

**Boston Theological Institute &
The Romanian Institute of Orthodox Theology and Spirituality**

with the support of Saint Parascheva Romanian Orthodox Church of Boston

*God in the Poetry of
Europe's Last Romantic*
Mihai Eminescu

Harvard Divinity School (Andover Hall, Braun Room)

Saturday, January 13, 2007 (9am-5pm)

UNTO THE STAR

'Tis such a long way to the star
Rising above our shore
It took its light to come so far
Thousands of years and more.

It may have long died on its way
Into the distant blue
And only now appears its ray
To shine for us as true.

We see its icon slowly rise
And climb the canopy;
It lived when still unknown to eyes,
We see what ceased to be.

And so it is when yearning love
Dies into depth of night:
Extinct its flame, still glows above
Following close our plight.

THE LEGEND OF THE EVENING STAR
-fragment-

...Now once upon enchanted time,
As time has never been,
There lived a princess most divine
Of royal blood and kin.

Such beauty only heaven paints!
She walked in maiden bloom
As Virgin Mary' mong the saints,
Among the stars, the moon.

The solemn columns guide her gait
Through vaulted chambers, far
Where at the window will await
The lonely Evening Star.

(Translated by Adrian George Sahlean.
For details, visit www.luceafarul.com)

Special Celebration at
**St. Parascheva Romanian
Orthodox Church of Boston**
Sunday, January 14, 2007 (12-3pm)
(www.saintparascheva.org)

for
details, call:
617.527.4880



Mihai Eminescu (1850-1889)

FEATURED SPEAKERS INCLUDE:

Mihaela Albu, PhD

(Columbia University & University of Craiova,
Romania)

Theodor Damian PhD, ThD

(The Romanian Institute of Orthodox Theology and
Spirituality, NY & Metropolitan College of New
York)

Adrian George Sahlean

(President, Global Arts)

M.N. Rusu

(Literary Critic & Historian, New York)

Anca Sirghie, PhD

(Université Michel de Montaigne Bordeaux
3, France & Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu,
Romania)

Doru Tsaganea, PhD, PhD

(Metropolitan College of New York)

Neculai Buga

(Orthodox Theological Seminary, Bucharest,
Romania)

Adrian George Sahlean



*The aim of this symposium is to explore
religious themes from the poetry of Mihai Eminescu,
and to celebrate the recent translations from
Eminescu's poetry in English language
accomplished by
Adrian George Sahlean.*

Who is Mihai Eminescu? All Romanians will answer: 'Our National Poet!' For the Romanians, Eminescu represents the Romanian soul and nation. For a hesychast, "Eminescu is the 'Elijah Prophet of the Romanians,' who never died but remained on the Earth to sing the cry of the Earth, the deprivation of the Earthly Home, the lost love, the forgotten faith, the barbaric invasions, and the triviality and perversion of succeeding leaders." To the world, Eminescu is the stylistic creator of Modern Romanian language, Europe's Last Romantic, and one of the greatest lyrical poets of world literature, comparable only to Byron, Poe, Shelley or Lermontov. A revolutionary poet in terms of attitude and bitterly hated by some politicians for his prickly honesty...

For details and updates visit www.bostontheological.org

Friday, January 12, 2007

Location: Hellenic College (Library: Reading Room)

50 Goddard Ave., Brookline, MA 02459

6:30pm-9pm – “Meet and Greet Party”

(Speakers and Romanian Students at Hellenic College and Holy Cross)

Saturday, January 13, 2007

Location: Harvard Divinity School, Andover Hall

45 Francis Ave., Cambridge, MA 02138

Continental Breakfast

8:15-9:00am (Braun Room)

Part One: The Idea of God in Eminescu’s works

9:00-9:30am **First Keynote Lecture**

Title: “The Longing for God in Eminescu’s Poetry”

By Rev. Dr. Theodor Damian, Professor of Philosophy and Ethics at Metropolitan College of New York, President of the Romanian Institute of Orthodox Theology and Spirituality

9:30-9:45 (QA time)

9:45-10:15 **Second Keynote Lecture**

Title: “Mihai Eminescu: Reconciliation of Spirit and Body Between Self, Other and Community”

