sup>7</sup> ancient and modern in France,<sup>8</sup> decadence-morality,<sup>9</sup> modern-language,<sup>10</sup> modern and humanity,<sup>11</sup> rhetoric,<sup>12</sup> relativism,<sup>13</sup> *De*

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<sup>1</sup> The four dossiers have the pressmarks: Fd. Marino 129, Fd. Marino 130, Fd. Marino 180, Fd. Marino 379.

<sup>2</sup> *Viața lui Alexandru Macedonski* (The Life of Alexandru Macedonski), pressmark: Fd. Marino 379, *Opera lui Alexandru Macedonski* (The Work of Alexandru Macedonski), *Introducere în critica literară* (Introduction to Literary Criticism), pressmark: Fd. Marino 180. In what follows we shall give only the pressmarks of the dossiers referred to.

<sup>3</sup> Fd. Marino 129.

<sup>4</sup> Fd. Marino 332, Fd. Marino 340.

<sup>5</sup> Fd. Marino 333–334.

<sup>6</sup> Fd. Marino 334.

<sup>7</sup> Fd. Marino 335.

<sup>8</sup> Fd. Marino 336.

<sup>9</sup> Fd. Marino 337.

<sup>10</sup> Fd. Marino 339.

<sup>11</sup> Fd. Marino 341.

<sup>12</sup> Fd. Marino 342.

<sup>13</sup> Fd. Marino 343.

*arte metrica*<sup>1</sup> etc. All these notions are to be found as subtitles of the generic title, *The modern Idea*. The materials referring to the work *Modern, modernism, modernitate* (Modern, Modernism, Modernity) are in the dossier with the same title.<sup>2</sup>

The work whose title covers the greatest number (75) of dossiers<sup>3</sup> is the very same work which imposed a particular documentary effort due to the encyclopaedism present in its articles. This writing is, of course, *Dicționarul de idei literare*, which required numerous documentary, scientific materials, necessary to the elaboration of any such work. The bibliography used when writing the texts is conclusive from the point of view of both the historicity of the ideas and their actual stage. The materials gathered in these dossiers are thematic articles and contemporary studies of Romanian and foreign specialists; this encourages researchers to look through them. From among the many subtitles of this impressive work which represents "the defined concept or the fundamental key-idea"<sup>4</sup> we shall give only some revealing examples: *Sacred/profane*,<sup>5</sup> *Baroque*,<sup>6</sup> *Imitation*,<sup>7</sup> *Popular Literature*<sup>8</sup> etc.

*Biografia ideii de literatură*, the first complete Romanian literary encyclopaedia published in several languages, as almost all the works written by A. Marino, the Romanian critic best-known in Europe, is to be found in 11 dossiers<sup>9</sup> referring to the Romanian edition and in a dossier referring to the American version.<sup>10</sup> The subtitles of these dossiers present chronologically the entire evolution of the idea of literature: *Antiquity*,<sup>11</sup> *Middle Ages*,<sup>12</sup> *Renaissance*,<sup>13</sup> *17<sup>th</sup> c.*,<sup>14</sup> *18<sup>th</sup> c.*,<sup>15</sup> *19<sup>th</sup> c.*,<sup>16</sup> *20<sup>th</sup>*

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<sup>1</sup> Fd. Marino 344.

<sup>2</sup> Fd. Marino 382.

<sup>3</sup> Fd. Marino 255–316, Fd. Marino 383–387.

<sup>4</sup> Adrian Marino, *Dicționar de idei literare*, Bucharest, Eminescu Publishing House, 1973, X.

<sup>5</sup> Fd. Marino 269.

<sup>6</sup> Fd. Marino 275.

<sup>7</sup> Fd. Marino 273.

<sup>8</sup> Fd. Marino 280.

<sup>9</sup> Fd. Marino 317–326, Fd. Marino 396/1–5.

<sup>10</sup> Fd. Marino 420.

<sup>11</sup> Fd. Marino 318.

<sup>12</sup> Fd. Marino 319.

<sup>13</sup> Fd. Marino 321.

<sup>14</sup> Fd. Marino 320.

<sup>15</sup> Fd. Marino 322.

<sup>16</sup> Fd. Marino 323.

c.,<sup>1</sup> 20<sup>th</sup> c. *Paraliterature, Mass-literature*.<sup>2</sup> The unused materials were gathered in a different dossier.<sup>3</sup>

Besides *Biografia ideii de literatură, Hermeneutica ideii de literatură* is an important work too. Western literary theory would be proud of these works, if it owned them. *Hermeneutica ideii de literatură* is illustrated by a few dossiers.<sup>4</sup>

The work, *Hermeneutica lui Mircea Eliade*, included in the dossiers<sup>5</sup> of this collection represents an initial manuscript, materials used in the writing process of the work, texts by Mircea Eliade, studies on Mircea Eliade, as well as Romanian and foreign reviews on the numerous editions of Mircea Eliade's works.

