

ABSTRACT

This thesis is concerned with an important person of the first half of the 19th century, French writer George Sand. The main purpose of the thesis is to reveal whether the writer is one of the key authors of French romanticism in Czech schools and whether the Czech schoolchild has an opportunity to acquaint themselves with her rural novels. The thesis contains a theoretical and a practical part. The practical part briefly mentions her biography, gives an overview of the main periods of her work and is subsequently closely concerned with George Sand's rural novels. Since Sand creates an image of an ideal human being in her rural novels, in our analysis of these novels we focused on the characteristics of the main characters and on the realistic and idealistic elements present in the novels. In the end of the theoretical part we dealt with Sand's influence on Czech writers of the 19th century, especially on Božena Němcová and Karolína Světlá. The practical part is based on a research, which was conducted in selected Czech schools (in Pilsen area and Prague). The aim of this research was, as has been mentioned before, to chart the standing of George Sand in the curriculum of world literature. We found out that Sand no longer ranks among the canonical authors, to whom is the teaching of world literature devoted. The pupils often don't come across her work at all. The teachers mention Sand only within the broader context, especially as a person with an influence on other authors. Partial goal, which uses the results of this research, is to bring this author and her rural works into the awareness of Czech schoolchildren. To reach this goal, an activity for two lessons has been devised, which will bring them imminently closer to her work.

KEYWORDS

George Sand, rural novel, feminism, Romanticism, woman writers