

## **Abstract**

The poetics of Prague *milongas* (tango parties) in their interconnectedness with a translocal phenomenon of *tango argentino* is the object of this Ph.D. thesis. Relationships between global and Prague tango are traced in the perspective of the motif of ‘meeting’ (Bakhtin 1975), while the concept of soundscape (Shelemay 2006) is used to explore the fluid life of the Prague tango community. Descriptions of dance interactions emphasize qualitative aspects of movement (Novack 1990; Sklar 2001) and a reflexive approach to ethnography helps to distinguish between the researcher’s subjective impressions and the impressions of the actors of this research. The ethnographic study concludes that the poetics of the tango is a poetics of experience and that the specificity of the ritual technique (Augé 1999) of Prague tango lies in the measuredness of regular encounters, the carnivalesque nature of sporadic larger events, the active appropriation of urban locations, and the communal response to changes in the surrounding world that can be both protest and reflexive.

**Key words:** anthropology, poetics of dance, Prague *milongas*, translocal phenomenon of tango, motif of the „meeting“, soundscape.