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| **Mukařovský, Jan (1891-1975)** |
| **[Enter any *variant forms* of your headword – OPTIONAL]** |
| Czech linguist and literary theorist Jan Mukařovský was a leading member of the Prague Linguistic Circle and a prominent contributor to the project of structuralist poetics. Building on ideas first developed by the Russian formalist school, Mukařovský set out to analyse the characteristic features – or devices – that typified literary (especially poetic) language, as opposed to prosaic or quotidian discourse. Like his colleague Roman Jakobson (1896-1982) he sought to specify just how it was that poetry and art required or encouraged the reader/viewer to focus on just those distinctive traits that marked the aesthetic function in its various manifestations. |
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| Further reading:  (To Honour the Eightieth Birthday of Jan Mukarovsky)  (Yashtremski) |