Summary

THE 90TH ANNIVERSARY OF JOSIP HATZE’S OPERA ADEL I MARA: OLD AND NEW APPROACHES TO THE CROATIAN OPERA MASTERPIECE

On the occasion of the 90th anniversary of the opera Adel i Mara, this most important work of Josip Hatze has been analysed from the point of view of the libretto by Branko Radica and the most important musical features. The libretto was largely based on Luka Botić’s poem Bijedna Mara, not only in the plot of the opera, but also as a poetic starting point of Romanticism beliefs. With the set ideals of love, freedom and patriotism, this view of the true poetic model of Hatze’s opera goes far beyond the usual musical performances of Adel i Mara, in which the emphasis is often placed on religious differences between the main characters as a basis for conflict, which is a (superficially) set dramatization framework. The musical content is viewed from the point of view of the existence of clear elements of musical contrast and musical unity and reaffirms the features of Josip Hatze’s compositional poetics, similar to some earlier analytical interpretations of his operas, cantatas and solo songs in Croatian musicological literature.

Keywords: Josip Hatze, Adel i Mara, libretto, musical features