

Thesis abstract

The aim of this bachelor thesis is an analysis of the motifs of summer and winter in the eponymous sections of the first imperial anthology of waka poetry named *Kokinwakashū*, i.e. *The Collection of Old and New Songs* published in 905 AD, and verify thus the hypothesis that, within these sections, as is the case with the sections devoted to Spring and Autumn, a system of poem arrangement based on the principles of temporal progression and integration in terms of association of nature imagery is employed. Throughout the analysis, our main focus is on the poems as a part of a sequence, and only secondarily as individual works of art. The thesis is divided into three chapters. The first chapter tracks the Chinese and Japanese tradition that predated the *Kokinshū* and influenced its system of poem arrangement. In the second chapter we present the *Kokinshū* anthology and its position within Japanese poetic tradition. The third chapter provides a closer look into structure of the *Kokinshū*, including the analysis of the Summer section and Winter section in two sub-chapters. The analysis consists of the original poems and work translations of the individual poems as they are arranged in the anthology, and of the comments on each poem from a perspective of its interrelations within the whole. In Conclusion, we present the result of the analysis which confirms the original hypothesis, even though, at the same time, it proves that this system was not observed consequently.