G. Ibrăileanu and E. Lovinescu: “Dialogic” Criticism

This article attempts to analyze the way that G. Ibrăileanu and E. Lovinescu, two critics of contrary views, arguably engaged in a consistent subjacent dialogue mediated by their writings. Besides their polemic exchange engendered by opposite ideological options, there is plenty of evidence in their respective works that not only they shared interests and opinions (concerning, for instance, Titu Maiorescu’s criticism, Octavian Goga’s poetry or Romanian literature of the 19th and 20th centuries), but also they articulated their critical thinking similarly, complementarily or in response to each other. Ibrăileanu explains part of similarities between his and his opponent’s ideas by identifying in Lovinescu’s critical approach some points of convergence with the method established by Determinist criticism. In fact, it is all about reading in the context of a literary work.