

Czech and Croatia – cooperation on early production of recorded sound

ABSTRACT

Traces of cooperation between Croatia and Czech R., from the Croatian side can be found in the existing modest literature on the first years of recorded sound in Croatia, as well as in articles in periodicals at the time and a review of available archival sources.

As a participant of the scientific project on Croatian industry of gramophone records (The record industry in Croatia from 1927 to the end of the 1950s), I made the first comprehensive research in Prague to trace the bilateral links of Croatian Edison Bell Penkala, Elektroton and Czech gramophone companies (Esta, Ultraphon etc.); companies that recorded Croatian artists before EBP; and cooperation of Czech Gramofonove zavody and Jugoton at the beginning of its existence. With kind permission of colleagues, I also got the insight in available documentation and the results of their research for the project Novy Fonograf. Evidences were also found in Zagreb company Croatia Records (former Jugoton) and the Archive of Yugoslavia in Belgrade.

With the presentation I will try to explain the flow of cooperation among two countries on production of shellac gramophone recordings, in the time of big wars and turbulent political changes.

