

## **ABSTRACT**

This bachelor thesis deals with the development of the Sámi visual art in the context of the development of entire Sámi culture. The development is described from the end of the Stone Age to the present. The thesis focuses particularly on the period before the Christianisation (i.e. until the end of the 17th century), when the art was deeply connected with the then religious and mythological ideas and then on the 20th and 21st century when dominates efforts to deal with the harsh assimilation policy developed by majority nations and demonstrate own identity and ethnic peculiarity through the art. Further attention is paid to globalization and tourism which are contradictory factors.

### **Key words:**

Sámi, visual arts, culture, mythology, religion, globalization, cultural identity