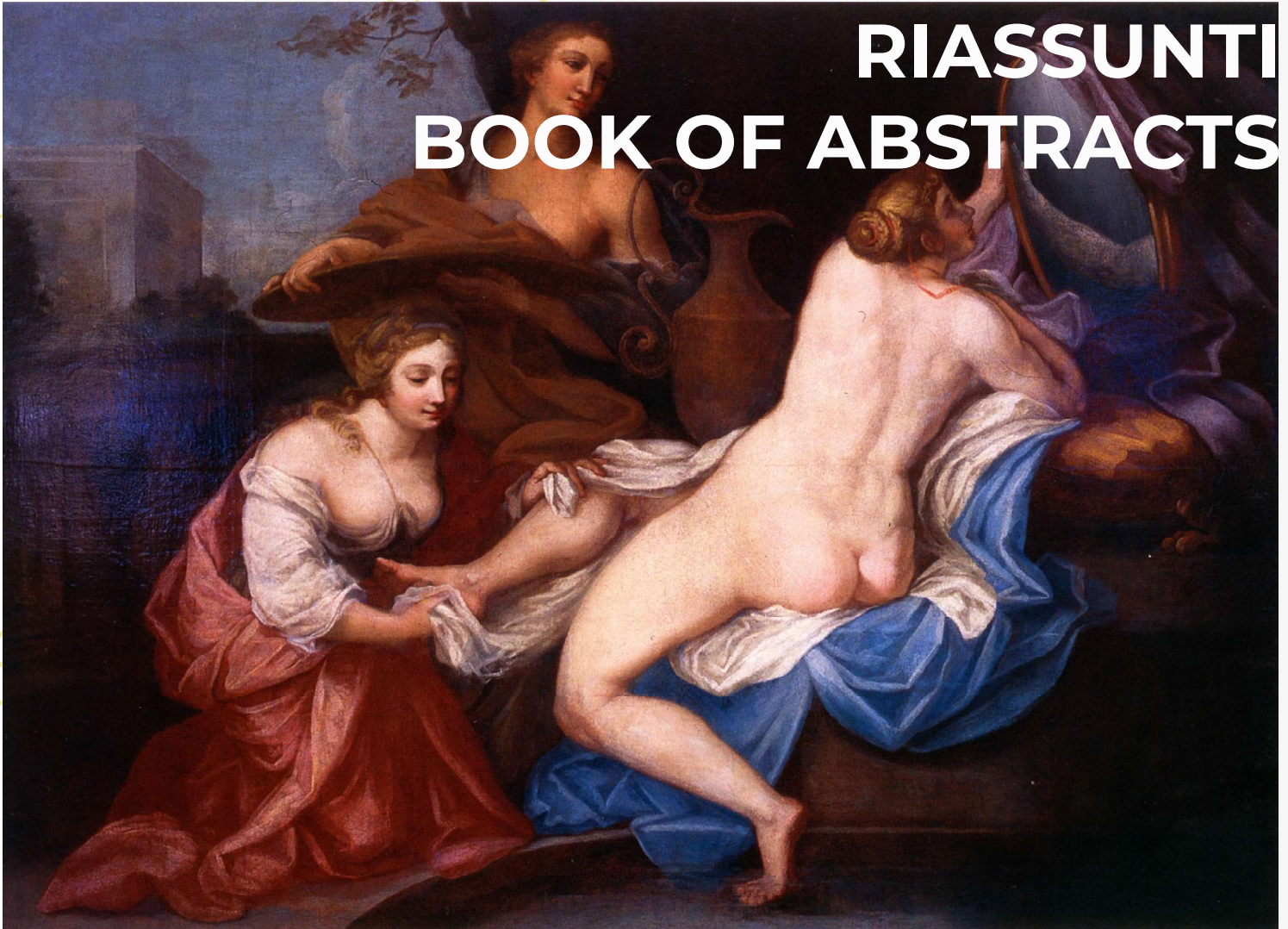


*Corpus, carnalitas...:*

*o tijelu i tjelesnosti u povijesti na jadranskom prostoru  
corpo e corporeità nella storia dell'area adriatica  
The Body and Corporality in the History of the Adriatic*

# KNJIGA SAŽETAKA LIBRO DEI RIASSUNTI BOOK OF ABSTRACTS



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## Staro telo: medicinski pogled 19. stoletja

Razumevanje procesa staranja je bilo vselej povezano z očitno transformacijo človeškega telesa, ki je – s slabšanjem delovanja čutil, krhkostjo kosti, spreminjanjem fizionomije idr. –

postopoma postajalo neprivlačno, oslabelo, šibko, slabo funkcionalno, nereproduktivno, naposled pa ga je čakal neizogibni propad. S koreninami v galenovski naravni filozofiji in humoralni patologiji je zahodna medicinska misel staranje telesa razlagala s postopno izsušitvijo zaradi zmanjšanja naravne toplote, kar naj bi ogrozilo temeljno ravnovesje telesnih sokov.

