ŽGANEC’S WAY OF PUBLICATION OF SONG TEXTS

SUMMARY

This paper deals with Žganec’s noting down and publication of texts in a period spanning six decades. It shows Žganec’s efforts to collect material, at least enough for one song book, from each and every one of the administrative districts or kotars, so that those collections would document the musical folklore of all of Croatia. In these endeavours, Kuhat’s notes were often his first recourse, from pointing out numerous variants from Kuhat’s collections (of both tunes and texts), to presentation in full of Kuhat’s notations in his collection. Through Žganec’s particular interest in Medimurje, Zagorje and Podravina, his work and his collections supplement Kuhat’s collection, Južno-slovenske narodne pjesme (Southern-Slavic Folk Songs), in which songs from those regions were not represented to any extent. Thus, Žganec in fact introduced to oral poetry a major body of kajkavian songs which certainly deserved to be included, from the aspect of their musical and poetic qualities.

Efforts are made in the paper to draw attention to the breadth of scopes of the songs chosen, their regional, thematic and functional variety, and the poetic quality of the verse. Notation of the songs demonstrates continual oral transmission, with partial variation, of course, over the breadth of Croatia, and the conscientious search made for variants in numerous song books and collections, and the skilful and correct notation of authentic informers, these features being characteristics of all Žganec’s collections.