

Embassy of the Czech Republic
Cultural Events 2010

December 8, 8 pm

Lions of Czech Film Series: *Dreamers* | *Zoufalci*

DIR: Jitka Rudolfová, 2009, 97 min., in Czech with English subtitles

Thirtysomethings Linda, Radim, Tonda, Otakar, Dagmara, and Silvie have been friends since they met as teenagers. All of them arrived in the big city, Prague, from their small home town. Their euphoric dreams have not materialized, and they feel trapped in different ways. They all seem to know one thing: what they don't want in life. At a party back in their home town they reminisce over one of their early dreams: to buy a farm, live together, and have fun with their lives. In the weeks that follow, each of them is faced with a crisis that brings this old dream into sharper, more sober focus. Can they make their dream a reality?



Avalon Theatre, 5612 Connecticut Avenue, Washington, DC 20015

Tickets can be purchased at the box office or online at www.theavalon.org

November 23, 6:30 pm

Concert: Kačkala

Kačkala is the Czech-American all-women's a capella group, an idiomatic, unclassifiable creation bringing furious words of wisdom to you in their tunes, liberation songs and a few morbid numbers thrown in for good measure, as well as Christmas music to get you into the holiday spirit. Through a mix of mad girl, bad girl, and sad girl original compositions and a dash of homemade choreography, Kačkala creates dynamic and entertaining performances. The group includes Hilary Binder, Eva Kubešová, Kateřina Kubešová, Stacey Rubin, and Lexa Walsh.

Proceeds from the concert will go to the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF).

Embassy of the Czech Republic, 3900 Spring of Freedom Street, NW, Washington, DC

Suggested donation: \$5



November 21, 5:15 pm | November 22, 7 pm

EU Film Showcase: *Men in Rut* | *Muži v říji*

DIR: Robert Sedláček, 2009, 109 min., in Czech with English subtitles

The mayor and business leaders of Mourinov, a town in a remote corner of South Moravia in the Czech Republic, hatch a scheme to improve their fortunes by hosting a European championship for stag calling. They hope to impress their local MP enough to put their town on the map--literally--by convincing him to apply for EU funds to build a new highway connecting them with the wider world. But first, the mayor needs to settle his feud with the local stag calling champ, keep the MP drunk, and figure out what to do with a bunch of drag queens brought in specially from Prague. Gentle humor meets trenchant political satire in this utterly charming tale.



AFI Silver Theatre and Cultural Center, 8633 Colesville Road, Silver Spring, MD

Tickets can be purchased online ([CLICK HERE](#)) or at the box office directly.

November 14, 3 pm | November 15, 7 pm

EU Film Showcase: *3 Seasons in Hell* | *3 sezóny v pekle*

DIR: Tomáš Mašín, 2009, 110 min., in Czech with English subtitles

1947. Nineteen-year-old Ivan (Kryštof Hádek) is the embodiment of the dreams and ideals of the period. The self-satisfied and confrontational poet finds understanding with freethinking Jana (Russian actress Karolina Gruszka), and together they experience the end of hope: After February 1948, the communist regime reveals its repressive side. Tomáš Mašín's debut feature is loosely inspired by the autobiography of leftist underground guru Egon Bondy. (Courtesy of 2010 Karlovy Vary Film Festival) Czech Lion Award for Best Actor (Kryštof Hádek), Best Cinematography and Best Sound.



AFI Silver Theatre and Cultural Center, 8633 Colesville Road, Silver Spring, MD

Tickets can be purchased online ([CLICK HERE](#)) or at the box office directly.

November 12, 7:30-9 pm | November 13, 10:30 am-noon | November 13, 2 pm-3:30 pm |

November 14, 2-3:30 pm

Children's Show: *I Never Saw Another Butterfly*

Directed by Gail Humphries Mardirosian; Music Director: Jonathan Tuzman

More than 15,000 Jewish children passed through the ghetto of Terezín, and only about 100 were still alive when Terezín was liberated at the end of World War II. These few returned to the scattered pieces of their lives, their homes, and their families. Raja lived through it all at Terezín, teaching the children when there was nothing to teach with, helping to give them hope when there was little reason for hope. This musical is her inspirational and uplifting story of triumph over adversity, an imaginative creation from documentary materials: poems, diaries, letters, journals, drawings, and pictures. This show is targeted for students in the fifth to eighth grades.



The Katzen Arts Center, 4400 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20016-8053

Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased online at <http://american.tix.com>.

November 10, 8 pm

Lions of Czech Film Series: *Kawasaki's Rose* | *Kawasakiho růže*

DIR: Jan Hřebejk, 2010, 100 min., in Czech with English subtitles

Pavel Josek, an eminent scientist and former dissident, is due to receive a state honor for bravery. He is loved by his wife and adored by his daughter Lucie. During the filming of a television documentary about his life, it comes to light that at the beginning of the 1970s -- under pressure from the secret police -- he played a part in the discrediting of a former friend, who was ultimately forced to emigrate. The family drama sheds light on the practices employed by the secret police to discredit its opponents. Meanwhile, Lucie discovers secrets of her father's past that may change her life forever.



Avalon Theatre, 5612 Connecticut Avenue, Washington, DC 20015

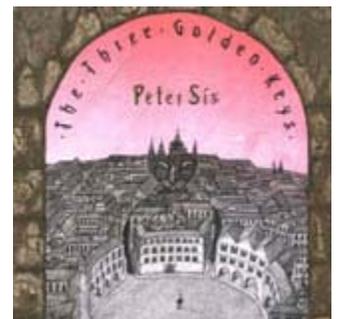
Tickets can be purchased at the box office or online at www.theavalon.org

November 9, 7 pm

Library Workshop: Czech Folk Tales - "The Lady in White" and other Czech books

This event is part of the Kids Euro Festival 2010!

