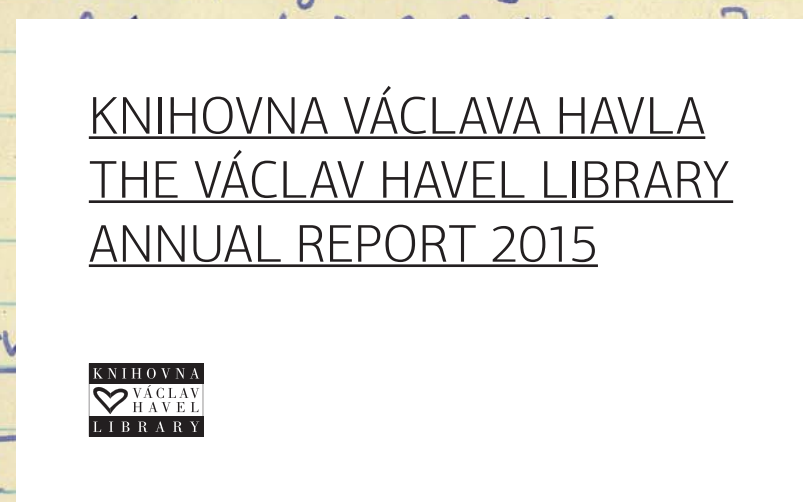


Problemy: Vyprávění, Povolení, Spis a Dobrozdání  
s velkým množstvím, množstvím s možností dělení.  
(Lidé nepostupují velkou věc, nejsem tak  
autentičtí, jak všichni dovoluji)

ROTVET  
HK  
HK

ROTVET: Nic zaručeno. Je to velmi úzká  
administrativní věc: met jsem si a  
oblastního symptome vzrušenost  
dobrozdání a met jsem vám je odvydat

HK: No vidíte, Půtko, já vám lund  
níkal, aby se ti z toho medikal stalo, a  
aby se



a aby se  
mávanu, že?  
nejhorším,  
... máte každý

alku.  
u dopisu.  
je úbořme!

ty ani nevíš, Xiboyi, jak máš světe  
dobrozdání! S takovým dobrozdáním,  
to už se da' nero' detat! Já to přečte,  
muj' Xiboyi, užel, níkal, že při úbořm  
úředník a že to nešam dostaneš. A  
zpomínáš, jak jsem ti níkal, že ~~to~~ ziar  
je v podstatě spravedlivý? Těd' se to  
potvrdilo. Poznali konečně mé dobré  
pádro. Poznali, co o tobě je. Navda munní  
užel, zntezit - e zntezita i v tuem  
mupadě. Nežlo ti úředník. Já to ošem  
užil, že to tak dopadne, ale nechtel jsem  
ti xmedicámě - als jak vešl teba zhlamak.  
o tom informovat Ale ted' už ti to  
molu nít - je to zde, čerme' na bitem.  
Bylo s to přečte aburdní als ty, Xiboy  
Půtko, ... nemolu to vůbec doždet!

ROTVET: Děkuji vám. Holson Havni Komenta!

Published in 2016 by the charity the Václav Havel Library  
registered at the Municipal Court in Prague, file O 338 dated 26 July 2004  
Statutory representative: Michael Žantovský  
Address: Ostrovní 13, 110 00 Prague 1  
Identification no. 27169413  
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#### **BANK ACCOUNTS**

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The Václav Havel Library is registered according to the libraries law  
under registration no. 6343/2007 at the Ministry of Culture

**[www.vaclavhavel-library.org](http://www.vaclavhavel-library.org)**  
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**[www.twitter.com/KnihovnaVH](https://www.twitter.com/KnihovnaVH)**

IT ONLY MAKES SENSE AS A LIVING  
OR VITAL ORGANISM THAT OCCUPIES  
A PLACE THAT CANNOT BE  
OVERLOOKED IN OVERALL PUBLIC  
AND POLITICAL LIFE. [...] THE LIBRARY  
MUST IN SOME WAY BE ORIGINAL  
AS SUCH, IN ITSELF, IN ITS EVERYDAY  
NATURE, AS A PERMANENTLY EXISTING  
PHENOMENON OR PLACE.

VÁCLAV HAVEL  
A FEW SENTENCES ON THE VÁCLAV HAVEL LIBRARY  
HRÁDEČEK

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# THE VÁCLAV HAVEL LIBRARY

The Václav Havel Library collects, researches, disseminates, promotes and advocates the spiritual, literary and political legacy of a great figure of modern Czech history - the author, playwright, thinker, human rights defender and Czechoslovak and Czech president. It also focuses on people, events and phenomena related to the legacy of Václav Havel and strives to place them in the context of the times and of the present. From August 2014, the Václav Havel Library is located at the address Ostrovní 13, Prague 1. The building's ground-floor spaces is dedicated to an exhibition „Václav Havel or Havel in a nutshell“ and used for VHL club events – all kinds of seminars, readings, exhibitions, lectures, concerts and theatre performances. The Library's offices, archive, constantly expanding library, and reading room are located on the first floor.

## THE MAIN AIMS OF THE VÁCLAV HAVEL LIBRARY INCLUDE

- Organizing archival, archival-research, documentary, museum and library activities focused on the work of Vaclav Havel and documents or objects related to his activities, and carries out professional analysis of their influence on the life and self-reflection of society
- Serving, in a suitable manner, such as through exhibitions, the purpose of education and popularisation functions, thus presenting to the public the historical significance of the fight for human rights and freedoms in the totalitarian period and the formation of civil society during the establishment of democracy
- Organizing scientific research and publication activities in its areas of interest

# PEOPLE OF THE VÁCLAV HAVEL

## LIBRARY

### FOUNDERS

Dagmar Havlová  
Miloslav Petrušek († 2012)  
Karel Schwarzenberg

### BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Michaela Bakala (elected deputy chairwoman of the Board of Trustees as of 26 March 2015)

Iva Brožová (new member as of 1 July 2015)

Gabriel Eichler (new member as of 1 July 2015, elected chairman of the Board of Trustees as of 15 September 2015)

Dagmar Havlová

Michal Horáček (cessation of membership as of 30 June 2015)

Božena Jirků (new member as of 24 March 2015)

Bessel Kok (cessation of membership as of 30 June 2015)

Jan Macháček (termination of membership and position as chairman of the Board of Trustees as of 26 January 2015)

Martin Palouš

Jacques Rupnik

Nina Smitová

Milan Šimečka (new member as of

1 July 2015)

Mark Vydra (cessation of membership as of 30 June 2015)

### SUPERVISORY BOARD

Dita Stejskalová (cessation of membership as of 30 June 2015)

Emil Holub

Ondřej Jonáš

Luděk Niedermayer (new member as of 1 July 2015)

### STATUTORY REPRESENTATIVE

Marta Smolíková (to 31 August 2015)

Michael Žantovský (from 1 September 2015)

### LIBRARY TEAM

Veronika Brázdilová – programme coordinator

Ivona Dostálová – assistant, 0,45-time employee, to 28 February 2015

Anna Freimanová – editor, 0,8-time employee

Pavel Hájek – senior manager

Jan Hron – digital archive, regular employee to 1 September 2015, external employee from 1 September 2015

Zdenka Potměšilová – custodian, part-time, 15 hours weekly, to

31 December 2015

Lucie Prachařová – office account

Gabriela Romanová – archive, to 31 December 2015

Karolína Stránská – head of office, from 1 September 2015

Libuše Šídllová – custodian, part-time, 15 hours weekly, to 31 December 2015

Jáchym Topol – programme director

Martin Vidlák – head of Documentation Centre

Marie Císařová – assistant during events, external employee, to 31 May 2015

Eva Csémyová – archive, external employee

Ondřej Doležal – IT support, external employee, from 1 September 2015

Jakub Hrnčíř – IT support, external employee, to 28 February 2015

Barbora Hanková – assistant during events, external employee

Tereza Johanidesová – librarian, external employee

Marianna Placáková – exhibition curator, coordination of selected events, external employee

Magdalena Rutová – assistant during events, external employee

Filip Rut – assistant during events, employment employee  
Filip Simon – assistant during events, employment employee  
Lucie Skvrnová – assistant during events, employment employee  
Barbora Šenoltová – assistant during events, employment employee  
Tereza Šenoltová – assistant during events, employment employee  
Petr Štefek – Archive, external employee  
Marie Topolová – assistant during events, external employee  
Tomáš Trnka – IT support, external employee, to 31 August 2015

#### **EXTERNAL COOPERATION**

Jiří Bělohradský – IT manager  
Klára Binarová – Václav Havel Human Rights Prize  
Zuzana Formánková – Pavel Juráček Archive  
Vladimír Hanzel – searches, archive  
Zuzana Janečková – Václav Havel Human Rights Prize  
Ondřej Němec – Photography Archive  
Eva Lorencová – redaction  
Šárka Sladovnicková – external guide  
Adéla Volfová – Václav Havel European Dialogues  
Ian R. Willoughby – translations  
Erika Zlamalová – Ivan M. Havel Archive  
Hynek Zlatník – translations  
Tomáš Javora – videos

Kristýna Šlajchrtová – graphic design  
Nina Rutová – Havel in a Nutshell workshop

#### **VOLUNTEERS / INTERNS**

Dominik Bergmann – digitalization, book registeries  
Kristýna Boháčová – book registeries  
Kristýna Čermáková – book registeries  
Ondřej Černý – review of translations  
Barbora Ficková – audio transcription check  
Zuzana Kofroňová – photos description  
Simona Matulová – repair records  
Markéta Mikšovská – digitalization, inventories photos  
Tereza Němcová – translations  
Eliška Naegele – research  
Jan Mudra – digitalization, book registeries  
Filip Simon – book registeries

#### **SERVICES**

Atkins and Langfold Development, s. r. o.  
Accounting services: VGD, s. r. o.  
Auditing: KPMG Česká republika Audit, s. r. o.  
Webmaster: 2142 net, Jiří Šolc

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Google Cultural Institute  
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University of South Bohemia  
University of Pardubice  
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Nadace Forum 2000 Foundation  
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##### **FOR COOPERATION IN CARRYING OUT INDIVIDUAL PROJECTS**

American Studies at Charles



University, Prague  
American Spring Festival  
Argo publishing house  
Artefakt Kulturmanagement  
Arts and Theatre Institute  
Aside Festival  
Book World Festival  
Bulgarian Cultural Institute  
Common Law Society  
Crescent Over Prague Festival  
Czech Radio  
Czech Television  
Czech Centre Brussels  
Czechoslovak Documentation Centre  
East European Club, Faculty of Arts  
Embassy of the State of Israel  
European Partnership for Democracy  
Ferdinand Peroutka Society  
Festival of Arab Culture  
Festival of Culture Partnership  
Festival Kulturus  
Goethe Institute, Prague  
Historical Sociology, Faculty of Humanities, Prague  
Charta 77 Foundation  
Human Rights without Borders  
Initiative for European Values  
Institute for Czech Literature, The Czech Academy of Sciences  
Institute for International Studies, Charles University, Prague  
Institute for the Study of Totalitarian Regimes  
LEDA publishing house  
Litera civic association  
Nadace Forum 2000 Foundation

National Film Archive  
National Museum  
National Theatre  
Negativ Film Productions  
NEWTON Media  
Open Air Festival Trutnov  
Permanent Representation of the CR to the EU  
Permanent Mission of the CR to the Council of Europe  
Petr Štengl publishing house  
Polish Institute Prague  
Politictivezni.cz association  
Portál publishing house  
Prague Information Service  
Prague Institute of Planning and Development  
Prostor publishing house  
Respekt weekly  
ReSITE  
Slabiky.cz association  
SLON publishing house  
The Dagmar and Václav Havel Foundation VIZE 97  
TORST publishing house  
University of Economics, Prague

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Oldřich Škácha (heirs)

#### **FOR THE PROVISION OF KEY ARCHIVAL MATERIALS TO THE LIBRARY'S DOCUMENTATION CENTRE**

Ivan M. Havel

#### **FOR THE PROVISION OF OTHER ARCHIVAL MATERIALS TO THE LIBRARY'S DOCUMENTATION CENTRE**

Rebeka Bartůňková  
Jan Bernard  
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Ondřej Němec  
Sandra Novacek  
Alan Pajer  
James Ragan  
Ivana Reichlová  
Eduardo Rombauer van den Bosch  
Olga Sommerová  
Pavla Stejskalová

Lubomír Stiburek  
Ivo Šilhavý  
Bořek Šípek  
Radko Trohař  
Vlasta Vavřínová  
Věra Velemanová  
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Dagmar Volencová  
George Vyborny  
Kieran Williams  
Luboš Zahradníček  
Michael Žantovský

# A WORD FROM THE DIRECTOR

In accordance with its mission, the Václav Havel Library collects, examines, publishes and defends the ideas, literary and political heritage of that great character in modern Czech history – the writer, playwright, thinker, human rights fighter and the Czechoslovak and Czech president Václav Havel.

In the first ten years of its existence the Library has found its image, its current residence in the very centre of the capital and its place in Czech cultural, political and social life.

The core of the Library is, and will remain, a collection of documents depicting the various stages of the life and work of Václav Havel, the destiny of his family and friends and the period context. In accordance with the ideas of the late president, these documents have been stored mostly in digital format, which not only requires less space and is less demanding in terms of conservation, but also allows remote access by researchers, students and anyone interested in studying them. The room and the technical capacity of the Library's archival system are now almost exhausted. It will be necessary to replace and modernise the system in 2016, as well as to upgrade capacity for remote access and the backup of data, the security and integrity of which is the Library's foremost interest.

The Library has been making increasing use of the many channels to promote Václav Havel's heritage. These include the Library's own publication activities, both in print and in electronic format. The most sought-after publications in 2015 included *The Persecution of Václav Havel* (a volume of documents and letters from 1968–1989 which

depict the oppression faced by Václav Havel at that time) and *Horní Počernice Crooks* (an anthology of texts and photographs by Bohdan Holomíček describing the atmosphere in which the world premiere of Václav Havel's *Beggars' Opera* was held in 1975).

The Library pays great attention to providing information to the public on its own website and social networks. This helps to raise public awareness of the Library's electronic footprint, as can be seen in the increasing numbers of visitors to the website, Twitter, the highly progressive YouTube channel and, most of all, the popularity of the Library's Facebook profile, where the number of friends rose from 11 063 to 15 615 during the same period.

The Václav Havel Library strives to get involved in the latest social debates concerning major topics of our time, especially through our own "club" programme, which is becoming ever more popular. Some of the Library's features are also available in electronic form, in collaboration with Czech TV.

Two major international conferences should be mentioned separately: Václav Havel European Dialogues, held for the third time in 2015, and the annual conference held to mark the awarding of the Václav Havel Human Rights Prize by the Parliamentary Assembly of the European Council, the Charta 77 Foundation and the Václav Havel Library. Owing to the generosity of the Vision 97 Dagmar and Václav Havel Foundation, the 2015 conference, dedicated to the topics of refugees and migration, was held in the splendid premises of the Prague Crossroads, an ancient church restored thanks to the Havels.

A new Executive Director was appointed in 2015. Marta Smolřková, who was acknowledged by the Board of Trustees for her three years' work leading the Library, was replaced by Michael Źantovskř. The new director has undertaken to follow up on the valuable work done by his predecessors during the previous ten years. At the same time he decided to expand the scope and activities of the Library's work, both in the Czech Republic and abroad. This led to the Library's activities being stepped up in just his first four months in office, and cooperation has been established with many new partners. An important step forward appears to lie in finding the optimum means of collaborating with the Library's New York partner, the Vřclav Havel Library Foundation, which should come into practical effect in 2016.

Like every non-profit organisation, the Vřclav Havel Library also seeks to extend resources for its work and financing, through various forms of collaboration with other organisations as well as by seeking new resources. The last months of 2015 brought the first results in this respect. The Library will do more to seek to acquire public funding by participating in grant procedures and tenders. It also seeks to optimise its edition programme with respect to its financial sustainability.

The ever-increasing scope of the Vřclav Havel Library's demanding activities would hardly be possible without the crucial, generous and long-term financial support of the Fondation Zdenek et Michaela Bakala, without the kind support of the founders Dagmar Havlovř and Karel Schwarzenberg and, last but not least, the contribution and efforts of the members of the Library's Board of trustees and Board of Supervisors. The key to success in the Library's work lies in its young, enthusiastic and highly motivated team, made up of many



*Lyudmila Alexeyeva, a Laureate of the 2015 Vřclav Havel Human Rights Prize, with Michael Źantovskř, Director of the Vřclav Havel Library.*

talented individuals who all have the same common objective in mind.

The year 2016 will be the 80th anniversary of Vřclav Havel's birth and the 5th year since his death. This anniversary year will place a great demand on the Library, its management and the whole team. The Library wants to do the best it can in these efforts, in the interest of preserving, deepening and further spreading Vřclav Havel's heritage.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Michael Źantovskř'.

Michael Źantovskř  
Director, Statutory Representative  
17 June 2016



# DOCUMENTATION CENTRE

*The Documentation Centre administers a specialised library with more than 5 000 catalogued publications and a database of digitised materials which contained almost 47 thousand items as of the end of the year. It also runs a public research room for people to study in and a digitising station. Researchers are free to access the digital archives after registering.*

The Documentation Centre administers a collection of physical documents, artefacts, audio-visual materials and photographs. Its collections are continuously expanding, especially with the addition of digitised archival materials loaned from other institutions or donated by private individuals. Besides this, the centre also carries out its own research work and is involved in preparing the Library's programme, exhibitions and books.

In 2015 Jan Hron and Gabriela Romanová decided to continue their careers in other institutions and left the archive. At the same time a total of 10 internships contributed to the work of the archive:

Dominik Bergmann, Kristýna Boháčová, Kristýna Čermáková, Ondřej Černý, Barbora Ficková, Zuzana Kofroňová, Simona Matulová, Markéta Mikšovská, Jan Mudra and Filip Simon.

## ARCHIVE

In 2015 the archive continued to focus primarily on the digitisation, annotation and cataloguing of its archival materials.

- 5 068 materials were digitised, especially correspondence and photographs from the archives of Ivan M. Havel, and the primary metadata was created.
- 300 records of children's drawings and letters, juvenile poetry and various documents from the 1960s were digitised and processed, together with some samizdat

publications and translations of texts by Václav Havel, all of this from a loan of materials originally lodged in Hrádeček.

- More than 100 books, selected articles from samizdat, exile and foreign magazines from a loan of materials originally lodged in Hrádeček were digitised, totalling approx. 5 000 pages.
- The archive continued checking the transcripts from the audio recordings of Václav Havel's interviews from 2009–2011.
- The archive prepared research records and continued building up a collection of Václav Havel's interviews until 1989.
- 4 archival boxes from the estate of the late Klaus Juncker, Václav Havel's key theatre agent before 1989, were processed and prepared for further procedures.
- The annotation work was completed on the unique internet diary entitled "The Revolution As Seen by Vladimír Hanzel" which is an anthology of memoirs, documents and dozens of hours of digitised and annotated audio recordings from the Citizens' Forum taken by Václav Havel's secretary in the autumn and winter 1989.
- 3 751 pages of the Několik vět ('Just a Few Sentences') petition were digitised and annotated.
- Work continued on the personal archives of the filmmaker Pavel Juráček by digitising his handwritten notebooks, correspondence from the 1960s to 1980s and

texts connected to the scripts for the movies *Situace vlka* ('The Wolf's Situation') and *Postava k podpírání* ('A Figure to Be Propped Up', known also as 'Joseph Kilian').

The archive also thoroughly reviewed its collection of books and archival materials, focusing especially on the loan of 1132 books and periodicals and 13 archival boxes of written documents lodged in Hrádeček until 2010. This comprised mostly samizdat and exile literature, childhood drawings and letters of Václav Havel and Ivan M. Havel, juvenile poetry and texts of the '36' art and literature association from the 1940s and 1950s, Czech and foreign press clippings on 1960s theatre plays, typewritten documents and correspondence from the dissent period of 1970s and 1980s, documents on drama dating back to the 1980s, press clippings until 1989 and various texts by other authors. Prior to returning the loan to the heirs, the archive digitised and annotated selected and as yet unprocessed documents. The next months were dedicated to updating data on the new location of books, periodicals and written documents returned to the digital archive.

## ARCHIVE IN NUMBERS

The total number of biographical entries and documents processed as of the end of 2015 was 46 671, including 15 287 biographical entries from the life of Václav Havel, 3 010 texts by Václav Havel, 14 688 texts about Václav Havel, 4 027 letters, 1 508 photographs, 194 video recordings and 542 audio recordings. The library catalogue contained 5 045 books and periodicals at the end of the year, approximately a quarter of which included texts by Václav Havel.

The Documentation Centre responded to 166 e-mail or personal queries from researchers. 426 new researchers registered with the digital archive, making a total of 4 278.

## COOPERATION ON RESEARCHERS' PROJECTS

Among the most important researchers who closely collaborated with the Library were Jan Bernard from the FAMU Academy, who is working on a book on the screenwriting and film work of Václav Havel, and Zdeněk Lukeš, who explores places linked to the life and work of Václav Havel in his book entitled 'Prague of Václav Havel'.

The Documentation Centre also collaborated with Pavla Kolaříková, an Information and Library Sciences student at the Philosophical Faculty of Charles' University in Prague, on her thesis entitled "The Principles of Services of Presidential Libraries".

## NEW ACQUISITIONS

The most important acquisition in 2015 was the lifelong archives of photographer Oldřich Škácha, including all copyrights, which especially includes some unique photographs from August 1968, portraits of many cultural figures, Czechoslovak dissidents and the ex-presidency of Václav Havel. Another important acquisition was the next part of the archives of Ivan M Havel, which are currently being digitised, and a loan of documents on the honorary doctorate awarded to Václav Havel in memoriam by Kyung Hee University in Seoul, Korea in 2015. The audio-visual acquisitions included 10 rolls of 16mm film from George Vyborný with dialogues on the topic of Václav Havel and the creative arts, taken at the beginning of the 1990s. Other donations were received from: Rebecka Bartůňková, Jan Bernard, Lucie Čepcová, David Dušek, Stanislava Dufková, Marie Fantyšová, Gabriela Fárová, Anna Freimanová, the French Embassy, Václav Havel Library Foundation, Carl Gershman, Pavel Hájek, Daňa Horáková, David Hrbek, Vladimír Junek, Petr Jančárek, Tomáš Jelínek, Marie Klimešová, Miroslav Masák, Pavla Mazurová, Hana Mottlová, Pavel Mücke, Alan Pajer, James Ragan, Ivana

Reichlová, Olga Sommerová, Lubomír Stiburek, Ivo Šilhavý, Bořek Šípek, Radko Trohař, Vlasta Vavřínová, Věra Velemanová, Dagmar Volencová, George Vyborny, Kieran Williams, Luboš Zahradníček and Michael Žantovský.

## LIBRARY

One of the major projects carried out by the Library's Documentation Centre was the continuous complementation of Václav Havel's bibliography which is freely accessible to the public, linked with entries from the Library's catalogue of books and which brings together as many of his texts as possible, published both at home and abroad. The Documentation Centre followed up on some previous partial tasks, but it is probably the only site which consistently works on this important task. At the end of 2015 a total of 15 300 bibliographic records were available. Work also continued on reorganising the book fund into new codes. New books and magazines were added, to make a total of 213, Polish and Hungarian translations were completed and Chinese and Korean entries were corrected. The personal collection of Václav Havel from his private library in Hrádeček, a total of 1132 books and periodicals, including the 'Edice Expedice' samizdat series, was returned to Dagmar Havlová and labelled as "Dagmar Havlová's Property". Some of the most important items from the fund were digitised and will be accessible in the digital archive.

