

DISERTAČNÍ PRÁCE

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Jan Mergl

**Výtvarný vývoj produkce Harrachovské sklárny v Novém Světě
1850-1940**

**Art Development of the Production of the Harrach Glassworks
in Nový Svět 1850-1940**

Abstract

Vedoucí práce: Doc. PhDr. Jana Kybalová, CSc.

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ABSTRACT

Highly regarded throughout the world, Bohemian glass is also acknowledged as a cultural phenomenon in its own right and the Harrach glassworks in Nový Svět in Krkonoše indisputably ranks among the most accomplished companies that have had a determining influence on the world renown of Czech glassmaking. First documented in the early 18th century, the glassworks has been in existence for three hundred years. However, its prominent status among Bohemian producers of glass is not only due to its long history. What makes it noteworthy is its traditionally outstanding craftsmanship and technological facilities, and mainly its foresighted efforts to employ and further enhance diverse techniques in working with crystal and coloured glass. Thus, the factory was able to readily respond to the changes in the styles of glass as these developed from the 18th to the 20th centuries.

This work is the outcome of long-term, focused research of archival sources, especially the company's documents that have survived in unusually large numbers. The goal is to display a new, revealing and detailed survey of the Harrach production from the second half of 19th century up to year 1940.

Even in its initial phase, research confirmed the assumption that the primary benefit of studying the sources would be in tracking down information on which to base identification, systematic chronological classification and detailed analysis of individual objects, types and groups of manufactures, and the part played by and contribution of designers or collaborating firms. The findings from the sources were then combined with surveys and evaluations of the physical records of production - the Harrach glass artefacts in the collections in many Czech and foreign museums.

The project has resulted in a systematically subdivided art-historical analysis of Harrach glass of the periods of revival styles, orientalism, art nouveau and art deco. Special attention has been focused on the exhibitions in which the glassworks in the nineteenth century participated. This is because the preparation of exhibition collections progressively influencing the design of Harrach glass. We also highlight a number of individuals whose craft and artistic abilities helped to keep the Neuwelt glassworks consistently at the forefront of Bohemian and world glass production. The chapters dealing with the response to particular movements in style are accompanied by annotated catalogue with more than three hundred examples of decorative and drinking glassware.