

## The Woman – Mesner / Kolombar, Kraljević, Kirchner

In this culturological paper I have tried to point out how the woman motif links four expressionist contemporaries, given the recognition and contextualization of the region they come from. Three female characters (Višnja, Pola and Bembi) in the novel "Painful Childhood", by Ivan Mesner, own their narrative lives which are determined by their character, social status and poetic-style determinants. These characters enable the paper to establish a cross-media connection with the paintings of Kolombar, Kraljević and Kirchner, where the strongest link is the harlot Bembi.

**Key words:** women, expressionism, Ivan Mesner, Tomislav Kolombar, Miroslav Kraljević, Ernst Ludwig Kirchner