

The topic of the actual issue of magazine ARCHE sounds «Austria: from Empire to Nation». Editor of this issue **Siarhiej Smatryčenka** writes in his small introduction named «Country, Which Nobody Wanted», that in this number of magazine there are presented texts of different genres, that show development of Austria as a country, self-conscious of Austrians, art and literature during about last 100 years — from the separation of Austrian-Hungarian Monarchy till nowadays.

The column «By own eyes» presents essays and memoirs of Austrian authors.

Robert Musil in his essay «The Buridan's Austrian», created in 1919, reasons about the way that Austria can choose for itself — closing in with Germany or creation of the Danube Union.

In the memoir book by **Stefan Zweig** «The World from Yesterday» («ARCHE» includes some fragments) we can see the Austrian character and events which were significant for the whole Europe of the 1st half of 20th century.

Zweig's memoirs are tied together with big essay by **Robert Menasse** «Country without characteristics» that describes and analyses the attitude of mind of Austrian inhabitants and authorities while the 2nd Republic.

Karl-Markus Gauß in his text «Others Austria. Inspection of the internal borders» shows national intolerance and arrogant attitude to national minorities as a tendency in modern Austrian society.

Martin Pollack in his note «Galicia. History reflections» writes about his journey around the places where Austrian soldiers of the 1st World War were buried at the territory of former Austrian (currently Polish-Slovak-Ukrainian) frontier.

Franzobel in his essay «Literature. Reading as a tourist attraction» reasons, sometimes ironically, about touristic and literary attractions of Austria.

Austrian fiction is presented by authors of different generations. There are classics of the 1st half of the 20th century: **Franz Kafka** (selection of short stories named «Don't hope»), **Arthur Schnitzler** (novellas «Leutenant Gustl» and «Dream Story»), **Joseph Roth** (a chapter from the novel «The Radetzky Marsch»), and modern young authors **Eva Menasse** (a chapter from the novel «Vienna») and **Clemens J. Setz** (short story «Milk Glass»). Besides, number contains works by three extremely important authors writing in German who came to the literature after the 2nd World War: a chapter from the controversial and «the most Austrian» novel «Children of Dead People» by Nobel Prize laureate **Elfriede Jelinek**, a short story «Youth in an Austrian town» by **Ingeborg Bachmann** and a short story «Montaigne» by **Thomas Bernhard**.

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Austrian poetry is presented by authors of different generations as well. The number contains selection of poems by **Reiner Maria Rilke**, **Theodor Kramer** and **Friederike Mayröcker**.

The column «Testimonial» contains two small investigations by Slovak political analyst **Zuzana Poláčková** «Austrian state identity. Some remarks to the forming of Austrian identity in the 20th century» and «Searching for itself. Austrian literature and art after 1945» by art historian **Isabella Ackerl**, and a text by **Luis James** created in light and popular manner «Bureaucrats in tailcoats and leather shorts. Small handbook of Austrian order and customs».

The column «Accents of the portrait» contains articles dedicated to certain facts or aspects of the Austrian reality shown on the wider background. There are texts «Decadent motifs in the works of Georg Trakl and Egon Schiele» by **Natalla Łamieka**, «Clinical record. The case of Doctor Heinrich Gross» by **Natala Novik**, «Powerless «free daughters». Austrian prostitution» by **Jeanna Krömer** and «Argues around Austrian atom» by **Jaroslav Šebek**.

And the last column «Belarusian Austria» is dedicated to Belarusian-Austrian relations. It contains research by Belarusian historicist **Aleh Hardzijenka** «the history of Belarusians in Austria (1940 — beg. of 1950)», memoirs about working on literature scholarship in Graz of Belarusian writers **Alhierd Bacharevič** and **Valžyna Mort**, and two interviews — with Austrian-Korean writer **Anna Kim** about her staying in Minsk («I was interested by unknown») and with professor of Salzburg University, expert in Belarusian language **Hermann Bieder** («Almost nobody deals with Belarusian language in Austria...»).