

Summary

There have been many translations of Christian Morgenstern's work and, in particular, of his "Galgenlieder" into Czech. The first translations appeared in magazines in the interwar period. "Palmström", translated by Ludvík Kundera (born 1920), was the first Czech translation of an entire collection of Morgenstern's poems. This book was published in 1944 in samizdat. Another samizdat version of "Palmström" appeared in 1951, translated by Egon Bondy (born Zbyněk Fišer, 1930 – 2007). The 1950's saw more translations of Morgenstern into Czech: by Josef Hiršal (1920 – 2003), Bohumila Grögerová (born 1921). These translations appeared in 1958, 1964, 1965 and 1971 and selections from them were published even afterwards. Translations by Emanuel Frynta (1923 – 1975) from the same period were included in the "Moudří blázni" anthology. Rudolf Havel (1920 – 1993) made his translations of Morgenstern in the 1970's and 1980's. They were published posthumously in 1996.

The aim of the present thesis is to examine the translation methods of the individual translators. It looks at 7 Poems ("Galgenbruder Frühlinglied", "Drei Hasen", "Die weggeworfene Flinte", "Die Brille", "Das Fest des Wüstlings", "Der Ginganz", "Der Mond") and their Czech translations.

Analysis of both translations by Egon Bondy shows substantial shifts in form and content. Three analysed translations by Emanuel Frynta have slight shifts in form, but manage to do justice to the idea of the respective poems. There are slight shifts in metre and rhyme pattern in the three analysed translations by Rudolf Havel; two of them succeed in rendering the phonological aspects of the original and remain faithful to the ideas of the individual poems. The seven translations by Josef Hiršal and Bohumila Grögerová contain few or no shifts in metre and rhyme pattern. Two of these translations render the form and content of the original poems faithfully. The other five have numerous shifts on the lexical level with impact on the content.

The four analysed translations by Ludvík Kundera contain only slight shift in form and render the content of the individual poems faithfully.