

CONSTANTIN BRÂNCUȘI - A LIFE LEAD TO INFINITE SUCCESS

Corina Ana BORCOȘI¹

Abstract:

Constantin Brâncuși is considered one of the greatest artists of the 20th century.

The great, infinite success that the great Romanian sculptor Constantin Brâncuși enjoyed and is enjoying is due both to the work he made but also to the life, he lived.

Much it been written about the great artist Constantin Brâncuși, both during his life and posthumously. The great Romanian sculptor, through the work he made but also through the life he lived, will remain an inexhaustible source of inspiration, analysis and information for people around the world, the admiration for this great sculptor of the world becoming, in time, infinite.

Constantin Brâncuși's life is of a fascinating simplicity, and his work is clear as crystal.

The paper presents the principles of a life led to infinite success and aspects of the life and work of the great sculptor, which made him immortal.

Keywords: Constantin Brâncuși, success, infinity, to lead

1. INTRODUCTION

There are universal principles that help us to succeed in our careers, to have good health, a good life, to enjoy life, to be happy, to feel fully fulfilled in this life. A successful life means:

- to assume responsibility for the life we have and live;
- to define our purposes, our purpose on this earth;
- to know very well what we want;
- to believe that what we want it is possible to be fulfilled;
- to believe strongly in ourselves;
- to act in the direction of fulfilling our desires;
- to use the reactions to what we undertake, in our favor;
- not to stop making improvements;
- to always act;
- to exceed our expectations ².

It is necessary to transform ourselves so that we are oriented towards success, to keep our eyes wide open to everything that is new, everything that surrounds us, to be open to change, to capitalize on criticism, to overcome our limits, to learn everything. More things, to keep us motivated.

¹ Scientific researcher II, PhD, “Constantin Brâncuși” University of Târgu Jiu
e-mail: corina_ana@hotmail.com

² Canfield, J. – The Success Principles, HarperCollins e-books, <https://www.jackcanfield.com/images/stories/the-success-principles-2-chapters.pdf>

Building successful teams to be a part of another step toward infinite success. It is important to focus on what brings us success, to build strong teams, to which we delegate a part of our responsibilities, to be open to creating great things, to build successful relationships, to speak impeccably, to honor our duties, to offer much to get even more.³

Infinite success means, first of all, a lot of work.

This is how Constantin Brâncuși acted in every moment of his life and he reached infinite success.

We would not have known the great sculptor Constantin Brâncuși if it had not been written about him, starting with 1897, when his name was mentioned in the Craiova press. Brâncuși celebration: anniversaries or commemorative events became planetary events, culminating in 2001, when more than 30 books related to his name were written that year alone⁴.

Romanian and foreign authors wrote about Brâncuși, among which we mention: Bach Friedrich Teja, Brezianu Barbu, Georgescu-Gorjan Ștefan, Jianu Ionel, Lemny Doina, Lewis David, Miller Sanda, Mocioi Ion, Paleolog V. G., Pandrea Petre, Varia Radu, Zărnescu Constantine, Neagoe Peter and many others.

The work of the great Romanian sculptor Constantin Brâncuși still arouses confusion, raises questions, and the innumerable interpretations of his works do nothing but deepen the mystery and the conviction that the understanding of their real meaning is far from complete.⁵

Among the most important sculptures that revolutionized modern art we distinguish⁶:

- ✚ Laocoon's head (1900);
- ✚ The bust of Ion Georgescu-Gorjan (1902);
- ✚ The bust of Carol Davila (1903-1912);
- ✚ The kiss (1907-1908);
- ✚ Danaida (1908);
- ✚ Prayer (1907);
- ✚ The bust of Petre Stănescu (1910);
- ✚ The First Step (1913);
- ✚ Princess X (1916);
- ✚ The Endless Column (1918);
- ✚ Leda (1920);
- ✚ Mademoiselle Pogany (1920);
- ✚ Bird in space (1928);
- ✚ Adam and Eve (1921);
- ✚ Kiss Column (1935).

2. CONSTANTIN BRÂNCUȘI - A LIFE LEAD TO INFINITE SUCCESS

Constantin Brâncuși, the universal artist, was born on February 19, 1876, in the village of Hobița in Gorj County. He will follow, throughout his life dedicated to creative work, the desire to seek the "essence of things". This search allows him to create works of art that

³ Canfield, J. – The Success Principles, HarperCollins e-books, <https://www.jackcanfield.com/images/stories/the-success-principles-2-chapters.pdf>

⁴ Frumușelu, D. - Brâncuși - o bibliografie nesfârșită, Editura Agir, București, 2007, p. 8

⁵ Buliga, S. L. – Brâncuși – Filosofie, Religiozitate și Artă, Ed. Semănătorul, Editura Online, octombrie 2009, <https://www.yumpu.com/ro/document/view/25971035/brancusi-religiozitate-filosofie-si-arta>

⁶ <https://www.feeder.ro/2015/11/08/sculpturi-brancusi/>

inspire, suggest ideas, feelings and aspirations.⁷ A well-made sculpture must be endowed with the power to heal the beholder⁸. Brâncuși himself said that you can only understand his works if you look at them with your heart⁹.