Library Associate Jessica Stork will present Czech folk tales and talk a little about the Czech Republic in general. Students will also learn about marionettes and make their own marionette puppets as well as enjoy blinzes. A questions and answer session with Barbara Karpetová, Head of the Cultural Section, Embassy of the Czech Republic will follow the reading and presentation.



Palisades Neighborhood Library, 4901 V Street, NW, Washington, DC 20007

If you would like to attend the workshop, please e-mail Jessica.stork@dc.gov.

Admission is free.

November 9, 1:30 pm

Library Workshop: *The Three Golden Keys* by Peter Sís

This event is part of the Kids Euro Festival 2010!

In the book *The Three Golden Keys*, by Peter Sís, a man in a hot-air balloon gets blown off course in a violent storm and lands in the city of his youth. He finds the way to his old home, but the house is dark, with three rusty padlocks on the door. A black cat with eyes of fire appears and leads him through Prague's silent streets in search of the three golden keys that will unlock the door to his past. For more information about the book, please visit http://www.petersis.com/content/golden_keys.html.

Cultural Counselor Barbara Karpetova will read from Petr Sís' book *The Three Golden Keys* as well as talk about the Czech Republic and the city of Prague to local students at the Martin Luther King Library.

Martin Luther King Library, 901 G St, Washington, DC 20001-4531

Admission is free

November 6, 11:30 am

Film Screening: *In the Attic (Na půdě)*

DIR: Jiří Barta, 2009, 75 min., in Czech with English subtitles

This event is part of the Kids Euro Festival 2010!



In a magical attic, abandoned toys have taken up residence in an old trunk. They look forward to their daily rituals and games, going to work and celebrating birthdays... That is, until the dark ruler of the Land of Evil kidnaps their dear friend, the sweet doll Buttercup. The adventurous rescue mission, rife with suspenseful situations, dangerous moments, as well as comic elements and humorous twists, has just begun. *The film won the Grand Prize at the New York Children's International Festival (2010).*

AFI Silver Theater and Cultural Center, 8633 Colesville Road, Silver Spring, MD

Tickets are free and can be picked up 30 minutes before show time at the box office.

November 4 and 5, 3-7 pm

Special Event: *Czech Christmas Market*

The European Trading Company will present a large collection of beautiful Czech handmade Christmas ornaments just in time for the holiday season. The ornaments come in all shapes and sizes, revealing the intricate craftsmanship of Czech artisans. This year will also feature an exhibition of Nativity scenes and paper Nativity scenes for sale, an exhibition of original drawings by Marcela Vichrová entitled *A Modern View on the Nativity Scene* with original prints for sale, and a presentation on making wool ornaments by IGNIS which helps to provide jobs to handicap persons living in the Czech Republic. The Rudolflet Quartet will also sing Christmas songs at the event to put you in the holiday spirit.



Part of proceeds will go to the charity United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF).

Embassy of the Czech Republic, 3900 Spring of Freedom Street, NW, Washington, DC 20008

R.S.V.P. to czech_events@yahoo.com (Please put Czech Christmas Market in the subject line) or (202) 274-9105.

Admission is free.

November 2, 6 pm

Concert: Rudolflet Quartet

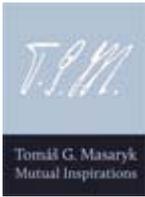
This event is part of the Kids Euro Festival 2010!

The Rudolflet Quartet will perform a selection of music from their repertoire of Gregorian chants, renaissance and baroque music, spirituals, folk songs, and much more under the direction of the Bruncvík Boys' Choir director Lenka Pištecka. Following the performance, director Pištecka will lead children in a vocal workshop. Quartet performers include Ondrej Holub, Filip Damec, Michal Podlaha, and David Pištecky (they are all 19 yrs. old). Martin Rudovský will accompany the group on the piano. For more information about the Bruncvík Boys Choir, visit www.bruncvik.eu.



Kennedy Center Millennium Stage, 2700 F Street, NW, Washington, DC 20566

Admission is free.



October 26, 6:30 pm

Event: *Talks with Masaryk*

This special evening will feature a number of guest speakers talking about the different aspects of Masaryk's life and connection to America, music provided by the Rudolflet Quartet, and theatrical readings. Dr. Hugh Agnew, Professor of History and International Relations, will reveal the life of Masaryk through the eyes of historians.

Dr. Milena Secká, Director of the Náprstek Museum Library of the National Museum, will speak about the American Ladies Club. She will mention Masaryk and his visits and lectures, and relations of Charlotte Masaryk to the Club. Completing the evening will be Mrs. Blanka Jeřábková who will discuss the life of her grandmother Marie Kvičalová, a secret messenger for Masaryk.



Embassy of the Czech Republic, 3900 Spring of Freedom Street, NW, Washington, DC 20008

Admission is free. A reception follows the event. R.S.V.P.: czech_events@yahoo.com or 202/274-9105

October 19, 10:30 am and 7 pm

Book Reading: *Madlenka Soccer Star* by Peter Sís

Caldecott Honoree Peter Sís offers up a new Madlenka—with quite a kick!

Peter Sís continues Madlenka's magical adventures in *Madlenka Soccer Star*, coming this fall from Frances Foster Books, Farrar Straus Giroux BFYR. We've seen this spunky gal take cultural journeys around her block, lose a tooth, and dream of having a dog of her very own. Now she's back and ready to play the world's most popular sport—soccer! [Click here to read the complete press release.](#)



Politics and Prose, 5015 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20008–2024

Admission is free.

