

The Traces of Man in Modernity: from "Grand Homme" to the "New Man", the "Recent Man" and the "Post-man"

Adelina Farias

Abstract

The present article reviews the various versions of the idea of Man, from the capitalized, highly valued concept of the Antiquity, Renaissance, and largely of the early beginnings of Modernity up to the ideological constructs of "new man", "recent man" and "post-man" which were under the scope of the 20th and early 21st centuries. Submitted to conscious or unconscious deconstruction, the concept of Man (to which I added that of "grand homme") has been highly used in a register of frivolity or mockery over the past decades. The examples I selected are mostly representative for the Romanian culture.