

***1923-2023: Suzanne Renaud and Bohuslav Reynek
a Jewel of Franco-Czech Cultural Relations
Klenot francouzsko-českých kulturních vztahů***

One hundred years ago, Czech poet, translator and engraver Bohuslav Reynek (1892-1971) and French poet Suzanne Renaud (1889-1964) met each other in Grenoble. They got married and went to live in Petrkov, in Eastern Bohemia.

The creative couple became an emblem of Franco-Czech cultural relations. Suzanne and Bohuslav produced a rich body of literary and pictorial work, a common heritage of both their homelands long invisible due to the painful events of their times. The Czech government has just acquired the historic Reynek family home in the heart of the village of Petrkov to create a Czech-French cultural centre. An arch of living memory now links Grenoble and Petrkov.

The exhibition “*1923-2023: Suzanne Renaud and Bohuslav Reynek, a Jewel of Franco-Czech Cultural Relations*” features a selection of drawings, prints, rare books and manuscripts among the many items gathered over 100 years of friendship between Suzanne, Bohuslav and their friends from the Dauphiné region. Information panels written by the Petrkov Center trace milestones in the two artists’ lives, focusing on the themes of translation as a means of discovering writers and literature’s role in forging ties between countries, in this case with French authors such as Bernanos, Giono and Henri Pourrat, who were introduced to Czechoslovakia by Reynek.

To mark the centenary, Les éditions Romarin, a specialist in work by the two poets for thirty years, published *Suzanne Renaud, Lettres à ses amis tchèques (Letters to Czech Friends) – Dopisy českým přátelům (1934-1963)*, which reflects the harmony between two cultures.



Reynek family rue Lesdiguières, Grenoble (ca. 1935)