

# SUMMARY

Milan Machovec (1925 - 2003) was one of the most significant Czech philosophers of the second half of the 20th century. This work is focused on a dilemma which connects all interests of Machovec into one unit. The topic is Search for the Meaning of Life. Due to personal, political and social changes the view at this topic has changed during Machovec's creative life.

The work is divided into three main periods, in which we trace this continuous evolvement. At first, it is „Marxist solution“ (1946 - 1964), where Machovec is trying to use a historical analysis to show the evolvement, understanding and search of the meaning of men's life from the times of antique up to present. He comes to the conclusion that the only acceptable possibility is a socialist solution. This result is quite under the influence of a historical contemporary context. Thereby, Machovec is identified with the ideology of the leading communist party.

In the second period „Expectation and Conversion“ (1965 - 1989) the approach to this dilemma is changed completely. Machovec is not searching for the meaning of life in a historical context of this phenomena but he is trying to make his own conclusions. He is attempting to find the meaning of life thanks to human work, universe, history, humanism, god, delight, future or dialogue. Marxian way of understanding of this problem is weakening progressively at the expense of existentialist influence. At this point, the most important is to understand the dialogue as a meaning for essential communication among individuals.

In the third period „Master of dialogue“ (1989 - 2003) Machovec's way of understanding the Meaning of Life is changed again. At this time he is expanding and elaborating this dilemma. To the above mentioned topics he is adding the dilemma of fetish and a woman, which intensifies this theme. One of the most important conclusions of this section is also a new comprehension of dialogue, which is influenced by contemporary historical and social circumstances. It is a matter of planetary dialogue, which is needed to survive and preserve the mankind, according to Machovec. He does not offer a particular answer to the search of meaning of life but he shows everyone one's own way to its finding by means of dilemma sphere such as god, universe, work, history, fetish, woman or dialogue. Each person is able to discover his own way to find the meaning of life based on his own life experience in connection with Machovec conclusions. Machovec contribution is set just in interrogating and searching for the meaning of life.