

in the Czech art of the first half of the twentieth century. As the mystic I define this artist, who dedicates his entire life to searching for God- in aU of his forms.

In the introduction Before the Start I sketch the spiritual milieu of the time.

In the first chapter Images of Gods I demonstrate the contemporary prototype of the mystical fluctuate person comparing two artists: Rudolf Adámek and Josef Váchal, who were both deeply involved in many occultism organizations.

The second chapter The Way to the Hereafter speaks comprehensively about the movement of the spiritualism in Bohemia in those days. I focus on the artists, who actively participated in spiritual séances, often having even played the role of spiritual medium.

The third chapter The Way to the East deals with the oriental philosophies, which thanks to the doctrine of H.P. Blavatsky entered into the lives of many Czech artists. They started to practise yoga, studied buddhism and meditate. The new life style influenced also their art.

In the last, fourth chapter The Mystical Ladder I tried to describe the way of the mystic - artist step by step from the mental state of spiritual beginner to that of the enlightened person.

In conclusion I shortly compare the temperaments of the artists, whose lives and artistic works helped me to reconstruct the fascinating mystic journey.