October 13, 8 pm

Lions of Czech Film Series: *Fimfárum 2 | Fimfárum z druhé kapsy*

DIR: Jan Balej, Aurel Klimt, Vlasta Pospíšilová, and Pojar Břetislav

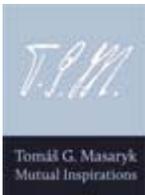
2006, 96 min., in Czech with English subtitles

The film reveals four new fairy tales for clever children and adults from the much loved book by Jan Werich. Břetislav Pojar presents *Tom Thumb*, a picturesque story full of twists and adventures; Aurel Klimt brings three similar brothers to life in *Hunchbacks from Damascus*, a work which evokes the atmosphere of the Near East and an oriental narrative style; in *Three Sisters and One Ring*, Vlasta Pospíšilová employs a rustic instruction manual à la The Decameron – how to fool a husband out of a ring; and Jan Balej allows brothers Marek and Kouba to explain natural phenomenon and to relive the age-old fairy tale about envy and devils in *The Sea, Uncle, Why is it Salty?*



Avalon Theatre, 5612 Connecticut Avenue, Washington, DC 20015

Tickets can be purchased at the box office or online at www.theavalon.org



October 12, 6:30 pm

Film Screening: *Accidental Army*

A true story about the Czechoslovak Legion

47 minutes, Creative Director: Bruce Bendinger

Amidst the chaos of World War One and the Russian Revolution, 70,000 Czech and Slovak P.O.Ws switched sides. They became The Czechoslovak Legion - an Allied army fighting for a country of their own - Czechoslovakia. They captured half the Trans-Siberian Railway, half the Czar's gold, and the heart of a new nation. Enjoy the ride. The documentary was created by the Czech Legion Project - www.czechlegion.com. The film screening is part of a series of events entitled *TGM: Mutual Inspirations*, which strives to examine the Czech and American cultural connections. In addition to the film screening, Victor Verney—author of *Warrior of God: Jan Žižka and the Hussite Revolution*—will present a short talk on the tradition of the military in relation to his book and the film.



Embassy of the Czech Republic, 3900 Spring of Freedom Street, NW, Washington, DC 20008

Admission is free. R.S.V.P.: czech_events@yahoo.com or 202/274-9105.

October 6, 7:30 pm

Concert: *Defiant Requiem: Verdi at Terezín*

Washington National Opera Orchestra, The City Choir of Washington, The Catholic University of America Chorus

Defiant Requiem: Verdi at Terezín tells the story of courageous Jewish prisoners in the Theresienstadt concentration camp during World War II who performed the Verdi *Requiem* while experiencing the depths of human degradation. With only a smuggled score in hand, the famous Mass was performed 16 times, including once before Adolph Eichmann and a Red Cross delegation. The performances came to symbolize resistance and answering the worst of mankind with the best.

Under the direction of conductor **Murry Sidlin**, this multimedia concert drama combines Verdi's magnificent music with testimony from survivors of the original chorus, a propaganda film about the camp, and actors speaking the words of imprisoned conductor Rafael Schaëchter and other prisoners. The performance is powerful and inspirational, with a contemporary message of hope.

The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, Concert Hall, 2700 F Street, NW, Washington, DC

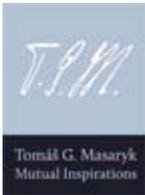
This performance is currently sold out. If you want to be placed on a wait list please contact the presenter Louisa Hollman at DR.Terezin@gmail.com. This wait list is not being handled by the Kennedy Center.

October 6, 5:30 pm

Exhibition Opening: *Yes, Masaryk: The President Tomáš Garrigue Masaryk*

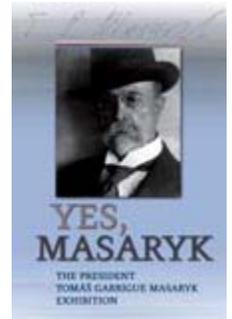
with guest speaker - Dr. Hugh Agnew

Professor of History and International Relations, The George Washington University



The exhibition *Yes, Masaryk: The President Tomáš Garrigue Masaryk* takes an intimate look at the life of President Masaryk from his formative years and student life, to serving as a professor, family man, diplomat, and finally President of the Republic of Czechoslovakia.

Black and white photos mixed with quotes from Masaryk's life present a closer look at this remarkable man, a true visionary. "Tell me what you think of Masaryk, and I will tell you who you are." The exhibition is part of a series of events entitled *TGM: Mutual Inspirations*, which strives to examine the Czech and American cultural connections.



Embassy of the Czech Republic, 3900 Spring of Freedom Street, NW, Washington, DC 20008

Admission is free. A reception follows the opening.

R.S.V.P.: czech_events@yahoo.com or 202/274-9105

September 8, 8 pm

Lions of Czech Film Series: *Champions | Mistři*

DIR: Marek Najbrt, 2004, 83 min., in Czech with English subtitles

In this politically incorrect existential comedy, cravings, love, cheating, and fantasizing all play a part as the World Ice Hockey Championships play out on an old TV in a broken down pub. Karel believes he runs a proper pub and that his wife Zdena loves him. Zdena believes she's in love with Milan, a bus driver who believes he's destined to drive charters out to sea. Josef, who's darker than the average Czech, believes that he isn't a Gypsy. Jarda is disappointed with life and his son. The local alcoholic, Bohous thinks he sees the play-off games before they're played. Karel and Josef come to believe that Bohous is their ticket to financial freedom. "We have to root for ourselves, because no one else will root for us!" is argued during a tough moment for the Czech team. All the men agree. In point of fact, each man is rooting only for himself, and "Champions" is their story.