There are 17 dossiers<sup>6</sup> with reference to literary aesthetics in which there are described concepts and ideas belonging to the domain of contemporary aesthetics: creation,<sup>7</sup> aesthetic emotion, aestheticism,<sup>8</sup> purity,<sup>9</sup> imagination, fantasy,<sup>10</sup> uselessness, luxury, play, gratuitous<sup>11</sup> etc.

As editor and director of the first Romanian periodical of literary studies circulated in foreign languages, *Cahiers roumains d'études littéraires*, Adrian Marino gathered many articles sent to him in order to be published and written by such personalities as Ion Hobana, Aurel Sasu, N. I. Popa, A. Lăzărescu etc. This periodical was little-known in Romania, but it was appreciated in the intellectual circles abroad. Adrian Marino describes it as a periodical collection of studies focusing on comparative literature, each of its monographic numbers being consecrated to a certain theme. The main contents were thematic, they were followed by the chronicle of translations where books by Romanian authors translated abroad were reviewed.

Naturally, there are many dossiers containing articles for the *Cahiers...* Besides the titles<sup>12</sup> gathering printed articles, there are those

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<sup>1</sup> Fd. Marino 324/1-6.

<sup>2</sup> Fd. Marino 325.

<sup>3</sup> Fd. Marino 326.

<sup>4</sup> Fd. Marino 327-328, Fd. Marino 394-395.

<sup>5</sup> Fd. Marino 329-331, Fd. Marino 392-393.

<sup>6</sup> Fd. Marino 348-364.

<sup>7</sup> Fd. Marino 353.

<sup>8</sup> Fd. Marino 358.

<sup>9</sup> Fd. Marino 360.

<sup>10</sup> Fd. Marino 354.

<sup>11</sup> Fd. Marino 359.

<sup>12</sup> The dossiers are to be found under the pressmarks Fd. Marino 1-21, Fd. Marino 48-49, Fd. Marino 138, Fd. Marino 140 and others.

comprising reviews on the periodical which were published in the national and international press.<sup>1</sup> Adrian Marino was the contributor of many Romanian and foreign periodicals.

Many dossiers have as a title the names of personalities belonging to Romanian and foreign cultural circles, such as the dossiers named after *Constantin Noica*,<sup>2</sup> *Ioan Petru Culianu*,<sup>3</sup> *Matei Călinescu*,<sup>4</sup> *Pavel Chihaiia*,<sup>5</sup> *Iordan Chimet*,<sup>6</sup> *Alexandru Piru*,<sup>7</sup> *Andrei Pippidi*,<sup>8</sup> *Adrian Dinu Rachieru*,<sup>9</sup> *Sorin Antohi*,<sup>10</sup> *Mircea Iorgulescu*,<sup>11</sup> *Vladimir Tismăneanu*,<sup>12</sup> *Monica Spiridon*,<sup>13</sup> *Radu G. Țeposu*,<sup>14</sup> *Dorin Tudoran*,<sup>15</sup> *Paul Lăzărescu*,<sup>16</sup> *Nicholas Catanoy*,<sup>17</sup> *Ruxandra Cesereanu*,<sup>18</sup> *Corneliu Ștefanache*<sup>19</sup> etc. Each of them were essayists, poets, prose writers, literary historians and critics, translators, whom Adrian Marino collaborated with in his literary activity. These dossiers contain the correspondences between the above mentioned personalities and Adrian Marino, as well as articles written by or materials about the formers. An example worth mentioning is the dossier entitled *Constantin Noica* which comprises the correspondence between C. Noica and A. Marino, a memorial about Mircea Eliade signed by C. Noica, an article on C. Noica signed by the French professor, Claude Karnooch,<sup>20</sup> photocopies and periodical articles referring to C. Noica.

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<sup>1</sup> Fd. Marino 215, Fd. Marino 407.

<sup>2</sup> Fd. Marino 371.

<sup>3</sup> Fd. Marino 372.

<sup>4</sup> Fd. Marino 438-440.

<sup>5</sup> Fd. Marino 184.

<sup>6</sup> Fd. Marino 452.

<sup>7</sup> Fd. Marino 214.

<sup>8</sup> Fd. Marino 449.

<sup>9</sup> Fd. Marino 451.

