ABSTRACT


This diploma thesis deals with fairy tale motifs in ballet music of the 19th and 20th century. It focuses mainly on fairy tale ballets of Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky and Sergei Prokofiev. The first chapter deals with fairy tale themes in ballet on a more general level and advances to the concrete inclusion of these themes in the socio-historical context of the 19th and 20th century. The second chapter briefly deals with the development of ballet from its beginnings in the 15th century to the 18th century. This chapter chronologically describes important periods and events concerning ballet. The next chapter deals with ballet of the Romantic period and music of the 19th century in France and Denmark. Chapter four and five present the prominent ballets of Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky, namely Swan Lake, Sleeping Beauty and The Nutcracker. Furthermore, this thesis focuses on ballet of the 20th century, those of Igor Stravinsky and mainly Sergei Prokofiev. Most of these ballets were created in cooperation with the patron of arts Sergei Diaghilev. The last part offers various activities that can be used in music lessons.

KEYWORDS

fairy tale motives, ballet music, romantic ballet, golden era of classical ballet, Peter Ilich Tchaikovsky, Marius Petipa, Sergei Prokofiev