The book fund, besides ordinary purchases of Czech and foreign literature, was enriched with the following donations: Cătălin Mamali (*Opposing worldviews and political practices. Manifesto of the Communist Party and Civil Disobedience: Havel's way*), Eduardo Rombauer van den Bosch (*Dissertation Concluded – the Art of Spaciousness*), David Danaher (*Reading Havel*), Pavla Stejskalová (Bachelor's thesis entitled *The Difficulties Translating Absurd Drama in the*



Václav Havel in a photograph by Oldřich Škácha

*'Garden Party' by Václav Havel), The Visegrad Fund (The Visegrad Group: A Central European Constellation by Andrzej Jagodzinski), Sandra Novacek (Border Crossings: Coming of Age in the Czech Resistance), František Raska (A Long Way to Victory), Miroslav Masák (And Something More), Marie Fantyšová (special edition of dailies on the death of Václav Havel from the estate of Oldřich Škácha), Ondřej Němec (translations of the biography entitled 'Havel' by Michael Žantovský), Leslie Chamberlain (an article entitled Václav Havel died four years ago: Leaving was his last play).*

All publications included in the book fund were provided solely as presence loans and the catalogue was freely accessible without prior registration on the Documentation Centre's website.

## PHOTO ARCHIVE

More than 1 000 photographs from the life of Václav Havel were annotated in 2015 and 80 of them were put in the photo gallery on the website. During the first stage of the work to catalogue the archives of the photographer Oldřich Škácha, over 200 photographs were digitised at high resolution and a virtual gallery was created at the Google Cultural Institute website using 50 of these photographs dated 1968 with a gallery of portraits of Václav Havel. Other major acquisitions included the digitisation of 900 photographs by Ivo Šilhavý, Václav Havel's collaborator. Photographic documentation was made of 94 posters as well as some of the university gowns used when Václav Havel was awarded honorary doctorates. A total of 110 pages from an otherwise inaccessible scouts' chronicle from the childhood of Václav and Ivan Havel was photographed. The photo archive was also involved in the preparation of a publication entitled 'The Horní Počernice Crooks', which contains 42 photographs by Bohdan Holomíček, and prepared numerous photo projections

for various important events held by the Library and for other occasions, such as the evenings held by Jiřina Šiklová, Michael Žantovský, about Jan Zajíc and on the anniversary of the 'Beggars' Opera' in Horní Počernice. 1 500 photographs on 66 events held by the Library in 2015 were lodged with the archive, and work began on the preparation of large-scale projects entitled Havel@80 and Hele, Havel! (Look, There's Havel!) for 2016. An important part of the researcher inquiries involved responding to requests to publish photographs.

## COOPERATION IN PUBLIC EVENTS

The Documentation Centre was closely involved in the public presentation of the Václav Havel Library and provided facilities for club and editorial activities. It also initiated some programmes, discussions and debates which were informative and provided archival materials for future researchers.

Editorial work mostly focused on 'The Horní Počernice Crooks' and 'The Persecution of Václav Havel. Letters and Documents from 1968–1989'.

The Documentation Centre also presented the institution at the book fairs in Havlíčkův Brod, Chrudim and Tábor, and the Book World and Knihex in Prague, at the United Islands festival and Trutnov Open Air Festival as well as at other public events organised by the Václav Havel Library. The most extensive of these events was the preparation of the international conference entitled The Story of a Refugee: Europe of Dreams and Reality, held in honour of the laureate of the 2015 Václav Havel Human Rights Prize; the next part of the cycle entitled Challenges, Paradoxes, Plays by Václav Havel (Beggars' Opera in Horní Počernice, Audience at Hrádeček, Perpetuum mobile, Mis-take and Pig); the cycle which recalls the first visits of the



Pope and Dalai Lama after 1990 and the journeys taken by Václav Havel abroad: East and West Germany, the United States, the Soviet Union, Israel, the meeting of representatives of Czechoslovakia, Poland and Hungary in Bratislava as the early stages of Visegrad cooperation; and the continuation of the discussion cycle entitled Cabinet Havel, organised jointly with the Husa na provázku Theatre.

The Documentation Centre has extended its digital exhibition in Ostrovní 13 entitled Havel in a Nutshell with a list of translations of Václav Havel's works, showing the publishers on the world map. The exhibition contained 130 headwords of places and events linked to the life, work or remembrance of Václav Havel at the end of 2015. The centre also contributed 50 photographs from its collections to the exhibition entitled '(Not Only) Havel's Photographer Oldřich Škácha' at the Porthemka gallery, held by the Municipality of Prague 5 in November 2015. It began preparing a collection of graphic poetry by Václav Havel in collaboration with the National Literary Archive for an extensive international exhibition of experimental art on the boundaries of writing, painting and other media in Czech and Russian culture from the 1960s until recent times, entitled Prigov-Havel, which is to be held in the Hvězda Summer Residence in Prague in the autumn of 2016.



주한체코문화원  
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## 사진과 도서로 보는 바츨라프 하벨

바츨라프 하벨 도서관 기록보관소와 출판사

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우리는 가족의 품으로 돌아가기에는 너무 멀리 떨어져있다. 가까이 접근하기보다 더 이상적으로 떨어져 있고, 개인 국가와 대중 그리고 기업의 관심은 여전히 일반적이면서 전 세계적인 관심보다 더 중요하다. 우리는 인간이 창조와 일부가 아니라 창조와 정정인것을 알기때문에 인간은 무엇이트 할 수 있다는 파괴적이면서 거만하다는 개념을 가지고 있다. 여전히 많은 사람들은 자기 자신은 중요하지 않고 일이 더 중요하다고 말하지만, 실제로는 자신이 일보다 더 중요하다는 것이 분명하다. 여전히 우리는 우리에게 맡겨진 세상과 그 주변을 파괴하고 있다. 여전히 우리는 오늘날 세계에서 일어나는 사회적, 문명적 그리고 민족 문화적 갈등을 보지 않으려 한다. 가끔씩 우리는 우리가 만든 불분명한 거대한 제도가 우리를 위한 것이 아니고 오히려 우리를 노예로 만든다고 말하지만, 여전히 우리는 이를 바꾸기 위한 어떠한 노력도 하지 않는다.

바츨라프 하벨, 1990

**바츨라프 하벨 (1936-2011)**

시인, 작가, 극작가, 철학자, 수필가, 인권보호 활동가, 시민단체77한장 설립자이자 대변인, 양심의 가책을 느낀 체코자, 1989년 11월 체코슬로바키아 정치적 변화를 이끈 주역, 체코슬로바키아와 체코 대통령, 세계적 정치인, 헌신적인 시인

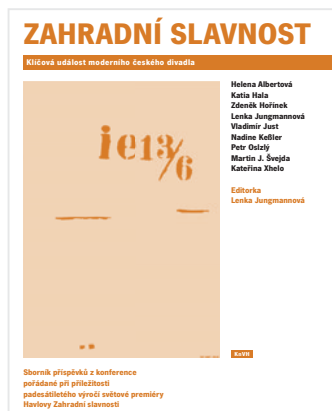
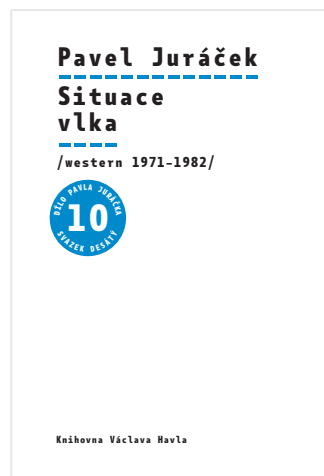
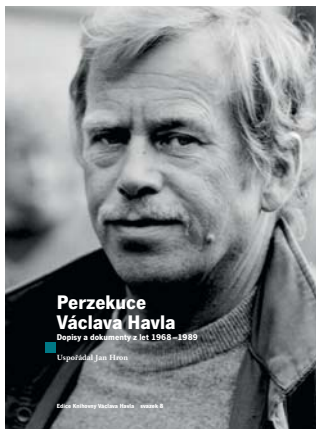
본 전시회는 Peace BAR 2015축제동안 열리는 바츨라프 하벨의 명예 박사학위 수여식을 기념하기위해 주한체코문화원과 바츨라프 하벨 도서관이 함께 협력하여 진행한 사진 도서전이다.

바츨라프 하벨 도서관은 바츨라프 하벨의 폭넓은 시고 및 업적을 강조하여 그와 관련된 현대 체코 역사를 기록하고 연구하는 곳이다.

사진 작가 및 저작권자: 이반 하벨 기록보관소, 바츨라프 하벨 도서관 기록보관소, 카렐 후들린, 프코제미슬 피알카, 이반 하벨, 아로슬라프 크레이치, 온드르제이 네메츠, 이보 실하비, 올드리지호 슈카하

[www.vaclavhavel-library.org](http://www.vaclavhavel-library.org)
<http://seoul.czechcentres.cz/cs/ko>

*Exhibition of photographs of Václav Havel at Kyung Hee University in Seoul, South Korea*



# PUBLICATION ACTIVITIES

*The core programme of the Library's editorial plan is the life and work of Václav Havel, his family and close colleagues and friends. The plan is divided into six series: Journals of the Václav Havel Library, Editions of the Václav Havel Library, Student Series, Talks in Lány Palace, The Files of Václav Havel, The Work of Pavel Juráček and Conferences of the Václav Havel Library. Books which do not fall within any of the previous series but are still important for the Library's editorial activities are published separately, not in any edition.*

## **BEST-SELLING BOOKS PUBLISHED IN 2015:**

Jan Hron (ed.): The Persecution of Václav Havel. Letters and Documents from 1968–1989

Anna Freimanová (ed.): The Horní Počernice Crooks. A Report on the Premiere of the Beggars' Opera in 1975.

Miroslav Bárta, Václav Cílek (et. Al.): Bohemia in a Hundred Years. A Record of Four Debates at the Conference Entitled Europe and Bohemia 2113.

Pavel Juráček: The Wolf's Situation. A Western 1971–1982

## **BEST-SELLING BOOKS PUBLISHED IN PREVIOUS YEARS:**

Krystyna Wanatowiczová: Miloš Havel – Czech Film Mag-nate (2013)

Martin C. Putna: Václav Havel – A Spiritual Portrait in the Framework of 20th Century Czech Culture (2011)

Václav Havel: The Power of the Powerless and Other Es-says (2012)

Václav Havel: Suspicious to Myself (2014)

## **JOURNALS OF THE VÁCLAV HAVEL LIBRARY**

This is a quarterly magazine created in 2009 and published on an irregular basis. It is a sort of laboratory, an experimental room which presents the research results of the Library's Documentation Centre in the form of reprints of unknown or unavailable texts and new

established studies in cultural and oral history, designed for students and the public.

Editorial work continued in 2015 on the biographical text by Jana Wohlmuth Markupová entitled From Puzuk to Sakatek. Ivan M. Havel 1938–1989. The publication was included in the 2016 publication plan as Journal No. 18.

## **EDITIONS OF THE VÁCLAV HAVEL LIBRARY**

The "flagship" series of the Library, established in 2010, focuses on the publication of extensive studies which are crucial to our understanding of the life and work of Václav Havel. One book was published in the series in 2015:

### **JAN HRON (ED.): THE PERSECUTION OF VÁCLAV HAVEL. LETTERS AND DOCUMENTS FROM 1968-1989**

This is a collection of texts by and about Václav Havel which describes the persecution he experienced for himself during the times of so-called normalisation. It also depicts the major change of his life. A playwright occasionally active in the public sphere becomes, in 1969–1989, a politically active thinker who sometimes writes a play. A playwright, also a concerned citizen in his leisure time, becomes a full-time dissident, and a playwright in his leisure time. Well-known essays are interspersed with personal

correspondence, discussions, declarations and documents. Much of this is published for the first time: letters to Josef Škvorecký, Pavel Kohout or Jan Vladislav, prison records and others. The chapters of this book are put in the broader social context by the renowned Havel historian Jiří Suk.

Václav Havel is known primarily as a playwright and politician. He is less or little known as a civic activist. We know that he initiated protests against the constraints on culture, wrote declarations and open letters, described life under bureaucracy and lack of freedom and was the advocate of the unjustly persecuted. Yet we just tend to bear that in mind, rather than think about it in depth and appreciate it. So far we have been interested in Havel primarily as an artist who dealt with the crisis of values and structures, as a dissident thinker and world-renowned pro-West politician. This collection of letters, interviews, reports, interrogation and defence protocols and summations, some of which have already been published while others are being published for the first time, should portray Havel as a person who was unafraid and often fought against the odds with the communist regime, in times of both political ease and hardship. It should not present him as a symbol, but as a man who had to go through a tough trial of resilience. (Foreword by J. Suk)

The book entitled *The Persecution of Václav Havel. Letters and Documents from 1968–1989*, met with extraordinary acclaim from readers and the entire print run sold out within a month of publication.

Two books which have been a long time in the making, namely *Václav M. Havel: My Memories* and *Jan Lukeš: Just because I Am a Brother. An Interview with the Scientist Ivan M. Havel*, have undergone complex editorial work. They should be published in 2016. The originally planned book, Jan Bernard, Anna Freimanová (eds.):

*Václav Havel and Film. Scripts, Analyses and Essays from 1957–1989*, will be published in 2016 outside the series and in collaboration with the National Film Archives.

## STUDENT SERIES

In this series, the Library has been publishing thematic collections from works by Václav Havel since 2012. They are intended primarily for students or anyone encountering his work and life for the first time. The volumes published in this series are accompanied by essays by experts in Havel's work, as well as a considerable number of photographs. No book was published in the series in 2015.

## TALKS IN LÁNY PALACE

This series of publications was launched in 2013 and presents the transcripts of a series of radio talks with Václav Havel, entitled *Talks from Lány Palace (1990–2000)*. Volume 3 was published in 2015, entitled *Talks in Lány Palace 1992*, which concludes the 'Federal' part of the Talks. Following lengthy technical issues on the part of the printing company, the book was released for ordinary distribution at the beginning of 2016.

## THE FILES OF VÁCLAV HAVEL

This series, established in 2013 is a sequel to the work done by the Torst publishers. It is a re-edit of the publishers' first book issue of *The Files of Václav Havel (1999, 2007)* in order to reprint them as e-books. In 2014 and 2015 all 8 volumes were carefully edited by a trio of renowned editors. The electronic publication of *The Files of Václav Havel* was inaugurated on 6 January 2016 as part of the Year of Havel event.

## THE WORK OF PAVEL JURÁČEK

This series was established in the spring of 2014 shortly after Marek Juráček, the son of Pavel Juráček, decided to donate the whole of his father's estate to the Library.



A mere glance at the preserved typewritten documents and handwritten notes showed the unquestionable literary, cultural and historical value of the estate, and the fact that systematic work would be required. For this purpose, the Library founded a separate Pavel Juráček Archive and drew up a general plan to publish his work.

The editorial work on the first two volumes of *The Work of Pavel Juráček* was completed in 2015 and volume 10 was published, entitled *The Wolf's Situation. A Western 1971–1982*. The next volume, entitled *A Figure to Be Propped Up. A Grotesque 1962–1963* was published in February 2016.

#### **PAVEL JURÁČEK. THE WOLF'S SITUATION. A WESTERN 1971-1982 (LIBRARY VOL. 10)**

Pavel Juráček based *The Wolf's Situation* on a short story by Jack London, *The Unexpected*, although it was not a reverent adaptation. He took much of the basic storyline from the times of the Gold Rush at the end of the 19th century, but not the way the main characters act, staying within the traditional gold prospecting story genre. He replaced the almost stereotypically predictable yearning for riches with a raw excursion into the core of human instinct. Based on a small community, helplessly exposed to the never-ending landscape of the far north and its merciless natural order, he created an extraordinarily impressive existential drama. Intimate and economical in all respects, yet still a grand 'widescreen' drama.

#### **CONFERENCES OF THE VÁCLAV HAVEL LIBRARY**

The newest series of the Library was founded in the autumn of 2014 and aims to survey the outputs from selected conferences the Library has helped to prepare and hold, as both a co-organiser and guarantor. Unlike ordinary conference collections, great care is taken with the graphic design of these publications. Every volume

is accompanied by a single artist's work which is closely associated with the main topic of the volume.

Two volumes were published in the series in 2015.

#### **GARDEN PARTY 1963-2013**

The collection from a conference entitled *The Garden Party 1963–2013*, bringing together contributions from renowned experts on Václav Havel's drama: Helena Albertová, Katia Hala, Zdeněk Hořínek, Lenka Jungmannová, Vladimír Just, Nadine Kešler, Petr Oslzlý, Martin J. Švejda and Kateřina Xhelo. The book is accompanied by photographs by Jaroslav Krejčí from the first ever staging of the *Garden Party*, premiered at the Na zábradlí Theatre on 3 December 1963.

#### **BOHEMIA IN A HUNDRED YEARS**

This is a record of four debates held at the conference entitled *Europe and Bohemia 2113*, organised by the Václav Havel Library at the American Cultural Centre in May 2013: I. History (Miroslav Bárta / Ivo Budil / Václav Cílek / Václav Drška / Martin Kovář / Michal Stehlík), II. Sociology (Jeronym Klimeš / Stanislav Komárek / Jaroslav Petr / Jitka Rychtaříková / Jan Sokol), III. Economics, Vision, Catastrophism and the Creative Arts (Petr Hlaváček / Petr Koubský / Zdeněk Kudrna / Jan Macháček / Daniel Münich / Zbyněk Petráček / Tomáš Pospiszyl), IV. Nature (Václav Cílek / Lukáš Čížek / Vladimír Kokolia / Vojen Ložek / Jan Zrzavý).

The volume includes original drawings by František Skála.

#### **OUTSIDE THE SERIES**

These publications do not significantly differ from the Library's ordinary productions. The main difference lies in the genre (audio recordings, DVD) and visual concept (graphic design, format).

The following titles were published in 2015:

### **FILIP TOPOL: ANGUS BURGE**

A collection of nine loose sheets with pen and ink drawings from the life of Angus Burge has recently been discovered in the estate of the musician Filip Topol. The issue pays honour to the original down to the finest detail, except for the woven cover, which was replaced with a simple sewn binding. The chivalrous comic entitled Angus Burge was published to mark the occasion of his 50th birthday, which he did not live to see (19/06/1965), in a limited run of 300.

### **ANNA FREIMANOVÁ (ED.): THE HORNÍ POČERNICE CROOKS. A REPORT ON THE PREMIERE OF THE BEGGARS' OPERA IN 1975.**

A collection of memoirs, letters, reviews and studies on the world premiere of the Beggars' Opera by Václav Havel, which was held exactly 40 years ago on 1 November. The texts by Anna Freimanová, Václav Havel, Andrej Krob, Sergej Machonin, Luboš Pistorius and Jaroslav Vostrý are accompanied and illustrated with period photographs by Bohdan Holomíček.

During the dark times of the so-called normalisation era, on Saturday 1 November 1975, several serious crimes were committed in the lounge of the U Čelíkovských pub in Horní Počernice, which were not left unnoticed. The Secret Police network caught a group of delinquents aged from 17 to 25, as well as several dozen artists and important Prague Spring activists, who not long before had been very famous. They had to undergo police interrogations and for most of them this was the start of their harassment by the Secret Police. AK, then 36, was also interrogated several times, fired and prohibited from working as a theatre set designer anywhere in the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic until 1989. The Secret Police officers identified a 39-year old former writer, provocateur and reactionary, VH, as the initiator and organiser of the whole event.

What actually happened back then? Nothing extraordinary from today's perspective:

A playwright had written a play. His friend together with other friends had established an amateur theatre and rehearsed and acted out the play once on a pub stage on the outskirts of Prague, for his own pleasure and that of the author. Some 200 people gathered to see it, mostly friends and relatives invited by the author and the actors. The performance was a good one and a great success. The audience applauded and the actors and the author were given flowers. Everyone left the hall in an orderly fashion and went to one of restaurants in the centre of Prague. There they celebrated the evening and the fact that they had all met up again, some after many years. No one was attacked, nothing was damaged or stolen, no statements were made that could be sued. Despite this, next Monday a police raid was launched, almost as intense as if communism has been overthrown that Saturday night and state security threatened ...

Work on three other publications also continued in 2015: *Friend and Ellipsis* (a selection from the literary works of Filip Topol), *Lucerna / Barrandov* (an extensive monograph on the building activities of the Havel Family) and *Interview with Oldřich Škácha* (the last authorised interview with a comprehensive selection of photographs tracing Škácha's 'Journey to Photography').

### **PUBLISHING COOPERATION**

In 2015 the Library focused on the publication of the life stories of Václav Havel. The cooperation involved the provision of archival materials, consultation with authors and the preparation of partial literature searches.

# THE WORLD OF VÁCLAV HAVEL

*The programme under the heading The World of Václav Havel comprises a variety of domestic and foreign “biographical” events that the Library organises or is actively involved in. In 2015 its central plank was the third annual Václav Havel Human Rights Prize, alongside the project Václav Havel European Dialogues, the emerging network of memorial spots named Václav Havel’s Places and Our return to the map of the World debate series.*

## THE VÁCLAV HAVEL HUMAN RIGHTS PRIZE

The prize is bestowed in memory of Václav Havel, playwright, fighter against totalitarianism, leader of the 1989 Velvet Revolution, Czechoslovak and Czech president, and a symbol of vigilance against despotism. Individuals, non-governmental organisations and institutions pursuing the adherence of human rights may be nominated. Alongside a diploma and a plaque, laureates of the Václav Havel Human Rights Prize receive a reward of EUR 60,000. The official presentation of the Václav Havel Human Rights Prize took place on 25 March 2013 in Prague, where in the presence of the minister of foreign affairs of the Czech Republic, Karel Schwarzenberg, it was signed by Jean-Claude Mignon, president of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, Marta Smolíková, director of the Václav Havel Library, and František Janouch, chairman of the first Board of Trustees of the Charta 77 Foundation.

The prize replaced the former Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe human rights prize, which was created in 2007 and presented biannually. The award was first bestowed on British Irish Human Rights Watch in 2009. In 2011 it went to the Russian NGO Committee against Torture.

A seven-member committee headed by the president of the Parliamentary Assembly or their designee selects the

recipient of the Václav Havel Human Rights Prize. Three jury members are named by the office of the Parliamentary Assembly and three by the Václav Havel Library in conjunction with the Charta 77 Foundation, conditional on none of them being currently in the Parliamentary Assembly. The committee assesses all the nominees and chooses three finalists, whose names are made public a month before the announcement of the winner. This takes place at the first autumn plenary session of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe. All three finalists are invited to the prize announcement in Strasbourg before moving on to Prague for an international conference in honour of the laureate. The six independent members of the committee are appointed for two years and are allowed to stay for a second term.

The historic first laureate of the Václav Havel Human Rights Prize in 2013 was Ales Bialiatski from Belarus, on whose behalf his wife Natalia Pinchuk accepted the award as Bialiatski was then behind bars in Belarus for alleged tax evasion. (He was reprieved in 2014 and was therefore able to join the conference of the Václav Havel Library in autumn of the same year.)

The laureate of the 2nd year of the Prize in 2014 was a renowned Azerbaijani human rights defender, Anar Mammadli. The prize, awarded by Anne Brasseur, President

of the Parliamentary Assembly of the European Council, was received on 29 September 2014 by Asaf Mammadov, Mammadli's father, as Mammadli had been sentenced to 5 1/2 years in prison in December 2013. (He was reprieved in February 2016).

