

Bibliographical Abstracts

HAROLD K. SCHEFSKI, CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, LONG BEACH

De Roeck, Galina L. "Tolstoj's Krejcerova Sonata: Music as Its Theme and Structure" *Russian Language Journal* XLI, Nos. 153-55 (1992): 111-118.

The author proposes that a musical and literary structure are merged in Tolstoy's "Kreutzer Sonata," and classifies the work as "a brilliant literary sonata." Thus, each section of the story assumes both a literary and musical form (e.g. "The first two chapters constitute the first movement or exposition" or "The second movement consists of sixteen sections or constitutes the development of the theme of matrimony," etc.). The sonata format which is embedded in the work can be extracted only upon subsequent readings and shows that Tolstoy carried the music metaphor to a subliminal level as well.

Drozd, Andrew M. "The Structure of Tolstoj's Xadzi-Murat" *Russian Language Journal* XLVI, Nos. 153-155 (1992): 119-124.

The author argues for the artistic merit of "Xadzi Murat", placing it on the highest level of Tolstoy's work after his "conversion." Structural components, such as frame, shifts in narrative perspective, multiple settings, and other devices reduce the force of Tolstoy's normally didactic approach and create a pleasing aesthetic effect. In this story Tolstoy has reasserted his penchant for symmetry, contrast, juxtaposition, that characterized his earlier artistic work before he gave way to a formulaic sermonlike approach in the later moralistic stories.

Gray, Norah J. "Count Bezukhov's 'Quivering Sphere'" *Irish Slavonic Studies* 12(1991): 57-68.

This work analyzes the meaning of "the quivering sphere" which Pierre Bezukhov sees in his dream by the campfire at Shamshevo in *War and Peace*. This image is dependent on three motifs: 1)the representation of Karataev as a drop which can be linked with other water images throughout the work, 2)the repetition of the verb разлиться which is juxtaposed with its opposite слиться as the rhythm of life is seen in terms of diverging and converging flow, and 3)repetition of the term узел жизни (the knot of life) where the word узел denotes node as well as knot and shows nature's tendency to move between liquid and solid forms. In short, symbolism is the major thrust of this dream just as it was with the dreams depicted in *Anna Karenina*.