We are here today to celebrate this book, on which we have worked with Annick Auzimour over the past year.

The book is a revised version of my master's dissertation, which explores the memory of Suzanne Renaud and Bohuslav Reynek in France. That memory, as it exists today, would not be the same without the Romarin Association.

The book first traces the historical and cultural context that shaped the paths of the two artists, followed by their departure for Czechoslovakia, and the first attempts to bring their work back to light in France, particularly in the Dauphiné region.

Above all, however, the book focuses on the history of the Romarin Association: its beginnings, its founding and its activities. I decided to highlight some of the key events and publications, which you will discover as you read the book.

Annick has also added a separate photographic section, featuring portraits of you, the Association's members, and images from some of the events Romarin has organised.

I have tried to place this story in a broader context by drawing on a few theoretical ideas, including transcultural memory, the notions of canon and archive, and the ways memory is being transformed by digital media. This helped me understand that certain elements of culture – certain works or certain figures – may fall into oblivion, but can also be rediscovered and regain their place in our collective memory.

I hope you enjoy reading this book, that you may find something inspiring in it, or discover some moments in history that you didn't know about yet. Above all, I think it will allow you to see this story from a new perspective, through the eyes of someone who has only joined you fairly recently.

Writing this book and working with Annick taught me, above all, that it isn't only about 'saying yes to everything that comes along', but also about taking the initiative, launching worthwhile projects and wonderful encounters, and trusting others while remaining independent.

I would therefore like to thank Annick for this opportunity and for her trust.

Sára Endrová