

Summary

The study presents the life and work of Zofia Jachimecka (1886–1973), a translator, living and working in Cracow, of more than one hundred Italian and French dramas. Besides her professional activity she was a hostess of one of the most famous artistic salons in Cracow, which she led with her husband Zdzisław Jachimecki who was the head of the first university department of musicology established in Poland.

The study was based on a collection of documents gathered in Jachimeckis' apartment including private and official correspondence (1901–1973), manuscripts of translations, and many other documents pertaining to her life history. The majority of the handwritten sources used in the study are being revealed for the first time. Because of the documents' dispersal research was conducted in various libraries including PAN/PAU Library, Archive and Library of Slowacki Theater, etc.

The method applied in the study was based on archival research. The results are presented on a background of the cultural life and history of Cracow at that time. The full context was reconstructed using written memoirs, newspapers, and scientific reviews.

The study consist of eight chapters in chronological order. The first is a description of Cracow in the autonomy period (1866–1914), the environment of Jachimecka's childhood and youth, which shaped her individuality to some degree. The second chapter presents her private life, her family, childhood, education and the beginnings of her acquaintance with Zdzisław Jachimecki. The next chapter is devoted to the early years of their marriage and their life in a time between wars with a particular focus on their social life, their artistic salon and its guests. The fourth chapter includes a piece of information about theater in Poland and Italy in the first half of the twentieth century. The fifth one concerns itself with Zofia Jachimecka's translating career pre-1939. The sixth chapter presents her life during the war (1939–1945) and the next one describes the years after the end of the war. The last chapter contains works from the Jachimecki's private collection, their library, including documents which Zofia Jachimecka tried to save from being destroyed during the last years of her life.

Zofia Jachimecka has not been an object of any scientific research up until this time which gives this study a crucial advantage in expanding on the knowledge of her role in the cultural life of her time.

Key words: Zofia Jachimecka, theater, Pirandello, Goldoni, artistic salon, Cracow.