

This thesis, subtitled *Boundaries of Poetry – Boundaries of Translation*, examines the French poets who published their works in the post World War Two era. One of the aims has been to find out if these poets have been translated into Czech. The situation of the era seems to be a very special one: in the 1960's, more than 2000 poets published their poems in France; looking at Czech translation of French poetry, one may, however, get the impression that this was the era of only one French poet: Jacques Prévert. The term modern

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poetry itself also need clarification, as it is very often associated with poets of the 19th century (e.g. Charles Baudelaire, Stéphane Mallarmé).

The focus of this thesis lies on the 1960's, for several reasons: in terms of time, the decade lies quite close to present day; and yet, it still has the much desired distance, which allows for a more objective examination. The era is also special in terms of politics: the end of World War Two, the 1948 Communist Coup in Czechoslovakia, French colonial policy in Africa, and the socio-cultural upheaval and changes brought about by it, especially in 1968. Moreover, the conditions for the translation of Western literature into Czech were extremely favourable at that time – Stalin's death in 1953 was gradually followed by a period of détente, which peaked in the Pr

about almost total freedom, albeit only for a couple of months as it was violently interrupted by the arrival of Soviet armed forces. The present author also had to take into account the fact, that no thorough research has been done on French post World War Two poetry and its translation into Czech so far.