

1.04 Strokovni članek

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Leposlovje Janeza Evangelista Kreka

Ob stoletnici smrti

IZVLEČEK

V osebnosti Janeza E. Kreka se združujeta in si prizadevata za prevlado družboslovno-politična in literarno-estetska komponenta, ki je v dosedanjih razpravah zanemarjena. Značilno je, da se je udeleževal v vseh treh glavnih literarnih zvrsteh: pripovedništvu, dramatiki in pesništvu. Svojih leposlovnih del ni utegnil izoblikovati, vendar je v vseh treh zvrsteh dosegal tako idejno poglobljenost kakor tudi izvrstne estetske učinke. Posebej je treba opozoriti na roman »Iz nove dobe«, na zadnjo dramo »Ob vojski« in na domovinsko pesem »Naša je ljubezen stalna ...«.

KLJUČNE BESEDE

Janez Evangelist Krek, leposlovje, dramatika, pesništvo, pripovedništvo

ABSTRACT

LITERATURE OF JANEZ EVANGELIST KREK ON THE ANNIVERSARY OF HIS DEATH

*The personality of Janez E. Krek combines two competitive components, the social-political and literary-aesthetic, which have so far escaped scholarly attention. Krek tended to be productive in all main three literary genres: storytelling, drama, and poetry. Albeit not able to bring his literary writings to perfection, he accomplished in all three genres both an ideational depth and excellent aesthetic effects. Special mention ought to be made of the novel *Iz nove dobe*, his last play *Ob vojski*, and the patriotic poem *Naša je ljubezen stalna...**

KEY WORDS

Janez Evangelist Krek, literature, drama, poetry, prose

tu čez prepade kože skačejo,
kjer ni stezice.
In ljubka slast me napolnjuje
in srčna bolečina kljuje.

Pritožbe grenke šepetam
zemljé domače,
zaupam triglavskim goram,
kako ta plače.
In zdi se mi, da vse skalovje
z menoj vred moli za domovje.

In zdaj, moj duh, zapluj z gore
med bratov četo,
utrudi jih in vžgi srce
za pravo sveto!
Ko bomo narod iz granita,
vzžari nam zarja zmagovita.
Z goré, z goré.

Na koncu naj opozorim, da so v Selcih v jubilej-
nem letu, ko je stoletnica Krekove smrti, izdali *Kre-
kovo knjigo*. Nastala je na pobudo krajevnih ljubite-
ljev in pod uredništvom domačina Franca Pfajfarja.
Z izdajo te knjige so napravili pomemben korak ter
preseglj sedanje mrtvilo osrednjih slovenskih založb
in ustanov. V tej knjigi so objavljene tri Krekove igre
(*Turški križ*, *Tri sestre*, *Sveta Lucija*) ter izbor osmih
Krekovih osebnih in družbenih pesmi. Krekove igre
so ponatisnjene kot preslikave prvih izdaj, pesmi pa
so bile računalniško pretipkane, pri čemer se je vti-
hotapilo nekaj napak. Kljub temu čestitam Krekovi
domovini Selca, da je izdala to knjigo in pripravila
»Krekovo leto« s številnimi prireditvami.

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S U M M A R Y

Literature of Janez Evangelist Krek On the anniversary of his death

The literature of Janez Evangelist Krek (1865–1917) and the aesthetic component of his personality were highly acclaimed by Ivan Dolenc, Izidor Cankar, Josip Abram, France Terseglav, Taras Kermauner, and Matjaž Kmecl. Ivan Dolenc reprinted a series

of Krek's writings in *Izbrani spisi* [*Selected Texts*] and Vinko Brumen did likewise; however, their editions are not complete and a contemporary independent edition of his literature is yet to be produced. Moreover, research should also be made regarding which unsigned literary texts may have been written by Krek – for instance, several texts under the heading »Entertainment« in the newspaper *Glasnik*.

Krek's drama comprises eight plays. At first, he wrote farces and comedies, and later on historical plays and melodramas. The last Krek's play, *Ob vojski*, currently published under the title *Ko je vojna* [*War-time*], is his swansong, so to speak; it is, exceptionally, set not in the Selca Valley but Šentjanž in Lower Carniola, where Krek died.

Given that Krek's prose (with the most comprehensive novel *Iz nove dobe* [*From the New Era*], published in 1893 in the review *Dom in svet*) is similar to that of Ivan Cankar, it is possible and even necessary to draw a comparison between the two authors and study them side by side, as was already pointed out by Anton Slodnjak. The novella *Mati* [*Mother*]

distinguishes itself by its introductory description of the real and psychological events as well as reporting, and then abruptly concludes with a bare storyline, without developing it in the sense of Dickens's major works.

Krek's poetry, which is also used in his drama, refers to Slovenian folk poetry (for example, *Pesem izseljenčeva* [*An Emigrant's Song*]), draws on Southern Slav and particularly Ukrainian poetry. Most noteworthy are Krek's autobiographical poems on his mother and occasional political poems, some of which are linguistically awkward. However, one of these poems, published in 1899, contains a genuine poetic gem that has no title and begins with the line: "Stalna je ljubezen naša, kot so naše gore stalne..." [Our love is as steadfast as are our mountains...] This six-line patriotic mountaineering poem, with which Krek reached or even surpassed the lyric quality of Oton Župančič, is suitable to be inscribed in the new monument to the victims of all wars in the Congress Square in Ljubljana.