THE EVOLUTION OF VIEWS ON THE WORKS OF ROMAIN GARY IN THE CONTEXT OF NOVEL PUBLISHED AFTER HIS DEATH

Roza Usmanovna Galimova

Kazan, Kazan Federal University (RUSSIA) rgalimova80@mail.ru

DOI: 10.7813/jll.2015/6-3/43

Received: 01 Jul, 2015 Accepted: 20 Aug, 2015

ABSTRACT

The article discuss new terms of research created due to the publication in 2014 of the first unpublished manuscript by Romain Gary. In our opinion, linguistics, psychology and literature is interested for new approaches to the understanding and cognition of a text meanings, which became possible by the analysis of the keys in the writer's "laboratory of ideas". The winner of two Prix Goncourt for the "Sky roots" and "Life is ahead" Romain Gary considered his first novel as one of his best works. The process of meaning comprehension in Romain Gary's works extended in time. The evolution of researcher views on the writer's creation and various interpretations of an unpublished novel literary text by French philologists is presented in the Paris magazine "Europe" in 2014. The phenomenal creation of Romain Gary today is the subject of scientific value. By understanding the role and the place of the writer in literary criticism and linguistics, we may determine more accurately the relevance and scientific novelty of the proposed research. The study allows us to give an analysis of the writer Romain Gary creation from a new angle. It does not fit into ready-made methods of knowledge: it is necessary to go beyond it, the submission of methods and analysis to the nature of the set tasks. Among the objects of our study the text of an artistic speech also takes a prominent place as the artistic literature product. Russian origin, the writer's bilingualism, his novels in English language and his translations of his novels into French had their impact on the writer's creation. This view on the writer's language seems logical, and the research in this area is quite promising. The Romain Gary's creativity is the life of unconscious, he is characterized by the state of detachment from his personal I. This is due to a certain trait of a character, to Russianness, with the dominant role of his mother, who always inspired his importance and at the same time acted as a dictator. The writer's language and thought distinguishes the structuring of images caused by Russian words kept in the memory since childhood. This aspect in the context of a language specificity could be the subject of further research which is interesting to us. Today we can observe the scientific pluralism, when different specialists present the writer's work in such various ways that the conclusions made ten or twenty years ago may be developed further. This is the meaning of scientific research, to which it is subject, and it presents the specific difference from all other scientific papers.

Key words: first unpublished manuscript, a laboratory of the writer's ideas

1. INTRODUCTION

If Romain Gary's work was studied fairly well over the past twenty or thirty years (dissertations, monographs, articles are provided by hundreds), the previous year 2014 became the landmark for linguists, psychologists and researchers of French literature and the art of the famous French writer with Russian origin. "Europe" magazine devoted two summer issues 1022-1023 to the centenary of Romain Gary's birth (1914-1980) [1]. The new approaches to the cognition and understanding of text meanings, which became possible due to the analysis of keys in the writer's "laboratory of ideas" are interesting, in our opinion. This event is associated with the advent of an unpublished first novel LeVindesmorts by R. Gary 34 years after the writer's death [2] and the publication of the writer's interview to a Canadian journalist several months before the suicide [3]. The winner of two Prix Goncourt for the "Sky roots" and "Life is ahead" Romain Gary considered his first novel as one of his best works. The process of meaning comprehension in the works written by Romain Gary extended in time. In the essay "The Life and Death" written by Emile Azhar the "empirical" author mentions his first novel Levindesmorts twice as the source that was bringing the ideas and themes constantly. Romain Gary researchers will have to include another work in the list of his novels during the preparation of a complete bibliography of his works. Like another Romain Gary's trap or spoof to "outsmart" the set order of things. Now, when the novel was published and was presented to the public, it could shed new light on all literary works of the writer. Romain Gary's biographers never referred to this novel, although R. Gary mentioned it frequently, giving the clue to his literary hoax with Emile Ajar. This product has always had its continuation, only the title was changed, while the author's intention did not become more popular.