The nomination for the 3rd year of the Prize was open from mid-January till the end of April 2015. An expert jury of seven chose and announced the following trio of finalists on 25 August:

Lyudmila Alexeyeva, Russia  
Women for Afghan Women, Afghanistan  
The Youth Initiative for Human Rights, the Balkans

The 2015 laureate was an important Russian human rights defender, Lyudmila Alexeyeva. She received the prize in person in Strasbourg on 28 September 2015 from Anne Brasseur, President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the European Council.

Lyudmila Alexeyeva (\*1927) is a human rights veteran in Russia, her homeland. In her youth, she gave up a promising academic career to join the Soviet dissident movement, going on to become a founding member of the Moscow Helsinki Group. Forced to emigrate to the US in 1977, she returned to Russia in 1989 to continue her work, becoming President of the International Helsinki Foundation and later joining the Russian President's Commission on Human Rights. She has worked relentlessly for the protection and promotion of the rule of law.

In honour of the laureate, the Václav Havel Library held an international conference entitled *The Story of a Refugee: Europe of Dreams and Reality* (30/09/2015, Prague Crossroads)

The conference was inaugurated with a video greeting by President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the European Council, Anne Brasseur. Besides the representatives of the three finalists, it was attended by important personalities from the Czech Republic and abroad: Jiří Dienstbier (Minister for Human Rights, Equal Opportunities and Legislation), Michael Žantovský (Director of the Václav Havel Library), Martin Palouš (President Václav Havel Library Foundation), Šimon Pánek (Director of People in Need), Jiří Přibáň (Cardiff University), Tomáš Jungwirth (the AMO think-tank), Martin Šimečka (editor of *Respekt* magazine), Safa Hassani (psychiatrist), Anastasia Hagen (model), Mohammed Kazkji (a Syrian refugee), and Katrine Camilleri (A member of Maltese Jesuit Assistance for Refugees). The final word was delivered by Karel Schwarzenberg, a founder of the Library and Chairman of the Foreign Committee of the Parliament. The conference, organised in panels, also followed the differences between natural and forced migration. considered the idea of the European border as the border of humanity and last but not least, made statements concerning the possible breaking out of a new global conflict.

## VÁCLAV HAVEL EUROPEAN DIALOGUES

The Václav Havel European Dialogues is an international project that aims to initiate and stimulate discussion on issues determining the direction of contemporary Europe while referring to the European spiritual legacy of Václav Havel. The project takes its main inspiration from Václav Havel's essay *The Power of the Powerless*. More than other similarly focused projects, the Václav Havel European Dialogues aim to offer the 'powerless' a platform to express themselves and in so doing to strengthen their position within Europe.

It is planned as a long-term project and involves cooperation with other organisations in various European cities. Individual events, which take the form of conferences,

discussions, debates or meetings, are targeted primarily at secondary and third-level students, as well as specialists and members of the public interested in European issues.

## **29.-30. 5. 2015 | TIME FOR EUROPEAN POLITICS**

### **DOX Centre for Contemporary Art, Prague**

Academicians, students, representatives of civic initiatives, politicians and journalists were invited to the conference. The key contribution was presented by Gilles Kepel, an important French politologist and expert in the current Arab world. The conference was divided into several thematic blocks.

The topic of What neighbouring countries mean for Europe was addressed, besides Gilles Kepel, also by Camino Mortera–Martinez (Madrid–London), Sofia Vasilopoulou (Athens–New York) and Anne Valkering (Amsterdam). The importance of Europe for neighbouring countries was then discussed by Andrew Wilson (London), Vladimir Yermolenko (Kiev), Tornike Gordadze (Tbilisi) and Julian Groza (Kishinev). The topic of sustainability and viability of European values was dealt with by Tony Curzon Price (London), Petr Pithart (Prague), Pavel Barša (Prague), Ian Traynor (Brussels) and Moritz Hartmann (Berlin). The first day of the conference finished with a contribution by a renowned Polish thinker, Adam Michnik, on the topic of Václav Havel and Europe.

The second day, dedicated to the direction and appearance of current European politics, was opened by a very lively discussion between Jiří Příbáň and Elmar Brok. Many of the ideas presented therein were subsequently dealt with in detail in the concluding panel on political parties and civic society, attended by Paul Flather (Oxford), Camino Mortera–Martinez (Madrid–London), Sofia Vasilopoulou (Athens–New York), György Petócz (Budapest), Jan Macháček (Prague), Marta Šimečková (Bratislava) and Tony Curzon Price (London).



*Václav Havel European Dialogues 2015. Prague Conference Time for European Politics.*



*Adam Michnik at the Prague Conference Time for European Politics.*



*Havel and Germany.*

The conference ‘Time for European Politics’ was held in collaboration with the Representation of the EU in the Czech Republic, the Forum 2000 Foundation and DOX Centre for Contemporary Art

### **OTHER EVENTS WITHIN THE VÁCLAV HAVEL EUROPEAN DIALOGUES**

#### **18. 11. 2015 | EUROPE’S UNSTABLE EASTERN NEIGHBOURHOOD: WHAT ROLE FOR CIVIL SOCIETY? EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, BRUSSELS, BELGIUM**

The conference programme consisted of two panel discussions. The first was held on the topic of EU’s eastern neighbours and was attended by Volodymyr Ogrysko, a former Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Ukraine, and Ekaterine Tkeshelashvili, a former Minister for the Reintegration of Georgia. The second panel focused on the European Neighbourhood Policy and its present evaluation, and was attended by Rostislav Valvoda from People in Need, Iryna Shvets of the OPORA Ukraine Civic Network and Sona Ayvazyan, a representative of Transparency International Armenia and the Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum.

The conference entitled Europe’s Unstable Eastern Neighbourhood: What Role for Civil Society? intended to continue the debate on Europe and contribute to the discussion in the context of the European Neighbourhood Policy and its evaluation, especially focusing on the importance of the involvement of civic society for democracy. It was organised by the Václav Havel Library, Czech Centre in Brussels, European Partnership for Democracy, Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum and the Permanent Representative of the Czech Republic in EU.



## OUR JOURNEY BACK TO THE WORLD MAP

A cycle of panel discussions dedicated to the key foreign journeys of Václav Havel at the beginning of his first presidency, which substantially helped to establish democratic Czechoslovakia for the world's public and politics.

### **29. 1. 2015 | HAVEL AND GERMANY**

Václav Havel began to open the country to new foreign relations after becoming the President at the end of 1989. On 2 January 1990 he travelled to Berlin, German Democratic Republic, and Munich, Federal Republic of Germany. Symbolically, on the date of the German occupation he invited Richard von Weizsäcker to Prague. These events opened up the reconciliation process and new cooperation between both nations. The reflection and future of relationships of Czechoslovakia, the Czech Republic and Germany is part of the cycle dedicated to important foreign journeys of Václav Havel in 1990.

#### **14.00–15.30 Panel on memories of the journey in 1990:**

Antje Vollmer, František Černý, Milan Horáček and Joachim Bruss

**Host:** Eva van der Rakt

#### **16.00–17.30 Panel on current relations between the Czech Republic and Germany**

Jiří Fajt, Tomáš Kafka, Zuzana Jürgens and Hans-Jörg Schmidt

**Host:** Tomáš Sacher

### **2. 2. 2015 | JOINT MEDITATION**

The first meeting of Václav Havel and His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama, which took place at Lány on 2 February 1990, not only spelled the start of a deep friendship between the two men; it also changed the position of the Tibetan spiritual leader in the world of high politics. The



*Havel and USA.*



*Havel and journey to the Soviet Union*

meeting was recalled by Václav Havel's then secretary, Alexandr Neuman, and Stašek Slavický. Ivana Denčevová hosted the evening.

## **12. 2. 2015 | PANEL DISCUSSION ON THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF VÁCLAV HAVEL'S VISIT TO THE US AND THE RENEWAL OF RELATIONS BETWEEN CZECHOSLOVAKIA AND THE US**

From 20 to 22 February 1990, Václav Havel and a large team undertook a trip to Washington and New York. He delivered a legendary speech to both Houses of Congress in which he paradoxically called on the US to help Russia on its path to democracy. The visit included meetings with George H.W. Bush at the White House and many other important politicians, as well as with Czech expatriates and students, while a celebration at which numerous well-known artists performed was organised for the Czechoslovak president at New York's St. John the Divine Cathedral. The visit became the basis for friendly relations between the two countries that later resulted in the Czech Republic being accepted into NATO.

### **Program:**

**Introduction:** H. E. Ambassador Andrew H. Shapiro, Marta Smolíková

**14:00-15:30: panel about the travel to US**

Alexandr Vondra, Eda Kriseová, Martin Mejstřík

**Moderator:** Josef Jařab

**16:00-17:30: panel about current relations between US - Czech Republic and US - European Union**

Jiří Pehe, Daniel Anýž, Veronika Bednářová, Raymond A Castillo, Counselor for Public Affair of the US Embassy

**Moderator:** Jan Macháček

## **4. 3. 2015 | JOURNEY TO THE SOVIET UNION**

Just a few days after his speech at the United States Congress in 1990, Václav Havel visited Moscow...

On 26 and 27 February 1990, he discussed the departure of Soviet troops with Mikhail Gorbachev, while a declaration aimed at overcoming the troubled past and establishing new relations between the two states based on the principles of justice, equality and sovereignty was signed. Almost exactly a year later a decision was made to dissolve the military structures of the Warsaw Pact (25 February 1991) and in July of that year the member states dissolved the pact.

#### **22. 4. 2015 | “I WELCOME YOU, HOLY FATHER, AMONG US SINNERS.”**

An evening dedicated to Václav Havel’s meetings with Pope John Paul II, their personal friendship, John Paul II’s relationship to Czechoslovakia and the first ever papal visit in Czech history. Chaired by Veronika Sedláčková; Tomáš Halík, František Mikloško and Pavel Fischer attended. Part of the series *Our return to the map of the world*. The discussion was broadcast live by TV Noe. Chaired by Veronika Sedláčková; Tomáš Halík, František Mikloško and Pavel Fischer attended.

#### **28. 4. 2015 | JOURNEY TO ISRAEL**

Václav Havel was the first president in the history of Czechoslovakia to visit the State of Israel, on a trip that took place from 25–27.1990.

Václav Havel was the first president in the history of Czechoslovakia and the first leader of a post-communist country to visit the State of Israel, on a trip that took place from April 25–27 1990. Among the issues he discussed with the Israeli President Haim Herzog and other representatives was the possibility of holding peace talks between the Israelis and the Palestinians in Prague and the exodus of Soviet Jews through Czechoslovakia. During his visit to Jerusalem, Havel delivered the speech *Kafka and My Presidency* at the Hebrew University. Since that time, the Czech Republic and Israel have been developing and



*“I welcome you, Holy Father, among us sinners.”*



*Journey to Israel.*



*Budapest + Prague + Warsaw = Bratislava.*

strengthening the historical ties rediscovered by Vaclav Havel 25 years ago.

Czech/English interpretation was provided.

In cooperation with the Embassy of Israel.

**PROGRAMME:**

**15.00–15.15 Opening:** Marta Smolíková, Director of the VHL, H. E. Gary Koren, Ambassador of the State of Israel, and Jiří Diensbier, Minister for Human Rights, Equal Opportunities and Legislation

**15.15–16.45 The 1990 Journey to Israel**

**Panel:** Moshe Arens, Milan Kňažko, Yoel Sher, Alexandr Vondra

**Chairman:** Michael Žantovský

**17.00–18.30 The Czech Republic and Israel Today, the Legacy of Vaclav Havel**

**Panel:** Shlomo Avineri, Magdalena Křížová, Daniel Kumermann, Jiří Schneider

**Chairman:** Tomáš Pojar

**18.30 Closing speech:** Karel Schwarzenberg

**20.00 Glass of beer,** concert featuring the Czech band Garage and the Israeli group Malox (Vinohradský pivovar, Korunní 106, Prague 10)

**18. 5. 2015 | BUDAPEST + PRAGUE + WARSAW = BRATISLAVA**

A meeting of Czechoslovak, Hungarian and Polish leaders in Bratislava on 9.4.1990, which was also attended by representatives of Italy, Yugoslavia and Austria, centered on cooperation and coordination of the foreign policies of the post-communist states with regard to integration into Western European structures.

The conference stemmed from a call made by Václav Havel at Poland's Sejm and Senate on 25.1.1990, while the initiative took concrete form with the signing of a joint declaration by representatives of Hungary, Czechoslovakia and Poland at Hungary's Visegrad on 14.2.1991.

Guests: Andrzej Jagodziński, Miroslav Kunštát, Ladislav Snopko and György Varga, Chairman Luboš Palata.

## VÁCLAV HAVEL'S PLACE

The creation of Václav Havel's Places – memorial spots dedicated to Václav Havel – is a worldwide project initiated by the Czech Ambassador to the US Petr Gandalovič and architect and designer Bořek Šípek. The aim of the project, which is coordinated by the Václav Havel Library in cooperation with and with the kind permission of the Dagmar and Václav Havel VIZE 97 Foundation, is to create a network of spots in public spaces that can contribute to encounters and the holding of genuine dialogue – places where it will be possible to debate and contemplate in the spirit of the ideals and philosophy of Václav Havel. Bill Shipsey, the founder of Art for Amnesty, is involved in the realisation of the project abroad and coordinated the installation of memorial spots in Venice and the Hague. In 2013 Václav Havel's Place were installed in Washingtonu and Dublinu. A year after their number grew by 9 (Barcelona, Praha, České Budějovice, Hradec Králové, Plzeň, Oxford). During the last year Václav Havel's Place were installed in the next six cities and towns:

### 5. 7. 2015 | KARLOVY VARY

The Václav Havel's Place was unveiled in connection with the 50th edition of the Karlovy Vary International Film Festival. Along with Mayor Petr Kulhánek (Karlovy Vary Civic Alternative), it was unveiled by Dagmar Havlová, Minister of Culture Daniel Herman (Christian Democrats) and the director of the Václav Havel Library, Marta Smolíková.

### 27. 10. 2015 | TEL AVIV

The Václav Havel's Place on the campus of Tel Aviv University was presented by a Czech delegation headed by Minister of Culture Daniel Herman and the designer



*Havel's Place in Tel Aviv.*





*Havel's Place in Pardubice.*

of the untraditional place of memorial, architect Bořek Šípek. The event was part of this year's commemorations of the 25th anniversary of the renewal of diplomatic ties between the CR and Israel.

#### **5. 11. 2015 | HAGUE**

Architect Bořek Šípek, the mayor of the Hague, Jozias van Aartsen, and the Czech ambassador to the Netherlands, Dr. Jaroslav Horák, took part in the unveiling of the Václav Havel's Place, which was preceded by a commemorative event at the Hague's Old City Hall. The memorial was placed in a park in the artistic quarter of the Hague in a street in front of the Theatre Diligentia.

#### **13. 11. 2015 | PARDUBICE**

The Václav Havel's Place was ceremonially unveiled at the newly opened University of Pardubice campus. "This form of memorial is a good symbol of essence of the personality of Václav Havel, who had a rare gift for listening to others and creating a pleasant atmosphere for meetings, debates and reflections," said Anna Freimanová of the Václav Havel Library.

#### **17. 11. 2015 | KRÁSNÁ LÍPA**

The Václav Havel's Place was unveiled in connection with the 26th anniversary of the Velvet Revolution, with former Prague Castle chancellor Ivo Mathé representing the Václav Havel Library at the ceremony.

#### **19. 11. 2015 | NOVÝ BOR**

The Václav Havel's Place was unveiled during the opening of a newly renovated part of the main square on a day of commemoration of the 25th anniversary of the Velvet Revolution. Alongside members of the general public, it was attended by representatives of the town of Nový Bor, the Liberec Region, the Chamber of Deputies of the



Parliament of the Czech Republic and direct participants in the events of 1989. Bořek Šípek, creator of the Václav Havel's Place project, also took part.

## CABINET HAVEL 2014/2015

Cabinet Havel 2014/2015, or All We Need Is Truth (Prague/Brno)

A free continuation of the cycle entitled Cabinet Havel. held by the Library in connection with the Husa na provazku Theatre. The events were held at the National Theatre in Prague and the Husa na provazku Theatre in Brno.

### **The first three debates were held at the end of 2014:**

17 November – No Borders, 4 December – Are We on the Safe Side? and 17 December – Do We Need Heroes? Do We Need Authorities? Do We Need a Vision?

### **5. 1. 2015 | THE CZECH-SLOVAK CONSTELLATION, 22 YEARS AFTER**

The fourth part in a series organised by the Divadlo Husa na provázku theatre and the Václav Havel Library focused on the breakup of Czechoslovakia, as well as exploring some of the things the two countries had been through since. Guests: former Slovak prime minister Iveta Radičová, former Czech prime minister Petr Pithart and former Slovak culture minister Ladislav Snopko. Hosted by Renata Kalenská and Petr Oslzlý.

### **18. 2. 2015 | CAN WE LIVE TOGETHER, OR AT LEAST SIDE BY SIDE?**

Us and them. How do we view foreigners and they us? Who's in a minority here? How do we perceive difference? Sociologist and journalist Jiřina Šiklová and Czeslaw Walek participated. Renata Kalenská asked the questions while Petr Oslzlý philosophised. At the end, Tereza Marečková sung "Prayer for Marta".



*Cabinet Havel: The Czech-Slovak Constellation 22 Years After.*



*Cabinet Havel: Media Dictate, The Cult of Profit.*

### **24. 3. 2015 | MEDIA DICTATE, THE CULT OF PROFIT**

How does today's media work? Can we orient ourselves in it and do we really have alternatives? What influence do media outlets have on our lives and our views? Do they deliver important information or just create a smoke-screen? How does self-censorship work, and is the reader a victim or an accomplice?

An early evening discussion on the subject of the responsibility of journalists and media owners in the loose Cabinet Havel series, organised in the inspiring setting of the foyer of the National Theatre by the Václav Havel Library and the Divadlo Husa na provázku theatre. Guests Tomáš Sedláček and Erik Tabery. Hosted by Renata Kalenská and Petr Oslzlý.

### **11. 5. 2015 | CABINET HAVEL: OUR LEADERS' VISIONS**

A vision of the future, an emphasis on spiritual values in leading society and the placing of long-term gains ahead of immediate ones were themes that ran throughout the life and work of Václav Havel.

Whether as citizen, artist, member of the persecuted opposition or president, he put these important questions not just to politicians and representatives of influential domestic and diplomatic institutions, but above all to himself. All these years later, we too want to put such questions to our representatives.

Guests: Martin Stropnický and Ivan Gabal.

Chaired by Renata Kalenská and Petr Oslzlý. In cooperation with the theatre Divadlo Husa na provázku.

### **21. 6. 2015 | CABINET HAVEL 2014/2015 OR ALL WE NEED IS THE TRUTH**

Final debate in a series on the state of Czech society from November 2014 to June 2015.

Guests: Actors from the Divadlo Husa na provázku theatre

Presenters: Vladimír Morávek and Petr Oslzlý  
In conclusion, Gábina Vermelho and Tereza Marečková  
sang *Modlitba pro Martu* (Marta's Prayer).

Vladimir Moravek's Personal Invitation:

*Dear friends,*

*When we were preparing this last Cabinet Havel, to take place in the triumphal lodge of the National Theatre in Prague, we thought that we would just give a nice philosophical talk on the topic of Quo vadis, the nation and it'd be done, but then Ludvik Vaculik died and we thought about doing something more. We would therefore like to dedicate the whole session in the balcony to him and to watching the River Vltava, for which Gabriela Vermelho will sing and something will be said and there can be silence and one will think something about great men and hope and hopelessness, and the Golden Theatre Chapel will glitter in sorrow, and we'll be well. A great man has died.*

## OTHER EVENTS

### 9. 5. 2015 | EXHIBITION OF PHOTOGRAPHS BY ONDŘEJ NĚMEC: THE UNDERGROUND

Organized by the Dačice Municipal Authority in cooperation with the Václav Havel Library. It was followed at 15.00 by a presentation in the 3D cinema of a comic book about Magor and the screening of footage from the Festival of the Second Culture at Hrádeček.

### 14. 5. 2015 | VÁCLAV HAVEL, YOU'RE REALLY ANNOYING US

An overview of the Václav Havel Library's latest book releases. *Sám sobě podezřelý – souboru osmi osobně laděných prezidentských projevů Václava Havla z let 1990–1995* (*Suspicious to Myself – A Collection of Eight Presidential Speeches With a Personal Tone by Václav Havel, 1990–1995*), *Perzekuce Václava Havla. Dokumenty a dopisy z let*



Cabinet Havel: Our Leader's Visions.



*Museum Night: The Hrádeček Phenomenon.*

1968–1989 (*The Persecution of Václav Havel: Documents and Letters, 1968–1989*), *Hovory v Lánech 1991* (*Talks from Lány 1991*) (the second volume in a book edition of the radio program) and other parts of Pavel Juráček's work. Anna Freimanová, Martin Vidlák, Jan Hron, Pavel Hájek and other guests appeared on stage.

### **13. – 14. 6. 2015 | MUSEUM NIGHT: THE HRÁDEČEK PHENOMENON**

The permanent exhibition on Václav Havel opened the whole evening, supplemented by an audio-visual compilation put together from Václav Havel Library archival materials exploring the phenomenon of Hrádeček as a spiritual center of the Czechoslovak dissent far exceeding the significance of a mere cottage in the Krkonoše foothills where Václav Havel often stayed. One part of the Museum Night was dedicated to the memory of Ludvík Vaculík. Visitors could see period photographs of him by Oldřich Škácha, his correspondence with Václav Havel and the typewritten script of his novel *Český snář* ('The Czech Dreambook').

### **19. – 20. 6. 2015 | VH LIBRARY STAND AT THE UNITED ISLANDS FESTIVAL**

Vaclav Havel Library at the international music festival.

### **21. 6. 2015 | VH LIBRARY STAND AT KNIHEX**

The Václav Havel Library was represented at Knihex, a trade fair for small publishers, for the first time last year.

### **22. 8. 2015 | A TRADITIONAL ISLAND OF BOOKS IN TRUTNOV FESTIVAL'S SEA OF DECIBELS**

Program of the Václav Havel Library in the Underground tent: three times about Ukraine and a slideshow of photos of Ondřej Němec. Then there was a discussion about Islam in the Czech Republic in the Václav Havel Library tent.

**10.00-11.30: Ondřej Němec: Václav Havel and underground**

Projection by Ondřej Němec of his photographs, primarily work documenting Václav Havel, his interaction with the underground in the 1970s, the relatively informal early period of his presidency and the final years of his life. During the slide show, Ondřej Němec also presented his book *Torzo (Torso)*, mainly comprising photographs taken in the 1970s and 1980s but affected by flooding years later.

**11.30-12.00: Andriy Lyubka**

Andriy Lyubka was born to Ukrainian parents in Riga, Latvia. He was actively involved in all of the demonstrations during the Maidan events, using his poetry to warm the hearts of Ukrainians in the bitter cold.

He attended a lyceum with a focus on military and physical training before later studying Ukrainian philology at Uzhhorod State University, where he served for two years as chairman of the student parliament.

His political activism led to a 15-day spell in a Belarusian jail for demonstrating against the rigging of presidential elections in 2006.

