

Henri Coanda, a visionary in science and technology

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I had two opportunities to communicate directly with the scientist Coanda:

- as a Head of the Laboratory of Boundary Layer and Turbulence IMFCA
- as a participant in the interview, conducted in 1987 by the journalist PhD. Aura Matei Savulescu at the scientist’s residence in Bucharest.

During the visit to our laboratory, I was impressed by his wide knowledge, by the attention paid to experimentation in Fluid Mechanics and by his interest in increasing the efficiency of the Applied Aerodynamics processes but also by his permanent scientific curiosity towards the secrets of nature.

I think it is not necessary to present the numerous applications of the Coanda effect in which I was involved. I only note that Romania honors the great scholar by the name given to its main airport in Bucharest. I still need to mention that spurred by the Coanda effect, we have developed the laboratory study of the vortexing process. With time, important OSIM (State Office for Inventions and Trademarks) patents were obtained, one of the application being a Vortex -type vacuum from the current trade.

I find it interesting to note that, although endowed with a solid knowledge base, the famous scientist Coanda, didn’t practice a regular academic approach such as solutions of classical mathematical formalism of quantum and relativistic mechanics. He preferred a QUALITATIVE approach to nature, which means he had a great affinity for imagination and culture along with an intricate understanding of the artistic phenomenon.

I remember him saying, that there should be a distinction between the snowflakes in the Carpathians and the Himalayas, each of them “speaking in its own language” about the past of the Earth. The current research seems to confirm the scientist’s vision.

He also did not deny “ab initio” the levitation, practiced by some Indian shamans; at present, based on the graviton theory, one can hope to discover the energetic mechanisms of the gravity annihilation in some special conditions.

The great scientist Coanda had always been concerned about the flight of birds, wondering why man can not fly under its own power; At present there are portable reactive devices, a recognized military technology allowing the individual flight on certain distance.

I could not conclude the present lines without quoting some of the scientist Henri Coanda’s statements.

- “In my opinion ... Man is meant to be learned”.
- “A poet is a man who sees abstract worlds and tries to bring them in the concrete world. In this regard I believe that any inventor, engineer or scientist, regardless of the aria of his concerns, is also a poet.”

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- “People of the future ... will have a variety of spiritual valences.”
- “Do not ever admire things already made, but the human brain in action. It is the noblest and most valuable sight as far as I know!”
- “When you think someone is a scientist it means that he is a source of knowledge. I always wondered if anyone can be a scientist without being a humanist as well? I do not want to understand by this a memory of numbers (scientist = a source of knowledge) but a memory of facts and especially of their philosophy. Personally, I have always combined both the humanities and technical knowledge when I have developed a technique purposeful object. I can not think separately: once as a technical expert and another time as a connoisseur of the humanities. Basically I can not separate them because they round out a rigorous way of understanding and interpreting where borders do not belong. Who set limits run the risk of missing all discovery!”

REFERENCES

- [1]. AURA MATEI SAVULESCU, “Cine a rostit primul EVRICA ?” EDITURA POLITICA, 1987 (Interview conducted in 1972).