PAUL NICORESCU AND THE ROMANIAN SCHOOL OF ROME

(Summary)

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The foundation of the Romanian School of Rome in the aftermath of World War I takes place in the context of the efforts of institutionalization of the relations in the field, affirmed by both the Italian and the Romanian parties. The election of the Eternal City was not accidental, as the artists found here the artistic and architectonic prototypes of the European culture, while the historians had a rich and insufficiently explored archive material, especially as far as the Romanian area was concerned. There was also an archaeological school, established in the last decades of the 19th century, in the years preceding World War I, boosted afterwards, in the interwar period, by the specific orientation of the Mussolini regime. On 1 November 1922, the School of Rome inaugurated its activity, on the premises of 11 Emilio del Cavaliere street, with one single department, the archaeological one, and four members, who became, in their turn, quite important in the destiny of the institution and of the cultural Romanian-Italian relations: Emil Panaitescu, Paul Nicorescu, G. G. Mateescu, and not least, Alexandru Marcu, a recent PhD of the Royal Institute of Higher Education and Training in Florence. The first three were interested in archaeology and ancient history, as we could see in the works prepared during the two years of study in Rome; the fellows will subsequently become Professors or Senior Lecturers at the Universities of Cluj (Panaitescu and Mateescu) and Iaşi (Nicorescu). Or, they continued the work of their eminent predecessor, Vasile Pârvan, as directors of the School.