Lyubka's best-known poetry collections include "Eight Months of Schizophrenia" (2007), "Terrorism" (2009) and "40 Dollars with a Tip" (2012), while he also wrote the prose collection "Sleeping With Women" (2014). His works have been translated into Czech, Polish, Japanese, Serbian and other languages. He has won several Ukrainian awards and has also been named "Zakarpattia's most desirable groom of the year."

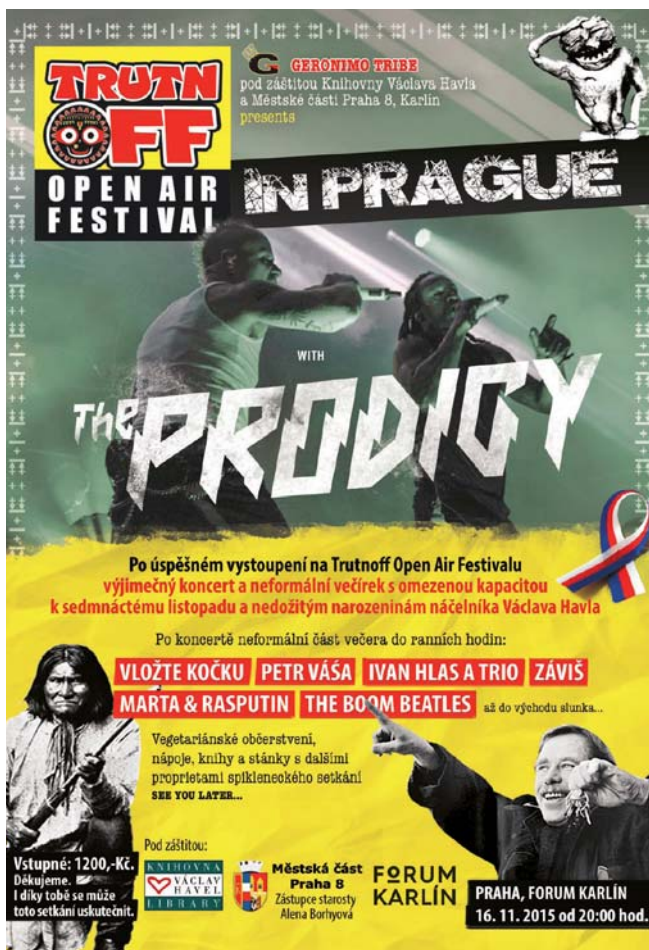
**12.00-12.30: Tetiana Okopna**

Translator, interpreter and expert in Czech studies, she works in the Czech Centre in Kiev. During Maidan she helped as a volunteer in hospitals and interpreted for Czech doctors. Do Ukrainians read Czech literature? How do the



Trutnoff 2015.





*The Prodigy – Trutnoff in Prague.*

current developments in Ukraine affect our culture, and vice versa? A debate on translating Czech literature into Ukrainian and Ukrainian literature into Czech, on Ukraine's socially aware art or on the month of authors' readings which were held in many Czech, Slovak and Ukrainian towns.

### 12.30-13.00: Vojtěch Boháč

Program prepared by the VH Library and the organization NESEHNUTÍ.

A Czech journalist writing for the Czech media (for instance, Respekt, Reporter and others). In the past he worked for the Moscow Times and during his stay in the Crimea at the time of the annexation he also contributed to Simferopol newspapers. He currently lives in both the Czech Republic and Ukraine, especially in places of military conflicts in the east of the country, from where he regularly reports. What is the role of the media and their propaganda in the Ukraine? Is the current image of Ukraine as presented by the Czech media identical with the reality? A debate on the current situation in Ukraine, the role of the media and the possibilities of journalism in the east of Ukraine.

### The stand of the Václav Havel Library: 15.30 Islam in the Czech Republic and in the Czech style

Influenced by developments abroad, the presence of Islam and its followers in Europe has become a topic for public discussion which produces a lot of emotion in a society that can often be seen as anti-Islamic. What then is the situation of Islam in the Czech Republic? How many Muslims live in the Czech Republic? Are followers of Islam in the Czech Republic a community? How many mosques have been built in the Czech Republic, and are they actually necessary? Why has the Union of Muslim Communities not obtained Level II registration? Are Muslims threatening our society? Guests of the Václav



Havel Library tried to answer these and many other questions in a meeting preceded by a short introduction to the history and structure of the Muslim community in the Czech Republic.

Tomáš Janků graduated in Religious Studies and Culture Management from Masaryk University in Brno and is now a student in a sociology doctorate programme in at Palacky University in Olomouc. He is a research worker and project manager at Socio Factor s.r.o. He conducts research especially into Islam in the Czech Republic and the sociology of religion.

#### **2. – 3. 10. 2015 | TABOOK – FESTIVAL OF GOOD PUBLISHING HOUSES IN TÁBOR**

Stand and presentation of both new books and tried and tested old titles.

#### **9. – 10. 10. 2015 | 25TH HAVLÍČKŮV BROD AUTUMN BOOK FAIR**

As part of the accompanying programme on Saturday the Library presented its new titles, which were also available to buy at its counter, number 166.

#### **16. 11. 2015 | THE PRODIGY – „TRUTNOFF IN PRAGUE“**

The concert was organised by the Trutnoff Open Air Festival under the auspices of the Prague 8 Town Hall and the Václav Havel Library. The Prodigy, who are used to 10,000 capacity arenas and big festivals, were set to appear in an unusual venue in the Czech Republic – Prague's Forum Karlín.

Under the title “Trutnoff in Prague” the show was a celebration of 17 November and a reminder of what would have been the 80th birthday of Václav Havel, who was the chieftain of the Trutnoff festival. Other bands played during the evening.



*Night of Theatres at The Václav Havel Library: Brno Plays Havel.*

## **16. 11. 2015 | NIGHT OF THEATRES AT THE VÁCLAV HAVEL LIBRARY**

The Night of Theatres erased the border between the auditorium and the stage, between dream and reality. It was a night when, without exaggeration, anything could happen. For the Václav Havel Library it was also a unique opportunity to allow Václav Havel to speak in his own words – via the plays, which have lost nothing of their poeticism or power since they were written.

### **19.00 Audience / Catastrophe**

The most well-known “Vaněk play” *Audience* performed with the one-act play *Catastrophe*, which its author, Nobel Prize for Literature recipient Samuel Beckett, dedicated to the long-imprisoned and seriously ill Václav Havel in 1982 (duration: 90 mins)

**Director:** Ivo Krobot

**Audience:** Jan Kolařík – Sládek, Alfred Texel – Vaněk  
**Catastrophe:** Jan Kolařík – Director, Kristýna Hulcová – Assistant, Alfred Texel – Protagonist, Tomáš Tušer – Luke, Theatre Technician

This performance was held in cooperation with the Centre for Experimental Theatre.

### **21.00 From Husa Na Provázku**

Screening of performances of *Hunt for a Pig* (58 min.) and *The Garden Party* (115 min.) by the Divadlo Husa na provázku theatre company

During the evening visitors could also check out the VHL's permanent exhibition *Havel in a Nutshell*, part of which was dedicated to the theatre itself.

**12.-13. 12. 2015 | THE VÁCLAV HAVEL LIBRARY  
ON KNIHEX 5 1/2**

The traditional book fair, last year entitled “5 1/2”, was attended by the Václav Havel Library with no less vigour than in the preceding years.

**18. 12. 2015 | HOLY MASS FOR VÁCLAV HAVEL**

The fourth Holy Mass for President Václav Havel organised by the Dagmar and Václav Havel Foundation VIZE 97. At the request of Mrs. Dagmar Havlová the memorial service was again celebrated by Cardinal Dominik Duka. The mass was open to members of the public.



*Knihex 5 1/2.*

# THE VÁCLAV HAVEL CLUB

*The Václav Havel Club is one of the Library's key activities for the public and complements the World of Václav of Havel. Within its framework, events targeted particularly at students and those interested in literature, theatre, contemporary history, political debate and general social themes are held at the Library's premises.*

## VÁCLAV HAVEL FAMILY AND FRIENDS

### **14. 1. 2015 | PRAGUE CASTLE UNDER VÁCLAV HAVEL 1990–1992**

The arrival of Václav Havel and his friends, the opening and making accessible of Prague Castle to the public as a symbol of Czechoslovakia opening up to the world, the return of culture to Prague Castle, many other subjects and the experiences of close friends and colleagues.

Guests: Miroslav Masák, Petr Oslzlý, Ivona Raimanová.

### **26. 1. 2015 | BLENDING**

A lecture by Ivan M. Havel on blending, a relatively marginal lexicological term in linguistics, which, however, turns out to be an inspiring topic for many sciences, from mathematics through cultural anthropology to art. Words may get merged, intercrossed, but primarily the principle of blending can be used as one of the metaphors in researching human (and computer) creativity.

### **19. 2. 2015 | THE STORY OF CHARTA 77**

Lecture by Kamila Bendová, a signatory of Charta 77 and a participant in events at that time. Charta 77 began as a civic initiative in 1976 and ceased its activities in 1992. The original *Declaration of Charta 77* document was signed by 242 people, with others joining.

In time, Charta 77 became the most important Czechoslovak civic initiative critical of the then political and state

authorities, in particular over their failure to adhere to human and civil rights. The life of Charta 77 was relatively short but colourful, with its influence and scope becoming broader by the year. What were the Charta's successes and what role did it play in the final fall of the totalitarian regime? Did the Charta contribute to laying the foundations of democracy?

### **2. 4. 2015 | THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO BRABENEC**

Vratislav Brabenec in a documentary by Miroslav Janek based on a book of interviews conducted with Brabenec by Renata Kalenská. A talk with the makers followed the screening (90 min.).

### **17. 4. 2015 | DG 307 CONCERT**

... and presentation of the comic book *Legendy o Magorovi* (*The Magor Legends*).

### **23. 4. 2015 | CHROBÁK AND PUZUK**

The Havels in the Scouts. An evening focusing on the time Václav and Ivan Havel spent in the scouts. Ivan Havel (scout name Puzuk), Alois Strnad (Lojza), Radko Trohař (Radko) and several others referred to notes from unique chronicles recalling their time in the movement. The director of the Scouting Institute, Miloš Říha, (Šípek) chaired the evening.

The ideals of scouting influenced an entire generation. They are espoused by several important figures for whom

respect for mankind and nature, good morals, self-discipline, perseverance, solidarity and humility became lifelong values. The Havel brothers were also members of scout groups.

### 21. 9. 2015 | LIBOR FÁRA 90

A close friend of Václav Havel's, the painter, graphic artist, scenographer and costume designer Libor Fára (1925–1988) would have celebrated his 90th birthday on 12 September 2015.

His graphic designs for books and magazines were an essential part of the Czech cultural milieu in the second half of the 20th century, while as the creator of its logo, theatre posters and programs he alongside Václav Havel and Jan Grossman was one of the creators of the golden era at Divadlo Na zábradlí (Theatre on the Balustrade). The rich personality of this distinctive artist, whose work affected and influenced a broad spectrum of Czech culture, was celebrated through the memories of close friends and associates, an expert analysis, video screenings and photographs.

### 24. 9. 2015 | ALL TOMORROW'S PARTIES BAND

Concert by a Prague tribute band to the legendary Velvet Underground.

### 20. 10. 2015 | DAŇA HORÁKOVÁ: PAVEL JURÁČEK'S GERMAN YEARS

A meeting with Daňa Horáková, Charta 77 signatory, German-language journalist, one-time Hamburg minister of culture (2002–2004) and wife (1979–1985) of film director Pavel Juráček, chaired by Pavel Hájek, editor of a book edition of *Dílo Pavla Juráčka* (*The Works of Pavel Juráček*).

The evening included the presentation of a new volume of *The Works* entitled *Situace vlka* (*Situation of the Wolf*).



Libor Fára 90.



DG 307.



Chrobák and Puzuk.





*Bořek Šípek (not just) at the Castle.*



*Discussion about human rights in China with David Kilgour and Ethan Gutmann.*

### **23. 11. 2015 | BOŘEK ŠÍPEK (NOT JUST) AT THE CASTLE**

Debate with the designer, architect and teacher Bořek Šípek on life past, present and future but above all on his friendship with Václav Havel, including their cooperation at Prague Castle and in private. Included the participation of other amiable – and surprise – guests.

### **ENGLISH EVENINGS**

Evenings for the English-speaking public which presented the life and work of Václav Havel and also provided room for debate on current social issues.

### **26. 2. 2015 | DISCUSSION ABOUT HUMAN RIGHTS IN CHINA WITH DAVID KILGOUR AND ETHAN GUTMANN**

Two renowned specialists on human rights in China debated in English with the moderator Kateřina Šafaříková, mainly about the theme of human organ harvesting.

David Kilgour: Former Canadian Secretary of State for Asia-Pacific who was awarded the 2009 Human Rights Prize by the International Society of Human Rights for his comprehensive investigation in this field, as well as being nominated for the 2010 Nobel Peace Prize.

Ethan Gutmann: Award-winning research journalist and author who testified before the U. S. House Committee on Foreign Affairs and recently published “The Slaughter”, based on his research on forced organ harvesting in China.

In cooperation with the organisation Lidská práva bez hranic (Human Rights without Borders).

### **10. 3. 2015 | THE REVOLT OF ISLAM: THE MIDDLE EAST IN TURMOIL**

Lecture and discussion organized by the Faculty of Social Sciences, the Italian Embassy in Prague and Václav Havel Library with a major Italian journalist, Antonio



Ferrari, who is a long-time special correspondent of the largest Italian newspaper Corriere della Sera in the Middle East.

Since the late 70s Ferrari has been a direct witness of many events that determined the course of history, from armed conflicts, through revolution, to the political upheavals in Europe and beyond. In Prague, Ferrari talked about his experience with radical Islam in practice and about contemporary development in the countries of the Middle East. The lecture and subsequent discussion was held in English. The program started with a signing ceremony of the Memorandum of Cooperation between the Institute of International Studies, Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University and the Italian Embassy in Prague in the presence of the Italian ambassador to the Czech Republic and Vice-Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences for Foreign Relations.

### **30. 3. 2015 | CROSSED LINES – DO WE REALLY UNDERSTAND ONE ANOTHER?**

One in a series of talks in English with colleagues and friends of Václav Havel. Discussion with Pavel Fischer and Jiří Šitler, both diplomats and colleagues of Václav Havel, chaired by David Vaughan. One of the challenges of the diplomat is to try to understand the way others think. But is this really possible?

Recent experiences of international diplomacy seem to suggest that we spend much of our time talking at cross purposes. Whether we're talking about Ukraine, China or even Greece, the international community seems to be as deeply divided as in the days of the Cold War. Even our shared horror at the tragedy in Paris seemed to have brought little in the way of real international understanding. But are things really as bad as they might seem at first sight?



*Crossed lines - do we really understand one another?*



Ralph Young: *Dissent - the history of an American Idea*.

#### **29. 4. 2015 | RALPH YOUNG: DISSENT – THE HISTORY OF AN AMERICAN IDEA**

At its founding the United States committed itself to lofty ideals. When these ideals were not fully realized, many protested and demanded that the United States live up to its promise.

Dr. Ralph Young, Professor of History at Temple University, presented his book *Dissent: The History of an American Idea* and discussed history and the role dissent has played in shaping the United States.

The event was held as a part of the Allen Ginsberg Freedom Festival, in cooperation with the Department of American Studies, Charles University.

#### **19. 5. 2015 | CHARISMATIC LEADER OR AUTHORITARIAN POPULIST?**

Panel discussion that was part of the conference „The Current Populism in Europe: A Threat to Liberal Democracy?“ which was organized by the Faculty of Social Sciences, Heinrich Böll Stiftung, Goethe Institut and Václav Havel Library.

In the discussion there were four presentations on various topics regarding authoritarian regimes and their populist attitudes. Giacomo Chiozza from Vanderbilt University in Nashville spoke about the myth of the strong leader in Russia, Tuba Eldem and Esin Kivrak Köroglu from universities in Ankara and Istanbul discussed authoritarianism, democracy and populism in Turkey and Iranian human right activist Nasim Basiri presented current political development in Afghanistan.

#### **8. 6. 2015 | STEVE CRAWSHAW: SMALL ACTS OF RESISTANCE**

Nonviolent change – and mischief. Those are the twin themes of *Small Acts of Resistance: How Courage, Tenacity and Ingenuity Can Change the World*, co-written by Steve

Crawshaw and John Jackson with a preface by Vaclav Havel.

The book has already appeared in Arabic, Persian, Tibetan, Chinese and other languages – and now is out in Czech: *Malé projevy vzdoru – Jak může odvaha, odhodlání a důvtip změnit svět*. The author told stories and answered questions on protest, humor and change. Many of the stories come from his own experience as a journalist (including East Europe Editor of The Independent from 1988 to 1992), and as a senior human rights advocate at Human Rights Watch and now Amnesty International. The event was chaired by Mark Martin, director of Amnesty International in the Czech Republic.

In cooperation with the publishing house *Anag*.

#### **16. 6. 2015 | JAMES RAGAN: A VIEW OF THE WORLD FROM VACLAV HAVEL'S BALCONY**

From the 1960s, James Ragan had visited his family villages in then Czechoslovakia, where he began his dissident writings against foreign occupation. As a published poet, playwright, screenwriter, and professor, he met newly-elected Czech President Vaclav Havel in 1991 in Los Angeles.

Acknowledging Ragan's banned activism against communism, Havel extended his hand, saying, "We are colleagues," and invited Ragan to return as a Czecho-Slovak and donate something back to the restored nation. Since that invitation, Ragan has returned to serve each summer for 22 years as Distinguished Visiting Professor of Poetry and Film at Charles University. As the subject of a 2014 documentary, *Flowers and Roots*, Ragan discussed his early days of witness to communist oppression and his relationship as a poet-playwright with Havel. He read poems from *The Hunger Wall (Hladová zed'*) written at Havel's iconic family home at Rasinovo nabrezi.



Rosa Maria Payá: *Quo vadis Cuba?*

#### **14. 9. 2015 | PRE-ELECTION BURMA AND THE CHALLENGES OF TRANSITION**

Did the elections in Burma present a true chance for the opposition to grasp power, or were they yet another travesty of democracy?

With the sudden change of leadership in the party in power and apparent division between the two most prominent elements of the opposition, the NLD and the 88 Generation; with bitter criticism of Aung San Suu Kyi's controversial stance towards the Rohingyas and her inability to run for president of the country, did we expect the Burmese elections to be truly democratic and legitimate? And even if the regime permitted a fair election, did the divided opposition prove powerful enough to bring the changes Burma desperately needed? Moderated by Surendra Munshi (sociologist, India). Speakers: Sein Di Da (Monk, Burma), Anders Ostergaard (film director, Denmark), Šimon Pánek (co-founder and director, People in Need, Czech Republic).

#### **12. 10. 2015 | CENSORSHIP AS A WEAPON OF A GOVERNMENT: FIGHTING WHOM AND WHAT FOR?**

Censorship in the USSR, Czechoslovakia and in today's Russia: Is there a difference? What is the peril of censorship for an artist? Strategies for resisting censorship in the USSR, Central European countries and in today's Russia.

Self-censorship: How does it manifest itself in society? Speakers: Artemij Troitsky – rock music critic and historian (Russia), František "Čuňas" Stárek (Czech Republic). Chair: Anton Litvin.

#### **25. 11. 2015 | QUO VADIS CUBA?**

Rosa Maria Payá is the daughter of Oswaldo Payá Sardinás, one of the leading Cuban dissidents, the author

of Valera Project, a friend of Václav Havel, who died in a car accident in 2012 under strange circumstances that have never been properly investigated.

Rosa Maria continues in the struggle for Cuba's freedom in the footsteps of her father and is now a member of the coordination committee of the Cuban democratic opposition. The conversation in English about the future of Cuba was introduced and facilitated by Martin Palouš, President of the Václav Havel Library Foundation and Director of the Václav Havel Program for Human Rights and Diplomacy at Florida International University.

#### **15. 12. 2015 | THE ROLE OF VOLUNTEERS AND UNIVERSITIES IN THE REFUGEE CRISIS**

In last year's summer months, volunteers represented practically the only help to refugees stranded at Budapest's Keleti railway station. Many were students who didn't hesitate to use their time and own funds in such a way. Direct participants, university students and teachers from the Hungary and the Czech Republic, shared their experiences and debated the role universities have had and should have in Europe's ongoing refugee crisis.

Chaired by: Lucia Najšlová, PhD. – Institute of International Studies, Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University

Speakers: Constanze Jeitler – volunteer and student from the Central European University, Budapest  
Stefan Roch – volunteer and student from the Central European University, Budapest

Layla Bartheldi – Student Movement for Solidarity, Prague, JUDr. Věra Honusková, PhD. – Právnická fakulta UK.

Event in English co-organised with the Institute of International Studies FSV UK and Visegrad Revue.





*Idle no more.*

## CIVIC RIGHTS AND SOCIETY

Open series of lectures and debates.

### **17. 3. 2015 | CONTEMPORARY INDIANS' IDLE NO MORE! PROTEST**

Lecture by Charles University anthropologist Jakub Hutera. In 2012 the Canadian government approved a law that in part deregulated the legal protection of the majority of the country's lakes, rivers and large swathes of the coasts of three oceans.

This led to the radicalisation of indigenous inhabitants under the slogan Idle No More! The activists accused the government of planning to complete a policy of colonising the original inhabitants via industrial projects, with disastrous consequences for the natural environment of Indian reservations and the health of local communities.

The new Indian political movement represents a noteworthy challenge toward finding closer links between adhering to fundamental human rights and the issue of environmental and sustainable development.

### **17. 3. 2015 | SQUATTING: CIVIC ACTIVISM VERSUS CZECH LAW**

Where do the boundaries of private ownership lie? What would the decriminalisation or even legalisation of squatting mean for Czech law? Journalist Ivan Brezina, ecologist Arnošt Novák (Klinika initiative), City of Prague councillor for territorial development Matěj Stropnický and lawyer Pavel Uhl discussed the essence of squatting and its legal aspect.

### **1. 4. 2015 | SATYRICON, OR WHO DOES THIS BENEFIT?**

Are television, radio and the press lacking in satire? Why? What is the status of art and entertainment in the media sphere and how might they develop? Should humour offer gentle and objective relief? And are there limits to

humour? The debate, featuring speakers such as David Vávra, Tomáš Žižka and Lenka Bočková, was chaired by Petr Placák.

#### **9. 4. 2015 | THE GENOCIDE OF ARMENIANS DURING WWI**

Last year marked 100 years since the slaughter of hundreds of thousands of Armenians in the Ottoman Empire. Considering the roots of the genocide, its denial and reflections on it were Armenian Studies experts Haig Utidjian and Milada Kiliánová from Charles University's Faculty of Arts, and Šimon Krbec, a lawyer at the Faculty of Evangelical Theology of Charles University and the Archaeology of Evil Research Centre. Historian Petr Šulc chaired the discussion.

#### **24. 4. 2015 | WOMEN IN THE SYRIAN REVOLUTION**

Activist Lamis Khalilová Bartůšková, Sandra Bitar, a Syrian activist with Czech roots, and painter Marie Sibaiová discussed the insecurity of life at the centre of revolutionary Syria and particularly Syrian women who have become involved in the fight for human dignity. Šádí Shanaáh chaired the discussion.

