

Abstract

Scenic Designs of High Baroque in the National Collections of the Czech Republic

The thesis deals with the Baroque scenic designs which are situated in public collections of the Czech Republic. These are mainly the works by Josef Hager and Josef Redlmayer, whose production was inspired by the Italian baroque scene designer Giuseppe Galli Bibiena. The aim of the thesis is to describe inspirational sources which influenced the artists and to comprehensively classify their production within the European context of the Baroque period. The diploma work also explains the history of Baroque theatres in Bohemia as well as in the whole Europe. It shows their connection with the pompous celebrations so popular in Baroque period. The thesis also informs about the progress of Italian scenography and scenic designs with the explanation of stage decorations.

The thesis is divided into five general chapters which show the local and time consequences. The first part brings the general introduction into the baroque theatre and baroque theatricality. It explains the beginning, genres and technical issues of the baroque theatre. This information is extended further during the thesis. The second chapter deals with the baroque celebrations and their tight connections with the theatre. The third part deals with scenography and scenic designs. The branch of "scenography" is not a classical discipline of arthistory. That is why I decided to explain scenography and its history according to the general theoretical tracts. The fourth chapter shows and explains Italians influences to the Baroque scenography in the Czech lands. The thesis is finished by the fifth chapter which presents analysis of the preserved scenic designs by Josef Hager and Josef Redlmayer.

My aim is an attempt of the complex description of the drawings of scenic designs by Josef Hager and Josef Redlmayer and their evaluation in the Czech environment according to baroque theoretical tracts. The most works are opened to public in the Graphic collections of the National Gallery in Prague. Others are deposited in the artistic collection fond of Jiří Karásek ze Lvovic in Památník národního písemnictví in Prague, in Strahov library in Prague or in the Westbohemian museum in Pilsen.

The thesis also deals with the conditions and consequences during which the works were created. My conception tries to respect specifics of the arthistorian and historian sciences and connect my results into to general report on the theatre discipline.