

The thesis discusses an aesthetic experience according to French philosophers Jean-François Lyotard and Emanuel Lévinas. Both understand it as a sensual experience in which we are concerned with the nonsensual. I focus on the conception of Lyotard in the first place. His concept of immaterial matter is described as well as the gesture by which the matter announces itself, the role of an artist in relation to his artwork, but especially the horror and anxiety to which the matter gives rise. Then the text deals with Lévinas and his concept of impersonal being, which he identifies with the matter. Then the exotic character of artwork is described, and similar anxiety experienced within the aesthetic event is demonstrated using Blanchot's *Thomas the Obscure*. Approaches of both thinkers are compared and fundamental contradictions in their conceptions are revealed (the most important one is a different cause of the anxiety), which is important especially due to the striking similarity of both conceptions.