

The thesis deals with the personality and the oeuvre of Henry of Isernia (Henricus de Isernia) an Italian emigrant who came to Prague at the beginning of the seventies of 13th century. In the introductory chapters we summarize the literature dealing with the subject so far, introduce the *ars dictaminis*, a medieval theory of letter writing, and try to find Henry's place in the evolution of the discipline. One of the main topics of the thesis is the question how *ars dictaminis* appeared in Czech lands and whether it played any role on the court of Ottokar II. From this point we move our attention to Henry's involvement in the ghibellin movement of the late 13th century. Finally, we examine the cultural aspects of selected pieces from the epistolary, namely the set of erotic dictamina speaking about the palace of Venus. We argue that they have to be viewed as satyric and anticlerical pamphlets and we show their connection with other pieces of the epistolary.