




Schronisko dla wiedzy, fot. Klaudia Kot

 In 2019, the Tatra Museum celebrates 130 years of existence. The idea of establishing the Tatra Museum was born in 1888 by a group of friends of the Warsaw doctor Tytus Chałubiński - a lover of the Tatra Mountains and its highlanders, and the discoverer of the healing values of the Tatra climate. We owe the opening of the Tatra Museum in Zakopane 130 years ago to enthusiasts who, through their determination, initiated unusual collections. The museum was initially only two rooms in the wooden house of Jan Krzeptowski on Krupówki Street; today the museum consists of eleven historic buildings housing both museums and art galleries. An important role in the development of the institution was played by, among others, the ethnographer Bronisław Piłsudski, the creator of the Zakopane style Stanisław Witkiewicz, Maria Skłodowska-Curie with her sister and sister's husband, Bronisława and Kazimierz Dłuski, and Count Władysław Zamoyski.

In the main building of the museum, in connection with this year's anniversary, the jubilee exhibition "A Shelter for Knowledge about the Tatra Mountains and Podhale" is presented until the end of December. It consists of selected items donated to the museum during the directorship of Juliusz Zborowski. These items were donated by scientists and amateurs who, through their activities, expanded the knowledge about this particular corner of Poland, its environment, its history and its culture.

In cooperation with the Alpine Museum (Musée Alpin) Chamonix-Mont-Blanc, we have on display posters on Krupówki Street in Zakopane. These posters, presented until the end of September, tell the story and development of this famous alpine town. The exhibition is organized as part of the IMMA partnership (International Mountain Museums Alliance).

The culmination of our anniversary celebration was the Tatra Museum Festival in July, during which thematic walks, meetings, and educational workshops took place. In the Gallery of 20th Century Art in the Oksza villa, we also opened an exhibition of twenty-one Tatra landscapes by Wojciech Weiss - fifteen of these works were purchased by the museum thanks to funding from the Culture Promotion Fund.

This year we also launched our portal, and thus we have made available more than two thousand archival photographs of the Tatra Mountains and life in the Tatras: among them photographs from Józef Oppenheim and Boris Wigilew, the oldest guidebooks on the Tatras, photographs by Eugeniusz Janota and Walery Eljasz-Radzikowski, maps, slides by Władysław Hasior, and paintings and graphics from the art department by Witkacy, Leon Chwistek, Stanisław Gałek, and Leon Wyczółkowski, among others.



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Muzeum Tatrzańskie im. Dra Tytusa Chałubińskiego w Zakopanem
 ul. Krupówki 10, 34-500 Zakopane, tel.: +48 18 20 152 05
www.muzeumtatrzańskie.pl