

*SUMMARY***THE COLLECTION OF MEDALS AND PLAQUES OF THE  
ENGINEER DRAGUTIN MANDL**

The collection of the engineer Dragutin Mandl is a systematic assemblage of Croatian medals from the mid-nineteenth to the mid-twentieth century, or those made by Croatian artists. Dragutin Mandl was an active member of the Croatian Numismatic Society, in which he gave a lecture about the technique of making medals and plaques only two months before his death on 27 April 1959. He collected medals, plaques and pins and data about them tirelessly and carefully. The result of his life's work as a collector and scholar in medal production is a fine collection of more than three thousand objects that no study of Croatian medals can leave out. Two thirds of the collection is medals and plaques, the rest are pins (mostly), coins, orders and counters. They are made of various metals, mostly of bronze, but there are also pieces that are silvered, gilded, enamelled, made of aluminium, lead, tombac, white metal, war metal. A few are not made of metal but of plaster of Paris or ivory. There are reduced and unreduced medals, and also stencils. Many of the objects are represented in several variants, of different workmanship, size, material or kind, colour of patina.

The collection also shows a section through the history of Croatian medal-making. It has works from all periods: from baroque and neo-historicism through Art Nouveau and new realisms, right down to 1959. It only lacks some of the earliest works from the Renaissance period. As a whole the collection has exceptional historical and art value and some of its objects belong to the peak realisations of Croatian medal production.

The Modern Gallery in Zagreb has housed the Collection of Engineer Dragutin Mandl for almost four decades. The collection was shown to the public for the first time in a memorial exhibition and catalogue to commemorate the 50th anniversary of Mandl's death. It has been almost completely studied. All that remains is to ensure an appropriate display for the objects and make the collection permanently accessible to the professional and general public, which will satisfy our obligation to Croatian medal art and Dragutin Mandl.