



Literature in Exile

*Emigrants' Fiction 20th
Century Experience*

Edited by Irma Ratiani

This book brings together papers presented at an international conference held in Tbilisi, Georgia, in 2013, and organised by the Shota Rustaveli Institute of Georgian Literature and the Georgian Comparative Literature Association (GCLA).

It represents the first in-depth analysis of the different angles of the problem of emigration and emigrant writing, so painful for the cultural history of Soviet countries, as well as many other European countries with different political regimes. It brings together scholars from Post-Soviet countries, as well as various other countries, to discuss a range of issues surrounding emigration and emigrant writing, highlighting the historical and cultural experience of each particular country.

The book deals with such significant problems as the fate of writers revolting against different political regimes, conceptual, stylistic and generic issues, the matter of the emigrant author and the language of his fiction, and the place of emigrant writers' fiction within their national literatures and the world literary process.

Irma Ratiani is a Georgian literary scholar, editor and translator. She is a Professor and Head of the Department of General and Comparative Literary Studies at Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University, Georgia. Since 2006, she has served as Director of Shota Rustaveli Institute of Georgian Literature, and is also Honorable President of the Georgian Comparative Literature Association (GCLA). Her research interests include literary theory, general and comparative literary studies, the literary processes of the Soviet and Post-Soviet periods, and Georgian literature within the framework of European and world literary processes. Her publications include *Totalitarianism and Literary Discourse: 20th Century Experience* (2012).





Literature in Exile

Irma Ratianni

Literature in Exile:

Emigrants' Fiction *20th Century Experience*

Edited by

Irma Ratiani

Cambridge
Scholars
Publishing



Literature in ~~Exile~~: Emigrants' Fiction 20th Century Experience

Edited by Irma Ratiani

This book first published 2016

Cambridge Scholars Publishing

Lady Stephenson Library, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE6 2PA, UK

British Library Cataloguing in Publication Data

A catalogue record for this book is available from the British Library

Copyright © 2016 by Irma Ratiani and contributors

All rights for this book reserved. No part of this book may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted, in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise, without the prior permission of the copyright owner.

ISBN (10): 1-4438-9710-8

ISBN (13): 978-1-4438-9710-5

Literature in Exile

FOREWORD

IRMA RATIANI

Literature constitutes a conceptual reflection on actual processes. The context in which a literary text takes shape always finds reflection in the conceptual or expressive layers of this text. If we bear in mind the inherent aspiration of literature to intellectual and representative freedom, we may form a clear idea of the contradiction that arises in conditions of a political regime between the artistic text and the actual context. In this case, valuable literature faces a danger of becoming marginal and being replaced by the policy driven literature, which takes the central place. What is likely to happen to an alternative literary discourse?

The alternative literary discourse usually paves its way by different methods. However, the options are meager: traditionally, there exist direct and indirect paths of fight. In the first case, writers put up with sacrifice, for they believe that all other ways are compromised, which they cannot allow. Accordingly, quite a few writers revolting against different political regimes consciously face execution, suicide, or exile - emigration. These three forms of "settling the problem" are identical in content, the difference lying only in the strategy of implementation.

A great number of writers became the victims of the on-going process of emigration occurring in the 20th century. They fled (some of them voluntarily and others forcedly) from Bolshevism, Fascism, Communism, Socialism, and some other types of regimes so that they could watch unbearable processes from a distance, reveal the truth, and direct the attention of the world's intellectual forces towards the criminal dictatorships. Emigration goes like a red line along 20th century history, which is notorious for both long and short regimes and dictatorships. Emigrants formed different groups and societies, including literary associations, to fight against the dictators, because of whom they had to abandon their mother lands forever. Their weapon was a pen, and their writings are full of deep pain, sorrow, and nostalgia, mixed with protest and disappointment.

What are the fiction, publicist writing, and criticism of the emigrant writers like? How do they perceive their native countries from afar, as

well as processes taking place "There"? What literary genres and the forms of literary depictions do they refer to?

