

Pârvu Mutu – Creator of Church Painting School and ‘Father’ of the Romanian Portraiture

**Lecturer PhD ADRIANA GABRIELA MARDALE,
University of Craiova,**

Abstract

One of the most prolific painters who worked at the end of 17th century - the beginning of the 18th century is Pârvu Mutu. A true school creator and an authentic painting teacher, Pârvu Mutu discovered his vocation and began his apprenticeship at the Negru Voda Monastery in Câmpulung. After six years of training in Bucovina, Pârvu proves his artistic mastery and skills acquired, in the mural decoration of the Câmpulung monastery, which he performs in two stages. To this is added the fresco of the Cotroceni Monastery, which is made during the same period, the mural painting of the Saint Nicholas Church in Aninoasa, Argeş County, the Church of the Three Holy Hierarchs in the village of Filipeştii de Pădure, Prahova County where the painter will also perform a self-portrait. Among the places painted by Pârvu Mutu are: The Holy Trinity church in the village of Magureni, Prahova county, the Lespezi hermitage in Popsada, the church ‘Sf. Eftimie the Great’, located in Fundeni village, Ilfov county, church dedicated to ‘The Assumption of the Virgin’ in the village of Filipeştii de Târg, etc. In Bucharest Pârvu Mutu continues his artistic creation with his disciples at the church ‘Three Hierarchs’ Colţea and the church ‘St. Gregory the New’.

The unique and invaluable heritage of values that Parvu Mutu left behind must be better aware in the sense of salvation, protection, promotion and enhancement to the level it deserves.