

## **Abstract**

This thesis deals with the topic of Serbian painting at the beginning of 20th century, specifically Impressionism. The text outlines the situation of Serbian painting at the end of 19th century and general tendencies of traditional artists to paint monumental historic topics. The paper captures impulses which bring the Serbian painting from old historicism to modern European level. The key moments are an opening of an art school in Belgrade and education of young painters in European cities. The period of Serbian Impressionism is divided in a few stages. The inaugural stage is about searching the basic characteristics of impressionism, the next stage is characterized by the painters' confidence in their style and making real impressionistic artworks and at the last stage, a peak period of Impressionism, Kosta Miličević and Milan Milovanović paint their best paintings, outside of Serbian area. The paper continues with an analysis of the public opinion and an opinion of experts after the end of the period.

At the end of this thesis the attention is payed to the contact between Czech and Serbian Impressionism, mainly to Cyril Kutlík, Czech founder of the art school in Serbia and to a Kosta Miličević who studied in Prague and was influenced by the city.