



Dear Readers,

This issue brings three papers in different intermedial contexts and connections of children's literature and culture. Sandra Beckett focuses on crossing media with versions of "Little Red Riding Hood" from the 1980s to the 2000s, studying the transformations of this tale from picturebook to film, and from film to picturebook.

She finds that three pairs of analysed versions appeal to both children and adults, in other words to a crossover audience. This is an indicator of an increasingly visually oriented society, which blurs age differences. Iva Gruić investigates how the author's choice of perspective influences the viewers' reception and understanding of the dramatic world in the theatre for young audiences. She relies on the model of the inner structure of dramatic situations as described in Greimas's actantial theory, as well as on the contemporary insights of research into the theatre for young people. The paper by Mehdi Ghasemi is a case study, an analysis of a picturebook by Janaki Sooriyarachchi from the point of view of presenting gender issues in children's narratives.

Sofija Kalezić-Đuričković presents an overview of Montenegrin children's and young adult literature. In this context, she studies the autobiographical narratives of Dušan Kostić, in search of the main features of his poetics. The section *Papers* ends with a text by Hans-Joachim Jürgens on acquiring literary knowledge in class. He provides an example of teaching based on stories by Zoran Drvenkar to demonstrate how children's literature contributes to the aesthetic education of primary children.

The section *Interview* is dedicated to Mladen Bjažić, an author and journalist, who significantly contributed to the development of many segments of children's culture in Croatia in the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. An editor of children's newspapers and magazines, a promoter of comics, a creator of the children's division at Zagreb Television, the editor of children's programmes, an author of legendary TV shows for children, an expert on children and childhood interests, Mladen Bjažić talks to Ivana Kukić Rukavina about his work, and also about his own childhood. He evokes so many vivid details of almost forgotten times, and saves those memories for us, too. We wish him all the best for his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday this year, and we thank him for sharing his precious recollections with us.

The sections *Reprinted Paper* and *Dusty Covers* are connected in this issue. The former includes a 1937 article by Nikola Žic, still relevant today, about old Croatian books from Istria, and the latter brings facsimiles of two bilingual books in Italian and Croatian, which were described by Žic. Both books were published by the priest Nikola Belinić at the beginning of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. He thus enriched Croatian literature with didactic texts common in every national corpus of children's

literature. Thus, they also provide further proof that Croatian children were offered texts written precisely for them much earlier than the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century, the time of the teacher Ivan Filipović, considered by many to be the initiator of Croatian children's literature.

It should also be noted that this issue is the first in the new three-year term of the Croatian Editorial Board, so that there have been some changes in the team. Therefore, I wish to express my special gratitude to former members Marijana Hameršak, Maja Verdonik and Ester Vidović. Without their contribution, our first, the most important and the most difficult steps, would certainly not have been as successful. Their work and involvement are integrated in the pages of all the issues that follow.

*Smiljana Narančić Kovač*