Some landmarks from the life of the great Romanian sculptor Constantin Brâncuși, which led him to infinite success, are presented below¹⁰.

The desire for independence was manifested from an early age of 11, when he ran away from home to go to work in Târgu Jiu.

Although *he liked to sculpt* (he had that ability to sculpt in wood), he realized that without solid knowledge, which can be acquired in school, he could not fulfill his desires. Thus, he graduated from the School of Arts and Crafts in Craiova in 1898, with outstanding results, but also from the School of Fine Arts in Bucharest, which he completed in 1903.

Throughout *his studies*, he wants to get performances, so at the School of Fine Arts in Bucharest he gets 11 mentions, three bronze medals and a silver medal¹¹. Among the works carried out during this period is the Ecorșeul. Brâncuși obtains the authorization to make dissections on corpses, at the Faculty of Medicine, in order to accurately reflect the human body in his works. Ecorșeul is his first successful work, which is exhibited in Bucharest, in a hall of the Romanian Athenaeum.¹²

His desire to capture the essence in his works begins to manifest. Thus, in 1907, when he was hired to carve the tomb of a rich landowner in Romania, Brâncuși sculpted a statue representing a young woman kneeling, called "Prayer". It is the first stage of its evolution towards simplified forms.¹³

The mirage of the West, Brâncuși's *desire to see what is beyond his country*, of the sculpture that was made, has taken him to Vienna since 1896, where, in order to earn a living, he works as a stone carver. The sculptor goes to Budapest, Munich, Vienna, Zurich and Basel. In each city, he visits art museums, admires the paintings of Renaissance masters and decides to go to Paris, where he arrives in the fall of 1904.¹⁴

He fights hard for what he wants: the lack of money and diseases (he has double pneumonia and also suffers from typhoid fever) does not prevent him from succeeding, especially since Paris fascinates him. Here he meets people who fascinate him, artists from all over the world. "When you enter Paris, you enter into a fierce battle - and whatever the field, you must arm yourself with the same force ... How wonderful it is to see all this mixture of people engaged in battle!" says Brâncuși.¹⁵

The great Romanian sculptor Constantin Brâncuși *quickly assimilates the most diverse artistic influences* that Paris offers him, which only a genius can do. He processes in his own

⁷ Lemny, D. - Brâncuși, artistul care transgresează toate hotarele, Editura Noi Media Print, București, 2012

⁸ Georgescu-Gorjan, S. - Așa grăit-a Brâncuși, Editura Scrisul Românesc, Craiova, 2011, p. 71

⁹ Miller, S. – Constantin Brâncuși, Reaktion Books Ltd., London, 2010, p. 11

https://books.google.ro/books?hl=ro&lr=&id=ol2DCE0SIyQC&oi=fnd&pg=PP1&dq=brancusi&ots=XD1n3ZuYVW&sig=1GJRQ4xvrYQ9oK1z7M1aGyGZy74&redir_esc=y#v=onepage&q=brancusi&f=false

¹⁰ Borcoși C. A. - The management of the sustainable development of career –grand sculptor Constantin Brâncuși, Annals of the „Constantin Brâncuși” University of Târgu Jiu, Economy Series, Issue 3/2016, pp. 139-144

¹¹ Frumușelu, D. - Brâncuși - o bibliografie nesfârșită, Editura Agir, București, 2007

¹² Idem, p. 14

¹³ Borcoși C. A. - The management of the sustainable development of career –grand sculptor Constantin Brâncuși, Annals of the „Constantin Brâncuși” University of Târgu Jiu, Economy Series, Issue 3/2016, pp. 139-144

¹⁴ idem

¹⁵ Lemny, D. - Brâncuși, artistul care transgresează toate hotarele, Editura Noi Media Print, București, 2012, p. 10

laboratory, according to his own soul formula, the various influences, which he subordinates to a unitary vision.¹⁶

Because he *wants to become himself*, to find his own way in sculpture, he leaves Rodin's workshop, to whom he has a deep respect, considering that "nothing grows in the shade of the big trees". He decides not to reproduce portraits and bodies as he had learned until then in all the schools he attended, and returns to hard materials: stone and marble. Brâncuși had found his way: creating a dialogue with the material and a simplification of the forms in order to reach their essence.¹⁷ "Simplification is not a goal in art, but you get to simplification unintentionally, approaching the real meaning of things," says Brâncuși¹⁸.

