

**Întunecare, de Cezar Petrescu: univers emoțional în context istoric
(Darkness, by Cezar Petrescu: Emotional Universe in Historical Context)**

Sorin MIHAI
Școala Doctorală de Științe Umaniste
Universitatea „Ovidius” din Constanța

Abstract: *The literature inspired by the Great War is both a projection of the emotions experienced by the contemporaries of the historical event and a source of information for understanding the way in which this event was received by its contemporaries and by the generations to come. Literature itself finds a much wider audience than the historical document and thus comes to influence society's reporting of a fact of reality. Successful novels of the era, such as “Darkness” by Cezar Petrescu, have a great impact on the public precisely because they present ordinary emotions of readers who have experienced the war closely, as they tell the story of a generation. The growing interest of the cultural history in the analysis of literary productions inspired by a certain era is due to the complementary perspectives that literature offers, thus enhancing the historical interpretation and contributing significantly to the shaping of the emotional universe that defines that era. If initially the interest of historians was oriented towards the study of diaries, speeches, letters etc., as testimonies of those who lived in the heart of the historical events, studying the epic inspired by the Great War, becomes a way to test and complete the affective mechanisms that generated the paramount moments of human history.*

Keywords: *Great War; emotions; cultural history; war novels; war experience.*