

## **ABSTRACT:**

This dissertation *Far East Motifs in the Works of Selected Authors at the Turn of the 19th and 20th Century* deals with works written by Julius Zeyer, Jiří Karásek ze Lvovic and Josef (Joe) Hloucha. The thesis analyses selected works from the viewpoint of typical motifs and themes. It pursues to depict different authorial images of Far East and to find out why are these authors so fascinated by this region. Some motifs are characteristic for all the authors: *love; art and beauty; fairy tale and dream*.

*Spirituality* is characteristic for Julius Zeyer – his “renewed pictures” direct the reader to think about the values that are worth searching – regardless where or when we live.

Jiří Karásek ze Lvovic uses Far East surrounding to run away from monotonous reality. In his play *Dream of the Empire of Beauty* he wants to create a symbol depicting his own soul. His typical motifs are *secret* and *individuality*.

Hloucha’s Far East image is based on real facts. Cognitive function is many times more significant than aesthetic. His typical motif is *Europeanism*. Among others he is the only one who confronts the Asian surrounding with the European. In his works he often uses the techniques of lowbrow literature – especially love novel – that possibly caused his enormous popularity among female readers of his time.

## **KEYWORDS:**

Julius Zeyer; Jiří Karásek ze Lvovic; Josef (Joe) Hloucha; typical motifs; Far East image