

Summary

Lucija Ožegović- Life and Career Marked by the Role of Mother

Key words: Lucija Ožegović, HNK (Croatian National Theatre), Ivan Ožegović, opera, repertory

The focus of interest in this survey is the work of Lucija Ožegović who was an opera singer in the Croatian National Theatre in Zagreb. In order to analyse the repertory, roles and significance of the artist for Croatian reproductive art starting before and lasting till shortly after the Second World War, it was necessary to browse through sources kept in the archives of the Department for Theatrical History at the Croatian Academy of Arts and Sciences (HAZU), paying attention to theatrical papers from 1922-1952 and newspaper reviews of the same period.

Despite being a recognized and experienced singer, Lucija Ožegović had to prove and rebuild her musical expression upon coming to Zagreb. Sometimes the reviews she got were not favourable but she was persistent and hard-working. This all made her a reliable, firm interpreter who precisely created every role, whether main or bit part, and the one who was devoted not only to music but to acting as well. At the peak of her career, in 1931/32 and 1933/34 she used to sing in over twenty different performances per season, of which three were opening nights. During and immediately after the war she remained equally convincing although privately she was passing through a difficult time.

Although never regarded as a star, in 35 years of her artistic career (more than 25 in HNK), Lucija Ožegović left an unavoidable mark on Zagreb stage.