

## **ABSTRACT**

This diploma thesis investigates the usage of conceptual metaphor by female stand-up comedians. The theoretical part discusses the Conceptual Metaphor Theory, the Blending Theory, theories of humor and the relation between metaphor and humor. It also presents the history and characteristics of the genre of stand-up comedy. The analytical part of the thesis focuses on the most recurring topics in the corpus and attempts to unravel the underlying messages and attitudes the comedians convey with the help of conceptual metaphor. The corpus, which was specifically created for the purpose of this thesis, contains 154 examples, 71 of which are analyzed in depth. The analysis revealed a substantial display of negative sentiments and outlooks across the majority of the examined topics.

The thesis provides an insight into the notion of conceptual metaphor and its usage in a creative genre, and hopes to contribute to the greater understanding of its inner workings and potential.

**keywords:** conceptual metaphor, female stand-up, blending, humor theory