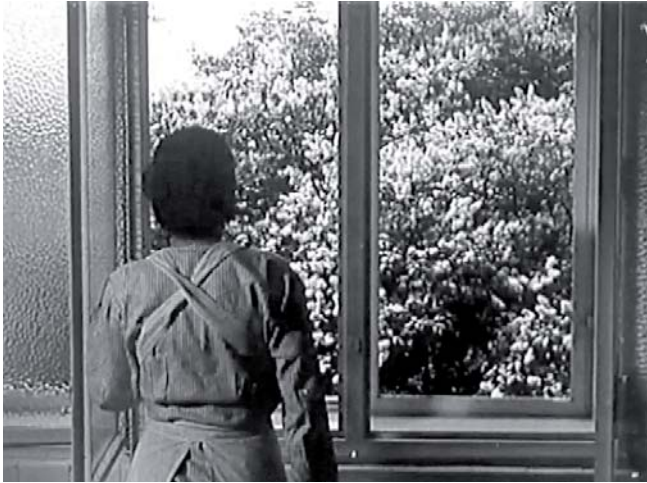
The debate was accompanied by a screening of *chicago-Girl*, a documentary about a student organising a protest on the other side of the world via social networking sites (2013, in English with Czech subtitles).

#### **2. 6. 2015 | PRAGUE VS. MOOLAH**

For a year they had been mapping the dark side of the metropolis in a documentary series, revealing both the uncompromising world of Prague taxi drivers and the bureaucratic quirks of officialdom... The stories of both filmmakers about the difficulties of shooting and the goings-on “behind the scenes” was supplemented by the screening of key episodes.



*Women in the Syrian Revolution.*



*Children – The Smallest Victims of the Communist Regime.*

#### **5. 6. 2015 | GOD AND WAR?**

Why does a Christian cleric decide to serve in the army? What are his experiences of working among soldiers in the Czech Republic and on foreign missions? What issues is he confronted with? How does he experience his faith among those who have to be prepared to use weapons and kill? How is he affected by the fact that religious extremists use God's name as a shield while carrying out inhumane actions? Pavel Ruml, an Evangelical Church of Czech Brethren clergyman. He served as an army chaplain from 1999 and since 2013 has been chaplain in the army's personnel section. He has taken part in foreign missions in Bosnia-Herzegovina, Iraq and Kosovo.

Also speaking were Jan Pacner, a Roman Catholic cleric who has been an army chaplain since 2005 and from 2008 chaplain at the University of Defense in Brno. He has taken part in a foreign mission in Kosovo.

#### **25. 6. 2015 | CHILDREN – THE SMALLEST VICTIMS OF THE COMMUNIST REGIME**

An evening dedicated to children buried in the Children's Graveyard in Dablice, Prague and accompanied by the screening of a documentary by Dagmar Pruchova entitled *You Must Not Cry* (CT, 1990) in her presence. The evening was held by the *Bez komunistu.cz* platform and the Václav Havel Library as part of the project entitled *You Cannot Stifle Remembrance*, held on the occasion of the 65th anniversary of the murder of Milada Horáková.

#### **17. 9. 2015 | LIVING TORCHES IN TIBET**

The historical context of the longest wave of self-immolations in the last six years, 142 people have set themselves on fire in Tibet in protest against the Chinese occupation and the suppression of religious freedom. In a discussion evening we presented the book *Sebeupalování v Tibetu* (*Self-immolation in Tibet*) by the Tibetan poet Özer, which

was published last year by the Czech PEN Club. Historian Petr Blažek and poet Vít Kremlička served as hosts.

### **23. 9. 2015 | VOICES OF BELARUSIAN FREEDOM**

The Belarusian station Radio Free Europe (Radio Liberty) has been based in Prague since 1995. The station, one of the most important Belarusian independent media outlets, has become a second home for many distinctive intellectuals – literati, historians, journalists, analysts, songwriters... Guests included national revival philosopher and writer Syarhey Ablameika, chairwoman of the Skaryna association and organizer of Czech-Belarusian integration Alena Cichanovič Kovářová, essayist, translator and polyglot Jan Maksymiuk and the director of the department, writer Alexander Lukashuk. Translator Syarhey Smatrychenka chaired a discussion with them on their native Belarus, RFE, Belarusian Prague and themselves and their work.

### **29. 10. 2015 | THE PHENOMENON OF TRANSFORMATION AND WHAT EXISTED BEFORE AND AFTER 1989**

The Institute for the Care of the Cultural and Intellectual Heritage brought together approximately 270 dialogues with figures from science, politics, the academic world and the media relating to modern Czech history post-1989.

Participants: Monika Pajerová, Roman Joch, Petr Havlík, Mons. Vladimír Hronek, Štěpán Wolde, Karel Kříž and Michael Žantovský. Chaired by Martin Soldát.

Participants: Monika Pajerová, Roman Joch, Petr Havlík, Mons. Vladimír Hronek, Štěpán Wolde, Karel Kříž and Michael Žantovský. Chaired by Martin Soldát.

The aim was to recall in a humane way processes that are unjustly neglected or forced out of the normal life of society. The evening included the presentation of a collection of texts by nine participants – academics and journalists, people from public life – that had been published in abridged form in the review *Listy*.



*Voices of Belarusian Freedom.*



*Escaping from Nikolaj Labour Camp by Tunnel.*

Professor Jiří Přibáň said of the project: “A unique project combining the methods of biographical sociology and history with general philosophical and ethical subjects and dilemmas.”

#### **4. 11. 2015 | ESCAPING FROM THE NIKOLAJ LABOUR CAMP BY TUNNEL**

Meeting with Anton Tomík, 1950s political prisoner and the last surviving participant in a breakout from the Nikolaj labour camp in Jáchymov on 6 November 1955. Thousands of security force officers were deployed in a manhunt for the escapees, all 10 of whom were captured. Tomík himself was shot and seriously wounded. Jan Horník chaired a discussion linked to the 60th anniversary of the escape.

#### **10. 11. 2015 | EARLY EVENING WITH JANA HYBÁŠKOVÁ ON THE REFUGEE CRISIS**

Europe has been hit by a wave of people escaping from places where they had lived for centuries. What do those places look like today? How is aid organised there, particularly at refugee camps for so-called internal refugees? How has the EU become involved and how can we get involved? Jana Hybášková, the EU's former ambassador to Iraq, discussed those questions with Jan Mrkvička, director of the Humanitarian and development section of the organisation People in Need.

The event was organised by the Common Law Society of the Faculty of Law of Prague's Charles University.

#### **18. 11. 2015 | DOES CIVIC SOCIETY IN VIETNAM HAVE A CHANCE?**

Human rights advocate Trinh Huu Long, legal advisor to the non-profit VOICE (Vietnamese Overseas Initiative for Conscience Empowerment), which was founded in 2005 and supports the building of civic society in Vietnam and



provides assistance to Vietnamese refugees around the world, discussed the issue of human rights in the country. Human rights advocate Trinh Huu Long, legal advisor to the non-profit VOICE (Vietnamese Overseas Initiative for Conscience Empowerment), which was founded in 2005 and supports the building of civic society in Vietnam and provides assistance to Vietnamese refugees around the world, discussed the issue of human rights in the country. Trinh Hoi, lawyer and executive director of VOICE, discussed the development of civic society in Vietnam, its significance and ways that Vietnamese communities living abroad can support it.

The event was co-organised by the Van Lang civic society, which promotes and advocates civic society principles and monitors adherence to human rights in Vietnam.

#### **8. 12. 2015 | ROMAN TADIČ: THE CHEYENNE – INDIANS IN THE COGS OF COLONISATION AND GLOBALISATION**

How did a people who contributed to Custer's defeat and inspired many works of literature and movies live? What values did they hold? We took a look at the unique culture of the Great Plains Indian people.

For over two centuries the Cheyenne have been in contact and conflict with the United States. They were stripped of their economic independence and sovereignty. Today the Cheyenne are full-fledged citizens of the US, but what has survived of their identity? Can we find in the Cheyenne an alternative to some of the paradigms of Western civilisation?

A lecture by Roman Tadič, a translator and researcher specialising in the indigenous culture of the Great Plains, combined with a presentation of original Indian artefacts.

#### **9. 12. 2015 | THE NIKA MAGAZINE PRIZE**

The prize of the NIKA magazine for natural sciences was awarded to important Czech natural scientists: Prof.



*The Cheyenne – Indians in the Cogs of Colonisation and Globalisation.*



*War, it's Something to Survive. photo © Petr Toman.*

RNDr. Bedřich Moldan, RNDr. Václav Větvička and Ing. Dr. Vladimír Valenta for their lifelong contribution to nature conservation.

## UKRAINE AND RUSSIA

A cycle of lectures, evening debates and readings, dedicated not only to the topic of human rights in the former Soviet Union

### **22. 1. 2015 | WAR, IT'S SOMETHING TO SURVIVE**

An evening with Petr Toman, an eyewitness to the war in Ukraine. The cruel war in Ukraine is an everyday reality.

The Czech photojournalist Petr Toman collected interviews in Ukraine on the subject: How war changes mankind. He collected them from Kiev to Kharkov, in Lviv, in Dnipropetrovsk. On the front line, in psychiatric clinics, in the dark apartments of decrepit pre-fab blocks. Because there is more to war than the front line and its victims. It is a beast that sprawls across Ukraine, in the thoughts, bodies and dreams of both adults and children. Petr Toman's war isn't about searching for a culprit or stories from the front. It's about the stories of ordinary people who offer an unusual, even chilling view behind the scenes of the war in Ukraine.

Chair Tatiana Sikorska.

### **23. 2. 2015 | A YEAR WITHOUT YANUKOVYCH**

An evening mapping changes in Ukrainian society from the perspective of Ukrainians themselves on the inside and Czechs on the outside. A debate with Ukrainian activists Serhiy Prytula and Vasil Galamay.

Exactly a year had passed since Viktor Yanukovich

fled to Russia. A year that changed Ukraine and Ukrainians beyond recognition. A half-forgotten state somewhere in the east in thrall to Russian had returned to the map of Europe. What did the incredible national push for freedom, for a better future, for national pride that we had seen a year before bring Ukrainians? How did Ukrainian society change? How did people change? What were they like and what did they become?

Chaired by David Svoboda.

Serhij Prytula (33) is a popular Ukrainian comedian and TV host. In 1999 he began to appear on the private Radio Ternopil. In 2000–2001 he studied in London. However, the studies did not satisfy him, and he began working as a labourer and kitchen assistant. Later he came back to “his” radio. After that he had an engagement in stand-up comedy, to be followed by a TV career: an early morning show and a talent contest. During Maidan he helped activists and is now involved in procuring equipment for the Ukrainian army.

Vasil Galamay (28). Shot in the right hip by a sniper, he was taken to Střešovice hospital in Prague in a serious condition. His treatment in the Czech Republic took four months. “I don’t know why it was me who survived. But I am alive, and it was God’s will. And I owe this to Ukraine” In autumn 2014 Vasil made a pro-active entry into local politics in Lvov.

## **6. 5. 2015 | THE COST OF REVOLUTION**

What did the Maidan give and take from Ukraine...

A meeting with the Ukrainian journalist, translator and literary critic Oleksandr Boychenko. The discussion was chaired by Ukrainian Studies expert Lenka Víchová. Interpretation was provided.



Case Oleg Sentsov.



Anne Applebaum.

### 1. 10. 2015 | CASE OLEG SENTSOV

The Ukrainian director Oleg Sentsov, a critic of the Russian occupation of Crimea, was sentenced last August to 20 years in prison for alleged terrorism by a Russian military court.

The VH Library and the Czech Film and Television Academy together took part in a Europe-wide show of solidarity in his support. The director's 2011 film *Gamer* (Гамер, original, Eng. subtitles) was screened. Pavel Strnad of the CFTA and journalist Ondřej Soukup hosted the evening.

### 7. 10. 2015 | RUSSIAN CIVIC SOCIETY IN SILENT DEFIANCE

What are the perspectives for the development of civic society in today's Russia? And what role can be played by NGOs, which have come under pressure from the Putin regime in recent years? These and other topical questions relating to today's Russia were discussed at the Václav Havel Library by the director of the Boris Yeltsin Foundation, Alexander Drozdov, former Czech ambassador to Moscow Petr Kolář, and Russian Studies expert Jan Machonin. Translation: Karina Vartanian.

Prominent guests at the Václav Havel Library

### PROMINENT GUESTS AT THE VÁCLAV HAVEL LIBRARY

### 12. 1. 2015 | MEETING WITH ANNE APPLEBAUM: THE ETERNAL PERIPHERY – EUROPE BETWEEN EAST AND WEST

The American historian, author and Pulitzer Prize winner presented the Czech editions of two of her most important works.

The book *Between East and West* is a record of a journey around the borderlands of the West, from Kaliningrad to Odessa, as well as an important attempt to understand the

region's history and cultural diversity. *The Iron Curtain: The Crushing of Central Europe, 1944–1956* is an exceptional study of the process by which totalitarian regimes are established.

The debate was chaired by Jiří Schneider.

The books, translated by Petruška Šustrová, were available to purchase at the venue.

### **21. 1. 2015 | HELENA ILLNEROVÁ: TIME FOR LIGHT**

Professor Helena Illnerová, a leading Czech physiologist and biochemist and a former chairwoman of the Czech Academy of Sciences, presented *Čas pro světlo (Time for Light)* (Portál, 2014), a new book-long interview with her conducted by her colleague, Professor Pavel Kovář.

The interview maps her life from her family background to her scientific and public work. It touches on questions related to science and education in Czech society but also explores issues of value, upbringing and respect for tradition.

It is a testimony to the strength of character of a woman who despite numerous difficulties has enjoyed a full and successful personal and professional life. She became an internationally respected scientist without accepting the communist regime or giving up on motherhood and family life. The wisdom and kindness that emanate from the text are an inspiration to all who are aware of their responsibility for the world and society in which they live.

Rudolf Zahradník, a physical chemist and former chairman of the Czech Academy of Sciences, was special guest, while the evening was hosted by Martin Bedřich, editor-in-chief of the Portál publishing house.

### **19. 3. 2015 | ON CZECH NATIONAL IDENTITY**

A meeting with author František Kautman. The evening took place in connection with the publication of *O českou národní identitu (On Czech National Identity)*, an important work by František Kautman, a literary historian, critic, essayist, prose





Chálid Biltagi.

writer and poet who was also a Charta 77 spokesperson. The book had just been issued by the Pulchra publishing house. A collection of Kautman's short stories entitled *Alternativy* (*Alternatives*) were also presented; it was ready for publication in 1968 but only brought out 46 years later, by the publishers Fra. Jan Šulc hosted the evening and introduced other speakers.

#### 14. 5. 2015 | CHÁLID BILTAGI: HAVEL AND EGYPT

A meeting with Egyptian Czech Studies expert Chalid Biltagi, author of an Arabic translation of *The Power of the Powerless* (2012). The discussion took in Václav Havel and Czech literature, but also the (in)comprehensibility of European thinking for the Arab world. Chaired by Lucie Němečková.

#### 27. 5. 2015 | JOSEF MICHL: SOCIETY AND SCIENCE IN THE USA

Professor Josef Michl (University of Colorado, Boulder) is a world-renowned chemist who works with dozens of academic institutions around the world. His lecture focused on science teaching from elementary school to university, as well as the funding of science and government scientific institutions. In cooperation with the festival American Spring.

#### 17. 6. 2015 | THE CAT THAT NEVER SLEEPS

An unconventional and imaginative meeting with Jiřina Šiklová on the occasion of her 80th birthday. The evening, in the form of one big expression of congratulations to this amazing lady of the dissent, involved the presentation of a second, expanded edition of the book *Kočka, která nikdy nespí* (*The cat that never sleeps*), which was organized by Vilém Prečan as a tribute to her 11 years ago. A book of the letters of Jiřina Šiklová from prison (Ruzyně) 1981–1982 was also presented.

The Czechoslovak Documentation Centre, the Charta 77 foundation and the Václav Havel Library came together as organizers. One of the gifts was a surprise for more than just the birthday lady!

### **19. 8. 2015 | DON'T THREATEN SOCIETY WITH YOUR OPINIONS!**

Meeting with Mikhail Kukobaka, a Soviet dissident and opponent of the 1968 invasion of Czechoslovakia  
Mikhail Ignatevich Kukobaka was born in 1936 in the Belarusian city of Bobruisk, where he trained as an electrician. For several years he worked on construction sites and at factories throughout the Soviet Union. In August 1968 Kukobaka openly expressed his opposition to the invasion of Czechoslovakia by Warsaw Pact troops by handing a letter to the Czechoslovak consul in Kiev. In connection with the invasion, he refused to undergo military training, saying he would have to turn his machine gun on his own, on the occupiers. Between 1970 and 1988 he was alternately placed in psychiatric hospitals, labor camps and prison. The meeting with Kukobaka was chaired by Míša Stoilová and interpreted by Edita Jiráková. The event took place in cooperation with the Institute for the Study of Totalitarian Regimes and the association Archipelag.

### **19. 10. 2015 | YURII ANDRUKHOVYCH – AND DOES UKRAINE BELONG TO EUROPE?**

The world-renowned post-modern performer, poet, novelist and prankster from Stanislav read excerpts from his books published in Czech: *Recreations*, *My Europe* and *The Moscoviad*. After the reading there was a discussion with Yuri Andrukhovych hosted by Alexej Sevruc.

### **2. 11. 2015 | PUSSY RIOT IN PRAGUE**

Echoes of the Jihlava festival. A debate with Maria Alyokhina, poet, member of the punk-rock protest group



*Mikhail Ignatevich Kukobaka.*



*Yurii Andrukhovych.*



*Marija Aljochinová.*

Pussy Riot and tireless criticiser of Russia's present political regime. When released from a two-year imprisonment to which she was sentenced for a concert in Moscow's Cathedral of Christ the Saviour, she launched a campaign against the violation of human rights in Russian prisons. The debate was hosted by Tamara Moyzes.

The issue of political prisoners was also addressed by Polina Nemirovskaya, a member of the Open Russia movement, and Xeniya Zhivago from Media Zone (the Law Zone), who presented her projects. The discussion was attended by Sergey Sharov.

#### **9. 11. 2015 | YAHIA BELASKRI:**

##### **IMMIGRATION – THE FRENCH EXPERIENCE**

Lecture by the French-Algerian journalist and author whose key themes are immigration, the adaptation of cultures and relations between France and Algeria. Yahia Belaskri (1952) was born in Oran. Following his sociology studies, he worked for a number of Algerian institutions before turning to journalism.

Since 1988 he has lived in France, where he works as a journalist for Radio France Internationale (RFI). He has written many short stories and several novels. He was awarded the Prix Ouest-France Etonnants Voyageurs in 2011.

The event took place in cooperation with the French Institute as part of the festival Crescent Moon over Prague. Interpretation from French to Czech was provided.

#### VÁCLAV HAVEL LIBRARY DEBATES

##### **15. 1. 2015 | TWO YEARS WITH A DIRECTLY ELECTED PRESIDENT**

The Czech presidency was appraised and its prospects discussed by journalist and chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Václav Havel Library Jan Macháček and his guests: Jiřina Šiklová, Roman Joch, Jan Kudrna, Jan Kysela and Jakub Patočka.

## **22. 1. 2015 | ROUND TABLE ON ALTERNATIVE MEDIA: THE WORD CHANGES THE WORLD**

In the company of today's alternative media – including Stream, Forbes, ECHO 24, Reportér/Media Guru, SME.sk, DVTV, Dotyk, Motejlek.com and others – we explored new media in the course of time, the limits of its freedom and its role in society. The debate was hosted by Petr Placák and participation was confirmed by: Eva Hanáková, Karolína Vrbasová, Dalibor Balšínek, Michal Musil and Miroslav Motejlek. In cooperation with the company Slabiky.cz

## **9. 2. 2015 | TALKS ACROSS BORDERS – WITH MICHAEL FRANK AND TOMÁŠ KAFKA**

The second evening in a series following in the tradition of the “Talks on neighbourliness” on Czech-German relations initiated by Václav Havel in 1995. Solutions were found to several thorny issues, dialogue was sparked and numerous Czech-German activities got underway.

Nevertheless, in the Czech Republic awareness of events in Germany is vague – not only because of the language barrier but also due to the nature of the contemporary Czech media scene. These discussion evenings aimed to help fill in those gaps.

The evening's guest were Michael Frank, journalist and long-term Czech correspondent at *Süddeutsche Zeitung*, and Tomáš Kafka, a diplomat and poet. Zuzana Jürgens, who prepared the discussion series in cooperation with the VHL, moderated.

## **16. 2. 2015 | LETY DEATH CAMP**

The gypsy death camp at Lety near Písek is a Czech trauma of the 20th and 21st centuries. The pig farm on the site of genocide remains a burning and unanswered question. A debate centred on the freshly published book *Tábor smrti Lety (Lety Death Camp)* (Antifašistická akce, 2014) by researcher Paul Polansky.



*Talks Across Borders: With Michael Frank and Tomáš Kafka.*



*Torch No. 2 (Brother of Jan Zajíc have a speech).*

Guests: Romany antifascist Jozef Miker, Romany Studies expert Helena Sadílková, journalist Jindřich Šídlo and Helsinki Citizens' Assembly activist Václav Trojan. Chaired by journalist Petr Třešňák.

#### **24. 2. 2015 | TORCH NO. 2**

An Evening of Recollections of Jan Zajíc. On 25 February 1969, Jan Zajíc, a student at a railway technical college in Šumperk, doused himself in flammable material and set himself alight in a building on Prague's Wenceslas Square. He was following the lead of Jan Palach, who by immolating himself had hoped to shake the domestic public out of the resignation they had begun falling into less than five months after the occupation of Czechoslovakia in August. Jan Zajíc became the most significant of Palach's followers. His life story, motives for the shocking protest and the reaction of the public and the regime were remembered. Chaired by Petr Blažek.

#### **25. 2. 2015 | FERDINAND PEROUTKA YESTERDAY AND TODAY**

When else to meet and recall the life and work of one of the greatest Czech journalists of the modern era, Ferdinand Peroutka, but on the anniversary of "Victorious February"? The 20th century's two totalitarian systems, Nazism and communism, had a deep impact on his life; one cast him into a concentration camp while he fled the other into exile. Since 1995 a journalism prize bearing the name Ferdinand Peroutka has been conferred every year. It is presented at the start of February, on the eve of his birthday. Both of last year's laureates accepted invitations to the debate (Petr Třešňák and Martin Veselovský), as did Peroutka's granddaughter, Terezie Kaslová and journalist Jan Bednář, who has been exploring Peroutka's exile journalism in particular for a long time. Martin Groman hosted the evening. In cooperation with Sdružení Ferdinanda Peroutky.



### **16. 3. 2015 | TALKS ACROSS BORDERS – WITH JÖRG PLATH AND RADKA DENEMARKOVÁ**

Final evening in a three-part series following in the tradition of the “Talks on neighbourliness”, focused on Czech-German relations, initiated by Václav Havel in 1995.

Solutions were found to several thorny issues, or dialogue was sparked at least, and numerous Czech-German activities got underway. Nevertheless, in the Czech Republic awareness of events in Germany is vague – not only because of the language barrier but also due to the nature of the contemporary Czech media scene. These discussions aimed to help fill in those gaps. The guests were Jörg Plath, a literary critic (*Neue Zürcher Zeitung*, *Deutschlandradio Kultur*) who has written on Czech literature for many years, and writer and translator Radka Denemarková.

Zuzana Jürgens, who prepared the series in cooperation with the VHL, moderated.

### **7. 4. 2015 | VÁCLAV HAVEL AS CREATOR OF THE JUDICIARY**

A debate on the book *Padni komu padni* (*Whoever Gets Hurt Gets Hurt*), a biography of Constitutional Court judge Eliška Wagnerová, chaired by Jindřich Šídlo. Invited guests included Miroslav Sylla, the book’s author Tomáš Němeček, Constitutional Court judge Kateřina Šimáčková and lawyer Vojen Güttler.

