The Sun, the Moon and the Stars in ballads and Christmas carols

The present paper wishes to exhibit the fact that the Sun, the Moon and the stars in ballads and Christmas carols gain new meanings, apart from their initial ones, their marks of orality and contextual functions, thus revealing not only the features of celestial bodies („Dobrisean", „Colinda", „Fata francului") but also the mythical human factor („Pe-un picior de plai") and the humanized myth: „Soarele si Luna".

All the five texts, which are analysed according to the theory of orality, display: stereotypical formulas, repetitions, common places, the on-going process of diminution , pair-linked rhymes, the alternation of modes and tenses, rhetorical questions. They do not only have an esthetical value but also a mnemotechnical one.

The orality feature lends flexibility to all means of creation and variety in terms of ballads and categories (ballad – carol), and also shows proof of contamination with other species (fairy-tales, legends).

Simbol solar de pe poartă, foto:Felician Săteanu