Borders and Beyond

Orient-Occident Crossings in Literature

The core of the volume constitutes a collection of 18 papers pertaining to the realm of literary studies, organized into 5 parts under separate headings and authored by 23 academicians representing 13 Universities and one National Academy of Sciences (plus one “independent researcher”) from 9 countries (Iran, Latvia, Poland, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Slovakia, Turkey, Ukraine, and USA), and carefully edited by 3 scholars from Nicolaus Copernicus University of Toruń, Poland. This core is preceded by a purposely written “Foreword” by a noted specialist in Japanese and general linguistics and language pragmatics, and simultaneously a professional translator/interpreter, who is otherwise not involved in the compilation of the book. This is followed by an “Introduction” by the editors, and a general “Index of names”.

Dr. Alfred F. Majewicz
Nicolaus Copernicus University in Torun, Poland

Summary

The work presents articles discussing various subjects relating to literary, cultural borders and borderlands as well as their crossings with the Orient and the Occident. A broad, multifaceted scope of the volume draws the attention of readers to the problem of liminal spaces between cultures, genres, codes and languages of literary and artistic communication. The perspective of borderness proposed by orientalists, literary specialists, culture experts provide insights into multi-dimensional and heterogenic subjects and methods of consideration. The authors referring to, inter alia, comparative studies, theory of reception, intertextuality, transculturality of the East and West works touch upon themes such as coexistence, exclusion, crossing or the instability of borders. Also by taking into account identity issues, the interpenetration of various influences between different literatures, poetics and languages, the readers gain a broader context of intercultural dialogue between the Orient and Occident, what allow them to transgress barriers of a purely artistic, literary reception of the book contents. The volume – due to the abundance of proposed topics, its heterogeneous representations and manifold approaches used in analysis, discussion and (re)interpretations – is a debate’s record or a result of an academic reflection rather than a comprehensive monograph.