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HOLDING ON TO THE WIND – ABOUT THE CHARACTERS IN GROZDANA OLUJIC’S YOUTH NOVELS

Summary: This article represents an attempt to actualize the values of Grozdana Olujic’s youth novels. Therefore, they are considered in respect of their literary historical value in the first place. Namely, the bitter controversial context which embraced her fi rst novel (An Excursion to Heaven, 1957) suggests a change in a literary paradigm, i.e. it implies a change of the literary code in the system of Serbian post-war prose. These changes are most obvious in the sphere of her vividly portrayed characters, so absurdly motivated and void of any hope of ever finding „the best world of all worlds“. Relying on the traditional heritage, Grozdana Olujic thus sets forth a possible course of Serbian novel development. That is why this article particularly focuses on the structure and typological characteristics of her heroes as the carriers of new sensibility, clearly marked by the existentialist course of the modern era.

Key words: jeans prose, character, existentialism, anti-hero, external characterization (portrayal), name characterization, chronotypology, point of view, narrator.