Author’s precis

The aim of this bachelor thesis is to survey the history and current situation of Prague music clubs and research the clubs in the Smíchov and Žižkov districts. The reader will be offered overall information about the location, interior, genre polarization and shortly described history of the clubs. We will also try to recognize the common and different signs of the clubs in the two districts. We will deal with the origin and history of the clubs and their development from broadside ballads and vaudevilles over musical chambers and cabarets of the old Prague to the music clubs of our times, since this information is also relevant to the topic.

In the first part of the thesis we will deal with the definition of a music club and the history of these socio-cultural institutions in Prague. After the era of professionally composed broadside ballads and vaudevilles, their first real analogies seem to be Prague musical chambers and cabarets. Through the both wars and socialist era, we will get to the postrevolutionary Prague.

In the second part, the practical research in the Prague music clubs is described. After a short introduction, there comes the basic information about the clubs, photographs, interviews with the managers and interesting history, if there is any. All of the clubs have been visited, photographed, and after getting in touch with the managers, they were questioned about their jobs, the genre polarization of the clubs, the interpretes who have played in there and other interesting details from the everyday business of the music pubs.

The conclusion sums up the experience and knowledge that has been acquired throughout working on the bachelor thesis and summary of similarities and differences of the musical life of Žižkov and Smíchov implied by the research.