<sup>10</sup> Fd. Marino 445.

<sup>11</sup> Fd. Marino 424.

<sup>12</sup> Fd. Marino 448.

<sup>13</sup> Fd. Marino 446.

<sup>14</sup> Fd. Marino 373.

<sup>15</sup> Fd. Marino 450.

<sup>16</sup> Fd. Marino 474.

<sup>17</sup> Fd. Marino 472.

<sup>18</sup> Fd. Marino 473.

<sup>19</sup> Fd. Marino 475.

<sup>20</sup> Claude Karnooch, "Constantin Noica et la quête d'une essence de la tradition roumain", in *Lupta* (The Struggle), March 1988.

The rich correspondence between Adrian Marino and numerous personalities is an important documentary source which may help us to outline a true image of the Romanian literary and even political culture in different periods of the society and under different political regimes. The letters contain opinions and accounts of some events which question attitudes insufficiently understood at that socio-political moment or bring to judgement actions beforehand unknown. The dossiers containing correspondence are sorted according to the origin or the destination of the letters. Thus, we can find titles as: *Romanian Correspondence, Foreign Correspondence, Switzerland Correspondence, Letters from Readers, Letters from Reviewed Authors* etc.

### **Study trips, conferences**

Adrian Marino collected during his study trips abroad notes, editorial prospectuses, new articles, folders. From the material of his Switzerland trip<sup>1</sup> he constituted a dossier for each domain of personal interest: folders and notes from the University of Geneva,<sup>2</sup> notes on the Romanian presence in Switzerland,<sup>3</sup> information on the Society of Swiss writers,<sup>4</sup> on Rhaeto-Romanian writers,<sup>5</sup> documentary materials on Switzerland.<sup>6</sup> His other study trips as those to Belgium,<sup>7</sup> Greece,<sup>8</sup> Turkey,<sup>9</sup> Israel<sup>10</sup> etc. are represented as well in the Adrian Marino archive collection.

Having participated at several national and international congresses of neo-Latin studies,<sup>11</sup> at international colloquia and conferences (Copenhagen, Amsterdam, Berlin<sup>12</sup>), Adrian Marino collected literary materials of great scientific interest, participation bulletins, as well as a rich official correspondence with the members of the organizing institutes.

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<sup>1</sup> Fd. Marino 156–164.

<sup>2</sup> Fd. Marino 157.

<sup>3</sup> Fd. Marino 158, Fd. Marino 163.

<sup>4</sup> Fd. Marino 159.

<sup>5</sup> Fd. Marino 162.

<sup>6</sup> Fd. Marino 160, Fd. Marino 164.

<sup>7</sup> Fd. Marino 154.

<sup>8</sup> Fd. Marino 205.

<sup>9</sup> Fd. Marino 253, Fd. Marino 376.

<sup>10</sup> Fd. Marino 377.

<sup>11</sup> *Congrese de studii neo-latine* (Congresses of Neo-Latin Studies), Fd. Marino 169; *The Third International Congress of Romanian Studies*, Fd. Marino 234.

<sup>12</sup> Fd. Marino 206–207, Fd. Marino 254.

Always interested in the spreading of Romanian literature and in the image of Romania in foreign countries, he attentively followed and recorded the way Romanians were thought of in the world both from literary and political point of view.<sup>1</sup>

### Political interest

Adrian Marino's political interest and the value of the collection initiated by this result from the different notes referring to Romania's political and cultural situation, notes to be found in the dossiers containing political materials.<sup>2</sup> As a former political prisoner (1949–1957), then a deportee to the Bărăgan 1957–1963<sup>3</sup>, he took an interest in the situation of political prisoners from the communist period and militated for human rights.<sup>4</sup> He was a member of the Sighet Memorial Foundation.<sup>5</sup> As a member of the Anti-totalitarian Forum<sup>6</sup> and supporter of democracy<sup>7</sup> in Romania, he attentively followed all aspects related to the sensitive problems of Romanian politics: minorities,<sup>8</sup> European integration. Adrian Marino speaks of European integration supporting the realization of this political objective. The dossier titles suggest this: *Europe*,<sup>9</sup> *Central Europe*, *Federalization of Europe*, *Integration*,<sup>10</sup> *Return to Europe*,<sup>11</sup> *Europe and the Romanians*,<sup>12</sup> *Romania and Europe*,<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> *Românii în lume. Prezențe literare* (Romanians in the World. Literary Presence), Fd. Marino 172; *Românii în lume. Prezențe politice* (Romanians in the World. Political Presence), Fd. Marino 173; *Prezențe românești și realități europene* (Romanian Presence in European Realities), Fd. Marino 391.