The literary heritage of emigrant writers, different from those writers working in their national environment, is formed outside national borders: the writer leaves the atmosphere that was very familiar to him and continues his creative life in absolutely different circumstances. If we consider the language to be the basic means of writing, it is easy to realise that the emigrant writer faces a linguistic dilemma: he chooses either to write in his native language, or start to use a different one. In the first case, a writer is at risk of making his creations alienated to a new social environment, while still keeping it integrated with his native literature; in the other case, the writer is trying to adapt with a new social environment at the expense of developing linguistic distance towards a native literary discourse. Does a geographical location or a linguistic model determine a writer's national identity? And if it does so, at what extent? After a writer leaves his country and adapts with new models of a language, is he likely to become a representative of another national literature?

All these questions are significant for the history of 20th century literature.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Foreword	x
Irma Ratiani	

Part I: Alternative Literary Discourse

Chapter One.....	2
Giwi Margwelaschwili's "Life in Ontotext" (on the basis of <i>The Reader Astonished by the Wall Newspaper</i>)	
Nugesha Gagnidze	

Chapter Two	10
Standing on the Third Shore: Grigol Robakidze's Biography in Emigration	
Irakli Khvedelidze	

Chapter Three	18
Two Paradigms of the Stalin Phenomenon	
Zoya Tskhadaia and Tamar Tsitsishvili	

Chapter Four	25
Exile and Emigration: The Pain and Freedom of Not Belonging	
Jennifer Wallace	

Chapter Five	36
The Experience of Polish Exile in the Times of the Second World War:	
The Case of Joseph Wittlin	
Ryszard Zajaczkowski	

Part II: Literary Genres and Artistic Models

Chapter Six	58
Robakidze contra Nietzsche: Understanding the Concept of <i>Life</i>	
according to Grigol Robakidze	
Konstantine Bregadze	

Chapter Seven.....	65
Exile to Books	
Levan Bregadze	
Chapter Eight.....	70
Bernardas Brazdžionis – Herald of Freedom: Poetical Rhetoric of Emigrational Lyrics	
Rūta Brūzgienė	
Chapter Nine.....	83
Phenomenon of the “Otherness” in the Novel “Murder in Byzantium” by Julia Kristeva	
Roman Dzyk	
Chapter Ten	101
Milan Kundera’s Unbearable Lightness of Being	
Maka Elbakidze	
Chapter Eleven	111
Catastrophe of Lithuania in the Poetry of Émigrés: Apocalyptic Meaning of the Soviet Occupation and the Affected Archetypes (<i>The discourse between the works of B. Brazdžionis and A. Mackus</i>)	
Jūratė Landsbergytė	
Chapter Twelve	128
The National as a Factor of Artistry and the Problem of the National Identification of Work	
Siarhei Lebedzeu	
Chapter Thirteen.....	138
Imago of Political Leaders: A Glance from Afar	
Irine Modebadze	
Chapter Fourteen	147
Archetype of a Circle in the Modern Azerbaijani Prose	
Flora Najiyeva	
Chapter Fifteen	154
Several Aspects of Giwi Margwelaschwili’s Autobiographic Novel <i>Captain Wakusch</i>	
Ada Nemsadze	

Chapter Sixteen	162
Trajectory of Home: Central and European Writers and Canada	
Irina Perianova	

Chapter Seventeen	176
Author's Modality in Agota Kristof's Novel <i>The Notebook</i>	
Solomon Tabutsadze	

Chapter Eighteen	182
Between Oblivion and Remembrance: The Quest for Identity	
in the Novels of Grogol Robakidze and Jean Giraudoux	
Maia Varsimashvili-Raphael	

Part III: Problems of Language and Style

Chapter Nineteen	194
"Stamm' aus Litauen, echt deutsch": Multilingualism and Exile	
in T.S. Eliot's "The Waste Land"	
Andrew Goodspeed	

Chapter Twenty	207
Homeland in Exile: The Ethic in the Works of Bulgarian "Non-Returnee"	
Writers of the 1970s	
Maya Gorcheva	

Chapter Twenty-One	220
Basic Trends of Georgian-language Authors in Israel	
Nestan Kutivadze	

Chapter Twenty-Two.....	229
Actualization of the National Mythologeme in the Conditions of Foreign	
Topose: Lesia Ukrainka's <i>The Forest Song</i>	
Yuliia Levchuk	

Chapter Twenty-Three.....	241
Daily Life of the First Wave of Russian Emigrants in Constantinople	
(on the pages of the Political and Social Magazine <i>Zarnitsy</i>)	
Sevinç Üçgül	