2. MAIN PART

The manuscript of the first novel consists of several parts presented on the yellowed pages (331 pages). Many fragments of this novel became the parts of R. Gary's novels "Tulip", "European education", "Large dressing room", "Sky roots", "Star eaters" and in the book "Great laskun", "Life is ahead", "Pseudo" written under the pseudonym Emile Ajar. The main idea of the novel "LeVindesmorts": wine unleashes a tongue and liberates consciousness, and death becomes the answer to the questions of life. Madness, schizophrenia, hallucinations, game and a complete freedom on the linguistic level are expressed by expressive vocabulary, phraseology, the frequent repetition and used in other novels written by Romain Gary and Emile Azhar. The metaphor of life and death is one of the key leitmotifs of the novel. The main character named Tulip appeared in a graveyard in a dungeon. Seeking a way out, he realizes that the world of the dead is no different from the world of the living. He is surrounded by grotesque characters: procuress from the netherworld brothel; police officers who beat an accused one to make him "a triple-colored"; sadists Jim and Joe play with the heads of Pierrot and Columbine; the soldier who confessed that he was superseded by the German in the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier; the Monk, appealing to take possession of the Holy Grail. And the dead and the living have the same weaknesses and vices, which a human soul

has. The development of a literary character speech is based on natural language. The manuscript of the novel was bought at the auction in 1992 by French anthropologist and psychologist Philip Breno. Now, when the novel was published, it can shed a new light on the writer's work. Berket Jonathan Berket in his article "Romain Gary: meanings of his life" wrote about the rich heritage of the variety of methods and approaches in the study of his creativity [4]. In this article we are talking about the content of the magazine "Europe" and the main idea is underlined well: an unpublished work, which did not get the recognition and approval of the publishers during the writer's life, is the source that fed all the work of the great novelist of the XXth century. The writer himself referred repeatedly in his death note his first manuscript and many borrowings from this novel in the books written under the pen name when he decided on a literary hoax in order to spoof the French criticism. Now the text of R. Gary's novel "LeVindesmorts" is a special object of scientific study. The evolution of researcher views on the works of the writer and various interpretations of an unpublished novel literary text by French philologists are presented in the previously mentioned Paris magazine "Europe". As can be seen, the phenomenal work of Romain Gary today is the subject of a scientific value. By understanding the role and the place of the writer in literary criticism and linguistics, we may determine more accurately the relevance and scientific novelty of the proposed research. The study allows us to give an analysis of the writer Romain Gary creation from a new angle. It does not fit into ready-made methods of knowledge: it is necessary to go beyond it, the submission of methods and analysis to the nature of the set tasks. Among the objects of our study the text of an artistic speech also takes a prominent place as the artistic literature product. The limitation by the synthesis of language science and literature theory, called philology is not always enough during the analysis of literary texts. Several scientific fields are presented as the part of the presented magazine. The topics of five sections within the French magazine "Europe" are reflected in the metaphorical titles: idealism, idioms and engagement; the gloss of femininity; behind the scenes of a letter; inexhaustible relevance, etc. The basic principle of the first and last sections of the journal "Europe" is anthropocentrism: the way of the writer and the meanings of the text are studied using the biography of the text creator. In the article with a symbolic title "Romain Gary painful joy to be alive" Maxim Decu and Julien Rumett talk about imagination and the writer's sense of humor, who saved him from despair and depression [5]. The following article "Noble provocateur" was written by famous French writer Rozhe Grene. The most amusing of his recollections is that he was an accomplice in the creative process of Romain Gary, he adjusted and made changes in R. Gary's novels, published under the pseudonym Emile Ajar, not knowing that this Ajar is Gary in fact [6]. The neurologist Eve Azhid, the son of a married couple, to which R. Gary dedicated his novel "The Promise at dawn", said about R. Gary's respect towards his parents and his father René Azhid, Gary's doctor and friend; about the attitude towards science, which served humanity and at the same time could become a deadly weapon [7]. The member of the literary hoax and the writer's nephew Paul Pavlovich, who agreed to take on the role of Emile Adjar in "Late styles" talks about the harmony of words and an invisible leave in the last Gary's novel [8]. J. Rumett in the article "The settling of scores with a double" showing the duality of the writer's nature, describes the history associated with R. Gary's grim portrait made by Claude Venaria in 1947. The artist never parted with this painting, it was always in his workshop. According to the writer's first wife recollections Lesli Blanche R. Gary during his diplomatic work in America in 1950, destroyed this portrait being dissatisfied with the work of the artist [9]. The article is not an academic one, but the biographical information provide a particular interest to psychologists and linguists: the features duality, incorrect biographical information in an interview about his birth and parents, the writer's bilingualism, the aliases Shaitan Rich, Fosco Sinibaldi, Emile Ajar et al., the constant pursuit for reincarnations were reflected in the creative laboratory of the writer. Ervele Tellier develops the chronological facts in the life of a writer in the Article 99 of the notes [10]. The Russian origin, the bilingualism of the writer, his novels in English language and his translations into French had their impact on the writer's work. This view on the writer's language seems to be logical, and research in this area are guite promising. It should be noted that the nature of this specificity is well shown in the work of our University researchers in the work "Lady L" written by R. Gary. The national character of the novel characters and the mentality of the writer are interpreted in a psychological aspect [11]. Such an idea means new problems and the set of new issues, and any execution of a plan aims to a complete analysis, but not to an end.

