

Abstract

The thesis focuses on the history of the puppet Theatre Drak in Hradec Králové, with the main emphasis on comparing the period of the so-called normalization and transformation in the first years after 1989. The aim is to find out how the given political and social events were reflected in the functioning of the particular theatre institution. The focus of this thesis is interviews with former and current employees of the Drak Theatre. The main method in the treatment of the topic is oral history, which is supplemented by knowledge from archival sources from the State Regional Archive in Zámrsk and available literature. The empirical part is divided according to the main research areas, which include the internal affairs of the Drak Theatre, its external relations and reflections on the different stages of the theatre's development. These areas are further structured into thematic chapters that discuss the workload and conditions, collective, dramaturgy, audience, publicity, relations with other theatres, foreign countries and the communist regime. Within each of the chapters, a comparison is made between the two periods examined and a description of the changes that have occurred. This thesis seeks to capture the varied range of changes through the eyes of the narrators. The ambition of this thesis has not been to draw any firm conclusions, but rather to provide alternative ways of looking at the issue.

Keywords:

Drak Theatre, puppet theatre, so-called normalization, year 1989, 1990's, oral history