<sup>2</sup> *Materiale politice* (Political Materials), Fd. Marino 245; *Politică și cultură* (Politics and Culture), Fd. Marino 399, *Presa și materiale politice* (The Press and Political Materials), Fd. Marino 468.

<sup>3</sup> *Pica Ioan Victor: coleg, deportare* (Pica Ioan Victor: Colleague, Deportation), Fd. Marino 249; "*Dosare*" *deținuți politici* ("Dossiers" Political Prisoners), Fd. Marino 464.

<sup>4</sup> Fd. Marino 243.

<sup>5</sup> Fd. Marino 461.

<sup>6</sup> Fd. Marino 122–127.

<sup>7</sup> *Democrația creștină* (Christian Democracy), Fd. Marino 244.

<sup>8</sup> *Greco-catolicii* (Greek Catholics), Fd. Marino 459; "*Separatiștii ardeleni*" ("Transylvanian Separatists"), Fd. Marino 457; *Relațiile româno-maghiare* (Romanian-Hungarian Relations), Fd. Marino 456.

<sup>9</sup> Fd. Marino 460.

<sup>10</sup> Fd. Marino 458.

<sup>11</sup> Fd. Marino 400.

<sup>12</sup> Fd. Marino 454.

*Romanian Presence and European Realities,*<sup>2</sup> *For Europe,*<sup>3</sup> *Pro Europa League.*<sup>4</sup>

He was a contributor to the radio stations Voice of America and Free Europe,<sup>5</sup> member of the Civic Alliance<sup>6</sup> and of the Christian-Democratic National Peasants' Party. During his party membership he gathered into several dossiers<sup>7</sup> political materials referring to the party leadership, dissidences and exclusions from the party, manifestations, declarations, demonstrations, surveys, works on the history of the party, on external relations, on Ion Rațiu's personality (personal activities within the cultural department), programs, principles, manifestos, political documents.

### Awards

Data referring to the prizes Adrian Marino had been awarded with can be found in the dossiers *Herder Prize*,<sup>8</sup> *Opera Omnia Prize*.<sup>9</sup> Literary prizes of the *National Book Salon*,<sup>10</sup> diplomas awarded by the Romanian Academy<sup>11</sup> and the Union of Romanian Writers are preserved in other dossiers.<sup>12</sup>

The great number of themes to be found in the dossier titles of the Adrian Marino collection has not allowed us to dwell on each subject. In this article we mentioned only those themes whose discussion is of greater importance. Such subjects as *Poems from the Age of Dictatorship*<sup>13</sup> or *Cultural and Literary Materials: Ceaușescu's Age 1981-1985*<sup>14</sup> etc. have not been mentioned but they have a real value for

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<sup>1</sup> Fd. Marino 455.

<sup>2</sup> Fd. Marino 477.

<sup>3</sup> Fd. Marino 398.

<sup>4</sup> Fd. Marino 241.

<sup>5</sup> *Piese din arhiva posturilor Vocea Americii și Europa Liberă* (Works from the Archives of the Voice of America and Free Europe Radio Stations), Fd. Marino 176.

<sup>6</sup> *Alianța Civică: 1990-2002* (Civic Alliance 1990-2002), Fd. Marino 177, Fd. Marino 466.

<sup>7</sup> Fd. Marino 178-183, Fd. Marino 246, Fd. Marino 467.

<sup>8</sup> Fd. Marino 148.

<sup>9</sup> Fd. Marino 227.

<sup>10</sup> Fd. Marino 228, Fd. Marino 496.

<sup>11</sup> Fd. Marino 483.

<sup>12</sup> Fd. Marino 482, Fd. Marino 493-495, Fd. Marino 497.

<sup>13</sup> Fd. Marino 242.

<sup>14</sup> Fd. Marino 216.



the literary historian. Similarly, I have not referred to titles as *Fulbright-Rochester Scholarship*,<sup>1</sup> *Cultural Foundations*<sup>2</sup> or *International Comparative Literature Association*<sup>3</sup> etc., however, they are important for the writer's complete biography.

We hope that this presentation has offered a general view of the information that can be found within the archive collection with reference to the interests Adrian Marino, scholar and man of culture, had during his life. We think that the investigation of this collection will be useful to Adrian Marino's biographers, as well as to literary historians and not only to those who will undertake to write the history of contemporary Romanian literature.

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<sup>1</sup> Fd. Marino 151–152.

<sup>2</sup> Fd. Marino 176.

<sup>3</sup> Fd. Marino 72, Fd. Marino 131–137, Fd. Marino 145.