THE CZECH LIBRARY (III)

Steffen Höhne

With volume 33, a collection of Jan Neruda’s travelogues, the “Tschechische Bibliothek” (Czech Library), a series of books which started back in 1990, is complete. The present, third part of our account of this great enterprise, which is aimed at offering German-speaking readers a grasp of the many forms and facets of Czech literature, offers a quick glance at the volumes added since 2003. They range from editions of letters by prominent authors or composers over anthologies to monographs by great authors such as Egon Hostovský, Richard Weiner or Jakub Demíl, all of whom are far too little known in Germany. With its concluding volumes, the “Czech Library” once more provides a kind of “grand tour,” comprising the very beginnings of Czech literature, the period of “national rebirth,” the avant-garde, samizdat literature and even very recent works – from Comenius’s “Labyrinth” of the world to contemporary poetry.

SILESIA - A CHALLENGE FOR POST-1989 CZECH HISTORIOGRAPHY

Jiří Knapík / Jaromíra Knapíková

Stating at the outset that there is a somewhat problematical notion, in modern Czech society, of Silesia as historically belonging to the Czech Republic, the authors examine the results of historical research on this topic since 1989. Since then, the topic of Silesia, particularly a closer look at its development and its importance in a national as well as a central European framework, has been an integral part of the quest for a new historical memory of society as a whole. The present contribution thus offers an annotated synopsis of important syntheses and encyclopaedic works concerning Silesia, published during the last 15 years by research groups and individual scholars affiliated with the Silesian Institute of the Czech Academy of Sciences, the Silesian Universities in Opava and Ostrava, some of them even with the Silesian historical society, Matice Slezská.