SUMMARY

Music and Politics. The Influence of Political Circumstances on the Musical Life in Zadar in the Second Half of the 19th Century

The following text will present the musical life of Zadar in the second half of the 19th century in relation to the contemporary political turmoil. For this purpose, the activities of two major music societies (Zadar Philharmonic and Croatian singing society Zoranić) will be analysed in the framework of their national orientation. Although these companies promoted different cultural and national ideology, for decades they connected, especially the Philharmonic, citizens of different ethnic origin, contributed to the professionalization of musical activities and to vivid musical life of the small Dalmatian town. Studying diverse historiographical and archival documents, according to a well-defined plan of case study research strategy, allowed following the cultural and artistic activity through a network of social activities, but also through individual levels and ideological contexts. This paper, therefore, in accordance with the postmodernist tendencies that are ‘interested’ also in minorities, outsiders and in all those that the modern historiography has ignored for years, is an attempt to consider the extent of political influence on the musical life of Zadar society (individuals and music companies), but also on the daily lives of the then cultural citizens.

Key words: musical life in Zadar, 19th century, politics and music, Zadar Philharmonics Orchestra, Zoranić