

English Abstract:

This thesis investigates the degree to which James Joyce's writing had an influence on Bohumil Hrabal. I investigate the historical context of both, as well as the movements, such as surrealism, and figures, from André Breton to Adolf Hoffmeister, that connect the two authors. I utilize Renato Poggioli's *The Theory of the Avant Garde* as a platform from which to analyze the general stylistic elements in Joyce's and Hrabal's writing, while also divulging their social aims. The principle overlap for the pair is their mutual position as observers who are keen on revealing the epiphanies of the everyday. The writing of Henri Lefebvre helps clarify this term "everyday" and confirms its value. From this central focus, three questions arise with respect to what to do with such awareness in writing. First, how do we perceive what is around us and how can the imagination work with perception? Second, what should the narrative approach be with respect to telling stories in light of trying to reveal that awareness or consciousness? Third, what is the actual method of putting together stories and how exactly should language be used or manipulated? Each of the chapters analyzes one of these questions with respect to several texts. In the case of each chapter I contextualize these texts with respect to aspects of the avant-garde, the stage of the author's development, as well as any pertinent historical events.