### **15. 6. 2015 | ON WHAT VALUES IS OUR SOCIETY BASED?**

Russian aggression, Islamist pressure and the strong distrust of citizens in democratic institutions places a question before our society – what values are most important to us? What are the cornerstones of our civilization that we wish to cultivate and protect? On what values is the



*Talks Across Borders: With Jörg Plath and Radka Denemarková.*



*A Debate with Respekt Weekly: Are We all Charlie Hebdo?*

Czech Constitution founded, and are they still valid? The debate was organized by the European Values Initiative in cooperation with the Václav Havel Library.

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**Guests:** Daniela Drtinová, presenter of DTVV

Jan Kysela, constitutional lawyer, Faculty of Law, Charles University

Marek Orko Vácha, priest and philosopher

Milena Jabůrková, member of board of IBM CR, European Values Initiative

**Chair:** Jakub Janda, deputy director of the think tank European Values.

## **2. 12. 2015 | CAN WE LEARN FROM THE MISTAKES OF THE PAST?**

Discussion evening with Letohrad priest Václav Vacek, one of the most progressive liberal clerics in the Czech Roman Catholic Church today.

## DEBATES WITH RESPEKT WEEKLY

Debates on current social and political topics are organised in cooperation with the Respekt weekly and hosted by Tomáš Sacher and Ondřej Kundra.

## **8. 1. 2015 | FROM HRÁDEČEK TO THE CASTLE – FROM DISSIDENT TO STATESMAN**

How Havel defined and handled the role of Czech president. Guests: Bára Štěpánová, Vladimír Hanzel and Alexandr Vondra. Tomáš Sacher chaired the debate.

### **13. 2. 2015 | ARE WE ALL CHARLIE HEBDO?**

How are Islamists and the attack on free speech changing European society? Guests: Tomáš Halík, Bronislav Ostřanský, Emir Omič, Jacques Rupnik, Erik Tabery. Chaired by Tomáš Sacher.

### **26. 3. 2015 | WAR AT EUROPE'S DOORS**

How should the Czech Republic react to the Ukrainian crisis? Guests: Lubomír Zaorálek, Karel Schwarzenberg, Michaela Šojdrová, Libor Dvořák, Jakub Janda. Hosted by Tomáš Sacher.

### **16. 4. 2015 | MANKIND ON THE RUN**

The world is experiencing the biggest wave of refugees since WWII. We should prepare for the consequences. Chaired by Tomáš Sacher.

### **21. 5. 2015 | SHOULD WE FEAR THE STATE ATTORNEY'S OFFICE?**

Have state attorneys been liberated and begun to investigate corruption in the highest echelons of power? Or are they criminalizing politics without justification? Chaired by Respekt journalist Ondřej Kundra. Lenka Bradáčová, Josef Baxa, Ivo Ištván and Jindřich Šídlo were guests.

### **11. 6. 2015 | POLITICIANS AND SCHOOL-LEAVING EXAMS - WHY EDUCATION REFORM HAS NOT BEEN ACHIEVED IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC**

A quarter of students failed school-leaving exams in mathematics last year. The Ministry boasts, however, that the new system works. It is now chiefly focused on reforming school financing. But is this what Czech education needs most?

Guests: Petr Fiala, chairman of the Civic Democrats, Klára Laurenčíková, expert on inclusive education, Česká



*A Debate with Respect Weekly: Politicians and School-leaving Exams - Why Education Reform Has Not Been Achieved in the Czech Republic.*



*A Debate with Respect Weekly: A Young Czech Elites.*

odborná společnost na inkluzivní vzdělávání, Tomáš Feřtek, journalist at EDUin, Filip Jelínek, Czech Secondary School Union.

#### **22. 9. 2015 | HOW CZECHS ARE (NOT) BORN**

What led to a de facto ban on home births? And how is the position of women as mothers changing in the Czech Republic? Guests: Ivana Königsmarková, Alena Gajdůšková, Petra Sovová and Bohuslav Svoboda. Chairman: journalist Tomáš Sacher.

#### **15. 10. 2015 | WALLS ARE BEING BUILT IN EUROPE ONCE AGAIN**

Will the current crisis lead to the collapse of a unified Europe? Chaired by Tomáš Sacher. Discussion: Helena Illnerová, Luděk Niedermayer, Maciej Ruczaj and Michael Žantovský.

#### **30. 11. 2015 | THE YOUNG CZECH ELITES**

How is the emerging generation in Czech society changing and who is making themselves heard? Chaired by Tomáš Sacher. Guests: Petra Hůlová (novelist), Janek Rubeš (journalist, Stream.cz), Matěj Stropnický (Green Party), Tereza Jurečková (E&Y socially responsible businesswoman of the year, Pragulic.cz) and Vít Klusák.

#### **10. 12. 2015 | HUMAN RIGHTS - WHAT IS ITS PLACE IN CZECH POLITICS?**

A debate on the human rights agenda of Czech foreign policy and on the foundations on which the state has stood and wishes to stand in future.

The evening included the launch of Jiří Příbání's and Václav Bělohradský's book of the same name.

Host: Respekt editor Ondřej Kundra

Guests: Kateřina Šimáčková, Eliška Wagnerová, Jiří Pehe, Jiří Příbání and Václav Bělohradský.

## URBAN PLANNING AND SOCIETY

A cycle of discussions on the future of Prague as a successful, secure, healthy and competitive town of the 21st century, held by the Václav Havel Library in cooperation with the Institute for Planning and Development of Prague.

### 5. 3. 2015 | PRAGUE ODYSSEY – THE FUTURE OF THE CITY AS A COMMON MISSION I

#### Participation as a Town-Making Tool

The term ‘participation’ is in today. The cornerstone of the rhetoric of citizens’ initiatives is more often seen also in the vocabulary of Prague’s municipal politicians. No one questions aloud the benefits of involvement of the public in the city administration processes; however, when one or the other party tries to organise some of the participation processes, it is not unusual that the results of such an attempt at participation is very far from the primary good intention. One of the causes of such a result is that not everyone understands the same thing under ‘participation’. Shared presence, cooperation, shared decision making, public discussion, involvement, union, communication, etc. But what does that mean in specific processes of municipal administration? Is there a universal guideline for “correct” participation? What forms of participation do we know and use? Are there processes in municipal administration where participation of the public is actually unhelpful or even detrimental? Why do we participate little, but require it a lot? Can every resident be involved in municipal administration, including those who are not interested?

Experiences with positive and negative examples of participation were shared by Petr Návrát, Head of the Participation Department at the Institute for Planning and Development of Prague and the main author of Prague’s Participation Manual in preparation; Radek Vondra, mayor of Prague 14, and Renata Chmelová,



*A Debate with Respect Weekly: Human Rights – What is its Place in Czech Politics?*





*Prague Odyssey – The Future of the City as a Common Mission I.*

co-founder of a civic initiative in Prague 10 and a councillor in Prague 10.

The debate was hosted by Olga Škořochová, an expert consultant in cultural politics and participation cultural planning for Czech towns.

#### **23. 4. 2015 | CITIES FOR PEOPLE, PEOPLE FOR CITIES**

A discussion on the ideals and practice of civic participation in local government involving local politicians who are attempting, or have in the recent past attempted, to transform the way municipalities are run. In both Poland and the Czech Republic there have been growing calls in recent years for greater involvement on the part of citizens in shaping the future of the cities and towns in which we live. How to harness that energy? How to evaluate the effectiveness of instruments such as the participatory creation of municipal budgets? And what happens when the ideals of urban activists run up against the realities of local politics?

The panel included the deputy-mayor of Lodz, Grzegorz Justyński, the mayor of the regional city of Gorzow, Jacek Wójcicki, and Warsaw-Central councillor Jan Spiewak (of the City is Ours association). The mayor of Karlovy Vary, Petr Kulhánek, Radek Vondra and Lenka Burgerová offered a Czech perspective.

The seminar took place on the 25th anniversary of local government reform in Poland and the Czech Republic and was held in cooperation with reSITE and the Polish Institute in Prague.

#### **30. 4. 2015 | PRAGUE ODYSSEY – THE FUTURE OF THE CITY AS A COMMON MISSION II.**

Democratisation of Data and Virtual Public Space

We live in the information era, and its amount in our world is always increasing. With the increasing volume of data which we have to process every day, our demands for

tools which facilitate that for us increase. Our telephones, computers, tablets and even whole cities are more and more 'smart'.

An important strategic raw material which boosts the development of these digital systems are free shared blocks of information, so-called open data. Prague is among the pioneers of open data sharing in the Czech Republic, thanks to the Institute for the Planning and Development of Prague.

Why is this important? What benefits are there for the town's citizens from opening data? What can we expect from the digitisation of public affairs? These questions were discussed by Jiří Čtyroký, Director of the Spatial Information Section at the IPR Prague; Ondřej Profant, Prague councillor and a member of the Pirates Party, Jan Cibulka, specialist in data journalism, and Marek Antoš, journalist, businessman, attorney, and founder of Lupa.cz. The discussion was hosted by Pavlína Kvapilová, a journalist specialising in new media.

### **28. 5. 2015 | PRAGUE ODYSSEY – THE FUTURE OF THE CITY AS A COMMON MISSION III.**

Jaký má Praha recept na budoucnost?

Z údajů Světové zdravotnická organizace vyplývá, že v současnosti žije polovina všech lidí ve městech. Tento počet bude nadále narůstat, a tak se očekává, že do roku 2050 bude podíl lidí ve městech tvořit už celé dvě třetiny veškeré populace. O jednadvacátém století se tak mluví jako o éře měst a podle nejedné předpovědi nahradí města časem svým významem národní státy, neboť budou schopna lépe čelit výzvám „horkého, zploštělého a přelidněného“ světa. Jak jsou současná města na toto pomyslné „převzetí moci“ připravena? A jak se na svoji budoucnost připravuje Praha? Které výzvy se jí nejvíce dotýkají a v jaké oblasti má největší šanci uspět? Jaké jsou hlavní znaky urbánního životního stylu ve 21. století?



*Challenges, Paradoxes, the Plays of Václav Havel VIII.: The Pig, of Václav Havel's Hunt for a Pig.*

**Hosté:** Jan Šícha, ředitel Sekce strategií a politik na IPR Praha; Radka Denemarková, spisovatelka a překladatelka, Jan Kasl, architekt a bývalý primátor Prahy, a Filip Suchomel, historik umění a prorektor AMU pro rozvoj.

## CHALLENGES, PARADOXES, THE PLAYS OF VÁCLAV HAVEL

The sequel to the cycle of evenings dedicated to the creation and performances of Václav Havel's plays (in 2013 *Largo desolato* and *Vyrozumění* (*The Memorandum*), in 2014 it was *Zítřka to spustíme* (*Tomorrow*), *Pokoušení* (*Temptation*), the character of Ferdinand Vaněk, the pantomime *Perpetuum mobile aneb 7 dní pana A* (*Perpetuum Mobile Or Seven Days of Mr A*) and a lesser known 'Vaněk' play *Protest*). The evenings were professionally prepared and hosted by Anna Freimanová.

### 11. 2. 2015 | THE PIG, OR VÁCLAV HAVEL'S HUNT FOR A PIG

A text that Václav Havel wrote from one day to the next, for his own pleasure and that of guests who had gathered at Hrádeček in the summer of 1987 to celebrate Olga Havlová's birthday.

The programme included a genuine country pig killing and Václav Havel was tasked with procuring the animal. The dialogue, which the writer did not even include in his selected writings, eventually made a splash: not only did *The Pig* enjoy success as a quirky production by the Divadlo na provázku theatre, it also made it all the way to an off-Broadway stage.

The evening, which was attended by some of those present at the birthday celebration and the creators of the Brno staging, consisted of a collage of memories, period film clips and the original text of the fictitious "pig-killing" conversation.

This series of evenings dedicated to Václav

Havel's dramatic texts was prepared by Anna Freimanová. This season we presented the author's shorter or forgotten plays, screenplays and drafts.

#### 21. 4. 2015 | THE MISTAKE

The micro-play *The Mistake* is set in a prison cell, its "heroes" are six cons and the theme is the communication between them, respectively communication between people as such.

The first theatrical work Václav Havel wrote after his return from a four-year prison term in 1983 evidently reflected his grim experiences, including in the use of rough prison slang. The evening focused on the circumstances surrounding the writing of the one-act play, its theatrical staging and imprisonment itself. We also presented the Havel miniature as performed by the Kašpar theatre company and directed by Jakub Špalek.

Special guest of this evening was Jan Litomský, a former cellmate of Václav Havel.

#### 3. 11. 2015 | THE ROGUES OF HORNÍ POČERNICE

Václav Havel wrote his own version of *The Beggar's Opera* in 1972. Producing it at Czech professional theatres was out of the question for political reasons so Andrej Krob and the Divadlo na tahu theatre company tried to perform it in the hall of a pub in Horní Počernice for his and the author's friends.

The atmosphere of this unlikely world premiere of a Havel play was recalled by participants, excerpts from a recording of the performance, the photographs of Bohdan Holomíček, a short documentary film by Andrej Krab and a new publication issued by the VHL, *Gauneři z Horních Počernic* (*The Rogues of Horní Počernice*).

The Beggars' Opera, with Ladislav Smoljak excelling as Macheath, directed by A. Krob in 1995, was remembered in photographs by Ondrej Nemeč and film trailers.



Challenges, Paradoxes, the Plays of Václav Havel IX.: *The Mistake*.



Václav Havel.  
Srděčně Vás zveme na večer věnovaný Zebračce opery Václava Havla

### GAUNEŘI Z HORNÍCH POČERNIC

úterý 3. listopadu | 19.00 | Ostrovní 13

Vlastní verzi hry Zebračká opera napsal Václav Havel v roce 1972. Na českých profesionálních jevištích její uvedení nepřišlo z politických důvodů v ožahu, a tak ji Andrej Krob nazkoušel se s Divadlem na tahu 1. listopadu 1975 zahrál v hospodském sále v Horních Počernicích svým a autorovým přátelům.

Atmosféru této zvláštní světové premiéry Havlovy hry připomenou vzpomínkové pamětníky, ukázky ze záznamu představení, fotografie Bohdana Holomíčka, krátký dokumentární snímek Andreje Kraba a nová publikace z produkce Krabů z Horních Počernic. Krobou inscenaci Zebračká opera z roku 1995 s vynikajícím Ladislavem Smoljakem v roli Macheatha připomenou fotografie Ondřeje Němce a filmové ukázky.

Dyklus věnovaný divadelním hrám Václava Havla připravuje Anna Freimanová.

© Bohdan Holomíček, 1975

**VHL** Více informací: [info@vclavhavel-library.org](mailto:info@vclavhavel-library.org)

Challenges, Paradoxes, the Plays of Václav Havel X.: *The Rogues of Horní Počernice*.



Abbé Libánský.



Karel Cudlín.

### 3. 12. 2015 | MOUNTAIN HOTEL

One of Václav Havel's lesser-known plays, performed by the company Buchty a loutky.

Buchty a loutky – an independent theatre performing for children and adults – brought their own means of expression, playfulness and colour to the story. Drawing on the author's pedantic directorial notes, they also made use of 1970s electric trains and keyboards, which played the melody from *Doctor Zhivago* as refashioned by the playwright.

### 17. 12. 2015 | UNVEILING

Above the fireplace a Turkish dagger, beside it a confession box, pure Baroque, and in an alcove a Gothic Madonna. Michal and Věra invited Bedřich Vaňek over, not just to show him their newly decorated pad but above all to inspire him with their "meaningful" lifestyle. They wanted to help their dissident friend by example so that "things finally unravel somehow..."

For their final work, fourth year acting students from the Academy of Performing Arts selected one of the "Vaňek plays", Václav Havel's 1975 one-act piece *Unveiling*.

## VÁCLAV HAVEL AND CHANGES IN CZECH SOCIETY IN PHOTOGRAPHY

The cycle entitled Václav Havel and Changes in Czech Society in Photography presents the work of documentary photographers whose photographs for a long time portrayed the personality of Václav Havel.

### 3. 3. 2015 | I. ABBÉ LIBÁNSKÝ

The series presented the work of documentary photographers whose work captured Václav Havel over many years. The first evening got underway with a projection by artist Abbé J. Libánský of images from Prague's underground scene in the 1970s, an informal chronical of people



pushed to the fringes of society, a world that Václav Havel also inhabited.

#### 7. 4. 2015 | II. KAREL CUDLÍN

A series presenting the work of photographers who captured Václav Havel over a period of several years. The second evening was dedicated to Karel Cudlín, who presented pictures of Václav Havel from the 1980s until recent times, as well as photographs capturing the transformation of society, particularly in Central and Eastern Europe, including the departure of Russian soldiers, refugees, foreign labourers, war veterans, and the Jewish and Roma communities.

#### 5. 5. 2015 | III. ONDŘEJ NĚMĚC

A series presenting the work of documentary photographers whose work captured Václav Havel over many years. The third evening belonged to Ondřej Němec, who primarily focused on photographs of Václav Havel, his interaction with the underground in the 1970s, the relatively informal early period of his presidency and the final years of his life. He also presented his book *Torzo (Torso)*, brought out by publishing house Revolver Revue in 2014, of photographs primarily taken in the 1970s and 1980s but affected by flooding years later.

### LITERARY EVENINGS

#### 9. 1. 2015 | READING OF OPUS POETS

Since 1999 the Zblov-based Opus publishing house has been focused on poetry, though it also issues the work of prose writers that are not well known in the Czech environment (Robert Walser, Arno Schmidt).

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Ondřej Němec.



Jiří Přibáň: *The Defense of Constitutionality, or the Czech Question in post-national Europe.*

It has brought out translations of the poetry of Vladislav Khodasevich, Yves Bonnefoy, Czesław Miłosz and Wallace Stevens, and the essays of Zbigniew Herbert. The collections of Czech poets Petr Halmay, Jiří Červenka and Štěpán Nosek are an essential part of the company's publishing schedule. Freshly published books were presented during the evening: Carl Seelig *Putování s Robertem Walserem* (*Wandering with Robert Walser*), Arno Schmidt *Brandovo blato* (*Brand's Heath*), Josef Hrdlička *Kočka v ohni* (*Cat in the Fire*) and Petr Halmay.

### 13. 1. 2015 | MICHAL CHMELENSKÝ: THE JEWISH COMMUNITY IN THE SUŠICE AREA

The presentation of a book on the history of now-disappeared Jewish historical landmarks and the personal stories of members of Jewish religious community and associations in the south-western foothills of the Šumava. Michal Chmelenský, who also presented the results of field research he conducted in 2011, discussed the method of documenting the history of rural Jewish communities, the possibility of reviving the collective memory in the Czech borderlands, and the form that could take.

### 23. 1. 2015 | JIŘÍ PŘIBÁŇ: THE DEFENCE OF CONSTITUTIONALITY, OR THE CZECH QUESTION IN POST-NATIONAL EUROPE

Book presentation and discussion with: Petr Pithart (former Czech PM, later Senate chairman), Zdeněk Kühn (Supreme Administrative Court judge) and Jan Kysela (head of the Department of Political Science and Sociology at the Faculty of Law, Charles University). Chairman: Tomáš Němeček.

How does the Czech question – which for two centuries defined Czech political and social development and always included the land and nation's position in Europe – sound at the start of the 21st century? Instead of understanding

it as a pragmatic question of building constitutionality and a civilly strong democratic society, we continue to perceive it as an existential question of to be, or not to be for the nation. However, the tension between democracy as a form of life and as a political system cannot also be applied to the issues of cultural identity and existence. The defence of constitutionality is therefore always based on principles of civic freedom and rights, limited government, the constitutional state and representative democracy, whose validity and cogency has been and always will be at stake in a post-national Europe.

#### **28. 1. 2015 | PATRIK LINHART: VIENNA CALLING**

Introduction of the book by writer Patrik Linhart of Duchcov, a prosaic miniature, a wild pastiche of the seen, read, heard, conjured. Linhart's text is full of references, cues, cruel jokes, almost illegible at first attempt, while becoming delightful upon further reading. Language plays the key role. The book was read by Patrik Linhart, accompanied by Petr Minařík and Pavel Řehořík of the Větrné mlýny publishers, where the book was published in 2014.

#### **5. 2. 2015 | ALICE HORÁČKOVÁ: VLADIMÍRA ČEREPKOVÁ – BEATNIK FEMME FATALE**

Evening of recollections of poet Vladimíra Čerepková (1946–2013), a borstal girl and star of the Viola and the Parisian émigré scene. The evening included the screening of a "lost" half-hour film about Čerepková made by Juraj Jakubisko in 1965. Guests: documentary maker Tomáš Škrdlant, director Juraj Jakubisko, author and journalist Ondřej Suchý, the poet's great love, Pierre Helzel, and Alice Horáčková, author of a book on Vladimíra Čerepková.

#### **17. 2. 2015 | THE POETIC WRITINGS OF EGON BONDY**

Presentation of the first part of *Básnické Spisy* (Poetic Writings), a selection of works by Egon Bondy, a guru of



*The Poetic Writings of Egon Bondy.*



Marie Rút Křížková: *Listen and Respond*.

the Czech underground, idiosyncratic philosopher and poet. The book, which presents Bondy's early poems from the years 1947–1963, was issued by the Argo publishing house. The evening was hosted by literary historian Martin Machovec, the publication's editor.

### 2. 3. 2015 | AN EVENING WITH EDA KRISEOVÁ

The novelist and former advisor to Václav Havel read from her most recent book, *Duši, tělo opatruj* (*Soul, Cherish the Body*). Among other subjects, she discussed the inspiration for the characters in her short stories, novellas and novels, as well as the latest edition of her book *Václav Havel*. Vojtěch and Irena Havel performed live music.

### 9. 3. 2015 | MARIE RÚT KŘÍŽKOVÁ: LISTEN AND RESPOND

Presentation of *Slyšet A Odpovídat* (*Listen and Respond*), the memoirs of Marie Rút Křížková, editor of the works of Jiří Orten and Charta 77 spokesperson. The evening was hosted by Ester Janečková. Other speakers included Mireia Ryšková and the Czech minister of culture, Daniel Herman.

### 18. 3. 2015 | MAGNESIA LITERA I

Reading by authors nominated for some of the seven categories in the annual Magnesia Litera book awards. Three or four writers from various categories read at the gathering. Presented by Pavel Mandys from organisers the Litera civic association.

### 23. 3. 2015 | TAIWAN, ISLAND OF LITERATURE

In recent years, noteworthy literature written in Chinese in Taiwan since the 1960s has begun to reach Czech readers. The writers Lu Pching and Wu Ming-I discussed literature, language and society in Taiwan, as well as

their own work. Excerpts from the Chinese originals and Czech translations were read during the evening, while a discussion was chaired by leading sinologist Olga Lomová (Charles University).

### **25. 3. 2015 | MAGNESIA LITERA II**

Reading by authors nominated for some of the seven categories in the annual Magnesia Litera book awards. Three or four writers from various categories read at the gathering. Presented by Pavel Mandys from organisers the Litera civic association.

