The topic of this study are the paintings on the death theme in the meridian works of Bohumil Kubišta around the time of the first World War. This dilemma has not been elaborated on in any previous publication. The task focuses on individual paintings complemented by relevant sub-chapters as the painter's life was full of major circumstances influencing his work.

Though the main focus is on Kubišta´s production from the period between 1912 and 1918, the painting Resurrection of Lazarus (1911) was appended. This painting concludes Kubišta´s classicist period, and becomes an important milestone in the painter's understanding of death which is still illuminated by the interpretation of old masters. St. Sebastian (1912) opens the dilemma in pursuit of self-stylization and response to the contemporary events. The other mentioned paintings, which are always depicting two figures aiming to detach us from reality, violently gripping the soul - Kiss of Death, Murder, Hypnotist (1912). The artist is portraying the relationship of the actor with his victim. Apart from figurative paintings, the theme of vanitas appears, for example in Still Life with Skull (1912). The enumeration of paintings is concluded by portrayals of military operations Fakir (1914), Hanged (1915).