

Abstract (english):

This diploma thesis analyzes texts of selected Bakhtin's circle's members: Mikhail Mikhailovich Bakhtin, Pavel Nikolajevich Medvedev and Valentin Nikolajevich Voloshinov. The thesis deals with their thinking in relation to the formalist-marxist polemics, which was concerned mainly with the questions of literature's nature, function and evolution; it also thematized the relationship between content and form. We are interested primarily in the question whether the concepts of Bakhtin's circle's members, such as heteroglossia, ideology or social evaluation, can be understood as a synthesis of the different approaches represented by formalism and marxism, since it is on this question that academics often disagree. At the same time, in applying this perspective, various similarities emerge with the approaches on which Marxists and Formalists have drawn and to which they have responded (albeit often critically). These include in particular the linguistic theories of Alexander Afanasievitch Potebnja, the aesthetics of Immanuel Kant, Wilhelm Friedrich Gottfried Hegel, and nineteenth-century Russian social criticism. This paper therefore traces a history of thought that is relevant to both: the polemic's participants and the members of Bakhtin's circle, and seeks to find and specify the relationships between the concepts.