

This study, as stated in the title “The art and the eros in the Mario Vargas Llosa’s novel *Elogio de la madrastra* (In Praise of the Stepmother)”, is dedicated to the theme of art and eros in the mentioned novel. Fine arts are presented in the novel by six paintings, which are connected with imaginations of the novel heroes. The series of the chapters describing the paintings creates so-called pictorial line. This line blends together with verbal line that is represented by the storyline as such. These two lines create the axis of the first part of this study.

The first part analyses the verbal line, outlines the storyline in brief, characteristics of the protagonists and the world surrounding them. It systematically strives to place in the structure of the novel based on the type of the chapters. It doesn’t even miss out the hygienic rituals, which don Rigoberto has in favour.

Then the pictorial line follows. Firstly, the summary of the paintings is introduced and then the individual subchapters dedicated to every painting are presented. They are lined up according to their appearance in the novel. Every subchapter mentions in the prologue the basic biographical data about the author of the quoted work of art. It tries to highlight the data, which are crucial for the interpretation of the work of art. Then the chapter considers the interpretation of the painting and tries to situate it into the novel context. It describes the protagonists imaginations formed by paintings and link them to verbal line. Every painting, unobtrusively at first sight, always reflects what is happening in the „real“ world of the novel. The penetrability of both lines or both texts is well visible in the following chapter.

Those chapter efforts to find out why Vargas Llosa chose exactly the stated works of art. It brings an interesting view on his relationship with contemporary Peruvian painter Fernando de Szyszlo. It also mentions the phenomenon called intertextuality.

The second part of the study intends to express the difference between the erotic literature and the pornography. It brings also the author’s view, saying that the key moment separating erotism and pornography is, among others, the aesthetic value that is missing at pornography.