

## **Abstract**

The presented Master's thesis, titled "Otakar Šourek (1883-1956) – Music critic and writer", deals with Otakar Šourek, the author of the most extensive monograph on Antonín Dvořák to date. Šourek played a significant role in the musical life of the first Czechoslovak Republic (1918 – 1938). He worked for numerous music institutions and wrote music reviews, articles and studies for many journals and magazines, as well as books.

On the basis of the description of Šourek's public work and his engagement in several music "scandals" in the first Czechoslovak Republic, the thesis strives to evaluate Šourek's position amid the musical life of the time and characterise him as a music critic.

The thesis draws upon the study of source materials from Otakar Šourek's personal effects, deposited at the National Museum – Czech Museum of Music, and study of the period press.

**Key words:** music criticism, music, music of the first half of the 20th century, the first Czechoslovak Republic, interwar period, Otakar Šourek