Avalon Theatre, 5612 Connecticut Avenue, Washington, DC 20015

Tickets can be purchased at the box office or online at www.theavalon.org

August 11, 8 pm

Lions of Czech Film Series: *Bathory* | *Bathory*

DIR: Juraj Jakubisko, 2008, 140 min., in Czech with English subtitles

Tradition has it that Countess Elizabeth Bathory was the greatest murderess in the history of humankind, as documented by her entry in the Guinness Book of Records. She tortured her victims, exclusively women, before killing them. She bathed in their blood, and tore the flesh from their bodies with her teeth while they were still alive. But is that really true? In four centuries, no historical document has been found to reveal what had exactly happened. The plot of this film diametrically opposes the established legend. The story is about a defenseless widow who owns more property and riches than the king himself and who, as a result, becomes a victim of scheming from on high.



The screening is being presented through the support of the Embassy of the Czech Republic and the Embassy of the Slovak Republic

Avalon Theatre, 5612 Connecticut Avenue, Washington, DC 20015

Tickets can be purchased at the box office or online at www.theavalon.org

July 14, 8 pm

Lions of Czech Film Series: *Protector* | *Protektor*

DIR: Marek Najbrt, 2009, 100 min., in Czech with English subtitles

Radio reporter Emil Vrbata and actress Hana are married. It's the year 1938. Attractive Hana lands her first big success in film. Emil is jealous. As the German occupation and the beginning of the war hits, Hana is confronted with her Jewish heritage. From the high hopes of stardom, she falls to the bottom of society's ladder. Emil, on the other hand, is promoted at the radio station and becomes the voice of Reich propaganda. He seizes on this chance to protect Hana and take control of her life. Refusing a divorce in the interest of Hana's safety, he continues in their "racially mixed marriage." Emil's path with the devil, however, levies its own tax. Fate has laid a trap for Emil that could cost him his true love.



Avalon Theatre, 5612 Connecticut Avenue, Washington, DC 20015

Tickets can be purchased at the box office or online at www.theavalon.org

June 9, 8 pm

Lions of Czech Film Series: *The Grapes 2* | *2Bobule*

The Grapes 2 is the story of two young men. One is trying to integrate himself into the world of winemaking after inheriting his grandfather's vineyard and wine cellar. The other has taken refuge at his friend's place after getting himself into trouble. Nothing goes as planned. They both have love problems. In a typical Moravian village, they attempt to keep the vineyard running and experience adventures which could cost them their good wine, women, and even life itself. (DIR: Vlad Lanné, 2008, 90 min., in Czech with English subtitles)



Avalon Theatre, 5612 Connecticut Avenue, Washington, DC 20015

Tickets can be purchased at the box office or online at www.theavalon.org.

June 9, 6:30 pm

In the Loop: Video Art from THE EU

Czech artist featured: Jan Pfeiffer

The project features an artist from each of the participating EU countries. The Czech artist to be featured in the exhibition is Jan Pfeiffer with his work *Before I was There*. Artists from Bulgaria, Estonia, France, Ireland, Latvia, the Netherlands, Slovenia, and Sweden will also be on display at the AU Museum at the Katzen Arts Center. Other EU countries will be featured at the Phillips Collection on June 10, and the National Portrait Gallery on June 12. Please see the PDF invite below.

[Please click here to view the PDF invite.](#)



About the Artist:

Jan Pfeiffer was born in Prague, Czech Republic in 1984. As an artist, he uses various media, working with the principles of observation and research. In his work, he explores individual space in an urban structure and examines the influence of totalitarian and post-totalitarian powers on everyday life.

American University Museum at the Katzen Arts Center

4400 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20016-8031

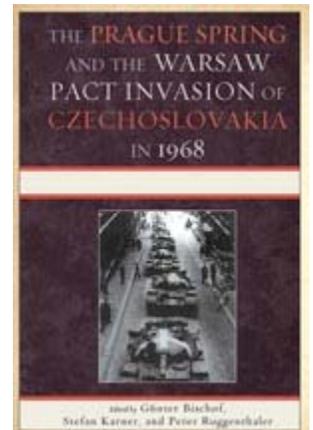
Admission is free. Please visit the AU Museum Web site for hours. www.american.edu/museum

June 3, 6–7:30 pm

Lecture: Professor Guenter Bischof presents his new book

The Embassy of the Czech Republic in Washington, DC cordially invites you to the presentation of the recently published book *The Prague Spring and the Warsaw Pact Invasion of Czechoslovakia in 1968*. Coeditor of the book, Professor **Guenter Bischof**, will offer a presentation on the role of the United States and President Lyndon B. Johnson in the 1968 crisis and will debate the book's analyses of this turning point in the Cold War in light of new documentary evidence from the archives of two dozen countries.

About the Author: Guenter Bischof is a native of Austria. He currently serves as the Marshall Plan Professor of History and the Director of CenterAustria at the University of New Orleans. He is the coeditor of *Prager Fruehling: Das internationale Krisenjahr 1968*, 2 vols. (Vienna 2008), which has also appeared in Russian.



R.S.V.P. by June 1 to czech_events@yahoo.com or 202/274-9105.

Admission is free.

Embassy of the Czech Republic, 3900 Spring of Freedom Street, NW, Washington, DC 20008

SHOWS HAVE BEEN CANCELLED FOR June 1, 8 pm and 10 pm

Blues Alley Concert: Rudy Linka

Guitarist Rudy Linka has been voted as one of the ten best jazz guitarists by readers of the prestigious Down Beat Magazine. He has performed and recorded with jazz greats such as John Scofield, John Abercrombie, Red Mitchell and Bob Mintzer. His 14 CDs are on the labels Enja, Timeless, Universal and Sony/BMG. Rudy will present music from his latest CD called "Songs" on Sony/BMG with Paul Motian and Larry Grenadier.



