

## **Architect Richard Ferdinand Podzemný – work of the interwar period**

### **Abstract**

Present thesis offers a study into the early work of Richard Ferdinand Podzemný (1907-1987), an important protagonist of a younger generation of interwar architectural avant-garde. Structured around an approximate decade between R. F. Podzemný's studies and the close of the 1930s, the thesis' aim is a contextualized overview of the architect, his projects, both proposals and built work, so as to distinguish his working methods and applied processes in their historical specificity, and that of the development of functionalism in Czechoslovakia. The main areas of interest are the life and career of R. F. Podzemný, the importance of his tutelage at the Industrial school at Valašské Meziříčí and his subsequent studies of architecture with Pavel Janák at the Academy of Applied Art in Prague, the issue of minimal housing planning, private residential projects and competition entries for public development with stress on medical facilities. Finally, close attention is given to the outstanding project of the Residential building of the Landesbank, colloquially dubbed "the Glass Palace" or "Skleňák", and its reverberances throughout the end of the 1930s.