

## **9. Abstract**

This thesis deals with the use of determiners in proper names concerning visual art. Proper names are expressions that can comprise one or more words, either a common or a proper noun head with common or proper noun dependents. Although they have an internal structure that can be analysed as a structure of a common noun phrase, the structure of proper names is unchangeable since they function as a single grammatical and semantic unit. The reference of proper names is limited to non-generic situational reference. They refer directly to a particular person or object uniquely recoverable in the situation. Generally, the use of articles with proper names is limited to the definite or the null article (which is distinguished from the zero article).

Examples demonstrating the use of determiners with proper names concerning art were excerpted from contemporary British art magazines. The excerpts were divided into seven semantic categories, most of which have not been covered, with respect to the use of articles, by any representative English grammar. The examples were analysed and described and conclusions were drawn. However, the results of this thesis cannot be considered as a set of clear-cut rules but rather an outline of tendencies in the use of articles with several semantically distinguished classes of proper names.