Admission is \$20.

Blues Alley, 1073 Wisconsin Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20007

Please visit the Web site for ticket information. www.bluesalley.com

May 28, 5 pm

Lecture: Author Jan Novák presents his new book

The lecture will be in the CZECH LANGUAGE ONLY!

Jan Novák began his writing career with a collection of short stories called “Striptease Chicago,” about Czechoslovak emigrants in America. Novels by Novák include: *The Willys Dream Kit*, *The Grand Life*, *Prague in Velvet*, *So Far So Good*, and *Bookman* (2007 – he won the Award of Josef Škvorecký). In 2009, he published a book of interviews *Za vodou* with Miloš Forman, Dominik Hašek, Lubomír Kaválek, Antonín Kratochvíl, Josef Mašín, and Milan Sova.



As a screenwriter, he worked with Miloš Forman on *Valmont*; in the 90s he wrote a screenplay for the Czech film *The Wonderful Years that Sucked* (*Bajecna leta pod psa*) and he co-worked on screenplays to the films *Whisper* and *An Ambiguous Report About the End of the World*.

In 2005, together with his son Adam, he made a documentary film *Citizen Havel Goes on* and later made *Citizen Havel is Rolling Barrels* in 2009.

Admission is free.

R.S.V.P. by May 27 to jana_racova@mzv.cz or 202/274-9108.

Residence of the Ambassador, 2612 Tilden Street, NW, Washington, DC 20008

Guests must park on Tilden Street or Spring of Freedom Street and not on the Ambassador's driveway.

May 13, 7:30 pm

Concert: *An Evening of Czech Opera with Dagmar White*

The Embassy of the Czech Republic presents the fourth concert in the series of “An Evening of Czech Opera with Dagmar White” on May 13, 2010 at 7:30 pm. The program will feature selections from two operas: Blodek’s “In the Well” (V studni) and Dvorak’s “Rusalka.” Dagmar White, opera singer, vocal coach, and musicologist will give commentary on the works performed. Performing artists include: Reginald Bouknight (tenor); Mary Ellen Cain (mezzo soprano); Kristyna Gocova (soprano); Charles Kopfstein-Penk (baritone); and Kathy Kessler-Price (soprano). Catherine French will provide the piano accompaniment.



Admission is \$18.

R.S.V.P. by May 11 to czech_events@yahoo.com or 202/274-9105.

Embassy of the Czech Republic, 3900 Spring of Freedom Street, NW, Washington, DC 20008

May 12, 8 pm

Lions of Czech Film Series: *A Little Piece of Heaven* | *Kousek nebe*

Set within the walls of a Communist prison of the 1950s, a tale unfolds of a young couple’s fragile love. An angry young man, Luboš, always felt defiance toward everything around him. Eventually, this trait lands him in court. The verdict is clear and the punishment long and hard. In prison, Luboš is unable to tame his love of jazz or the eternally blazing flame of rebellion he carries inside. He meets Dana in prison. It’s not a real meeting, more of an encounter of looks, a flying of sparks which leads to feelings of love. Their fellow prisoners hatch a small rebellion to help them fulfill their love—a love which has appeared in the wrong place at the wrong time. (DIR: Petr Nikolaev, 2005, 85 min., in Czech with English subtitles)



Avalon Theatre, 5612 Connecticut Avenue, Washington, DC 20015

Tickets can be purchased at the box office or online at www.theavalon.org.

May 9, 8 pm
Concert: KRLESS

Krless, a 4-member medieval music group from Prague, will play a special concert at Ireland's Four Fields. The band interprets European music from the 13th-15th centuries. In their music, you can hear echoes of medieval spiritualism, dancefloor-like melodies, the sensuality of the Orient and even the rock drive of the current day. The group plays secular music-the songs and pieces of taverns and markets, students and goliards, of both court feasts and folk dance parties- but originally arranged songs and melodies. Krless plays their music using musical instruments which are more or less true replicas of original medieval instruments.



Medieval Crossover is the way Krless members approach and perform medieval music. Do not expect the exact reconstruction in the sense of living history or the real medieval experience. Krless treats medieval music material with ease, energy, and passion that today's listeners expect. Old music merges with contemporary folk, traditional, blues, rock and Jewish or Arabic music. Thus, their music sounds more like today's world music.

Admission is free.
Ireland's Four Fields, 3412 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20008
Closest Metro: Cleveland Park Metro Station

May 8, 10 am-4pm
EU OPEN HOUSE

This year, the EU is stressing the theme GREEN EUROPE: GOOD FOR THE ECONOMY AND THE ENVIRONMENT. Along this topic, the Czech Embassy will showcase information and a model of the future Washington DC streetcars, which were manufactured in the Czech Republic to run on the new streetcar tracks the city is currently laying down.



Furthermore, children will watch the Rockville City Police Department's K-9 Unit, consisting of German Shepherds originally from the Czech Republic, hurdle over obstacles and perform searches on the Embassy grounds. In a display of true local US-Czech crime fighting partnership, Cpl. Kyle Dickerson with his dog "Rocko" and Cpl. Heath Marshall with his dog "Boomer" will demonstrate crime combating techniques and exercises.

Finally, the public audience will enjoy the music of Krless, a medieval music group from Prague, while sampling Czech beer, touring the Ambassador's residence, viewing the exhibition *Czech Fresh Design*, learning about the Czech national costume from Miss 2009 Czech Slovak US Queen of Kansas, and much more.

Admission is free.
Embassy of the Czech Republic, 3900 Spring of Freedom Street, NW, Washington, DC 20008.

