

The Wedding Anniversary Photo Of Peter Reisz's Parents Imre And Olga Reisz



This photo was taken in Budapest in 1955 on the wedding anniversary of my parents. We didn't have much money at the time so we just celebrated quietly at home. My parents married in 1930 and they had a proper wedding in the synagogue in Obuda. I don't know exactly where my parents met, but it could be that they got together because both their families came from Slovakia. After their marriage, my father couldn't find work, so they went to Holland. My father was a zincographer, and the printers' trade union was very powerful, so he was able to get a job in Rotterdam through the union. My parents returned home before I was born, and my father found a job here. The Printers' Trade Union was part of the Social Democratic Party. My father was a member of some board, if I remember correctly, in the Social Democratic Party. My mother, Olga Breiner, was born in 1907 in Obuda. Until the war, she didn't work outside the home. As she tells it, there was intensive cultural life in Obuda. A group of young Jews would go there for balls, to socialize and get to know each other. My uncle, my mother, and my aunt all went. Then there was the Brodi Coffee House. The Brodis were also Jews. They owned a distillery, an ice-making plant, an ash-factory, and the Brodi Coffee House - and Obuda's citizens would go there, the Jews among them. My father didn't go there much, because he had a job for which he had to report to work at 1:00 in the afternoon, and he would come home late at night, but my mother did visit the Brodi Coffee House from time to time. My mom and dad read Thomas Mann, Zsigmond Moricz, Jokai, and the European classics.