

SUMMARIES

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GYÖRGY GRANASZTÓI. *Henriette – A One Summer Story.* Publisher's Note on the public fear of action, of taking responsibility in unexpected everyday situations.

JOHN O'SULLIVAN, editor, Alabama, USA. *Sovereignty or Submission.* Hungarian translation of an essay written for the July issue of *Hungarian Review.* Introducing John Fonte's seminal book under the same title, the author discusses the unobserved spread of global governance, which in its UN and European Union extremes creates threats to the principles and practice of democracy and national sovereignty.

ELŐD JUHÁSZ, music critic, Budapest. *An Unusual Book Launch. A Conversation with Zoltán Kocsis.* The collected edition of public conversations conducted over the last decades between pianist Zoltán Kocsis, Music Director of the Hungarian Philharmonic Orchestra, and Előd Juhász, was launched by a similar conversation at the Museum of Fine Art in Budapest. We are publishing an edited version of the recorded text.

JÁNOS PELLE, journalist, Budapest. *Wallenberg, Man of Destiny.* An analysis of the activity of one of the heroes of the Holocaust, the Swedish diplomat Raoul Wallenberg, who organized the saving of the lives of thousands of Jews in Budapest, after the Nazi Army occupied Budapest in March 1944, and set up a puppet government. The author also reveals the international, mostly American, connections of the mission, which in fact may have been responsible for Wallenberg's kidnapping by the Soviet Army, and his probable execution.

ÁGNES GEREBEN, literary historian, Budapest. *The Great Return. Putin's Third Presidential Term*. The author does not expect the continuation of President Medvedev's more enlightened reforms – Putin will continue the on the course he charted twelve years ago, toward re-building an authoritarian, imperial Russia, with no token gestures to Western type democracy.

GÉZA JESZENSZKY, Hungary's Ambassador in Oslo, Former Foreign Minister (1990–1994). *Antall, the Maker of Foreign Policy, Part III*. In 1990, the new Hungarian Prime Minister emerged as an exceptional international strategist, who pursued with energy the vision for the new democracies: membership in NATO and the EU, and new forms of co-operation among the nations of Central Europe, formerly divided by the bi-polar world and a Soviet will to divide its satellites.

JÁNOS PUSZTAY, linguist, Budapest. *The Future of a Language Family*. On the eve of a world congress of Finno-Ugrian scholars, the author examines the little languages and nations of the Uralic wing of the Finno-Ugrians – their present situation and their prospects for survival in the changing economic landscape of Siberia.

PÁL LŐVEI, historian of architecture, Budapest. *The Protection of Architectural Heritage – Changing Society, Changing Concepts of Historic Monuments Protection*. One of the leading figures of the conservation of historical monuments in Hungary surveys a recent international conference at the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, where the best lectures, now published in a book form, sketched up, in a multi-disciplinary approach, the entire pale of the current European attitudes and solutions in architectural and urban conservation. (*Az épített örökség védelmében*, ed. Magda Ferch. Széchenyi Művészeti Akadémia, Budapest, 2011).

JÁNOS SZÁVAI, diplomat and literary historian, Budapest. *Illyés – Bartók – Elvis*. On the approaching 110th anniversary of the birth of Gyula Illyés, Szávai offers elegant glimpses of the international reputations of Illyés and Bartók in the 1980s. The relationship of the two artists is best demonstrated by Illyés' famous poem *Bartók*, its intellectual attitudes brilliantly analyzed here. Szávai juxtaposes this with the recent cultural shift in Hungary – a square was recently named after Elvis Presley in Budapest.

A poem

In our new column, we are reprinting Gyula Illyés' poem *Bartók*.

Books and Events

GÁSPÁR GRÓH. *The Presence of the Departing Poet.* Surveying the posthumous poems of Gáspár Nagy (1948–2006), the reviewer recalls his unchanging public attitudes during his last year, in which faith and a responsibility for the national community were prominent.

ÁRON MÁTHÉ. *Nation and Memory.* Like Hungarians, though with different emphases, Germans have been wrestling with the difficult questions of the Second World War heritage. A new book by Kálmán Pócza charts the debates of the politics of memory connected with that heritage. (*Emlékezetpolitika.* Attraktor Kiadó, Budapest, 2011).

ZOLTÁN FÁY. *Border Zones of Church and State.* While state and church have remained constitutionally separated in post-1990 Hungary, the contribution of the churches to the spiritual, cultural and physical well-being of the nation is now again being acknowledged and used in the Constitution and in everyday practice. However, to observe the border lines is a sensitive learning process for both the state and the churches.

KLÁRA TÓTH. *Imprints of Crisis.* For the 2012 Hungarian Film Week, two collective montages were released. The first, *Hungary 2011*, composed of work edited by Béla Tarr, painfully witnesses the continuing failure of the established directors of art films to make a sense of the new reality of the last 22 years. Young directors of documentaries, on the other hand, have been able to put together a montage of relevant and visually well-executed shots in a sequence titled *Fragments 2010–11*.

MIHÁLY KUBINSZKY. *The Benedictine Church of Divine Mercy in Győr-Kismegyer.* Our architecture columnist assesses one of the noteworthy successes of recent church architecture in Hungary, the work of Mihály Balázs and Katalin Somogyi-Soma. The church, using modern materials, harks back beautifully to the purism of medieval Benedictine architecture.

PÉTER ÁKOS BOD. *How Budapest Has Not Become a Regional Centre.* Budapest seemed to have a good chance in the 1990s to develop into a regional communications and transport hub, with the given geographical and cultural advantages – inconsistent economic policies have led to the failure of that prospect, the Former Governor of the Hungarian National bank argues.

GYÖRGY GYULAI. *The Same, But Wholly Different.* Robert Fico gained another electoral victory in Slovakia after the previous government had failed and dissolved in mid-term. The electoral sentiments behind the victory are the same as six years ago – but the domestic and international challenges are very different.

Public Collection for a Sculpture. Citizens collect money for the Memorial of Count János Esterházy, the great Hungarian democrat of inter-war Czechoslovakia, martyred in a communist Gulag.

Pictures in the present issue of *Magyar Szemle* illustrate Pál Lővei's article on architectural conservation, reproduced from the book *Az épített örökség védelmében*.