

Abstract

The subject of this degree paper is the comedies of Pietro Aretino. The introductory part is directed mainly at the life and work of Pietro Aretino. Following this there is an introduction to the period of the Renaissance, the comedy genre in Italy and the characteristics of individual comedies by Aretino: *La Cortigiana* (*The Courtesan*), *Il Marescalco* (*The Stablemaster*), *Lo Ipocrito* (*The Hypocrite*), *La Talanta* (*Talanta*), *Il Filosofo* (*The Philosopher*). A further part is given over to an analysis of his most famous comedy *La Cortigiana* (*the Courtesan*) and a comparison of this drama with Machiavelli's comedy *La Mandragola* (*Mandragora*).