Female klapa leaders, composers and arrangers in the Festival of Dalmatian klapas in Omiš (1967. – 2015.)

For the first time in our ethnomusicological literature, in this paper the author presents female klapa leaders, composers and arrangers that actively participated in the Festival of Dalmatian klapas in Omiš. The paper also presents the participation and activities of women in the Festival, since its beginnings to 2015, first as leaders, then composers and only recently, as arrangers of klapa songs. There were only 24% of female leaders but the number has been increasing in recent years. The presence of women composers in the Omiš Festival has not been significant and, except for a few, has not been recognised any further. As arrangers, women have been present in the last twenty years. However, nowadays, there are an increasing number of female arrangers who completed musical education at Music Academy, and they are professionally engaged.

Key words: women leaders, composers and arrangers, Festival of Dalmatian klapas in Omiš