

**Eugen Barbu, arcanele recuperării alchimice.  
De la umbra care și-a pierdut eul, la cogitoul eului visător**

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**Abstract:** *This study aims at analysing the mechanisms of the myth, recovered as a literary method by the Romanian novel of the sixties, under the Communist regime and subjected to censorship. The case study tackles the three novels penned by Eugen Barbu: Groapa, Principele and Săptămâna nebunilor, in which we attempt to mythically reconstitute the rhythmic arcanae of the alchemic ritual: regressus ad inferos (Groapa), coniunctio (Principele) and redemption through the word, albedo (Săptămâna nebunilor). It will be shown that no matter how hidden the mythical structures are or how degraded in their morphology they might be, they retain their soteriological functions, especially through the characters` life-saving reveries.*

**Keywords:** *novel, Communism, myth as a literary method, the functions of the myth.*