



Dragi cititori Romani,
Incepand din 8 septembrie 2009, la Barnes&Noble, Borders si alte librari i, veti gasi un nou roman de Petru Popescu. Cel care a scris Prins si Dulce ca Mierea e Glontul Patriei. Cel care a scris in America Almost Adam, si The Return. Numele romanului este GIRL MARY, publicat de Simon&Schuster, New York.

Este un roman istoric, dedicat vietii Mariei din Nazaret, mama lui Iisus. Un roman de dragoste si tragedie istorica, in traditia clasicei titluri Quo Vadis, Ben Hur, ori Agonie si Extaz. GIRL MARY nareaaza incepaturile unei noi institutii si civilizatii, Crestinismul.

"Girl Mary brings the people and settings of Biblical antiquity to life with compassion, vivid storytelling, and an unerring eye for the Rightness of the world's greatest story. It will speak to anyone who cherishes the essential humanity of our foundational spiritual traditions."

- Deepak Chopra, author of Perfect Health

"In this novel Petru Popescu's literary imagination will stimulate the reader's interest in religious and historical events."

- Elie Wiesel, author of Night

"In Petru Popescu's startling novel we meet a flesh and blood Mary of Nazareth, a real, live teenage girl, who tells her story in her own voice. How thrilling to meet this enigmatic religious icon face to face, to experience her power, simplicity, honesty, devotion, and courage."

- Barbara Dana, author of Young Joan and A Voice of Her

"Petru Popescu has written a remarkable and compelling novel about one of the most enigmatic and revered figures in history: Mary the mother of Jesus. ... Popescu has given us a Mary with an earthy and sensual presence thick with the religious and political realities of her day.... Girl Mary is a marvelous read."

—Dr. Jeffrey Siker, Theological Studies, Marymount Univ.

"Petru Popescu's Girl Mary takes us to distant places, with vivid detail, with a wise eye on sexuality... and a joy in language that I find irresistible. Petru is a story-teller of the highest order."

- Caldecott Chubb, producer, Eve's Bayou

"With deep research and masterful story-telling, Petru Popescu brings the worlds of Augustan Rome and Judea to triumphant life. [Mary] is an exquisitely nuanced creation: scrappy, inquisitive... An unforgettable story."

- Blake Bailey, author of John Cheever: A Life

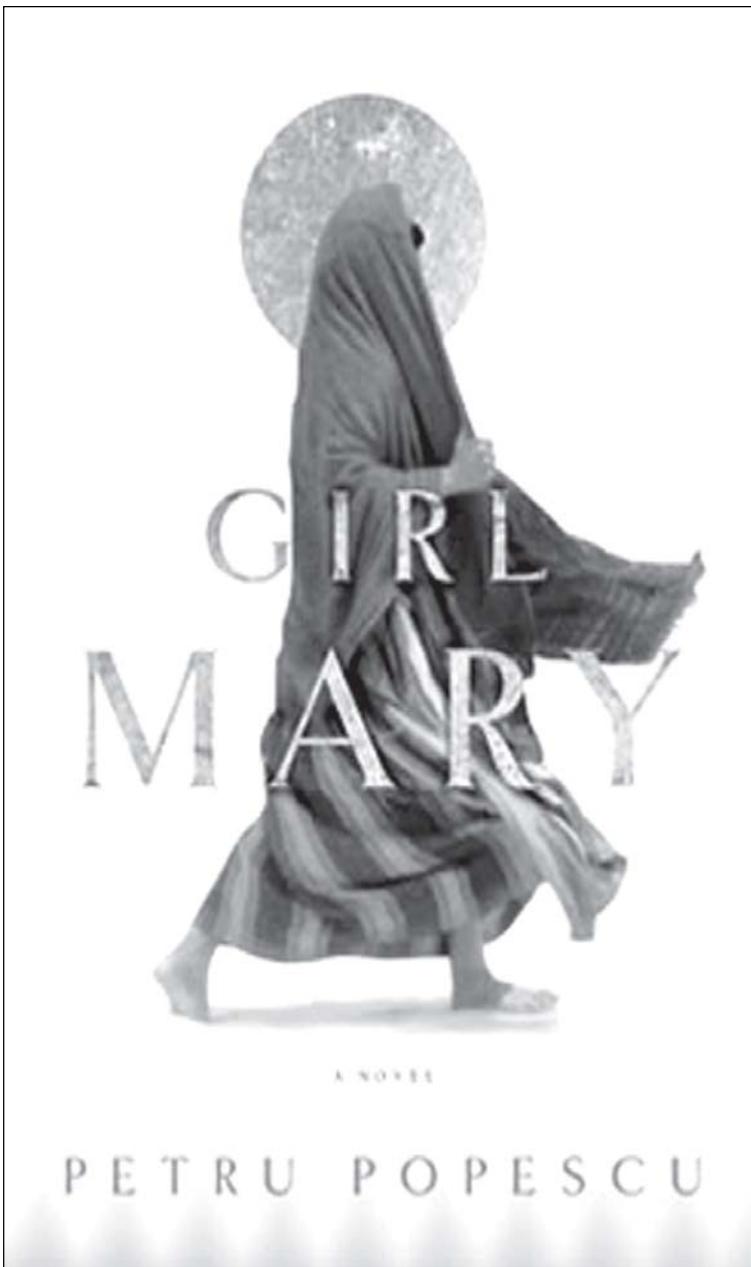
"This is a novel about faith in its purest sense, the struggle of a young woman to find meaning in a dark and brutal world.... Popescu's love for Mary shines through every page, and his beautiful words help us to glimpse."