May 7, 7 pm
Film Screening: *Václav Havel, Prague-Castle* | *Václav Havel, Praha-Hrad*
US PREMIERE

The film *Václav Havel, Prague-Castle* has been selected as a part of the Politics on Film Festival. The documentary explores the arrival of Václav Havel and his friends to Prague Castle after the turbulent changes of autumn 1989. It portrays the inception and the workings of the new President's Office from December 29, 1989, to the first free elections held in June 1990. Through the personality of Václav Havel, the documentary reminds us of a unique period in our history, a period of euphoria as well as newly emerging domestic policy problems. Interviews with Havel, his advisors and staff as well as Madeleine Albright, President George H.B. Bush and more tell the story of a truly unique period in the history of the former Czechoslovakia and the world.



E Street Cinema, 555 11th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20004
Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased at E Street Cinema or via their website:
<https://tickets.landmarktheatres.com/Landmark.aspx?TheatreID=264>
Please note that the film is under the heading "POF-Vaclav Havel".

April 20, 7 pm, GRAND OPENING and Reception
On View: April 20-June 30

Exhibition: *Czech Fresh Design*

The students of the Faculty of Multimedia Communications from Tomas Bata University in Zlin, Czech Republic, will present the exhibition CZECH FRESH DESIGN at the Embassy of the Czech Republic. This special installation of the exhibition will highlight the students' talents in design, photography, audiovisual media, and marketing communications.



R.S.V.P. for the Grand Opening of the exhibition to czech_events@yahoo.com or 202/274-9105.
Admission is free. Hours: Monday through Thursday, 9 am–5 pm
Embassy of the Czech Republic, 3900 Spring of Freedom Street, NW, Washington, DC 20008

April 17, 5 pm | April 19, 8:45 pm
Filmfest DC: *El Paso*

After a father is killed playing soccer with his son in the street, a Romani mother and her seven children are evicted from their comfortable home and left with a large amount of debt. In the children's first trip by car, they are transported to an almost prison-like apartment large enough for only two people. A photographer hears about the eviction and recognizes the racism and discrimination connected with the tragedy. He convinces his female friend and lawyer to take on their case.



(Dir. Zdenek Tyc, 2009, 100 min., in Czech with English subtitles)

For tickets, please visit: <http://www.filmfestdc.org/tickets.cfm>
Avalon Theater, 5612 Connecticut Avenue, Washington, DC

April 16, 8:45 pm | April 17, 7 pm
Director Jan Hřebejk will be at both the April 16 and 17 screenings!

Filmfest DC: *Shameless* | *Nestyda*

This broad-hearted ensemble comedy was a box office hit in the Czech Republic. After determining that his wife Zuzana's nose is just too big, TV weatherman Oskar cheats on her with the family's vapid nanny, leading to a downward spiral that finds him out of a job and in a series of loveless affairs. In the meantime, Zuzana has no problem finding a new partner in divorced single father Matej, aided in no small part by Oskar's parents. Full of fine details and subtle wit, this delightful film skirts tragedy and plunges headlong into farce. (Dir. Jan Hřebejk, 2008, 88 min., in Czech with English subtitles)



For tickets, please visit: <http://www.filmfestdc.org/tickets.cfm>
Avalon Theater, 5612 Connecticut Avenue, Washington, DC

April 16, 8 pm
Concert: *Chinaski*

Hailed as one of the Czech Republic's most popular and award-winning bands, Chinaski will play a special live concert at the Embassy of the Czech Republic as part of their 2010 U.S. Tour. The six-member band includes Michal Malátný, František Táborsky, Petr Kužvart, Štěpán Škoch, Ondřej Škoch, and Otakar Petřina, Jr.



For more information about the band or to list to samples of their music, visit www.chinaski.cz.

Tickets: \$25. For ticket reservations, please e-mail czech_events@yahoo.com or call 202/274-9105 by April 15, 2010. Embassy of the Czech Republic, 3900 Spring of Freedom Street, NW, Washington, DC 20008

April 14, 8 pm

Lions of Czech Film: *Dirty Soul* | *Duše jako kaviár*

This tragicomic mosaic of stories focuses on three siblings: Anna (16 yrs.), Jana (26 yrs.), and Vladimír (35 yrs.) Each of them is looking for the right person to come into their lives, but this merely leads to fumbling through life in a muddle while repeating the same past mistakes. Anna is far from her ideal of flashy beauty, and she struggles to be perfect as self doubts gnaw at her. In her naiveté, she gets caught by the same snares that trapped her sister. The elder girl tears through life in the fast lane—heading straight for her first divorce. None of them realizes just how similar their problems are to those of their mother and brother, a brother they as yet know nothing about.



Avalon Theatre, 5612 Connecticut Avenue, Washington, DC 20015

Tickets can be purchased at the box office or online at www.theavalon.org

April 14, 10 am–3:30 pm

International Historical Conference: *Bohemian and Czech Jews in America*

The Embassy of the Czech Republic in Washington, DC, and American University's Jewish Studies Program and Department of History present the international conference “Bohemian and Czech Jews in America” on April 14, 2010, 10 am-3:30 pm. The aim of the gathering is to appraise the history of the Jewish community of Bohemian and Czech origin in the United States, as well as to acknowledge the achievements of this vibrant yet not well-known community and examine its proper place in American society, culture, science, and politics. The conference will be opened by H. E. Jan Fischer, the Czech Prime Minister.

For more information about the conference, [CLICK HERE](#) for a PDF document about the event.

Please R.S.V.P. by April 9 to czech_events@yahoo.com or call 202/274-9105.

