**Meeting our Foremothers**

In the previous school year, ten interviews were carried out with contemporary Slovene female literary authors who work either in the area of Nova Gorica and its surroundings or grew up there. Our goal was to observe their attitude towards literary tradition as well as issues of being a female writer.

First, we would like to present our findings related to literary tradition.

The selected contemporary women writers have different attitude towards literary tradition:

1. They take classical literary tradition of the 19th century as their example. We here refer to classical writers such as Giacomo Leopardi, Aleksander Sergejevič Puškin as well as France Prešeren.
2. Other women authors take their examples in writers from the 20th century, who are regarded as their spiritual foremothers. We are referring to Slovenian female writer Mira Mihelič who used to write in the period after World War II. For instance, Nataša Konc Lorenzutti takes her as an example.
3. Other women authors take their examples in the fantastic tradition, magic realism as well as in psychological and criminal novel. Authors we are having in mind are Franz Kafka, Gabriel Garcia Márquez, George R. R. Martin and Ruth Rendell. These authors are taken as an example by Maja Novak.
4. Some other women authors seek their inspiration in contemporary poetry by Slovenian poetesses. We have found a connection of younger poetess with her elderly friend, a poetess too. We are thinking of Vida Mokrin Pauer who gives inspiration to Vita Žerjal Pavlin.
5. Last but not least, there is a group of women writers who does not look for their foremothers. This kind of writers rather enjoys and feels the independence and freedom, which holds true for Magda Reja as well as Maja Vidmar.

Second, let us present our findings concerning the issue of female authorship.

1. The first group of women writers set out a distinctive characteristic of a female writing. These writers tend to draw a distinction between male and female literature. Furthermore, they also see gender differences between men and women as normal and natural. This holds true for Nataša Konc Lorenzutti and Marija Mercina.
2. There is also a group of women authors who does not agree with gender-based literature. According to them, there is no such a distinction between male and female literature, but they do point our the fact that women as artists are truly more ignored and discriminated in comparison to men. We found out that this is the case for Maja Vidmar as well as Magda Reja.
3. What all women authors see as a problem and what they do point out is the challenge of combining a career with motherhood along with finding the time for their writing. They mainly see motherhood as their priority (which is particularly the case with Nataša Konc Lorenzutti).

It is not a big secret that your professional career along with your family are obstacles for writing, which is why writing is a privilege indeed that one can afford only in one’s spare time.

**Conclusion**

In general, contemporary women authors from Gorica are not bound up with the connection with the tradition, but they rather look into new and modern ways of expressing themselves.

They also admit that women as women artists, due to their biological and social role, are somehow still marginalized in the society. In comparison with men, women authors are bound and ignored in some way.