Legendary figures and andecdotes

A full house closed the presentation of Róbert Milbacher's (Associate Professor of the Department of Classical and Comparative Literature at the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences of the UP) book "Legend hulling", published this year, at PécsLit on 13th September. The large hall of the House of Arts and Literature was almost filled to overflowing. Milbacher, a literary historian who has also recently made a name for himself as a fiction writer, has come up with a new literary history book, but one that is more for the general public than for professionals. The discussion was moderated by Zoltán Ágoston, editor-in-chief of Jelenkor.

"We all want to 'legendize' these people."

Legend hulling is a new volume by Róbert Milbacher, which critics rank alongside the popularising works of János Háy and Krisztián Nyáry on literary history. The author says he has moved much more in the direction of real legends and stories, that had already been proven in concrete studies, and was less concerned with rumours.

Make no mistake, anecdotes are also very exciting. They may even correct some misconceptions or nuance some characters.

This volume is the realization of a project Milbacher had put off for decades. In the late 1990s, he had approached a publisher with a similar concept, who had enthusiastically agreed to it, but life had swept him away from writing that book. However, during the quarantine period - while others were raising leaven and baking bread, I might add - Róbert Milbacher prepared this volume. You could say that it was the reactions to Nyáry's writings and the time freed up that led to the Legend hulling, which has sold 1,500 copies so far, being in our hands.