Embassy of the Czech Republic, 3900 Spring of Freedom Street, NW, Washington, DC 20008

March 26, 7:30 pm

Classical Concert: *Czech Music from Prague, Terezín, and New York*

The Embassy Series will present Tomas Visek (piano), Yuval Waldman (violin), and Valeriya Sholokhova (cello). The program includes music by Antonín Dvořák, Bohuslav Martinů, Gideon Klein, Hugo Lowenthal, Zikmund Schul, Jaroslav Jezek, and Josef Suk.



Admission: \$45, reception included. Tickets can be purchased online through the Embassy Series Website, [CLICK HERE](#).

The Embassy of the Czech Republic, 3900 Spring of Freedom Street, NW, Washington, DC 20008

March 25, 7 pm

Environmental Film Screening: *AUTO*MAT*

Do we rule the city, or does the city reign over us? Are we becoming automats? An inspiring, emotional, and witty documentary by director Martin Marecek searches for answers to questions related to life in the city, civilization in motion, and attempts to achieve change. The Czech Embassy will screen the film AUTO*MAT as part of the 18th Annual Environmental Film Festival. For more information about the film festival, visit www.dcenvironmentalfilmfest.org. (DIR: Martin Marecek, 2009, 90 min., in Czech with English subtitles)



Admission is free. RSVP by Monday, March 23 to czech_events@yahoo.com or 202/274-9105

Embassy of the Czech Republic, 3900 Spring of Freedom Street, NW, Washington, DC 20008.

March 19, 8 pm | March 20, 8 pm | March 21, 2 pm
Performance: Voices of Terezín—An Artistic Tribute in Two Parts

Part One

Convery: Songs of Children

American University Chamber Singers

Chamber Singers presents Robert Convery's poignant setting of nine poems authored by children interned at Terezín (Theresienstadt), a ghetto that served primarily as a gathering point for Jews destined to be shipped to Auschwitz death camp. Convery conceived the work as a story from beginning to end, a "reaction to where the child is, the rejection and the horror." The distinct voice of the children of Terezín, heard through Convery's beautiful and moving work for chorus, violin, viola, cello, and piano, was written "in memory of all children who perished in the Holocaust."



Part Two

Smoke of Home

Written in Terezín by Zdeněk Eliáš and Jiří Stein

Translated by Dorothy Eliáš

Prologue and epilogue by Barbara Korner

Theatre students will present the North American premiere of this one-act historical drama, written in Terezín in 1943. Never performed in Terezín, the play nevertheless continued to live in the memories of the playwrights' friends as part of the remarkable legacy of resilience and hope created by the inmates in that place of despair. Set during the Thirty Years War (another era of religious persecution with the seditious subtext of the destruction of Germany), the play explores issues of denial, loss, and longing for home. Presented with a contemporary prologue and epilogue for modern audiences.

THE FLYING RABBI

The Czech klezmer quintet The Flying Rabbi (Létající Rabín) will perform at the reception following the March 21 performance. The group from its beginnings focused on traditional wedding music of Eastern European Jews. They have found their place in the atmosphere of Jewish "shtetls" spread across Eastern Europe. They present the sounds of the brave old world of Galicia, Bessarabia, Ukraine, Lithuania, and Eastern Poland of the 19th century. The group includes Vojtěch Pospíšil (clarinet), Jana Dosedřlová (flute), Miroslav Ondra (accordion, vocals), Vojtěch Peštuka (violin, vocals), and Pavel Jurečka (double bass). For more information about the group, visit www.myspace.com/theflyingrabbi or www.letajicirabin.com.



Abramson Family Recital Hall, Katzen Arts Center

For directions to the Abramson Family Recital-Hall, [CLICK HERE](#).

Admission: \$15 regular admission, \$10 AU community and seniors. Tickets can be purchased on the AU Website, [CLICK HERE](#). For additional questions concerning tickets, please contact the box office at auarts@american.edu or 202/885-ARTS.

Photo credit: Lisa Peschel

March 10, 8 pm

Lions of Czech Film Series: *Normal, The Dusseldorf Ripper* | *Normal*

Set in pre-war Europe, 1931, an economic crisis has propelled society into chaos. Young ambitious lawyer Justus Wehner gets his first big case—the defense attorney for brutal serial killer Peter Kurten. Wehner is certain that Kurten suffers from a serious mental disorder and to prove this, he decides to sink deep into Kurten's past motivations and psyche. Suddenly, Kurten's beloved wife Marie arrives who still doesn't believe her husband could be a violent murderer. Kurten and Marie slowly begin to manipulate Wehner into participating in a final crime. Wehner will have to fight for victory in a difficult case and for his own soul. (DIR: Julius Ševčík, 2009, 95 min., in Czech with English subtitles)



Avalon Theatre, 5612 Connecticut Avenue, Washington, DC 20015

Tickets can be purchased at the box office or online at www.theavalon.org

March 7, 8–10 pm
Concert: *Please the Trees*

With its members from different corners of the Czech Republic and disparate musical backgrounds, Please the Trees is a band of many contrasts. Their sound summons the spirits of everything from the expressionism of Germany's Popol Vuh and wall-of-sound atmospherics of Scotland's Mogwai, to the experimental folk epics that reverberated through the 60s by artists like Ron Elliot, Neil Young, and Jack Nitzsche. Please the Trees benefits from what initially seems like an odd coupling of sounds and personalities but in actuality is a wonderful asset as exemplified in the group's newest material, which ventures even further into new sonic territory. Please check out their music at: <http://www.myspace.com:80/pleasethetrees>



Madam's Organ, 2461 18th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20009
Admission is \$5 at the door.