By Dr. Gale Bellas, Professor of American Literature at Fairfield University, CT

10:15-10:30 (QA time)

10:30-10:45 *Break*

10:45-11:15 **Third Keynote Lecture**

Title: “Mihai Eminescu's Work: Between Paganism and Christian Faith”

By Dr. Mihaela Albu, Professor of Romanian Language and Literature at University of Craiova, Romania & Visiting Professor of Romanian Literature at Columbia University

11:15-11:30 (QA time)

11:30-12:15 **First Panel Discussion** (including QA time)

Theme: “Religious Speculations on Eminescu”

Panelists

(1) Marian Gh. Simion, PhD candidate, Assistant Director, Boston Theological Institute & Part-Time Faculty at Boston College and Hellenic College,

“A Daring theological Assumption: Eminescu – An ‘Earth Saint’”

- (2) Rev. Prof. Nicolai Buga, Professor of Theology at St. Gregory Theological Seminary, Bucharest, Romania & currently Missionary Parish Priest at Holy Trinity Romanian Orthodox Church, Philadelphia, PA)
“*Images of God the Father in Eminescu’s Poetry and Thinking*”
- (3) Rev. Dr. Theodor Damian, Professor of Philosophy and Ethics at Metropolitan College of New York, President of the Romanian Institute of Orthodox Theology and Spirituality
“*Special Remarks*”

12:15-1:15pm Lunch Break (*Please return promptly to the Braun Room at 1:15pm!*)

Part Two: Eminescu and his sources of inspiration

1:15-1:45 **Fourth Keynote Lecture**

Title: “Socio-Political and Religious Ideas in Mihai Eminescu's Articles”
By Dr. Doru Tsaganea, Professor of Mathematics at Metropolitan College, New York, NY

1:45-2:00 (QA time)

2:45-3:15 **Fifth Keynote Lecture**

(This lecture will be delivered in Romanian Language with a Power Point summary in English!)

Theme: *Mihai Eminescu and the Romanian Monarchy. From An Unknown Manuscript of Eminescu*

By Dr. Anca Sarghie, Professor of Romanian Language and Literature at the State University of Sibiu, Romania & Visiting Professor of Romanian Studies at Université Michel de Montaigne Bordeaux 3, France

3:15-3:30 (QA time)

3:30-4:15 **Second Panel Discussion** (including QA time)

(This panel will be in Romanian with English translations as needed)

Panelists

(1) M.N. Rusu, Romanian Historian & Literary Critic
Eminescu and the Balkan Problem

(2) Rodica Maria Raica, Professor of French Language at Foreign Language Immersion and Cultural Studies Academy, Detroit, MI
Respondent

(3) Dr. Doru Tsaganea, Professor of Mathematics at Metropolitan College, New York, NY, *Respondent*

Part Three: Celebrating Eminescu & Award Ceremony

4:15-4:30 **Special Remarks**

Title: “Challenges in Translating Eminescu”

By Adrian George Sahlean, President of The Global Arts

4:30-5:00pm **Award Ceremony**

Appreciating Adrian George Sahlean for distinguished service and dedication in translating and promoting the Romanian National Poet, Mihai Eminescu, for the benefit of the Anglophone World, by The Romanian Institute of Orthodox Theology and Spirituality, New York, The Boston Theological Institute & Saint Parascheva Romanian Orthodox Church of Boston

Special “Eminescu” Medal

By Cristian Florin Pascu, President, “Doru” Society, New York, NY

Dinner

7:00-9:00pm (The Simion’s House)

Location : 21 Oak Ridge Dr., Ayer, MA 01432

Sunday, January 13, 2007

Location: Saint Parascheva Romanian Orthodox Church of Boston

171 Water St. Wakefield, MA 01880

Orthros and Divine Liturgy

9:30-12:00pm

12:00-12:10pm – Greetings

By Rev. Fr. Nicolae Simion

12:15-12:45 – Eminescu and the Romanian Spirituality

By Rev. Dr. Theodor Damian

12:45-1:15pm

“Eminescu” Medal

By Cristian Florin Pascu, President, “Doru” Society, New York, NY

1:15-2:30pm

Book Presentation & Recitation

By Adrian George Sahlean