

AN ARTIST IN THE POSTCOLONIAL WORLD IN THE NOVEL BY VOLODYMYR DANYLENKO "THE CLUB 'OLD PEGASUS'"

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The body of work by the modern Ukrainian writer Volodymyr Danylenko is positioned with "Zhytomyr school". The creative manner of the artist is marked with the postmodern aesthetics. In the author's prose fiction there are a lot of ironic and satiric texts where various aspect of our life of the Independence epoch are criticized. Such is the novel "The Club 'Old Pegasus'".

The work of art touches upon the problem of the absurdity of artistic person's life in modern Ukraine, the marker of which is invincible totalitarian consciousness, lack of the stable national development strategy, instead we can trace parodic imitation of state-forming and cultural processes. Such quasi-situation is pointedly demonstrated by education and art. These are the issues which the author artistically thinks about in the parodic way.

Through the example of portraying the activity of "The Club 'Old Pegasus'", which is ruled by the main character Yuliy Solodchuk, V. Danylenko stresses upon the state of lethargic dreaming, in which national artistic associations are. In the author's ironic and satiric descriptions of the atmosphere of "Old Pegasus" one can see the attitude of the new generation of writers to the writers of an older generation who are not deprived of totalitarian thinking. The members of the club are portrayed as pseudoartists who seek acknowledgement and respect from people of their kind. In the new realities of Ukraine they cherish the same rules and laws of creativity that used to be during the Soviet epoch. The colonial way of thinking of Ukrainian artistic community which destroys a talented personality is castigated through the allusions and satiric and ironic evaluation. Yuliy Solodchuk is portrayed as an antithesis to the members of the club. He is a person of the new time and new way of thinking he strives not the imitation but the movement further.

A parodic and satiric tone dominates in the description of education in Ukraine. The author describes the University of Culture in an uncovering manner. Both general atmosphere of an institution and the behavior of the rector who embodies his commercial plans and humiliates a decent teacher are criticized. The writer states an opinion that the artistic personality cannot confront corruption and ignorance.

Psychology of the writer Solodchuk is revealed by V. Danylenko through the description of his personal life. Being absorbed in the favourite activity Solodchuk does not notice dishonesty in the relationship with his beloved woman. Appreciating freedom above all, Yuliy cannot allow the woman who wants to control him to be in love with him. With the contents of his novel V. Danylenko persuades a reader in the trivial truth: a real artist is always lonely. His happiness lies in the creative work in which, according to S. Freud, everything one has lived through is objectified.

V. Danylenko's novel "The Club 'Old Pegasus'" has an anticolonial sounding. He touches upon the supertemporal problem of relations in the artistic environment, of an artistic person and society, actualizes the issue of development of modern literature and education.

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