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NEW READING OF WORKS BY PLATON VORON'KO

Review of the monograph by Reva L. "Platon Voron'ko" (Kyiv : Alterpress, 2014. – 204 p.)

Over the past two decades in the Ukrainian literary studies the study of writers of the Soviet period revived. Re-reading of their heritage, objective and impartial view of the manifestations of social realism and artistic achievements of both analysis and aesthetic value of works become actual. This process is important in terms of assimilation of literary traditions, as innovative developments in Ukrainian poetry of late XX – early XXI centuries are due to the achievements of predecessors. An important step in this direction is the monograph by Larysa Reva, which is a complete picture of original poetry by Platon Voron'ko – a poet, formed in a day of social upheavals and deformations.

The book is significant both as a literary study, and as historiographical and source exploring: it contains unique pages of the biography of the poet, the memories about him of his comrades, archival and photo materials. L. Reva analyzed the personal archive of the writer, using the documents of M. Rylsky Literary-Memorial museum that reveal close relations of Soviet writers, shed light on the complex conditions of their work, when they had to balance between the dogmas of socialist realism and artistic calling.

The author has set a difficult goal – to follow the creative evolution of P. Voron'ko in the context of development of aesthetic forms. Well-designed structure of the book is optimal for showing various aspects of the art world of the writer. In fact, the researcher fills with new breathing the genre of literary portraiture, focusing on the biography of the writer, factors of shaping his outlook, the impact of cultural and historical era on the leading motives and stylistic features of the lyrics.

The monograph by L. Reva convinces: in literary criticism there are no "new" and "old" topics but there's an eternal search for scientific truth. Impartial and balanced analysis of the works by P. Voron'ko in the context of Soviet cultural-historical era, identification of strong and weak features of the poetry is a necessary condition for the objective writing of the history of Ukrainian literature of the twentieth century.