3. CONCLUSIONS

Romain Gary's creativity is the life of the unconscious. He is characterized by the state of detachment from ego. This is related to a certain trait, Russianness, with the dominant role of the mother, who always inspired his importance and at the same time acted as a dictator. Therefore, the characters feel the lack of personal initiative, an alien spirit penetrates in them, they are instilled with outside thoughts, images, feelings, and even another language. Besides, the writer's language and thought distinguishes the structuring of images caused by Russian words kept in the memory from childhood. This aspect in the context of language specificity could be the subject of further research.

We are inclined to join those authors who see in an artistic text the result of speech activity, which is presented by ordered closed organization of a selected language material, which embodies the semantic structure of the work as a social phenomenon.

Thus, the study of the factors conditioning the process of text creation and functioning, as well as the selection of linguist means materials from which the "plan of content" and the "plan of verbal expression" is created provides a better understanding of the text itself, the complete understanding of information contained in it.

4. SUMMARY

In modern foreign science the attention to R. Gary's creativity is explained by the distinction between linguistics that studies the plan of expression, philology which plans text content and psychology. The text of the unpublished novel in the totality of its internal issues and external relations is the original reality that is given to philologists and essential for linguists. This feature is inherent of textual theory and characterizes all other aspects of philology aimed at the interpretation of social, psychological, or any other context, which allows us to understand the origin of a literary text and interpret its contents.

Today we can observe the scientific pluralism, when different experts provide the writer's work so variously that the conclusions made ten or twenty years ago can be developed further. This is the meaning of scientific research, to which it is subject, and this provides its specific difference from all other scientific papers.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The work is performed according to the Russian Government Program of Competitive Growth of Kazan Federal University.

REFERENCES

- 1. *Europe*, n° 1022-1023, juin-juillet 2014 : « RomainGary »,EAN 9782351500651.
- 2. RomainGary, LeVindesmorts, édition de Philippe Brenot, Paris, Gallimard, « Les Cahiers de la NRF », 2014.
- 3. Romain Gary, Le Sens de ma vie, Entretien, préface de Roger Grenier, Paris, Gallimard, coll. « Blanche », 2014
- 4. Jonathan Barkate, « Romain Gary : les sens de sa vie », Acta fabula, vol. 16, n° 1, Notes de lecture, Janvier 2015, URL.
- M.Decout et J.Roumette, «Romain Gary ou la joyeuse angoisse de vivre», Europe, op.cit., p. 5. The antithesis "painful pleasure" (literally: the joyful anxiety) taken from a literary essay "Sganarelle" written by R. Gary, RomainGary, PourSganarelle, Paris, Gallimard, 1965, p.339.
- 6. Roger Grenier, « Un provocateur généreux », Europe, op.cit., p.7.
- 7. Yves Agid, « Un brio d'existence extraordinaire », Europe, op.cit., p.14.
- 8. Paul Pavlovitch, «Styles tardifs», Europe, op.cit., p.24.
- 9. Julien Roumette, «Réglement de compte», Europe, op.cit., p.34.
- 10. Hervé Le Tellier, « 99 notes de bas de page», Europe, op.cit., p.223-236.
- L.F.Khabiboullina, V.N.Vassilieva, Interaction des idées nationales dans les littératures anglaise et française du XXI siècle (S.Maugham, R.Gary). Journal of Language and Literature 2014; 5(1), p.55-60. http://repository.kpfu.ru/?p_id=80006