

v ~~vene~~ in živel ~~bo z nje~~ v ~~krščanski spravi~~ in ljubezni do groba....  
(Janez Trdina, from *Bajke in povesti o Gorjancih*, 1882–1888)

Note. Deficient *LDS* entries: *vrtec* 'day-care center', *na* 'on, upon, onto'

Counting missing and deficient items as a full strike and possibly derivable items as a half strike, lexical identification stands at a relatively low 73% and 65% for the two texts, respectively. However, it is unlikely that learners would not have access to the other widely-available Slovene-English dictionaries, and so the two texts were analyzed for these using the same criteria. The large Grad/Leeming dictionary scored 94% and 83%, the recent Komac dictionary<sup>6</sup> scored 89% and 78%, and the familiar green Komac/Škerlj pocket dictionary<sup>7</sup> scored 85% and 75%. The fact that *LDS* performs three-fourths the work of Grad/Leeming with one-fourteenth the vocabulary is no mean feat. Still, it is best viewed as a complement to more complete dictionaries.

The dictionary will most likely find its niche on the shelves of those committed to learning basic Slovene, especially as their first Slavic language, and perhaps as a resource in the various Slovene language courses taught around the world. Those dedicated to the lexicography and teaching of Slovene will follow the reception of *LDS* with interest.

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**Darko Dolinar and Marko Juvan, eds.** *Kako pisati literarno zgodovino danes?: Razprave*. Ljubljana: Znanstvenoraziskovalni center SAZU, 2003. 395 pp. (paper). ISBN 961-6358-82-0.

This three-part collection of papers, the first such comprehensive consideration of literary history in Slovenia, will provoke and impress readers, including those in other disciplines. First a note on the extras, not necessarily included in such collections: Martin Grum has compiled a handy bibliography of 166 pieces of literary history published in

<sup>6</sup> Daša Komac. *Splošni angleško-slovensko in slovensko-angleški moderni slovar*. Ed. Mojca M. Hočevár. (Ljubljana: Cankarjeva založba, 2001).

<sup>7</sup> Daša Komac & Ružena Škerlj. *Angleško-slovenski in slovensko-angleški slovar*. 7 ed. (Ljubljana: Cankarjeva založba, 1985).

one of multiple interacting systems within a society. Dovič specifically suggests attention to media-literature interplay in the Slovene context. Stephen Greenblatt's approach to literature is the subject of Vladimir Papoušek's article. According to Papoušek, Greenblatt sees a work as "an intersection of period discourses that are to be reconstructed in order to restore a vanished historical horizon" (167). While wary of losing sight of a work's esthetic qualities, Papoušek feels that Greenblatt may offer a way to salvage close reading of texts in a new kind of literary history. Peter Zima's "Historische Perioden als Problematiken: sozio-linguistische Situationen, Soziolekte und Diskurse" (275–86) likewise posits competing discourses as the real object of study in the past. Miloš Zelenka's article on manuscriptology<sup>8</sup> echoes Papoušek's concern for the individual work and takes it further, accusing literary history of often eliminating the author-subject (cf. Ivan Verč) and disregarding evidence of the creative process in its drive for an authoritative text. Finally, in trying to determine what the material of literary history is, one might read Božena Tokarz's "Literarna zgodovina in njen predmet" (109–22), which outlines the question What is literariness?

Luhmann, Greenblatt, and Schmidt are not the most widely cited theorists in this collection. The key contemporary figures are David Perkins and Hayden White,<sup>9</sup> for obvious reasons. As might be apparent by now, the collection is more valuable for its representation of theoretical interests and their possible applications than for reporting of research results. An exception is Janez Strutz's presentation of the project "Literary relations in the Alps-Adriatic Region" (287–317), though this is not an examination of the relations' past but an assertion of how the region's literature and languages would fare better in non-national literary histories. This position points up one of the many tensions within the collection, in this case with Ivo Pospíšil,<sup>10</sup> who argues that literary history must take into account findings of the social sciences and include even "marginal phenomena if they play an important role in the life of the community," but remain national.

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<sup>8</sup> "Manuskriptologija in njen pomen za literarno zgodovino v kontekstu sodobne metodologije" (175–92).

