

WEDNESDAY

February 11, 8 pm

***Clownwise**
Klauni

2015

WEDNESDAY

April 8, 8 pm

Nowhere in Moravia
Díra u Hanušovic

WEDNESDAY

May 13, 8 pm

***Fair Play**
Fair Play

WEDNESDAY

June 10, 8 pm

***To See the Sea**
Pojedeme k moři

Films marked with an asterisk (*) are also a part of the 4th annual Czech That Film Festival, showcasing the best of contemporary Czech cinema in 18 cities throughout the United States. For more information, please visit www.czechthatfilm.com.

LIONS

OF
CZECH FILM

The Lions of Czech Film Series provides the Washington, DC, community with an invaluable opportunity to view Czech films that are hits in Europe and have received numerous honors and awards at film festivals, including the prestigious Czech Lion Award, the Czech equivalent of an Academy Award. All of the films have limited distribution in the United States.

Film screenings are produced by the Embassy of the Czech Republic.

Tickets for each show can be purchased at the Avalon Theatre's box office or online at www.theavalon.org.

Admission:

- \$11.75 Adults
- \$9.25 Students
- \$9.00 Seniors (62+)
- \$8.75 Military / Children (12 and under)
- \$7.50 Avalon Members
- \$6.50 Seniors who are Avalon Members

To be added to the Czech Embassy's cultural mailing list, please e-mail czech_events@yahoo.com.



LIONS

OF
CZECH FILM



2015

AVALON THEATRE

5612 Connecticut Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20015
www.theavalon.org

Organized by the Avalon Theatre
and the Embassy of the
Czech Republic

The series offers an invaluable
opportunity to see the best
of Czech cinema.



*Clownwise Klauni

February 11, 8 pm

2013, 120 min., in Czech with English subtitles
Directed by: Viktor Tauš

Hailed by Czech film critics, the beautifully shot dark comedy tells an emotional story of love and forgiveness. Oskar, Max, and Victor, once a superstar clown trio called The Busters, split over a heartbreaking disagreement. After thirty years in exile, Oskar returns to Prague where an unavoidable confrontation ensues with his pals from the past. Their irresistible humor is challenged by the “joys” of old age. After all this time, who will have the last laugh?

Awards: Nominated for 8 Czech Lion Awards (2014): Won for Best Supporting Actor (Jiří Lábus). Nominated for 4 Czech Film Critics’ Awards (2014): Won for Best Supporting Actor.



Nowhere in Moravia Díra u Hanušovic

April 8, 8 pm

2014, 102 min., in Czech with English subtitles
Directed by: Miroslav Krobot

Called “darkly humorous” by *Variety* film critic Alissa Simon, this directorial debut by renowned actor Miroslav Krobot centers on life in a small Moravian village. Former German teacher Maruna has returned home to live with her mother and run the local pub. She hopes to get married, but potential suitors include a hunting obsessed mayor, grave digger, and a Don Juan roofer. Her sister Jaruna finds a way out, but Maruna seems stuck in her mother’s ways. One day, though, something unexpected happens in the middle of “nowhere.”

Awards: Nominated for the Crystal Globe Prize for Best Film at the Karlovy Vary IFF (2014) and for the Czech Film Critics’ Award for Best Supporting Actress (Tatiana Vilhelmová, 2015)



SPECIAL SCREENING!

*Fair Play Fair Play

May 13, 8 pm

2014, 100 min., in Czech with English subtitles
Directed by: Andrea Sedláčková (Meet the Director!)

“(A) gripping tale of grace under pressure, crisply shot and handsomely packaged.” –Stephen Dalton, *The Hollywood Reporter*

Set in 1983 Czechoslovakia, eighteen-year-old sprinter Anna dreams of making the Olympics in Los Angeles. In preparation, her coach puts her on a secret “special care” program designed for exceptional athletes. Through the program, she receives injections of stromba. After learning from her boyfriend’s family that stromba is a dangerous drug that could lead to infertility, Anna rejects taking the injections and her performance levels begin to decline. With the Olympics in jeopardy, Anna’s mother decides to secretly administer the drug to her daughter in order for her to have a chance not only for the Olympics but also to emigrate.

A Q&A with the director follows the screening.

Awards: Represented the Czech Republic for Oscar contention for Best Foreign Film (2015). Garnered 15 Czech Lion nominations (2015), including Best Film, Best Director, among others. Nominated for the Audience Choice Award at the Chicago IFF and the Crystal Globe Prize at the Karlovy Vary IFF (2014).

About the Director:



Andrea Sedláčková studied screenwriting at the Film and Television Academy of the Performing Arts in Prague (FAMU) before emigrating to France in 1989, where she studied editing and directing at FEMIS film academy in Paris. She made several documentaries and TV films for Czech TV. In 2000, she wrote and directed her feature debut *Victims and Murderers* (2000). In France, she worked as an editor on a number of feature films, including the Oscar-nominated drama *Joyeux Noël*. She also recently completed the documentary *Life According to Václav Havel*, which has been nominated for a Czech Lion for Best Documentary.



*To See the Sea Pojedeme k moři

June 10, 8 pm

2014, 100 min., in Czech with English subtitles
Directed by: Jiří Mádl

In his directorial debut, Jiří Mádl reveals a profound story of friendship and courage. Eleven-year-old Tomas receives a camera for his birthday. Wanting to become the next acclaimed director like Miloš Forman, he decides to secretly record his father, who he suspects is having an affair. With the camera as his tool, he becomes a detective intent on finding truth. In the process, he finds out more about himself and the world around him than he ever imagined. His best friend Haris also borrows the camera, putting a lens to the stark reality of his violent father. Shot and narrated from the perspective of young Tomas, naivety is contrasted against the beauty, humor, and harshness of reality.

Awards: Nominated for 5 Czech Film Critics’ Awards (2015), including Best Film, Best Direction, and Best Screenplay. Won the Children’s Jury Main Prize at the Zlín IFF 2014. Received Special Mention at Finále Plzeň and the Gorky Studio Special Prize at VOICES - Russia (2014). Won Best Film at the Motovun FF in Croatia (2014).

About the Director:



Czech actor Jiří Mádl was poised to become a professional ice hockey player, but an elbow injury changed his plans forever. He auditioned for and won the leading role in Karel Janák’s comedy *Snowboarders* and was the youngest person ever named to the Personalities of the Czech Republic list by the Czech magazine MF DNES. Following the success of *Snowboarders*, he took on comic roles in: *Taming Crocodiles* (2006) and *Rock Con Artists* (2006). His English language debut film was *Bathory*. Shortly after, he starred in *Night Owls* (2008). His role in this film made him the youngest recipient ever of the Crystal Globe for Best Actor at the 2008 Karlovy Vary International Film Festival. Recently, he has starred in such films as *Lousy Bastards* (2014,) *Collette* (2013), and *The Confidant* (2012).