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Cahiers

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Journal

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Volume 31

**La Trahison des images,  
la d  ficience des langues**

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which can be correlated to the valence concept. A further subchapter presents the dictionaries developed on the basis of the above-mentioned theories, thus underlining the existing preoccupation of the linguists in this area.

Needless to say, the predilection for dependency grammar is systematized once again in the conclusion. The reader can observe that the approach of the thesis is well-documented, and it also highlights the areas of development which were identified. As clearly proven throughout the thesis, the theory can be better approached with the proper examples. Speech is in a continuous movement and is not universal. But the study of its components by comparison between languages and through determinations that exist in the structures might offer a better understanding to anyone interested.

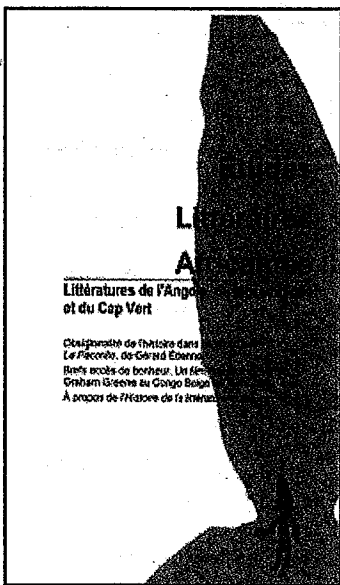
**Elena Rusu**

the exotic, little-known and yet unexplored world of African literatures.

As we expect from the subtitle, the consistency of the book is given by a file of articles dedicated to the literatures of three Portuguese-speaking African countries, namely Angola, Mozambique and Cape Verde. The file reunites eight texts originally written in English or Portuguese by different scholars and edited by Maria – Benedita Basto. Different in their approaches, most of them touching the transnational and trans-cultural perspective, the contributions manage to emphasize the complexity, diversity and richness of these literatures.

In the first article, Laura Padilha shows how, during colonial times, the Angolan writers mapped differently the cultural, symbolic and physic spatialization of their home place, refusing an occidental artistic-linguistic matrix. Philip Rothwell is interested in the new tendencies in Angolan literature by analyzing the novel *O Terrorista de Berkely* written by Pepetela. In order to get to know the Angolan society, history and dynamics, Innocentia Mata sees literature as a compulsory instrument. She analyzes the social – political dimension of the Angolan literary space and its influence on the fight for liberation and independence. Maria-Benedita Basto's study seeks to reveal how the Mozambican literature has fought what she calls "the war of epistemes" and helped to the reconstruction of what colonization has destroyed. Another two texts are put in writing in order to shade light on the Mozambican literature. Francisco Noa gives his attention to the deep connection between literature and nature, and particularly to the Indian Ocean and its transnational dimension. The Mozambican author Mia Couto is the object of study for Agnes Levecot, in her attempt to show how the differential otherness is reflected in Couto's works. The final two articles

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Africaines,*  
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Nathalie Carré  
(éd.), *Littératures  
de l'Angola, du  
Mozambique et  
du Cap Vert,*  
2014



The international magazine of *African Literary Studies* manages to anthologize an impressive number of articles and reviews with the purpose of seducing the reader into



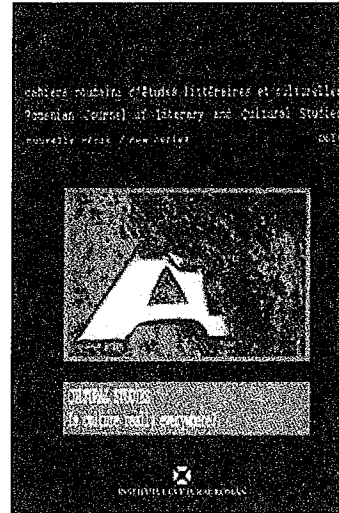
explore Cape Verde's poetry and feminist writings. The file ends with a list of works from the three countries translated into French.

Another important part in the magazine is concerned with three different literatures. Firstly, we are introduced to the writings of Gérard Étienne, a Quebec author with Haitian origins. The next article is an ample presentation and analysis of a film recorded by the novelist Graham Greene in the Belgian Congo of the 1959.

What may seem strange to the readers is the publication of a study regarding the Arabian literature. *L'Histoire de la littérature arabe moderne* is an ample anthology published in two volumes throughout seven years. The editors felt the need to make visible the efforts that led to such a study and its major importance in the literary field.

A great number of reviews related to African literatures complete the book. To conclude, the journal offers the reader complete, solid studies that not simply display some emblematic names for literatures under discussion, but also provoke the reader to further research in that direction.

**Ștefana Popa**



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"Cultural  
Studies. Is  
Culture Really  
Everywhere?",  
2014*

The present volume gathers a series of papers articulated around the concept of "cultural studies" (CS), with an argument and a final article regarding the field by Mircea Martin. It contains a few papers presented during the colloquium of 16-18 June 2012 in *Constanța* and others from a public conference that took place in Bucharest with the support of *Cuvântul* magazine, but most of these are new contributions to the field. The cultural studies collection opens with a paper of Wolfgang Iser, namely his analysis of culture as a "recursive looping". This first paper ambitiously brings to the forefront the issue of culture as a problem of continuous adaptation and interconnection with the environment as a whole. Culture is a tool that enables the human being, the "unfinished animal", to fill the gap, the "vacuum" between the body and the environment (the knowledge we need in order to function). Consequently, there is a thorny problem of what we define as culture and cultural studies, since there is great diversity ranged under the umbrella of this concept.

The volume is organized in two sections: the first one is assigned to different