<sup>9</sup> The most extensive treatment of White in the book is by Jola Škulj, "Modernistična literatura in spreminjanje paradigme literarne zgodovine" (227–43).

<sup>10</sup> "Literary history, poststructuralism, diletantism, and area studies" (141–57).

The two most divergent views are probably those of Juvan and, in the article following his, of Janko Kos in "Stari in novi modeli literarne zgodovine." Kos advocates reliance on *Geistesgeschichte* supplemented with other methodologies, stating that literary history is only a work that "with the help of the historical method narrates an event that extends over space and time, includes many events, authors, and works in their interrelatedness, which we can understand as a flow, process, and development" (53).<sup>11</sup> Kos's seemingly absolute definition is at odds with many of the other contributors' views, but his point that discrete studies of aspects of literary history do not add up to a history is seconded by Lado Kralj, one of several to cite Hollier's *New History of French Literature*, in this case as a negative example. Like Kos, Kralj concludes that some one person (or small group?) must write literary history, and it will necessarily be subjective and conditioned by his or her time.

Peter Zajac and Jelka Kernev Štrajn add interesting articles on memory. Štrajn<sup>12</sup> uses feminist literary criticism and references to psychoanalysis to posit the importance of the fragment in composing literary history (cf. Tokarz). Zajac<sup>13</sup> relies on Greenblatt and Deleuze to explain the importance of literary memory. Biti, of course, pointed out earlier in the volume how the histories of national literatures tend to forget as much as they record.

Dolar is correct when he writes in the introduction that this book's "subjects, problems and perspectives are intertwined and cross-referential, so any specific organization of these essays has only heuristic significance" (373). This quality is what makes the collection so engaging. It is also why a reviewer could not follow the three-part division of fundamental concepts, contemporary theories, and methodological approaches. Dolar is also no doubt correct that the autumn 2002 conference and publication within a year of this resulting collection will provide an impetus for reassessing Slovene literary history. A remarkable feature of the collection to a reader from outside the country and region

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<sup>11</sup> "...tisto razpravljanje, ki s pomočjo historične metode pripoveduje o dogajanju, ki se razteza v času in prostoru, vsebuje več dogodkov, avtorjev in del, to pa v medsebojnih povezavah, ki jih lahko razumemo kot potek, proces in razvoj."

<sup>12</sup> "Spomin kot fragment, vtkan v tekst" (319–30).

<sup>13</sup> "Literaturgeschichtsschreibung als synoptische Karte" (97–107).

might be that there is only one passing remark (by Juvan) on the momentous socio-political changes of the past decade. These scholars convey an admirable sense of perspective. Their initial collective effort to redetermine the premises of literary history is good evidence of this.

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**Mojmir Mrak, Matija Rojec and Carlos Silva-Jáuregui, eds.** *Slovenia: From Yugoslavia to the European Union*. Washington, DC: The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development/The World Bank, 2004. 446 pp., \$28.00 (paper). ISBN: 0-8213-5718-2.

When one hears the term “World Bank publication,” one’s mind is likely to form several associations, such as “dry,” “boring,” and “incomprehensible.” Although parts of the recently-published *Slovenia: From Yugoslavia to the European Union* do live up to those associations, to discount the entire work as such would be a mistake.

The book is substantial—a preface, an overview, twenty-four essays, a full index, dozens of figures and tables, all spread across just under 450 pages—and it certainly offers something for everyone. Contributors include a wide array of university professors, economists and other experts. Many were active participants if not leaders in the transition process, such as President Janez Drnovšek, former Minister of European Affairs and current European Commissioner Janez Potočnik, former Governor of the Bank of Slovenia France Arhar, current Governor of the Bank of Slovenia Mitja Gaspari, and Rector of the University of Ljubljana Jože Mencinger.

The essays are divided into three sections: “The Road Toward Political and Economic Independence,” “Socioeconomic Transformation—the Slovenian Way,” and “The Quest for EU Membership.” The overarching purpose of the book is to illuminate the Slovene experience in its thirteen years of tripartite transition: from a socialist to a market economy, from a regional to a national economy, and from a part of the Socialist Federative Republic of Yugoslavia to an independent state and member of the European Union.