

## **ABSTRACT**

Vitaliano Brancati was a Sicilian prosaist, playwright and essayist. The Czech reader knows him mainly as an author of *The Handsome Antonio*, the only novel translated into Czech so far. Brancati is a writer of the first half of the 20th century. In his work he utilized his own experience with fascism—youth passion, succeeded by disappointment, scepticism, and gradual transition into open anti-fascist positions in a completely idiomatic style. He can be undoubtedly considered one of the continuators of modern narrators who contributed to the formation of the image of Sicily not only at home but abroad as well. Due to the autobiographical character of Brancati's works, the first part of the thesis is concerned with Brancati's life story under historical circumstances. The core of the thesis is the analysis of Brancati's most popular novels, which due to the common theme of gallism are often considered as a trilogy: *Don Juan in Sicily*, *The Handsome Antonio* and *Hot Paolo*. Based on this analysis, we present, at the end of the thesis, a picture of the "Brancatian" Sicily.