CROATIAN SCHOOL NEO-LATIN DRAMA -
CONSTRUCTION OF DATABASE AND
RECONSTRUCTION OF A GENRE

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The Plan:

On Neo-Latin drama in general

Croatian school drama

First steps, tools and workflow

What we worked with: examples

Digital model that we created: examples

Our work in numbers

From digital dataset towards a genre reconstruction

Conclusion
NEO-LATIN DRAMA AS EUROPEAN GENRE:

- From ca. 1300 a new genre is formed throughout Europe, written in Latin and based on performance;
- Varied in forms: comedy, tragedy and tragicomedy;
- Covering a broad range of themes;
- Both Protestant and Roman Catholic;
- In Jesuit schools a part of the official curriculum (supports fluency in Latin, stresses moral and religious instruction).
CROATIAN SCHOOL DRAMA

Early 17th century:
- Jesuits arrive in Croatia.

A Network of Jesuit schools:
- Zagreb, Rijeka, Varaždin, Osijek, Požega.
- Operating until 1773.
CROATIAN SCHOOL DRAMA

_Croatica et Tyrolensia: a digital comparison of Croatian and Tyrolean neo-Latin literature_ (Zagreb & Innsbruck, 2015)

Problems:

- No texts preserved;
- Literary investigations marred by value judgments;
- Focus on either history of theater or history of education.
FIRST STEPS

SOURCES

A Repository of all theater performances in Croatia:
- RHK 2012.

Transcriptions of Jesuit school chronicles:

Data from Jesuit school annals with references to manuscript data:
TOOLS

- TEI as encoding standard
- CTS as a standard for citation
- oXygen to edit XML
- BaseX XML database
- XQuery language
WORKFLOW

- TEI XML edition of records collected in RHK
- Verification of data - turn to sources
- BaseX XML database and XQuery to analyze the dataset
EXAMPLES: FROM RHK...

33


EXAMPLES: ...TO A DIGITAL MODEL

<bibl type="drama" xml:id="croala.drama.d1e3043">
  <author ref="#nn">Anonimno</author>
  <title xml:lang="lat">Jephtes filia immolata</title>
  <title xml:lang="hrv">Drama o Jefti kako je žrtvovao svoju rođenu kćer</title>
  <note ana="tema" corresp="Biblija">Stari zavjet; Suci;</note>
  <persName ref="#croala.drama.314124">Jiftah</persName>
  <note ana="žanr" resp="#fancev1937" corresp="drama"/>
  <date when="1608" period="16xx_1_third">1608.</date>
  <placeName type="geonames" ref="3186886">Zagreb</placeName>
  <address><name ref="#zagreb010">Trg sv. Marka u Zagrebu</name></address>
  <note type="izvođač"> <orgName ref="#org001"><name>Đaci isusovačke gimnazije u Zagrebu</name></orgName></note>
  <note type="sadržaj">Predstava je izvedena na latinskom jeziku.</note>
  <note type="testimonium" resp="#NJ">
    <quote>Inter hos scenicos ludos spectatissimus fuit tertius ille ac ultimus, quem de Jephtes filia immolata Regni proceribus ad initium autumni exhibuerunt in ipso Sancti Marci foro.</quote>
  </note>
</bibl>(HCZagr. Cod. 130. l. 1608. 9.r.)
EXAMPLES: ...TO A DIGITAL MODEL

<listBibl>
  <bibl type="staud">Staud 212</bibl>
  <bibl type="staud" corresp="#takács">Takács 17</bibl>
  <bibl type="staud" corresp="#fancev1934">Fancev 26</bibl>
  <bibl corresp="#vanino1916">Vanino 1916</bibl>
  <bibl corresp="#fancev1934">Fancev 1934</bibl>
  <bibl corresp="#fancev1937">Fancev 1937</bibl>
  <bibl corresp="#fotez1943">Fotez 1943</bibl>
  <bibl corresp="#cindrić1960">Cindrić 1960</bibl>
  <bibl corresp="#cindrić1969">Cindrić 1969</bibl>
  <bibl corresp="#vanino1969">Vanino 1969</bibl>
  <bibl corresp="#cvetnić1995">Cvetnić 1995</bibl>
  <bibl corresp="#novak1999">Novak 1999</bibl>
</listBibl>

<ref>RHK 33</ref>
...TOWARDS RECONSTRUCTION OF A GENRE

Jesuit school drama is performative:
- Besides the text and author it implies a director, a performer, an audience, a micro-location and a specific time.

Working in digital domain:
- Material data is transformed into uniquely identifiable and citable segments;
- Manipulation by digital methods made easy:
- Digital dataset facilitates interpretation.
CONCLUSION

Digital data processing - advantages:
- No physical obstacles to transform data;
- Open access;
- No copyright infringements.

Dataset - features:
- Flexible and easy to work with.

Interpretation:
- Based in numbers and on linked data.

Drama as performance:
- Details of school drama performances we have collected and highlighted via digital data processing brought us a step closer to their reconstruction as a genre.