Abstract

The thesis deals with the history of Czech artistic translation in general and with the diachronic examination of Josef Hiršal’s translation method in the area of translation poetry from German in particular. In the sixties Josef Hiršal alongside with his life and artistic partner Bohumila Grögerová was the main promoter and initiator of experimental poetry in Czechoslovakia. He devoted to experiment not only in his own work but also in translation. It was to his merit that Czech readers could familiarize themselves with the work of current foreign experimental poets, both in anthologies and in independent collections. Speaking of German language area he was consistent in translating Ernst Jandl, Hans Carl Artmann and Helmut Heißenbüttel. The practical part of this work is dedicated to the analysis of translation of selected poems of the mentioned trio using the hermeneutical approach. Hiršal translated from the whole range of other languages (using language cooperation), thanks to which he left a remarkable trace in the history of Czech translation from the second half of the twentieth century. Interestingly enough, his contribution to translation has not yet been subjected to critical analysis. The thesis aims to cover at least partially Hiršal’s translation work, specifically in the area of experimental poetry where the quality of his translations remains unmatched. Josef Hiršal, thus, comes across as an ideal interpreter of experimental types of poetry.

Keywords

- Josef Hiršal (1920-2003), Czech poet and translator;
- Bohumila Grögerová (*1921), Czech poet, writer, translator, author of radio plays and children’s literature, cooperator of J. Hiršal;
- Experimental poetry, a poetry movement of the second half of the twentieth century;
- Translation – translating method, a critical evaluation of the translator’s contribution, hermeneutical approach towards translation analysis;
- Ernst Jandl (1925-2000), Austrian poet, playwright and writer;
- Helmut Heißenbüttel (1921-1996), German literary theoretician and writer;