Abstract

This work focuses on analysis of Denis Diderot’s *Salons*, the comparison of their individual parts and their development. These writings are still very important for understanding the art of the 18th century. Moreover, they are also examples of a distinctive contribution of Diderot as critic combining aesthetic, ethical and philosophical scales. The work pays attention to the conditions of genesis of *Salons*, but mainly deals with literary criticism as a genre that the philosopher created and continually improved over the years. An important part is the analysis of author’s way of discourse about individual painters (specifically Greuze, Chardin and Fragonard) and how it is often changing over time.