

## English Abstract

The goal of my master thesis is to present a comprehensive study of the life and work of Sobeslav Pinkas (1927 - 1901), one of the most important Czech realistic painters. Painter's personal and artistic development is introduced in the wider historical context to allow us to understand why he had decided to become a painter. In 1948 Pinkas, as a young student of law, joined the armed revolution and personally attended the riots. Later he became a caricaturist for the Sotek magazine. His craving for democracy in the political life was mirrored in his attempts to find a new way of artistic expression. Neither the Academy in Prague nor the one in Mnichov could stand up to his expectations, and he consequently chooses Johann Baptist Berdelle as his personal teacher. Later, following a short Prague intermezzo, he, as one of the first Czech artist, leaves for Paris, where he studies under the guidance of Thomas Couture. Later on he discovers the work of Jean-François Millet and is heavily influenced by it. His conversion to the modern style of French painting wasn't received in Prague with much enthusiasm, which may be one of the reasons why he gradually, after his return to his homeland, stops painting. He became a drawing teacher at girls' secondary school; apart from that, he was a member of Artists' Committee and several other committees and the President of Alliance Francaise.

As a part of the thesis, I've created a catalogue of the artist's work.