

Abstract

This diploma paper introduces as a historical source the work of French poetess Christine de Pizan who has been distinguished as a first „femme de lettres“, i.e. the first professional writer.

In the first chapter is outlined Christine de Pizan biography. An emphasis is placed on Christine's Italian roots and then on a difficult period after her husband Etienne Castel death combined with a decision to become a „professional“ court poetess. A development of the way how Christine as a person was received from 15th to 21st century is also supplied in this paper.

The development of Christine's work and especially its main aspects (and thus the areas of interest to which a study of her works could contribute) is a theme of the second chapter. After the introduction to development of Christine's work and its brief characteristic of individual works, the author of this paper goes to detailed analysis of Christine's book called *Le Livre du Chemin de longue étude*, on which she illustrates the most significant traits of Christine's writing: wide knowledge of philosophic publications, the Bible, close relationship with her father, building her own renown and being concerned to have a competent (and right) self-presentation in the court milieu, love to her studies and especially an advocacy of her female gender (on the background of Dispute of Novel about Rose).

Last chapter is focused on Christine's work *Le Livre des Faits et bonnes meurs du sage roi Charles V*. At the beginning is shortly outlined historical context of the era and Christine view of political functioning of the society. The author then defines literature genre in which the work was conceived, i.e. a genre of princes mirrors, she outlines feasible reasons for an order of the book by Duke of Burgundy Philip The Bold and makes a conclusion of the work. Consequently follows the sources reminder, from which Christine de Pizan started, analysis of passages retreating from the main theme to subsequent detail analysis of the main motive of the work – wisdom. Last part deals with Christine's description of the Emperor Charles IV visit in France in 1378.

Key words: Christine de Pizan, biography, main aspects of Christine's writing, *Le Livre des Faits et bonnes meurs du sage roi Charles V*, wisdom, Emperor Charles IV visit in France in 1378, status of women at the turn of 15th century.