

De Napoléon à la République : politique et romanesque chez Alexandre Dumas

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Abstract: The political perspective of Dumas' work wasn't often taken into account. This paper attempts to comment upon his « contemporary » novels, that is, those works dealing with his time. They are: *Comte de Monte-Cristo* (1844), whose action takes place between 1815 and 1838, and *Mohicans de Paris* (1854-59), which tells the « germination » of the 1830 Paris revolution, as the action itself is located in 1827. This novel denounces the power of the time and puts forward the new values and credo: the political perspective is expressed by the novel art, by emblematic characters and situations. Between the lines, the final abandon of the Napoleonian myth can be read in *Monte-Cristo* and *Mohicans*, as it is replaced by the republican ideal.

Keywords: Napoléon, republic, democracy, justice, political criticism, social criticism.