

## **Abstract**

The master's thesis *The Influence of RuPaul's Drag Race on the Drag Subculture in the Czech Republic* is concerned with the relationship between the American reality TV show *RuPaul's Drag Race* and the current state of the Czech drag and travesti scene. The main chosen research method is an ethnographic analysis of a series of interviews with drag and travesti performers.

The theoretical part aims to provide the sociocultural context to the theme of this thesis; specifically the introduction to queer theory and an a summary of representation of drag and travesti in the popular culture of 20th and 21st century. Furthermore, it introduces RuPaul's Drag Race as a cultural phenomenon along with its brief history, an outline of its international sociocultural influence and current critiques. Finally, it describes the Czech travesti and drag scene including its historical development, current status and the relations between both scenes.

The practical part presents the results of the ethnographic analysis of the 14 interviews conducted with Czech drag and travesti performers, focusing on specific phenomena relating to RuPaul's Drag Race, that are subsequently interpreted within the overarching thematic units.

The final chapter applies the findings on the theoretical apparatus presented in the first part of the thesis and formulates research questions to furthermore expand on the topic as a possible topic of a follow-up research.