

Ines Kajdiž, univ. bacc. hist. art. et univ. bacc. philol. angl.  
University of Zadar

## „THE BAPTISMAL FONT OF DUKE VIŠESLAV“ - PROBLEMS OF THE ORIGIN AND DATING

### Summary

The baptismal font containing the name of duke Višeslav, discovered in the Capucin monastery in Venice during the 19th century, is still of great interest to a number of scholars. The reason for this is the inscription with the names of priest John, who donated the monument and duke Višeslav, whose name was used as time reference in the inscription. The attempt of identification of duke Višeslav was one of the first problems that scholars faced and one of the causes which led to the wrong interpretations related to the origin as well as dating. A better insight in different approaches has been achieved through the research of the literature that deals with this topic. Some of the approaches led to the important findings, while other led to completely wrong conclusions. Question related to the origin of this monument prompted many discussions due to the fact that some of the scholars have considered the town of Nin to be the right answer, while others have claimed the Venetian origin to be the accurate one. However, the theory of Venetian origin entails a reevaluating of the facts about Croatian history and cultural heritage. Thus, it is not surprising that the interest in this topic is still present among scholars.

**Keywords:** baptismal font; baptistery; duke Višeslav; priest John; Venice; Nin