

Abstract

Diploma thesis with the topic *Illustration cycle in print called Pán rady (1505)* deals with issue of illustration in old printed books, but also in wider perspective with text, its history and its mediation via manuscripts and print. Art-historical background of the author is combined with informations from other disciplines like library science, history of literature and history.

As woodcuts are known as an import from Strassbourg, formal analysis is focused on finding parallels in local illustrated books production. Surprisingly one of the models used for woodcuts is copperplate by Dutch engraver known as Master FVB.

There are several specifics when iconography of woodcuts is concerned. In the first place are all the allegorical figures depicted as male – despite the fact that in most other artworks is Fortune and other figures traditionally shown as female. Other interesting aspect is lack of female element on the illustrations at all, with one exception where depicted woman is most likely prostitute. This can be explained as an awareness of the strict morals utraquistic townsmen in Prague.

There are quite a few parallels with contemporary tendencies in this sort of moralising literature and its influence on art. Illustrations from *Pán rady* are preceding popular protestant imaginary warning from heavy drinking and other secular vices. Also reminding people of Last Judgement by confrontation with Death has a longer tradition in European christian imagery and with help of graphic medium became already at the beginning of the 16th century widely popular.

Keywords: profane illustration, old prints, Tiskař Pražské bible, Johannes Grüninger