### **1. 4. 2015 | MAGNESIA LITERA III**

Reading by authors nominated for some of the seven categories in the annual Magnesia Litera book awards. Writers from various categories read and spoke: Ondřej Horák, Jiří Franta: *Proč obrazy nepotřebují názvy* (*Why Pictures Don't Need Titles*) (from the Best Children's or Young Adults' Book category); Hana Lundiaková: *IMAGO. Ty trubko!* (*IMAGO: You Dolt!*) (Prose); Michal Maršálek: *Černá bere* (*The Black Takes*) (Poetry); Martin Reiner: *Básník* (*Poet*) (Prose).

Presented by Pavel Mandys from organisers the Litera civic association.

### **8. 4. 2015 | MAGNESIA LITERA IV**

Reading by authors nominated for some of the seven categories in the annual Magnesia Litera book awards. Writers from various categories read and spoke: Alice Horáčková: *Vladimíra Čerepková – Básnická femme fatale - Vladimíra Čerepková – Poetic Femme Fatale* (from the Newcomer of the Year category); Alžběta Michalová: *Zřetelně nevyprávíš* (*You're Clearly Not Telling*) (Newcomer of the Year); Milena Slavická: *Hagibor* (Prose).

Presented by Pavel Mandys from organisers the Litera civic association.



*Magnesia Litera 2014.*





*A walk through Turnová's Grove.*

#### **13. 4. 2015 | WHEN MANGOES FALL**

Vojtěch Bílý was spending a year as a volunteer teacher in the Central African Republic when civil war broke out, driving over a million inhabitants from their homes. Working at a Carmelite mission that was transformed into a refugee camp, he monitored war crimes and witnessed the expulsion of Muslims, a move that severed tribal and friendly ties. Bílý documented his experiences in the book *Když padají manga* (*When Mangoes Fall*). He presented it alongside co-author Alenou Scheinostová.

#### **14. 4. 2015 | A WALK THROUGH TURNOVÁ'S GROVE**

Reading by bass player and writer Eva Turnová of selected essays and bitterly humorous glosses on the contemporary world packed with self-deprecation and dense sarcasm.

#### **27. 4. 2015 | HAVEL, UN RÊVE FRANÇAIS: RENCONTRE AVEC AURÉLIE MOREL**

Aurélie Morel est auteure de la pièce «Château hippie», qui se situe au moment de la venue de Franck Zappa à Prague, invité par le tout nouveau président Vaclav Havel, en janvier 1990. D'abord journaliste, puis responsable d'action culturelle pour les bibliothèques, Aurélie Morel vit à Paris. Elle a habité Prague au début des années 1990. Passionnée par la langue tchèque, sa culture, sa scène rock underground et par les œuvres de Havel, elle a écrit « Château hippie » en hommage à cet homme politique hors normes que fut Vaclav Havel.

Lors de cette rencontre en français, Aurélie Morel lira des extraits de sa pièce et dialoguera avec le public, autour de la genèse de ce texte, de la vie politique et littéraire tchèque vue de France depuis 1989, de tout ce que cette Histoire récente tchèque peut apporter à la France.

#### 4. 5. 2015 | ZDENA ERTELTOVÁ PHILIPSOVÁ AND PETITION EDITIONS

Petition Editions (Edice Petice in Czech), which was established by Ludvík Vaculík in 1972, was one of the most important samizdat series.

Zdena Ertelová Philipsová (1934–2007), who copied 120 titles for the series, also wrote for Petition Editions, Kvart and Alex. In a filmed interview she discussed how she, Ludvík Vaculík, Ivan Klíma, Petr Kabeš, Jiří Gruša and other writers published samizdat – and how the StB secret police developed methods to bully and intimidate her over the years.

Guests included Eda Kriseová, Jan Vodňanský and Ivan Klíma, who read his short story *Jak Zdena stavěla dům* (*How Zdena built a house*).

#### 7. 5. 2015 | PETR BORKOVEC: THIS DAY TOO WILL BE PART OF THE STORY

Reading by the author from his then as yet unpublished short story collection *Lido di Dante* and an expanded edition of his collection *Milostné básně* (*Love Poems*).

“The beach car park was lit as far as a row of rhododendrons, in which the light disappeared. A little further, in the black water, laughter and drunken English were heard; she had seen them during the day: two German women and three Italians. The two were just old and fat enough that with a little sinfulness (suffice to stretch a foot differently, lift the legs a little higher, divide one’s attention between the two and make sure the portions were balanced) they could have made wonderful, simply wonderful concubines.”

#### 12. 5. 2015 | THE UNKNOWN SNOW WHITE!

Reading by poet Viki Shock, who following 2014’s “lightly funereal love story” *Zahradníkův rok na hřbitově* (*Zahradník’s Year in the Cemetery*) presented a new book of crazy



*The Unknown Snow White!*



*With My Language I Will Brake the Silence.*

short stories, *Sněhurka, jakou svět neviděl!* (*The unknown Snow White!*), a psychopathological-analytical variation on the classic short story in the guise of a Freak Show. One-man band Ruce naší Dory provided accompaniment on acoustic guitar.

### **13. 5. 2015 | SEVEN YEARS IN THE GULAG**

Launch of František Polák's book *Sedm let v Gulagu. Vzpomínky pražského advokáta na sovětské pracovní tábory* (*Seven Years in the Gulag: A Prague Lawyer's Memoir of Soviet Labor Camps*) (Institute for the Study of Totalitarian Regimes, 2015).

A former legionnaire in Russia, František Polák was a lawyer for workers and communist activists who in 1930 quit the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia in protest at the control of the party by Klement Gottwald's radical wing. As a refugee from Nazism, he became a member of the Czechoslovak Army Corps in the East; however, he was later betrayed by its commanders and handed over to the Soviet NKVD secret police. He was imprisoned in the Gulag from 1939 to 1947. After his release and return to Czechoslovakia in March 1948 he escaped to the West with the aim of informing the world and his home country about the reality of the USSR, which he himself had for years refused to believe. Adam Hradilek hosted the evening. In cooperation with the Institute for the Study of Totalitarian Regimes.

### **4. 6. 2015 | KAREL HVÍŽĎALA: THE EIGHTH DAY OF THE WEEK, 52 + 1 ESSAYS**

Presentation of the book *Osmý den týdne, 52 + 1 fejeton* (*The Eighth Day of the Week, 52 + 1 Essays*) by journalist and playwright Karel Hviždala, which had just been issued by publishers Novela bohémica.

The collection of essays came into being as Hviždala's Saturday reflections for Czech Radio Plus

between 2013 and 2015. It takes in everything from the end of the war, nationalization, May Days, school years, illegal scouting, university studies, exile and the Velvet Revolution to the present day. Alongside remembrances of a youth in Prague's Lesser Quarter, the author reflects on figures he has met and worked with: Karel Kryl, Bohumil Hrabal, Pavel Tigrid, Milan Kundera and Václav Havel. The evening was hosted by Petr Fischer, while among those giving the book a send-off were Miroslav Barták, Jiří Lábus, Dáša Vokatá, Oldřich Kaiser and the man who inspired the radio series, Petr Důdek.

**10. 6. 2015 | WITH MY LANGUAGE  
I WILL BREAK THE SILENCE**

A now traditional reading by poets from around Europe, this time Czech, Hungarian, Austrian, Slovenian, Slovak and Serb writers, as part of the eighth annual festival Stranou – European Poets Live (Veronika Dianišková, Radek Fridrich, Stanka Hrastelj, Marko Kravos, Ivan Matoušek, Marián Milčák, Duško Novaković, Ana Ristović, Dušan Savić, Ivo Svetina, István Vörös, Petra Žišt). Vlad'ka Kužilková read Czech translations.

Music: Půljablkoň (Marie Puttnerová & Michal Němec)

Hosts: Lenka Kuhar Daňhelová and Peter Kuhar.

As part of the *Stranou Festival*.

**12. 6. 2015 | FILIP TOPOL: ANGUS BURGE**

Ceremonial presentation of an album of pen drawings by Filip Topol from 1984 as part of a tribute concert. The "Knight's Comics" Angus Burge was published by the Václav Havel Library in a limited edition of 300 copies.

**31. 8. 2015 | WHERE ARE YOU LEADING ME,  
MY MISTRESS**

An evening of poetry to pay tribute to Marty Smolíková, the stepping-down director of the Václav Havel Library.



*Where Are You Leading Me, My Mistress.*





Michael Žantovský: *Havel, My Fate*.



Roger Scruton: *Notes from Underground*.

Their juvenile verses, framed with respectable staves by poet Věra Jirousová (1944–2011), one generation older and referred to as the “mother of the underground”, were read by four Czech female underground poets, Jana Hradilková Křišťanka (1959), Beatrice Landovská (1962), Lenka Marečková (1963) and Michaela Němcová (1964). The evening was directed by Beatrice Landovská.

**8. 9. 2015 | MICHAEL ŽANTOVSKÝ: HAVEL, MY FATE**

Meeting with the new director of the Václav Havel Library. Michael Žantovský – diplomat, translator, interpreter, psychologist, journalist, writer, lyricist politician and last but not least close friend and associate of Václav Havel – launched the VHL’s 2015/2016 “clubhouse” season with a reading from his successful biography *Havel*.

**10. 9. 2015 | PIOTR MACIERZYŃSKI: CONCENTRATION CAMP POETRY**

Presentation of a Czech translation and author’s reading from the collection *Antologie esesáckých básní (Anthology of SS Poems)*. The Polish poet Piotr Macierzyński trod very thin ice but did not drown. In doing so, he answered the question of whether there are subjects that do not belong in poetry. Modern language, old theme, modern poetry, old pain. Even after 60 years the Holocaust must not be forgotten and Macierzyński’s poetry serves as a pertinent reminder. Petr Čulík presented the poems in Czech.

The poems, translated by Ondřej Zajac, were issued by the publishing house Nakladatelství Petr Štengl.

**14. 9. 2015 | ROGER SCRUTON: NOTES FROM UNDERGROUND**

Evening with the British philosopher and writer Roger Scruton who, until his arrest by the StB and expulsion from Czechoslovakia in 1985, played a major role in the organization of the era’s “underground university”. He later



helped Czechoslovak dissent in particular via the Jan Hus Foundation.

Partly set in communist Prague in the mid-1980s, his novel *Notes from the Underground* is about love, nostalgia, dissent and the search for the sacred and meaning in human life, religious faith, betrayal and disappointment. Michael Žantovský and Pavel Bratinka presented the book.

#### **16. 9. 2015 | JOSEF RAUVOLF: JIROUS AND FUCHS – A CROSS-BORDER AFFINITY**

Though it seems impossible at first glance, the two poets, one Czech, the other (East) German, had much more in common than might be expected. Not only in their unwillingness to accept any kind of compromise, whether in the totalitarian period or after its fall, or in issues of moral integrity; Ivan M. Jirous and Jürgen Fuchs also shared similar poetics.

#### **25. 9. 2015 | LIAO I-WU: BROKEN WORDS**

Liao I-wu – an important Chinese poet, musician, reporter, dissident, political prisoner and, as he puts it, “independent researcher of the lower classes of Chinese society”. After 2012 he moved, after an adventurous hike across the Vietnamese border, to Berlin. He is a holder of several major literary awards, the last being the Scholl Siblings Prize and the Peace Prize of German Book Trade. The objective of *Broken Words* – a joint project by Liao I-wu, Pilsen poet Ivo Hucl, composer and multi-instrumentalist Tomáš Vtípil, musician and poet Pavel Zajíček and filmmaker Petra Bučková – is to overcome the borders between different cultures, languages, different philosophical concepts and art genres.

#### **6. 10. 2015 | TSERING WOESER: NOTES ON TIBET**

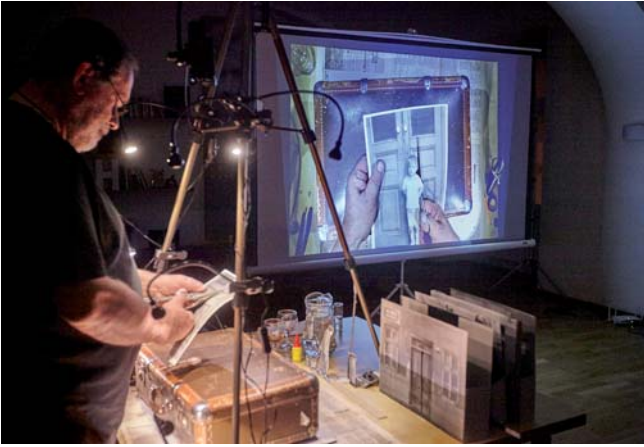
An evening dedicated to the Tibetan poet, essayist and activist Tsering Woesser, one of the most distinctive



*Liao I-Wu: Broken Words.*



*Tsering Woesser: Notes on Tibet.*



Via Hrabal.

contemporary voices commenting on and documenting current events in Tibet.

The Czech translation of her “fateful” collection of essays *Notes on Tibet* was carried out directly from the Chinese original. The 2003 book, which launched her journey as a dissident and independent novelist, is a highly subjective, poetic and multi-layered work capturing the reality of Tibet in the second half of the 20th century.

The sinologists and translators Olga Lomová and Kamila Hladíková hosted the evening.

#### **8. 10. 2015 | DISTURBING THE PEACE**

Václav Havel’s *Dálkový Výslech* (*Disturbing the Peace*) was the former president’s most distinctive and successful book. Granting the interview to Karel Hvížďala meant that he sidestepped the responsibility of writing a memoir himself one day. He later did a follow-up with the author entitled *Prosím stručně* (*To the Castle and Back*). The original interview in book form was first published in Czech in London in 1986 in connection with Havel’s 50th birthday. The new, twelfth Czech edition was prepared by the LEDA publishing house 30 years after Václav Havel began working with Karel Hvížďala. The interview was translated into more than 20 languages.

Guests included Petr Fischer, Petr Pithart, Karel Hvížďala and publisher Rudolf Červenka. Actor Josef Somr read from the book and Jaroslav Hutka performed.

The evening took place in cooperation with the LEDA publishing house.

#### **13. 10. 2015 | TWO SOLIDARITIES – RIDING THE MARE OF HISTORY AND THE FORTRESS**

From the history of the Polish anti-communist resistance. The Polish opposition in the 1980s took various forms. The most important movement was the independent trade union Solidarity, which the historian Karol

Modzelewski wrote about in his memoir *Riding the Mare of History*.

The second was Fighting Solidarity, described in the book *The Fortress* by journalist Igor Janke. The translator and journalist Petruška Šustrová read about both forms of Polish resistance in her own translations of the works.

#### **14. 10. 2015 | VIA HRABAL**

A multimedia presentation prepared by the Serpens association in connection with the 100th anniversary of the birth of Bohumil Hrabal.

The project was prepared by friends and colleagues of Hrabal who have explored his life and work over many years.

Its final shape was a modern presentation that explored the poetic level of Hrabal's life and work in an original, comprehensible and attractive manner through a vivid visual and aural collage.

In the previous two years the project had been presented in cooperation with the Czech Centres network in Paris, Amsterdam, Warsaw, Munich, Venice, Stockholm, Poznan, Krakow, Gdansk, Salzburg, Budapest, Beijing, Constance and Bielsko-Biala.

Authors: Tomáš Mazal, Václav Špale and Jiří Rejthar, with video and audio collaboration from Jan Čapek.

#### **21. 10. 2015 | VÍT KREMLIČKA AND HIS AMERYCAN YNDIANS**

Presentation of a short-story collection by Vít Kremlička, a writer involved with Revolver Revue, entitled *Amazonské Medy (Amazonian Honeys)* and subtitled *Vyprávění amerýkanských Yndů (Storytelling of the Amerýcan Yndians)*.

The product of Kremlička's fantastical imagination, it is also a direct reference to the myths of natural peoples. The poetic evening was hosted by Jiří Fiedor, head of publishers Pulchra, and visual artist Otto Placht, while Jakub Mužík provided musical accompaniment.



*Ylljet Alička: We Think, Work and Live Like Revolutionaries!*

## **22. 10. 2015 | YLLJET ALIČKA – WE THINK, WORK AND LIVE LIKE REVOLUTIONARIES!**

Reading by the Albanian novelist. Alička's short stories reveal the everyday reality of life in Albania in the communist period and after its collapse.

The author draws on his own experiences, allowing for a deeper understanding of the rawness, absurdity and cruelty of life in a country that has experienced a specific historic development incomparable with that of other European countries and where any deviation from norms established by party ideology was punished draconically. Listening to foreign music or reading banned literature meant not just losing one's job or being expelled from one's studies – even in the 1980s the accused ended up with long sentences in prison or labour camps...

The book was introduced by J. E. Riza Poda, ambassador of the Albanian Republic. The evening was hosted by Hana Tomková, who also interpreted. Petr Čulík read in Czech. In cooperation with the publishing house Nakladatelství Petr Štengl.

## **26. 10. 2015 | EUGEN LIŠKA – A HALF-FORGOTTEN WRITER REMEMBERED**

Presentation of the novel *Milovaní (Loving/The Loved)* by the half-forgotten writer Eugen Liška, a lone wolf who in part thanks to his friendship with Jakub Deml and Jan Čep is an integral part of Czech Catholic prose of the last century. The book, which was just being issued by publishers Cherm, was presented by editors Jan Šulc and Anna Lišková.

## **27. 10. 2015 | OLGA STANKOVIČOVÁ – A FAIRY-TALE FROM A TOMB FOUNDER**

Presentation of the first publication of a fairy-tale story by Olga Stankovičová, a close friend and later colleague of Olga Havlová, the manuscript of which was discovered following the author's death in 2011.

The fairy-tale *O Pracháčkovi* (*About Pracháček*) was created within the framework of the Hrobka (Tomb) debating society. A completely exceptional, pranksterish group in the context of Czech dissent, it was set up by Olga Stankovičová with sociologist Jarmila Bělíková and Olga Havlová in 1981. The manuscript was dedicated to the two of them.

## 2. 11. 2015 | MAKANNA

Brikcius Festival – Film premiere and CD launch. Screening of the music documentary MAKANNA on the 115th anniversary of the birth of novelist Jiří Weil... along with a recording of a concert performance of the ballet by composer and organist Irena Kosíková for recital (Jan Židlický), solo cello (František Brikcius) and orchestra (Jan Talich & the Talich Chamber Orchestra), which took place at Prague's Convent of St. Agnes under the auspices of Sir Tom Stoppard and Václav Havel.

## 5. 11. 2015 | THE ARMENIANS ON MUSA DAGH – DAYS OF MISFORTUNE IGNORED ONCE AGAIN

Last year was the 100th anniversary of the genocide of the Armenians. It was also the 125th anniversary of the birth of Franz Werfel and the 75th anniversary of his death. A literary evening dedicated to Werfel's novel *The 40 Days of Musa Dagh*. Guests included translator Hanuš Karlach, German Studies expert Milan Tvrđík, playwright Jan Vedral and Armenian Studies scholar Milada Kiliánová. Petr Vizina chaired the discussion.

## 10. 11. 2015 | LITERARY VOICES OF CENTRAL EUROPE

Eminent intellectuals of the 20th century wrote essays about Central Europe as an exceptional and unique geographical and spiritual space: Václav Havel, Milan Kundera, Györgi Konrád, Czesław Miłosz... Decades have now passed and we can explore whether that original concept has been fulfilled or abandoned. This



*The Armenians on Musa Dagh – Days of Misfortune Ignored Once Again.*





*Kovlo Romano Jilo / The Kind Romany Heart*



*Early Evening with Bulgarian Diabolical Fiction.*

meeting with writers from the Visegrad countries – prose author Attila Sirbik (Hungary), prose author and poet Darek Foks (Poland), poet Kamil Bouška (CR) and prose author and publisher Jana Bodnárová (Slovakia) – was chaired by Tereza Semotamová.

The event was organised by the Arts and Theatre Institute. The Central European Discussion Club, the Arts Institute, Villa Decius (coordinator), Petőfi Irodalmi Múzeum and the Literary Information Centre were event partners.

#### **19. 11. 2015 | KOVLO ROMANO JILO / THE KIND ROMANY HEART**

Celebration of the life of Romany novelist Andrej Giňa (1936–2015). Friends, colleagues and admirers of Andrej Giňa's read from his works and recalled his energy and humour. The evening was accompanied by live music from Rokycany, while Karolína Ryvolová and Helena Sadílková served as hosts.

#### **24. 11. 2015 | EARLY EVENING WITH BULGARIAN DIABOLICAL FICTION**

Presentation of the book *Půlnoční history (Midnight Stories)* (Euroslavica 2014), an anthology of prose from Bulgarian Diabolism, a unique offshoot of European Expression.

“Exotic” Bulgarian literature and shared melting pots: the shadow of Franz Kafka, the mysticism of Gustav Meyrink, cursed poets, the absurd plays of Václav Havel... Zlatina Jeřábková discussed the poetics of the texts.

The anthology was the first to present to Czech readers the literary work of four avant-garde writers: Svetoslav Minkov, Vladimír Poljanov, Čavdar Mutafov and Georgi Rajčev.

The initiators of the project and editors of the publication – Ginka Bakardžieva, Marcel Černý and Vladimír Kříž – took part in the event, while the book was presented by the

ambassador of the Republic of Bulgaria, Lačezar Petkov. The evening took place in cooperation with the Bulgarian Cultural Institute in Prague.

#### **26. 11. 2015 | EVENING OF PRISON CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE NORMALISATION PERIOD**

Literary-historical evening on the phenomenon of the prison correspondence of political prisoners in the 1970s and 1980s which began involuntarily in normalisation Czechoslovakia, on censorship and the pitfalls of communication through wire and bars and on “the literary challenge of writing something when you can’t actually write anything.”

The Václav Havel Library’s new publication *Perzekuce Václava Havla. Dopisy a dokumenty z let 1968–1989* (*The Persecution of Václav Havel: Letters and Documents, 1968–1989*) was presented during the evening. The book’s editor, Jan Hron, historians Jiří Suk and Tomáš Bursík and literary historian Daniela Iwashita explored prison correspondence from the perspective of experts, while direct participants Petruška Šustrová and Jan Ruml remembered their own authentic experience as writers of letters to/from prison. František Kreuzmann read excerpts from letters. Tomáš Černý served as host.

The event took place as an accompanying programme to the colloquium *Possibilities of and Perspectives on Interdisciplinary Research into the History of the Prison System in Czechoslovakia in the 1970s and 1980s*.

The evening was organised by the Václav Havel Library in cooperation with the Institute for the Study of Totalitarian Regimes, the Institute of Czech Literature at the Czech Academy of Sciences and the association PoliticalPrisoners.eu.

#### **1. 12. 2015 | PETR PITHART: AFTER EIGHTY-NINE**

Petr Pithart introduced his new book about his active years in politics in the 1990s and his time away from politics to the present day, exploring consequences and context, crises and “promising outlooks”...



*The Prince's Book.*

An interview about how politics glows red hot and cools to become history, and about history itself, with the participation of Jiří Padevět, director of the Academia publishing house (which issued Pithart's reflective memoirs) and the author of much-discussed Protectorate "guidebooks"; Petr Havlík, a player in 1990s politics who now maps its consequences from today's perspective; and historian Jan Rychlík, an expert on Czech and Central and Eastern European history, who approached the subject from the perspective of his field.

The multi-guest interview was helmed by Jan Vít, editor of the book *Po devětaosmdesátém (After Eighty-Nine)*.

#### **4. 12. 2015 | SERGEI LOIKO: AIRPORT**

A novel about the Russian-Ukrainian war that shouldn't have happened and about heroes who wanted to live and died.

Presentation of the book by the author.

