

Benedykt Henryk Tyszkiewicz

1

Lithuania
and France

Nov. 9th 2024...
Jan. 19th 2025
Opening
Friday
Nov. 22th
10.00 am

LA SAISON
DE LA
LITUANIE
2024

EN
FRANCE



musée
Nicéphore
Niépcé

Curated by:
 Dainius Junevičius
 Emmanuelle Vieillard
 Audrey Lebeault
 Scenography, installation:
 musée Nicéphore Niépce

Coordination:
 Vilija Ulinskytė-Balzienė
 Laura Auksutytė

Co-production:
 Musée Nicéphore Niépce
 Kauno Rajono Muziejus
 Aušros Muziejus, Šiauliai

Lenders:
 Kauno Rajono Muziejus, Kaunas
 Fotografijos Muziejus,
 Aušros Muziejus, Šiauliai
 Gražina Petraitienė, Vilnius
 Dominykas Šaudys
 & Regina Šemiotaitė, Kaunas
 Lietuvos Nacionalinis
 Dailės Muziejus, Vilnius
 Kretingos Muziejus, Kretinga
 Musée Nicéphore Niépce,
 Chalon-sur-Saône

The Count of Raudondvaris Benedykt Henryk Tyszkiewicz [1852-1935] was one of the pioneers of art photography in Lithuania. Orphaned at the age of eight, in 1862, Tyszkiewicz was brought to Paris to live with his grandfather. Even though he lived in France, and in other countries, he spent a lot of time in Lithuania and to fill his Raudondvaris home with books and pieces of art brought back from his travels. As the representative of one of Lithuania's most well-known and wealthiest aristocratic families, the Count had access to the most advanced technologies of the time and was one of the first to acquire all the new, innovative photography equipment.

He became a member of the Société française de photographie in 1884 and joined the prestigious Photo-club de Paris in 1898. From 1894 onwards, his work was shown in exhibitions and his photographs were to be seen in important publications alongside some of the most famous French pictorialist photographers of the time such as Constant Puyo and Robert Demachy, among others. Over his forty years as a photographer, Tyszkiewicz produced a body of work that is estimated to number 20,000 prints and negatives. His work was not well known and for many years was thought to have been destroyed during the First World War, but in 1993, the Musée Nicéphore Niépce acquired 86 of his prints. In the intervening years, over seven hundred photographs have been unearthed and are currently being conserved in Lithuania. In 2024, a Lithuanian collector bought nine bound albums of photographs by Tyszkiewicz and two of these are presented as part of this exhibition.

Tyszkiewicz's photographs include self-portraits, portraits of his family and his circle of friends, of their trips abroad, and his residences in France and in Lithuania. His work was very much in line with the trends in photography in Europe at the time, and is unparalleled in Lithuania.

This exhibition is part of the "The Season of Lithuania in France 2024", a celebration of the ties that bind the two countries. It includes 101 plates with 333 photographs, as well as two albums and other pieces from the Musée Nicéphore Niépce's collection, private collections and four Lithuanian museums.

General Curator:
Virginija Vitkien [Lithuania]
holds a doctorate in Art History
and is an art critic and curator
of contemporary art exhibitions
[2004-2022]. She was Creative
Director of the Kaunas Biennale
[2009-2017] and Director
of Kaunas 2022 –
European Capital of Culture
[2018-2023].

**The Season of Lithuania
in France 2024:
Seeing oneself in others /
Kitas Tas Pats**

Following on from a joint decision
by presidents Emmanuel Macron
of France and Gitanas Nausėda
of Lithuania, the “Season
of Lithuania in France” takes
place from September 12th
to December 12th 2024.
The starting point of a new era
in French-Lithuanian cultural
exchange, the “Season of Lithuania
in France” presents contemporary
Lithuania and its culture
to the French through performances,
exhibitions, screenings, debates,
conferences, gastronomy...
It is also aimed at initiating
long-term cooperation between
Lithuanian institutions and artists
and their French counterparts.

Based on three main themes
– *Global neighbourhoods,
Diversities and identities, Unbridled
imagination* – the programme
for the Season will cover a broad
range of contemporary cultural
issues, media and current affairs,
giving rise to creative explorations
and a reflection on the past,
present and possible future
while embracing the values
Europeans cherish most: human
dignity, freedom, democracy,
equality, human rights, creativity
and resilience in the face of
climate change. Built around
Lithuanian philosopher Viktoras
Bachmetjevas’ theory that
“the other is always different,
but never completely other”,
the Season of Lithuania in France
aims to bring our two countries
together through better
understanding thanks to
a collaborative and inclusive
programme that encourages
each and every one of us to see
ourselves reflected in others.

The Season of Lithuania
in France 2024 is jointly
administered by:
the Lithuanian Cultural Institute,
an institution established
by the Ministry of Culture of
the Republic of Lithuania;
the Institut français, an institution
that promotes France’s cultural
policy abroad under the aegis
of the Ministry for Europe
and Foreign Affairs
and the Ministry for Culture.

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1.
Benedykt Henryk Tyszkiewicz
Selfportrait
1892
© Grażina Petraitienė



1

2.
Benedykt Henryk Tyszkiewicz
Wiala
Benedykt Henryk Tyszkiewicz
and Isabelle Féraud,
July-August 1893
© musée Nicéphore Niépce,
Chalon-sur-Saône



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3.
4.
Benedykt Henryk Tyszkiewicz,
Wiala,
Lithuanian peasant woman,
July, August and September 1897
© musée Nicéphore Niépce,
Chalon-sur-Saône



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5.
Benedykt Henryk Tyszkiewicz
Raudondvaris
His daughter Elżbieta Maria Tyszkiewicz
From 17th to 26th July 1892
© musée Nicéphore Niépce,
Chalon-sur-Saône



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6.
Benedykt Henryk Tyszkiewicz
Paris [?]
Self-portrait in Tyrolean costume
1893
© musée Nicéphore Niépce,
Chalon-sur-Saône



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7.
Benedykt Henryk Tyszkiewicz
Raudondvaris
The ferry on the Nevėžis
August 1893
© Gražina Petraitiėnė



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8.
Benedykt Henryk Tyszkiewicz
Raudondvaris
A beggar
August 1893
© Gražina Petraitiėnė



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9.
Benedykt Henryk Tyszkiewicz
Wiala
Elk hunt
September 1893
© Grażina Petraitienė



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10.
Benedykt Henryk Tyszkiewicz
Mr Urbański dressed as a clown
July and August 1893
© musée Nicéphore Niépce,
Chalon-sur-Saône



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Open
every day
except Tuesdays and holidays
9.30 ... 11.45 am
and 2.00 ... 5.45 pm

Free entrance

We would like to thank:
Friends of the Nicéphore Niépce museum,
– Our patrons
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L'office Notarial Camuset
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Canson

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or Instagram: @museenicephoreniepce

Access

By the A 6,
exit 25.2 Chalon Centre
or 26 Chalon Sud
SNCF train station in Chalon
Close to the TGV station
Le Creusot-Montchanin
[30 min. from Chalon by car]
Lyon-Saint-Exupéry Airport
[an hour and a half
from Chalon by car]

musée
Nicéphore
Niépce

Manifestation organisée
dans le cadre
de la Saison
de la Lituanie
en France 2024

