

This work is an investigation of Czech Gothic murals in castle chapels in Bohemia. The key for including of a mural to the catalogue was the founding date between early middle-ages up to the year 1526; end of the hegemony of the Jagellon dynasty amongst Bohemian Kingdom. The core of the work is a comprehensive catalogue of such murals. Included are 12 localities where these murals can be found, dating through 300 years of the middle-ages. Not included in this catalogue are the three well-documented sacral spaces in Karlštejn castle, although they also fit the time period in question. It must be acknowledged that the Karlštejn chapel murals are key elements in understanding this style and era, due to their quality and influential nature. This essay sought to isolate and explore any specific typology in this class of artwork. However, it must be stated that no such unique common character exists. The murals are more a reflection of the requirements and tastes of the individual patrons; they also express the fashion of their particular eras.

There are also discrepancies in quality, which vary from century to century. In the 14th century, the quality of the investigated murals cannot be compared to that of paintings in the court of the King. However, by the late 15th and 16th centuries, the quality of murals commissioned by Lower Nobility and upper middle class citizens can be compared more favorably to that of the court murals. There is little doubt that this change can be attributed to changes within the social order over time.

It can be speculated that, in the late Gothic Period, it was probably common practice for one artist to be employed for several different projects in different projects in different chapels. For example, one artist has been responsible for murals in at least three chapels included in this catalogue. Each chapel's mural displayed a sense of holiness and sacred aestheticism. Otherwise though there is no significantly unique character; the chapels are thematically individual.