

A VERY SHORT PRESENTATION OF PARADOXISM

It was in 1980's when the movement began...

Together with many of my childhood friends (Cost, Geonea, Beca, Bigioc, Piciu, Boros, Covrig, Cris, Pilă, Grasu, Babanu – I am giving only their nicknames!) we were in the village restaurants in the town (Bălcești, Vâlcea, Romania) drinking beer and joking ...

All were, and still are – except Constantin Dincă and me, *non-literary people*.

They did not want either to read or to write anything!

And yet, we built a new literary movement (without knowing about it ... paradoxically!!). We made inside jokes, spoke in slang, amused each other while the alcohol had its effect on us.

I then wrote in Romanian *Legi de compoziție internă. Poeme cu ... probleme!*” (*Laws of internal composition. Poems with ... problems!*, Morocco, 1982) as a PRE-PARADOXIST volume.

Returning to Craiova, □ Rom@nia □, my work city, I contacted the literary circles and then, with the help of other writers (Constantin M. Popa, Ion Soare, Doru Moțoc etc.), set up The Literary Paradoxist Movement.

PARADOXISM CAME TO LIFE FROM NOTHING AND GIVEN BIRTH BY NON-LITERARY PEOPLE! PARADOXISM CAME TO LIFE FROM EVERYTHING, FROM OUR CONTRADICTORY LEAVING IN A TOTALITARIAN SOCIETY.

I published in French the **first paradoxist manifesto** in the book titled *Le sens du non-sens (The sens of the non-sens)*, Morocco, 1983. Other „paradoxist” books followed: *Anti-chambres / Anti-poésies / Bizarerries (Ante-rooms / Anti-poems / Strange-vers)*, France, 1989 and *Le Paradoxisme: un nouveau mouvement littéraire (The Paradoxism: a new literary movement)*, France, 1992.

Adding to these, Michele de Laplante published *Quelques Paradoxes {Some Paradoxes}*, Canada, 1993.

Emigrating to United States in March 1990, I continued to spread the paradoxist movement to English speaking countries by publishing the contraried anti-volume *Non Poems* (USA, 1990), and *Encyclo-Poetry* (USA, 1994 – to be published).

Constantin M. Popa analysed it in his critical essay *Mișcarea Literară Paradoxist (Romanian) (The Paradoxist Literary Movement)*, USA, 1992.

A group of literary critics (J. – M. Levenard, I. Rotaru, A. Skemer) collected all multicultural essays (in 11 languages) dealing with paradoxism and published them in an

anthology of the *anti-literary journal* „The Paradoxist Movement” (USA, 1993). More than 160 writers from 28 countries around the world at one times were involved in the movement!

Currently, Florin Vasiliu is working on a study of the „Paradoxist Roots” (USA, 1994 – to be published).

I not only wrote poems in this style, but also plays for the theater: *Metaistorie* (Romanian) {*Meta-History*} (Romania, 1993), novels: *Non Roman* (Romanian) {*Non Novel*} (Romania, 1993); short stories: *Scrieri Defecte* (Romanian) {*Wrong Writings*} {Romania, 1994 – to be published}.

AND now, it's my pleasure to read for you the BRAZILIAN PARADOXIST MANIFESTO (please, excuse my Portuguese – this is my first attempt to learn your language!!):

Bello Horizonte, Brasil, 1993