March 1–April 14
Exhibition: Karel Cudlín: Rebirth of Jewish Life in Bohemia and Moravia after 1989

In Karel Cudlín's Exhibition: Rebirth of Jewish Life in Bohemia and Moravia after 1989, twenty-nine black and white pictures offer an intimate look inside Jewish life and culture. Award-winning photographer Karel Cudlín has captured key moments that have shaped the course of history such as the Velvet Revolution, Czechoslovakia before 1990, and the Presidency of Vaclav Havel. His work has been featured in over 60 cities in both the U.S. and Europe as well as in numerous private collections. He has been awarded 16 Czech Press Photo prizes since 1996.



Admission is free. Hours: Monday through Thursday, 9 am–5 pm
Embassy of the Czech Republic, 3900 Spring of Freedom Street, NW, Washington, DC 20008

February 25, 6 pm
Film Screening: Václav Havel, Prague-Castle | Vaclav Havel, Praha-Hrad

H.E. Petr Kolář, Ambassador of the Czech Republic, hosts a special screening of the new documentary Václav Havel, Prague-Castle to commemorate the 20th Anniversary of Vaclav Havel's Speech to the Joint Session of the U.S. Congress. The documentary explores the arrival of Vaclav Havel and his friends to Prague Castle after the turbulent changes of autumn 1989. It portrays the inception and the workings of the new President's Office from December 29, 1989, to the first free elections held in June 1990. Through the personality of Vaclav Havel, the documentary reminds us of a unique period in our history, a period of euphoria as well as newly emerging domestic policy problems.

Embassy of the Czech Republic, 3900 Spring of Freedom Street, NW, Washington, DC 20008

Admission is free. February 25, 10 am–12:15 pm
Panel Discussion: *Back to the Future*
The Past, Present, and Future of Czech-American and Transatlantic Relations
20th Anniversary of Václav Havel's Speech to the Joint Session of the U.S. Congress

This panel discussion *Back to the Future: The Past, Present, and Future of Czech-American and Transatlantic Relations* will reexamine which parts of President Havel's speech are still valid and inspirational today, what the current state of the Czech-American relations is, and what are the future challenges for transatlantic partnership between the United States and the EU. The Czech panelists will include Senator Karel Schwarzenberg, Ambassador Martin Palouš, Dr. Zbigniew Brzezinski, and Dr. Madeleine Albright.

U.S. Capitol Visitor Center, House Visitor Center Room 201
Limited Seating. E-mail marketa_kollerova@mzv.cz for reservations.
Photo Credit: Tomki Nemeč



February 10, 8 pm

Lions of Czech Film Series: *Fighter* | *Bojovník*

Fighter follows two men, Jan Wiener and former American University Professor Arnošt Lustig, survivors of Hitler's invasion of Czechoslovakia. What Director Bar-Lev first envisions as a historical documentary soon becomes the personal story of the battle between two very different men—one the bitter, angry fighter, the other, the wise and cynical philosopher—who have very different ways of dealing with memories of the Holocaust. As they retrace the steps of Wiener's escape from the Nazis, they regale one another with thrilling exploits, revisiting scenes of romance, humor, narrow escapes and life-or-death confrontations. (DIR: Amir Bar-Lev, Cinematographer: Gary Griffin, 1999, 91 min., in English only)



Avalon Theatre, 5612 Connecticut Avenue, Washington, DC 20015

Tickets can be purchased at the box office or online at www.theavalon.org

February 9, 7:30 pm

Concert: Lenka Filipova

Please note: the concert has been canceled due to weather conditions!

Czech Grammy winner Lenka Filipova will perform a concert at the Czech Embassy on February 9, 7:30 pm. Most of her albums were awarded a gold disc and/or platinum disc. She has produced ten albums and four albums on classical guitar. Additionally, she gained the Grand Prix title in the guitar festival in Antil in Holland and has toured throughout all of Europe, Japan, the USA, and Canada. In June 2008, Canadian singer Celine Dion chose Lenka to perform as a guest of her Prague concert. For more information about the singer or to hear samples of her music, visit: www.lenkafilipova.cz



Tickets are \$25. Buy tickets directly at www.cskstore.com or call 416/689-9889.

Embassy of the Czech Republic, 3900 Spring of Freedom Street, NW, Washington, DC 20008

January 13, 8 pm

Lions of Czech Film Series: *Guard No. 47* | *Hlídač č. 47*

Railway guard Josef Douša returns from World War I hoping to forget all the horrors of his recent experiences. One day, he saves the life of a young man who is about to jump under a train. The man falls in love with Douša's wife and arouses her passion. Floundering between doubt and faith in his wife, Douša is hit by a bout of deafness. When his hearing returns, he does not admit it to anyone—not even his wife. This is the only way he can find out if his wife has been unfaithful to him. The film is based on motifs from the novel by Josef Kopta, a 20th century Czech writer. (DIR: Filip Renč, 2008, 108 min., in Czech with English subtitles)



Avalon Theatre, 5612 Connecticut Avenue, Washington, DC 20015

Tickets can be purchased at the box office or online at www.theavalon.org

January 4–28

**Exhibition: *Photographs of the Velvet Revolution*
by Tomki Němec**

In remembrance of the events that sparked the Velvet Revolution, the Czech Embassy has on view 18 photographs by Tomki Němec that reveal dramatic moments that forever changed a nation. The black and white photographs progress in mood from the grays of the Communist regime to the glowing faces of crowds celebrating their freedom. Winner of two World Press Photo awards, Němec's work has been published in *The New York Times*, *Time Magazine*, *The Los Angeles Times Magazine*, and many more. For more information about Tomki Němec, visit www.lightstalkers.org/tomki-nemec.



Admission is free. Hours: Monday through Thursday, 9 am–5 pm | Friday, 9 am–3 pm

Embassy of the Czech Republic, 3900 Spring of Freedom Street, NW, Washington, DC 20008