He does not create birds, but flights¹⁹.

Working hard, following his path, which will lead him to infinite success, he creates works of art that are quickly appreciated by American art collectors. Originality of his works:

- The sleeping muse;
- Musa;
- Miss Pogany;
- The kiss;
- Torso of woman;

with which he participates in the Armory Show Exhibition organized in New York, will open the way to his success in America. His workshop in Paris, in Montparnasse, street no. 54, is in the vicinity of the American painter Walter Pach, who organizes group exhibitions, thus facilitating contacts between artists. He organized in 1913 the exhibition in New York, which revolutionized American art life: Armory Show.

Self-confidence in his work contributes to building his path to infinite success. Perhaps the last big obstacle in the way of its success is represented by the lawsuit filed against the American customs, which will last almost two years, and from which Brâncuși emerges victorious and famous.

He works tirelessly, creating new works of art, participates in exhibitions, becomes more and more known all over the world, but does not forget the country where he was born and where he creates works of art that he exhibits in nature, in the county where he was born, Gorj:

- ✚ The Table of Silence;
- ✚ Endless column;
- ✚ The Kiss Gate.

The works of the great Romanian sculptor Constantin Brâncuși, transfer the center of interest from the material aspect to the inner energy, to the immaterial, to the spiritual²⁰.

His contemporaries often describe him as a "magician", a "saint", a generous man, who reached the maximum point of knowledge of the world, of people. Brâncuși reached a high level of understanding of the world, a high level of wisdom because he meditated all his life on creation and humanity. Everyone who visited the great sculptor at his workshop was delighted and happy with what they saw. They were amazed by this man, who seemed, in his workshop to be a "wizard in his temple."²¹

¹⁶ Buican, A. - Brâncuși : o biografie, Editura Artemis, București, 2006

¹⁷ idem

¹⁸ Ibidem, p. 17

¹⁹ <https://www.historia.ro/sectiune/portret/articol/viata-infinitului-constantin-brancusi-dupa-ce-ai-vazut-una-din-pasarile-lui-brancusi-nu-mai-poti-vedea-o-pasare-in-zbor-ca-inainte>

²⁰ Șușară, P. – Brâncuși, Editura Monitorul Oficial, București, 2020

²¹ Lemny, D. - Brâncuși, artistul care transgresează toate hotarele, Editura Noi Media Print, București, 2012, p. 146

Constantin Brâncuși is an artist whose work is imposed by the force of the lines, by its pure and simple forms. He is considered a modern shaman-artist, a holy man in harmony with the Universe.²² The artist said: “A perfect sculpture must have the gift of healing the one who looks at it.”²³

3. CONCLUSIONS

The great sculptor Constantin Brâncuși remained in the Parisian artistic memory and not only, as a myth. Brâncuși, like his workshop, ignited the imagination of many witnesses, who, meeting him, gave him various descriptions, however, over time, the sculptor and his work will always keep their share of mystery.

The infinite success that the great Romanian sculptor Constantin Brâncuși enjoyed and is enjoying and his work are the fruit of his incessant effort to succeed in life, in his career, to find his way to immortality.

He took responsibility for his own life from an early age, he sought his own way in life, he realized what he wanted, he believed that everything is possible, he believed in himself, he always worked, he has always exceeded his expectations, he has become a successful man, he has exceeded his limits, he has built successful teams, he has created connections that will lead him to infinite success. The Endless column, created by Brâncuși is a masterpiece of art and engineering.

Brâncuși man, artist, philosopher, is known all over the world. It left mark on his work: his native country - Romania, Paris - where he lived most of his life, India where he traveled, America, where he had the most resounding success.

Constantin Brâncuși said:

"The endless column is like an eternal song that carries us to infinity, beyond any artificial pain and joy."

"Don't forget that you are an artist! Do not lose your courage; do not be afraid of anything! You will break through! To create like a god, to rule like a king, to work like a slave!"

"Being skilful is something, but being honest is worth the effort!"

"Everything, being or non-being has a soul [...]. Then, at the crossroad of my profession, I said: well, this soul of the subject must be restored. Because the soul will always be alive ... Or, if you will, the idea of the subject. That never dies in the one who looks the work of art ... On the contrary, it grows in it like the life of life...it is not the detail that creates the work, but what is the essential [...]. Moreover, I kept trying, for many years, to get that hidden diamond out of wood, bronze, marble: the essential. ”

"My life has been a series of miracles."

"He who does not leave the Self does not reach the absolute and does not decipher life."

"Life is like a coin: you have to know how to waste it, more precisely, how to use it."

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²² idem

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