Part IV: Integration and Adaptation

Chapter Twenty-Four	252
Peculiarities of the Intersection of Individual Experience, Avant-garde Art, and Historic Context as exemplified by Three Central Avant-gardist Emigrants	
Davit Barbakadze	
Chapter Twenty-Five	265
Vladislav Khodasevich: An Emigrant in the Homeland and a Homeland in Exile	
Liana Bashaleishvili	
Chapter Twenty-Six	274
The Problem of Identity and Amin Maalouf's Historical Fiction	
Nino Kavtaradze	
Chapter Twenty-Seven	280
<i>Flamenco in Russian</i> : The Problem of Cultural Assimilation in the Novel	
Dina Rubina "The last of the wild boar in the forests Pontevedra's"	
Larisa Kislova	
Chapter Twenty-Eight	291
Emigrant Suicide of Alexander Galich	
Bartosz Osiewicz	
Chapter Twenty-Nine	302
Fiction of Émigré Writers: The Case of National Identity	
Irma Ratiani	
Chapter Thirty	308
Thoughts in Native Language Written in German	
Shorena Shamanadze	

Part V: Publicist Works and Criticism

Chapter Thirty-One	318
Viktor Nozadze on the Legal Assessment of the Key Collision	
in <i>The Knight in the Panther's Skin</i>	
Mariam Karbelashvili	

Chapter Thirty-Two.....	325
From History of Radio Liberty	
Gocha Kuchukhidze	
Chapter Thirty-Three.....	333
Swiss Works by Hermann Hesse: Spiritual Life of Germany on the Pages of Intellectual Prose and Literary Criticism of the German's Exile	
Elena Kornilova	
Chapter Thirty-Four.....	345
Eighteenth-Century Russian Writers and Parisian Actresses in Life and Literature	
Alexandre Stroev	
Chapter Thirty-Five.....	354
The Soviet Border in the Russian Émigré Newspapers of Bulgaria: Its Representation and Presence, 1928-1935	
Yordan Lyutskanov	
Chapter Thirty-Six.....	377
The Reception of the Russian Classical Literature by some Exiled Writers	
Fikrat Rzayev	
Chapter Thirty-Seven.....	387
The Problem of Patriotism in the Emigrant Political Journalism viewed on the Basis of Materials Published in <i>Kartuli Gazeti</i> (Berlin, 1916-1918)	
Manana Shamilishvili	
Chapter Thirty-Eight.....	397
Literary Journals of the "Third Wave" of Russian Emigration: Criticism and Polemics	
Elena Skarlygina	
Chapter Thirty-Nine.....	407
The Soviet State in the Focus of Political Journalism of the <i>Sakhalkho</i> <i>Sakme</i> Magazine	
Mari Tsereteli	
Contributors.....	418

PART I:
ALTERNATIVE LITERARY DISCOURSE

CHAPTER ONE

GIWI MARGWELASCHWILI'S

"LIFE IN ONTOTEXT"

(ON THE BASIS OF *THE READER ASTONISHED*
BY THE WALL NEWSPAPER)

NUGESHA GAGNIDZE

Giwi Margwelaschwili is a special phenomenon in the history of both Georgian and German literature. The son of emigrant parents and a writer and philosopher, who had to emigrate several times, he had to live in conditions of two totalitarian regimes (Fascist and Communist). The main problem in his diverse and comprehensive creative work is the problem of the existence of a person in the eras of National Socialism and Socialism or Post-Socialism.

The originality of the creative work of the ethnic Georgian German-language writer is determined by the fact that he is effectively a person without homeland, and despite Georgian themes and artistic images, his creation is not based on the Georgian literary tradition. However, German literature is not quite near and dear to the author, who has lived in the German environment and has been nourished by German spirituality. It can be said that his identity is Georgian-German.

As having no homeland is not an alien issue for the contemporary era, Giwi Margwelaschwili's "polyphonic" creation is equally interesting for readers and researchers of all nationalities. However, it is also noteworthy that his world can become even more interesting for future generations, because the main issue Margwelaschwili discussed in his works is not only the personal fate of the writer, but also the struggle of people with the reality of the 20th century that is full of difficulties and challenges, where their existence depends on big religions (Buddhism, Hinduism, Judaism, Christianity, and Islam) and ideological texts determined by historic events of the same century (Margvelashvili 2010: 5).