

Summary

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The art of unfulfillment. Anna Iwaszkiewicz's formative biography

This dissertation is devoted to the writing of Anna Iwaszkiewicz viewed from the perspective of literature studies. The main thesis is that she was a writer, translator and literary critic who, due to limitations: social, cultural and personal, could not fully realize her artistic potential. For this reason, she took on an unproductive role.

The starting point of the work is the assumption that her life requires a new model of biography, because the classic biography is subordinated to the figure of the male creator and his literary work. Anna Iwaszkiewicz's work requires a different point of view and the inclusion of other, usually omitted elements: translations, documents, notes and memes. This results from the complex nature of her creative work.

The following chapters combine chronological and problematic order to show the complex factors that shaped the writer's spiritual construction. By presenting her childhood and her groundbreaking stay in Moscow in her youth, I show the sources of what shaped her: the literature of Romanticism and Modernism, the experience of music, and Catholic religiosity. The following chapters discuss the subsequent stages of her life. They also lead through Iwaszkiewicz's most important writings: diaries, translations, essays on the works of Marcel Proust and Joseph Conrad, texts, a book on religious animals, notes on the development of children. In analyzing them, I apply ideas from the area of the new humanities: feminism, constructivism, narrative studies, animal studies. This shows the complexity of her artistic activity and, at the same time, the potential that could not be realized due to various limitations.

The work ends with information on the reception of the writer's work and an annex containing her never-published letters and notes.