

Abstract

This masters degree work named *Painted renaissance epitaphs in Bohemia (1560-1620)* elaborates and develops the preceding bachelors work. The opening chapters present reflections and view of the perception of the death in Bohemia before the battle of Bílá hora. Yet these general aspects are focusing on the person or persons directly connected with the named painted epitaphs. Attention is paid for instance to the czech example of the *Ars Moriendi*, the Book about death, written by Mikuláš Krupěhorský for Petr Kokořovec from Kokořov. In the chapter dedicated to the testaments, the work handles the original last wills of Jaroslav Smiřický from Smiřice and Václav Hlava from Kyršfeld, whose epitaphs form part of the catalogue.

The painted renaissance epitaphs are firstly generally characterized with use of the presentation of the early works of this kind (epitaphs of the Master I.W. and the wall painting in the convent of the Fourteen Holy Helpers), then the attention is paid to the questionable issues related to the confessional (non)distinctiveness of the painted renaissance epitaphs. The question of definition and specifics of the catholic and non-catholic epitaph monuments is being solved here on the base of the rightful characteristics.

Main chapter which crowns the work is formed by the catalogue of thirty painted epitaphs originating mainly from Bohemia. Emphasis is placed on the minute description and iconographic interpretation, or on the comparison with the graphic model. Jáchymov epitaphs are reconstructed according to their original form.

The aim of the work is to evaluate the painted epitaphs as an important chapter of the Czech renaissance painting and to bring a view of this phenomenon as coherent as possible.