- Kamran Pasha, author of Mother of the Believers

"Petru Popescu provides a moving, vivid and psychologically astute look at the events leading up to the birth of Jesus.... This book is a triumph."

- Dennis Palumbo, author of Writing From the Inside Out

Look for more information about Girl Mary and other books by Petru Popescu at:
www.petruPopescu.com <<http://www.petruPopescu.com>/>



New Romanian Euro-Deputies take up office in Strasbourg

July 14, 2009

The new Romanian MEPs, elected on the EP, after the mandate of Hans Gert Poettering, participated in Strasbourg, in the opening of the 2009-2014 legislature of the European Parliament (EP), along with the Euro-deputies of the other 26 member states of European Union.

Democrat-Liberal MEP Cristian Preda said that there was an impressive solemnity, which meant the first contact of the new MEPs with the institution Romania will represent.

According to Preda, the validation of the mandates of two new MEPs of all the 27 member states will take place on Monday, after the election of the new president of

Jan 1, 2007, had 35 representatives in the European Parliament, for around one year and a half, until the election on June 7.

From the 33 Romanian MEPs who will take over officially their mandate on Tuesday, in Strasbourg, 13 are for the first time in this position. They are Sabin Cutas, Catalin Ivan and Ioan Enciu (PSE-PSE+PC), Monica Macovei, Traian Ungureanu, Cristian Preda, Petru Luhan, Elena Antonescu, Elena Basescu (EPP/PD-L), Norica Nicolai (ALDE/PNL), Cornelius Vadim Tudor, George Becali and Ciprian Claudiu Tanasescu (PRM).

They other 20 Romanian Euro-deputies are Adrian Severin, Rovana Plumb, Ioan Mircea Pascu, Adriana Ticau, Daciana Sarbu, Corina Creteu, Victor Bostinaru, Viorica Dancila (PSE/PSD+PC), Theodor Stolojan, Marian Jean Marinescu, Iosif Matula, Sebastian Bodu, Rares Niculescu (EPP/PD-L), Adina Valean,

Renate Weber, Ramona Manescu, Cristian Busoi (ALDE/PNL), Cornelius Vadim Tudor, George Becali and Ciprian Claudiu Tanasescu (PRM).

In order to celebrate 30 years since the holding of the first direct election for the European Parliament, but also as a welcome for the new MEP, on Monday afternoon, in Strasbourg, the European flag was hoisted and a concert of classical music was held.

The Philharmonic of Strasbourg and the Petit Chanteurs chorus gave a concert in front of Louise Weiss Building of the European Parliament in Strasbourg, to which both current and former members of the EP were present. Sung was the overture of the opera Force of Destiny by Giuseppe Verdi, then the members of Eurocorps hoisted the blue flag with 12 golden stars, and at the end of the festivity sung was the Ode to Joy, by Ludwig van Beethoven.

The first plenary session of the newly elected European Parliament will start on Tuesday, when all the 736 Euro-deputies will be met by president Hans-Gert Pottinger, who will preside, for the last time in this capacity, the meeting at which elected will be the vice-presidents of the European Parliament on a common ballot paper. The mandate of the vice-presidents and of the president of the EP have a fixed length of two years and a half.

On Wednesday, the first half of the day will be dedicated to the priority debate, during which Czech PM Jan Fischer will present the results of the European Council of June 19, as well as the balance of the first half of the year, with the Czech Republic holding the presidency of the EU. For his part, Swedish PM Frederik Reinfeldt will present in front of the new EP the priorities of the current Swedish presidency of the EU.

Following the proposal of the Conference of presidents, bringing together the president of the EP and the leaders of the political groups, the European Parliament will adopt the membership of the parliamentary committees, and next held will be the meetings for the setting up of the 12 permanent committees.