Tudi v 19. stoletju je bila ta doktrina v veliki meri temeljna za razlago staranja. V prispevku bodo iz teoretičnih poljudno-znanstvenih razprav o zdravju in podaljšanju življenja izluščene percepcije, povezane s starajočim se telesom ter človekovo zmožnostjo vpliva na upočasnitev procesa staranja preko metodičnega načina življenja. Pogosto pripisan vzrok smrti pri starostnikih, ki je označeval telesno oslabelost, je bil marasmus senilis, čeprav je hiranje lahko izviralo iz različnih kroničnih bolezenskih stanj.

Na primeru vzrokov smrti ostarelih v Kopru v drugi polovici 19. stoletja bo prispevek skušal uokviriti bolezenska stanja v starosti. Obenem bodo opazovani diskurzi, vezani na oslabelo telo ter različne hitrosti staranja z ozirom na spol in stan, ki lahko razkrijejo raznolike podobe staranja.

## The Old Body: Nineteenth-Century Medical Perspective

Understanding the ageing process has always been associated with the obvious transformation of the human body, which – through the deterioration of the functioning of the senses, the fragility of bones, changes in the physiognomy, etc. – gradually becomes unattractive,

weakened, frail, poorly functioning, non-reproductive, finally awaiting the inevitable decay. With roots in Galenic natural philosophy and humoral pathology, Western medical discoveries described the ageing of the body by gradual dehydration due to a decrease in natural heat, which is thought to compromise the fundamental balance of bodily fluids.

Even in the nineteenth century, this doctrine was fundamental to the interpretation of ageing. This article extracts the perceptions related to the ageing body and human ability to delay the ageing process through a methodical lifestyle from theoretical popular science discussions on health and prolonging life. A commonly attributed cause of death in the elderly characterised by physical weakness was marasmus senilis, although atrophy may have originated from a variety of chronic medical conditions. This article outlines old age conditions using the examples of causes of death of the elderly in Koper in the second half of the nineteenth century.

At the same time, discourses related to the weakened body and gender- and status-related ageing differences are observed, which can reveal diverse images of ageing.





## **Telo reveža v kontekstu institucionalne podpore**

Družbeni odnos do revežev v marsičem zaznamuje odnos družbe do njihovega telesa. Osebe označene kot reveži so pripadale različnim starostnim in družbenim skupinam in v mnogih primerih so ravno telesne značilnosti definirale "prave" in "neprave" reveže. Revež s krepkim telesom je dolgo predstavljal politični in moralni termin, ki je zaznamoval človeka, ki ni bil: star, invaliden, otrok ali šibak zaradi dolgotrajne smrtonosne bolezni. Prek kontekstualizacije gradiva nastalega v kontekstu ubožne oskrbe v začetku 19. stoletja to podobo bistveno dopolni. Telo reveža je bilo v kontekstu ubožne oskrbe njegova osebna izkaznica: verjetno je koreninila v obstoječem teoretičnem razumevanju telesa kot skupka različnih sistemov, ki morajo biti v ravnovesju, da je to zdravo. Zdravstvena praksa, ki ji sledimo v kontekstu institucionalizirane ubožne oskrbe, je pogosto definirala institucionalni odziv na revščino, ki je bil selektiven in se je odzival na družbene, zdravstvene in moralne izzive skupnosti, ki ga je vzpostavila. Odnos do telesa reveža, ki se vzpostavlja in postavlja v ospredje v kontekstu ubožne oskrbe v prvi polovici 19. stoletja, razkriva programe militarizacije, politizacije, racionalizacije, urjenja, medikanalizacije zunanjih režimov, ki jim sledimo od konca 18. stoletja naprej.

## **The Body of the Poor in the Context of Institutional Support**

Public attitude towards the poor in many ways corresponds to the attitude of society towards their bodies. Persons labelled as poor belonged to different age and social groups, and in many cases, it was the physical characteristics that defined the "real" and "false" poor. A poor man with a strong body has long represented a political and moral term that identified a man who was not old, disabled, a child, or weak due to a long-lasting deadly disease. This image is significantly complemented by the contextualisation of documents dealing with poor relief in the early nineteenth century. The body of the poor was, in the context of poor relief, their identity: it probably took root in the existing theoretical understanding of the body as a set of different systems that must be in balance for it to be healthy.

The health practice we follow with regard to institutionalised poor relief often defined the institutional response to poverty, which was selective and responded to the social, health, and moral challenges of the community it established. The attitude towards the body of the poor, established and brought to the forefront in connection with poor relief in the first half of the nineteenth century, reveals the programmes of militarisation, politicisation, rationalisation, training and medicalisation of external regimes we follow from the end of the eighteenth century.

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