News from Uppsala

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NEW BOOKS

Slavonic Historical Phonology

_Slavisk historisk ljudlära_ (‘Slavonic Historical Phonology’), appeared in 2019, is the third volume in the series _Slaviska handböcker och läromedel_, published by the Department of Modern Languages at Uppsala University. The volumes, which are written in Swedish, are intended to be used by students of Slavonic languages in Scandinavia. The present volume, written by Jussi Nuorluoto, offers a comprehensive overview of the development of sound systems in the Slavonic languages over the centuries. While the approach is basically conventional, the author also presents new scholarly perspectives, and in this respect the book can also be used as a scholarly reference work.

Living through Literature: Essays in Memory of Omry Ronen

Omry Ronen (1937–2012) was a world-renowned scholar of Russian literature and an inspiring teacher. His most influential work focused on historical and descriptive poetics, metrics, structural analysis of verse and prose, Russian Modernist poetry, and particularly the work of Osip Mandelstam. He also studied Alexander Pushkin’s poetics, subtextual interpretive strategies, the poetry of the OBERIU, the work of Vladimir Nabokov and the problems of literary multilingualism, the picaresque in Russian literature, popular fiction and science fiction, children’s literature, intersemiotic transposition in the arts, literature and cinema, the history of Russian formalism and structuralism, twentieth-century Ukrainian poetry, and the history and theory of Russian Symbolism, Acmeism, and Futurism.

This volume honors Omry Ronen’s memory and scholarly legacy with ten essays by his former students Karen Evans-Romaine, Sara Feldman, Susanne Fusso, Julie Hansen, Kelly E. Miller, Nancy Pollak, Irena Ronen, Stephanie Sandler, Timothy D. Sergay, and Michael Wachtel. The volume also contains an introduction by Vyacheslav Vsevolodovich Ivanov.

The book has been published both in print and open access, and is available in fulltext here:

A Historico-Theological Exercise on the Status of the Muscovite Church and Religion

The year 2019 saw the publication of Ulla Birgegård’s and Monica Hedlund’s edition of the first part of Nicolaus Bergius’s dissertation A Historico-Theological Exercise on the Status of the Muscovite Church and Religion, printed in Stockholm in 1704 (translated from Latin into English, 327 pp.).

The book secured Bergius a licentiate’s degree at Uppsala University. The first part of his work consists of two sections: the first historical, the second dogmatic. The historical section contains most of what was known about Russia in the West in terms of the people, language, alphabets, faith, Bible translations, books, printing houses, churches and monasteries, clergy, liturgy, feast days, schools, sects, etc. Bergius shows
a particular interest in the Old Believers, providing a broad survey of them. He had read almost all the available literature on these topics and repeatedly refers to what different sources say on the matter under discussion, often choosing the version he finds most trustworthy. A separate listing of Bergius’s ‘reference library’, comprised of the books he cites (approximately 160), is given in the edition. The second, dogmatic section of his work is in essence a comparison between the Lutheran catechism and the first part of Peter Mogila’s *Orthodox Confession*. The edition contains an extensive commentary and an index of personal names.

**SYMPOSIUM**

**Multilingual Literature and the Reader**

The symposium “Multilingual Literature and the Reader” was held on 7-9 March 2019 at the Baltic Centre for Writers and Translators in Visby, Sweden. The symposium was funded by a grant from Riksbankens Jubileumsfond and organized by Julie Hansen, Associate Professor of Slavic Languages at Uppsala University, in cooperation with Helena Bodin, Professor of Literature at Stockholm University, Lena Pasternak, Director of the Baltic Centre for Writers and Translators, and Julia Tidigs, post-doctoral researcher at the Society of Swedish Literature in Finland and at the University of Helsinki.

The symposium brought together researchers specializing in literary multilingualism and prominent writers who make use of multilingualism in their literary works. New scholarly research and authors’ literary perspectives were presented at a three-day symposium focusing on readers’ interactions with multilingualism in contemporary Nordic literature, in which Slavic languages also play a role.

The symposium participants were: Ralf Andtbacka, Marjaneh Bakhtiari, Helena Bodin, Heidi Grönstrand, Kristian Guttesen, Julie Hansen, Markus Huss, Anne Karine Kleveland, Zinaida Lindén, Kristina Malmio, Karin Nykvist, Janina Orlov, Lena Pasternak, Øyvind Rimbereid and Antje Wischmann.