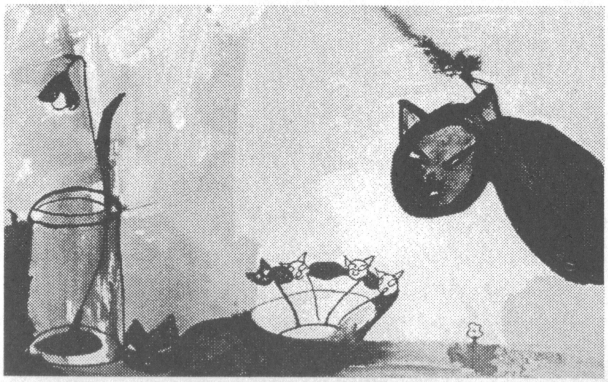
THEODOR GRIGORIU
musicologist

NARRATIVE THRILL

I live under the impression that we shall never know what lies at the bottom of tales, because they are not an attribute of childhood alone, on the contrary, they are a lifetime's companion. Whence comes this curiosity about what happens to others, a genre we label, in one word, as "narrative"? It might be our permanent thirst for experience, as spectators in the act of reading – only we may, at any time, become the heroes of the story. A very delicate veil separates fiction from reality.

Music has also embraced the narrative thrill: the ballad permeates almost all the classic masterpieces, in each of its various aspects. Brahms, a virtuoso of musical narration, unfolds vast expanses of fabulous symphonic "happenings" that engage the attention. What does this prove? That a strong contact has been established between the transmitter and the receiver. Once out of the magic of sounds, one feels the changes that occurred deep inside; they are difficult to explain, but comparable to the effect of a touching story.

A vast area of observation and research spans this conveyance of a subtle, soul-shaping fluid, with each generation starting all over again, while the artistic heritage of the world offers itself generously.

Children, who listen to stories in awe, have the chance to find out a few things about the mystery of creation when they grow up.

The others...