

The thesis is focused on the Italian period of Bartholomeus Spranger's life, on his artistic development during that time and on the artworks that he created there. Italy of the second half of the 16<sup>th</sup> century became Spranger's home for ten years. As well as many other artists Spranger set out for a journey to get to know the greatest Italian masterpieces and primarily to gain new and valuable experience. The first opportunity to work waited for him in Parma, but without any doubt, the most important sojourn for him was Rome. Not only did he have the possibility to be inspired by all the masterpieces and masters themselves, but he also had the opportunity to work for the patrons such as cardinal Alessandro Farnese and the pope Pius V. To the imperial court in Vienna, and then Prague, he came as an experienced artist and the Italian sojourn certainly played major role in it. This topic has not been comprehensively compiled in the Czech language so far.