#### **7. 12. 2015 | PETR PLACÁK: WHERE DID THE MISTAKE OCCUR?**

Jan Ruml and Martin M. Šimečka – the children of one-time communists who abandoned their faith and became opponents of the regime – took part in a discussion with the author of *Gottwaldovo Československo jako fašistický stát (Gottwald's Czechoslovakia as a Fascist State)*, Petr Placák. His father, Bedřich Placák, experienced a similar development to Jiří Ruml, Milan Šimečka and Jiřina Šiklová (who also took part in the debate): from convinced communist via reform communism to rejecting the system.

#### **9. 12. 2015 | THE PRINCE'S BOOK**

*Knížecí kniha (The Prince's Book)* has three main sections: an essay about Karel Schwarzenberg; an interview from the period when he was still living in Austria; and a digest of interviews that he gave in the Czech Republic and

abroad between 1990 and 2012. The collection concludes with a “taking stock” interview from two years ago. The author of the essay and the interviews conducted in exile and two years ago is Karel Hviždala, who also organised for and translated texts in German in the second half. The book was issued out in connection with Karel Schwarzenberg’s 78th birthday. Petr Fischer hosted the evening, Michael Žantovský “baptised” the book and musical accompaniment came from Dáša Vokatá and Oldřich Kaiser, who also read excerpts.

#### **14. 12. 2015 | THE GULAG IN THE MEMOIRS OF CZECH WRITERS**

Presentation of the life stories of Czech and Czechoslovak authors of labour camp literature penned between the 1930s and 1990s and their often hard-fought efforts to relay a personal testimony of the Soviet labour camps. Excerpts from published and unpublished works were read while new materials uncovered in the NKVD and StB archives were presented.

Adam Hradilek hosted the evening.

Organised by the VHL in cooperation with the Institute for the Study of Totalitarian Regimes.

#### **THEATER PERFORMANCES**

##### **19. 1. 2015 | THE FACES OF VÁCLAV HAVEL**

Students and teachers from the Sedlčany arts-focused elementary school explored the pre-1989 period from various perspectives and in a number of currents and contexts. A series of recollections of Václav Havel were based on preserved literary and newspaper sources, poems and the recollections and dramatic works of Václav Havel, Ivan Martin Jirous, Pavel Kosatík and Martin C. Putna. The script was based on actual humorous and less humorous situations from the pre-Velvet Revolution period.



*The Faces of Václav Havel.*



Beatrice Landovská: *Kitty*.

### 9. 6. 2015 | BEATRICE LANDOVSKÁ: KITTY

The first presentation of texts from Beatrice Landovská's original theatre play *Koťátka (Kitty)* (2015), in the form of a staged reading by actors from the LaMy theatre group. The readings were prepared by Vanda Zaplatílková Hutařová and Kristýna Čepková.

One of two time-lines in the play, from 1987 to 1990, explores the feelings of then young people born into families of the social minority known today as the "cultural and political dissent".

"Orphans" of political prisoners and exiles, dilemmas of whether to remain in one's homeland or leave, and the experience of everyday encounters with betrayal in the form of omnipresent StB agents are characteristic phenomena of the time and place.

Actors: Helena Karochová, Roman Tepřt, Karel Riegel, Marie Hásková, William Valerián, Mária Holbová, Adéla Koutná, Tereza Kaucká, Viktorie Hásková and Jakub Koudela.

### 11. 11. 2015 | THE FACES OF VÁCLAV HAVEL

With the performance THE FACES of Václav Havel students from an arts-focused elementary school in Sedlčany attempted to look at Václav Havel's personality from various angles.

The theatre piece drew on preserved literary and press sources, poems, memoirs and the works of Ivan Martin Jirous, Pavel Kosatík, Martin C. Putna and Michael Žantovský. The script was based on real situations that occurred during Václav Havel's years as a dissident and his presidential career.



# EDUCATION

*Alongside the permanent exhibition, which is open to the public every day except Monday, the Library's educational programme was based on three pillars in 2015. The oldest of them, established in 2009, is the Václav Havel Library Prize for Best Student Essay, a competition for secondary school students. The second pillar consisted of tours of the exhibition and workshop Havel in a Nutshell, which again were given by instructor Nina Rutová last year. The third pillar comprised specialised thematic lecture series. Numerous lectures in the fields of history, human rights, culture and politics can also be included in this area.*

## THE PERMANENT EXHIBITION OF THE VÁCLAV HAVEL LIBRARY

The permanent exhibition *Havel in a Nutshell* introduces visitors to the life of Václav Havel through a collage of photographs and quotations. Via detailed information and audio recordings, touch screens place individual chapters – family, theatre, dissent and presidency – in the broader cultural and historical context. A large interactive map allows visitors to acquire a nuanced idea of Václav Havel's global, world "footprint".

## BEST STUDENT ESSAY COMPETITION 2015

Is There Room in the Czech Republic for People of Different Cultures and Religions?

One of the key genres of Václav Havel's work is essays – on literary, artistic, social, political, and spiritual topics. His essays, such as the *The Power of the Powerless* and *A Word About Words*, have become classic texts of Czech literature; they have been translated into tens of languages, and are among the few truly world-famous works of Czech culture. This is also why it is necessary to keep cultivating the essay genre in the Czech language – not in the sense of imitating Václav Havel's writing, but in

the spirit of his courage to name unpleasant problems and search for unconventional solutions to them.

The theme of the sixth year of the Library's Best Student Essay was: "Is There Room in the Czech Republic for People of Different Cultures and Religions?" An expert jury comprising Jan Foll, Dominik Melichar, Alice Šimonová, Jan H. Vitvar and Krystyna Wanatowiczová selected the best three:

1st place Josef Škrdlík, Jan Kepler Grammar School, Prague  
2nd place Veronika Gregorová, Bystřice pod Pernštejnem Grammar School  
2nd place Václav Pecka, Jan Kepler Grammar School, Prague

The ceremonial presentation of diplomas and prizes took place at the Library on 16. 12. 2015.

## HAVEL IN A NUTSHELL WORKSHOP

Havel in a Nutshell is an interactive programme for secondary school students and elementary school students from 9th grade. It is held at the Václav Havel Library and takes around 120 minutes

By themselves or in groups, the students read and work with Havel texts, share their views on subjects close to Havel (e.g., dissent, conscience, the absurd) and connect them to their own experience. The programme's instructor Nina Rutová has many years experience in media, editing and teaching and headed a teaching programme for teachers entitled "Critical Thinking Through Reading and Writing".

## THE UNDERGROUND PHENOMENON

A series of lectures, which took place over two semesters, conceived by historical sociologist Nicolas Maslowski and subtitled "The politics of memory between the control of society and morality". It built on lecture series from 2013 (The Czech Underground and Memory of Dissent) and 2014 (The Czech Underground II and Memory of Dissent II). Via lectures and linked discussions with students the Library continued mapping the "unofficial" Czech society of the second half of the 20th century. Both series were organised by the Library in cooperation with Historical Sociology department at Charles University's Faculty of Humanities and the lectures were accredited subjects within the regular study programme.

25. 2. 2015 | Vít Kremlička

11. 3. 2015 | Beatrice Landovská

25. 3. 2015 | Jáchym Topol

8. 4. 2015 | Abbé Libánský

15. 4. 2015 | Dáša Vokatá

6. 5. 2015 | Ivan Černega, „Karel Kocour“ Havelka a Miroslav „Skalák“ Skalický

## EVENINGS WITH MAREK ORKO VÁCHA

Marek Vácha, a Czech Roman Catholic priest, natural scientist, teacher and writer, is parish priest at the Lechovice parish, chaplain at the Roman Catholic Academic Parish at the Church of St. Salvator and is superintendent of the

Institute for Ethics at the Third Medical Faculty of Charles University. He specialises in issues of evolutionary biology and medical and environmental ethics. His lecture series continued in the following year and recorded large visitor numbers and views of recordings in the Library's archive.

### 19. 1. 2015 | MANKIND'S PLACE ON EARTH

An evening with Marek Orko Vácha. Mankind's responsibility for the world in which he lives comprises not just concerns for human rights throughout the world, but also responsibility for the state of the entire planet.

Mankind's responsibility for the world in which he lives comprises not just concerns for human rights throughout the world, but also responsibility for the state of the entire planet. The news that the world's population of mammals, birds and all vertebrates has fallen by half in the last 40 years has received little attention in the Czech media, despite the fact that it has been one of the most important news items of recent months. What is mankind's place in nature?

### 4. 2. 2015 | MANKIND'S PLACE IN NATURE

Continuation of Marek Orko Vácha's evening about our place in nature. In its relationship to nature, contemporary Europe oscillates between two extremes...

We either behave in an utterly utilitarian manner towards the landscape, following an "exploit and sell" model in which we regard the value of the earth as the value of the minerals contained within it, or we identify, even in a pantheistic manner, nature with Mother Nature and attach almost divine attributes to it. Both approaches were apparent in the film *Avatar*, for instance. Environmental ethics have without question a differentiated approach to nature. However, in recent years, biology has added a new and very serious reason to protect nature: we are discovering that we represent part of it in a far stronger sense than we have ever previously believed.

### 11. 3. 2015 | NEW HOPE IN POLITICS

Another evening with Marek Orko Vácha, this time with guests Jan Čížinský (mayor of Prague 7), Matěj Hollan (3rd deputy mayor of Brno) and Zdeněk Papoušek (senator for the Brno-city constituency).

In the last elections it became clear that choosing from among the established parties and politicians was not the only option. That when people come together with enthusiasm and application they can elevate people they know personally to important positions. Zdeněk Papoušek, for instance, received the most votes of all newly-elected senators. This may be evidence that democracy works and that there is still hope.

### 15. 4. 2015 | FROM 19TH CENTURY EUGENICS TO THE HUMAN GENOME PROJECT

What nature has done blindly and randomly over aeons we are now about to do in a quick and targeted manner. In 1859, Charles Darwin published his most famous work. Logically, it eventually inspired eugenics as an attempt to improve the generation of mankind. Positive eugenics, the attempt to eliminate that which was undesired, developed in an unfortunate manner, producing terrible results that stretched all the way to Auschwitz. Out of fear of a modern form of eugenics, when the idea of mapping the human genome was born in the 1980s, some 3% of the annual budget was dedicated to ethical considerations of the undertaking. This gave rise to the most subsidised ethical project in the planet's history.

### 20. 5. 2015 | THE EVOLUTION OF ETHICS

An evening with Marek Orko Vácha. The first part of the lecture focused on the world of nature, "good deeds" within it and how to explain them, and bee-eaters, turkeys and vampires. The second part was concerned with mankind and the question of why being kind to others is a good idea and whether it is possible.



*Evening with Marek Orko Vácha: New Hope in Politics.*

### 3. 6. 2015 | FREEDOM, ETHICS AND RESPONSIBILITY

The moment in the evolution of our species when personal freedom emerged was perhaps the moment we could begin to speak about man. Freedom enables the emergence of ethics. It is the moment when, from a point of given instinctive behavior, a never-ending ocean of possibilities opens up, the moment when we become aware it is possible to act differently.

Along with freedom arises its less popular flip-side: responsibility. Not only is it possible to act differently – above all, the anxiety that it is possible to act badly arises. Freedom is not just a multi-colored palette of possibility but rather a dizzying abyss of choice. Therefore, the history of human freedom is, surprisingly, also the history of our efforts to transfer our freedom onto something or somebody else. In modern history, ethics lies between two extremes: behaviorism on the one hand, and genetic determinism on the other.

### 9. 9. 2015 | J. G. MENDEL – A GENIUS KNOWN EVERYWHERE BUT HERE

Another lecture in a series by Marek Orko Vácha. Modern biology is founded on two names, Darwin and Mendel,

or perhaps that should be Mendel and Darwin. Last year marked the 150th anniversary of Johann Gregor Mendel's lectures in Brno.

However, it remains a mystery as to why this priest, monk, abbot, botanist and mathematician known as a genius of genetics is famous throughout the world with the exception of the Czech Republic.

### **11. 11. 2015 | FROM CLONING TO SYNTHETIC BIOLOGY**

Closing lecture in a series by Marek Orko Vácha. The resurrection of a mammoth, Tasmanian tiger, Dodo or Neanderthal, CRISPRs or synthetic life... In molecular genetics a discovery regarded as ground-breaking is reported every month. In this lecture we attempted to take a peek into the perhaps not too distant future.

### **LIVING SOULS: CURRENT RUSSIAN CULTURE AND ITS CZECH CONNECTIONS**

Lecture series focused on contemporary Russian culture with Russian Studies specialist Tomáš Glanc (Universität Zürich).

### **12. 2. 2015 | I. CURRENT RUSSIAN CULTURE AND ITS CZECH CONNECTIONS**

Significant moments in the Czech reception of Russian culture. The first evening in a lecture series focused on contemporary Russian culture with Russian Studies specialist Tomáš Glanc (Universität Zürich). Does Russian culture reach the Czech milieu in a sufficient, adequate and high-quality form?

What options are open to those who don't wish to follow goings-on in Russia culture from Russian-language sources alone but are forced to depend on critics, translators, curators and distributors acting as intermediaries?

The reception of a foreign culture is anchored in tradition. In the Czech lands this primarily concerns the start of the

20th century and the First Republic with its interest in Russian Modernism. There was also the cultural intermediation of the 1960s, correcting the import of official Soviet productions. During normalisation the relationship to Russian culture was politicised but not destroyed. What do the tendencies we have observed in the last 25 years follow on from? And how?

### **12. 3. 2015 | II. PSYCHEDELIC POETICS IN RUSSIA**

Altered states of consciousness were a subject of fascination for representatives of Russian Symbolism at the turn of the 19th and 20th centuries, or even earlier if we consider the significant role of opiates in the spiritual life of Anna Karenina from Tolstoy's novel. Mikhail Bulgakov was another literary figure who masterfully described how the regular intake of morphine could turn reality on its head.

Altered states of consciousness were a subject of fascination for representatives of Russian Symbolism at the turn of the 19th and 20th centuries, or even earlier if we consider the significant role of opiates in the spiritual life of Anna Karenina from Tolstoy's novel. Mikhail Bulgakov was another literary figure who masterfully described how the regular intake of morphine could turn reality on its head. The psychedelic perspective is becoming one of the most important narrative strategies in contemporary prose, as evinced by the works of writers in Czech translation: Vladimir Sorokin, Viktor Pelevin, Pavel Peppershtejn. Sorokin's most recent novel, *Telurie*, predicting a separatist local war in Europe, even takes its title from a reality-altering drug.

### **27. 4. 2015 | III. RUSSIAN PERFORMANCE ART BETWEEN ORTHODOXY AND ACTIVISM**

The third evening in the lecture series *Living Souls: Current Russian Culture and its Czech Connections* with Russian

Studies expert Tomáš Glanc (Universität Zürich).

Performance art and happenings developed in Russia in a distinctive and authentic manner. How much the avant-garde cultural excesses of the 1950s and 1960s belong to the history of performance art remains an open question. However, since then art from beyond the world of galleries has been ever-present and influential. Paradoxically, its beginnings are linked to members of Dvizhenie (The Movement Group), who – thanks to their subversive imaginations – were brought together by contracts linked to the 50th anniversary of the Great October Revolution (1967).

In the post-Soviet era, frequently wild performance art has become the showcase of contemporary art, culminating in the activities of the group Pussy Riot, which have won worldwide attention. Can performance art maintain its individuality? Or will it become hostage to the media and politics?

## OTHER OCCASIONAL LECTURES AND DISCUSSIONS

### 18. 2. 2015 | HAVEL THROUGH POLISH EYES

The lecture by PhDr. Libor Martínek Ph.D. from the University of Wrocław focused on the reception of the personality and works of Václav Havel in Polish academic circles. Václav Havel's image as an intellectual, playwright, essayist and statesman among the Polish intelligentsia. Thanks to his positions and philosophy – and in the broader context his work as an artist – Havel was an undisputed intellectual and moral authority in Poland. Not only as a symbol of the political changes in Czechoslovakia and Central Europe but above all as a thinker who sparked similar interest in intellectual circles to that generated by T.G. Masaryk in his day. How are Havel's thoughts, particularly on Europe and Russia, viewed today in a period of parallel crises?

### 20. 4. 2015 | THE SECRETS OF AN ARIZONA SUITCASE

The life of J. A. Holman (1901–1980) At the beginning of last year a heavy suitcase containing the estate of J. A. Holman made its way from the Arizona desert to the VHL. Why did this happen? And what do the initials stand for – Josef Alfred or Jan Alfred? Patent winning inventor? Editor-in-chief of a technical magazine? Bon vivant? Model for advertisements? Automobile racer? Film director? Nazi collaborator? Resistance fighter? Senior post-war Economy Ministry official? Émigré? Representative of the Czechoslovak opposition in exile? Radio Free Europe editor? Most of these and similar questions were answered during the evening by historian Petr Bednařík (Institute of Contemporary History at the Academy of Sciences, Faculty of Social Science, Charles University). The evening concluded with J. A. Holman's controversial 1942 film *Velká přehrada* (The Great Dam).

### 22. 9. 2015 | REFLECTIONS ON THE UNDERGROUND

They say the underground movement had as many forms as members. Despite persecution by the normalization regime, the underground displayed unprecedented viability, bringing together disparate cultural and political activities.

This specialist conference was focused on those activities, concrete figures and everyday life in the underground and the advent of younger generations.

In cooperation with the Institute for the Study of Totalitarian Regimes.

### 17. 11. 2015 | HANDS FULL OF REVOLUTION

The Silesian Theatre Opava presented its premiere of the play *Plně ruce revoluce* (*Hands Full of Revolution*) by director Janek Lesák and dramaturge Natálie Preslová two years ago. The show was a unique depiction of the events of that time through the eyes of children of the revolution – both its creators were born in November 1989. The genesis of the production was captured in a short documentary by



students of the Silesian University's Multimedia Technology Department, who themselves were born in the post-revolution period.

The Václav Havel Library presented the Czech premiere of the documentary *Plné ruce revoluce (Hands Full of Revolution)* as part of the Festival of Freedom. The evening included a discussion with the creators of the play and the film, historian Jiří Suk and revolutionary Alexandr Vondra. Petr Jančárek hosted the event.

The main heroes of the play are three real figures: Václav Havel, Jiří Křížan and Alexandr Vondra. Discussing its genesis, director Lesák said: "They often say that we, the young generation, are no longer interested in the events

of that time 25 years ago and that we don't know anything about them. I have no problem admitting I don't know anything about them, because we are unlikely to ever comprehend even a fragment of what a participant in a 100,000-strong demonstration experienced, or to grasp the atmosphere of such a place. But it's not true it doesn't interest us. We're the generation in which parents and acquaintances spoke to us from a young age about how things were in the period when we were born. The revolution does interest us, not just because it markedly influenced the world in which we grew up and in which we live today, but also because it is closely linked to the first years of our lives."

# MEDIA COVERAGE

*The Václav Havel Library presented in media monitored by Newton Media in 1012 articles and broadcasts. The greatest attention was raised by the Human Rights Prize (30), European Dialogues (20), Juriy Andrukhovich (13) and Cabinet Havel (10), Anne Applebaum (9), information on the inauguration of Havel's place in Israel, Pardubice and Krásná Lípa (48) and change of director (Martha Smolíková – 69 and Michael Žantovský – 133). In books it was The Horní Počernice Crooks (11) and Persecution of Václav Havel (7).*

# VISITOR NUMBERS

*During 2015 the Library events were visited by a total of 12 580 people. A video recording was taken at most of the events and subsequently published on the Library's YouTube channel. There were 126 469 views at the end of the year (71 064 in 2014).*

The Library was also very active on the social networks. Its Facebook profile had 15 621 friends at the end of the year (11 893 at the end of 2014). The Library news published on Twitter had 2 574 followers (2 081 at the end of 2014).

The Library's website shows monthly programmes, news, information about the Library's projects and video and

photo documentation of the events held in the Library, and is also the entry point to the electronic archives of the Documentation Centre. The website gets between 8 000 and 10 000 visitors per month. Every week the Library sends out an electronic newsletter with the programme, and occasionally also sends out promos for individual events. Visitors can sign up for the newsletter and promos on the website.

# FINANCIAL SUMMARIES

## EXPENSES, 2015

*In thousands CZK*

Documentation Centre	4 775
Publications	2 571
Education and conferences	375
Club	3 807
Václav Havel's World	1 126
Václav Havel European Dialogues	660
Václav Havel Human Rights Prize	472
Administrative and overhead costs	3 583
<b>Total</b>	<b>17 369</b>

## HISTORY OF TOTAL EXPENSES

2010	7 553
2011	10 952
2012	14 423
2013	17 877
2014	17 881
2015	17 369

## REVENUES FROM GIFTS AND OWN ACTIVITIES

### OWN REVENUES, 2015

Revenues from the sale of own products (books, postcards)	614
Revenues from the sale of merchandise	38
Revenues from services, including cooperation with institutions	806
Change in inventory	369
Interests and foreign exchange differences	59
Other revenues	89
<b>Total</b>	<b>1 975</b>

### MONETARY AND NON-MONETARY GIFTS RECEIVED

#### MONETARY GIFTS

Fondation Zdenek et Michaela Bakala	13 500
Other donors	291

#### NON-MONETARY GIFTS

TechSoup	29
KPMG ČR	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>13 825</b>

**Revenues, total** **15 800**

# FUNDRAISING

The support for the Library's programme and the operations from Fondation Zdenek et Michaela Bakala, provided under a three-year financial framework until 2017, was the main source of funding in 2015.

Revenues from own activities were almost 2 mil. CZK in 2015. The publication entitled The Persecution of Václav Havel also greatly boosted sales. Repeated success was also seen with Miloš Havel – Czech Film Magnate and all the books with works by Pavel Juráček. The Horní

Počernice Crooks was another successful title produced by the Library.

In 2015 the Library again received a non-monetary gift in the form of software purchase support from Microsoft through the TechSoup programme administered by the VIA Association. KPMG CR provided the hardware. It is also important to mention the financial contributions from the ever increasing number of small donors.



# AUDITOR'S REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

# BALANCE SHEET

as at **31.12.**.....**2015**.....

( in thousands of CZK )

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2	7	1	6	9	4 1 3

Name, seat and legal  
form of accounting unit

Knihovna Václava Havla o.p.s.

Ostrovní 129/13

Praha 1

11000

## ASSETS

	row	Balance at the first day of accounting period	Balance at the last day of accounting period
<b>A. Long-term property total</b>	1	<b>+1,046</b>	<b>+2,795</b>
<b>A. I. Intangible assets total</b>	2	<b>+1,071</b>	<b>+2,140</b>
A. I. 1. Intangible results of research and development	3		
A. I. 2. Software	4	<b>+825</b>	<b>+825</b>
A. I. 3. Valuable rights	5		
A. I. 4. Low-value intangible fixed assets	6		
A. I. 5. Other intangible fixed assets	7	<b>+246</b>	<b>+1,315</b>
A. I. 6. Intangibles in progress	8		
A. I. 7. Advances for intangible assets	9		
<b>A. II. Tangible assets total</b>	10	<b>+1,706</b>	<b>+2,706</b>
A. II. 1. Land	11		
A. II. 2. Artworks and collections	12	<b>+277</b>	<b>+1,277</b>
A. II. 3. Buildings	13		
A. II. 4. Individual movable assets and sets of movable assets	14	<b>+1,429</b>	<b>+1,429</b>
A. II. 5. Cultivated areas	15		
A. II. 6. Livestock	16		
A. II. 7. Low-value tangible fixed assets	17		
A. II. 8. Other tangible fixed assets	18		
A. II. 9. Non finished tangible fixed property	19		
A. II. 10. Advances for tangible and intangible fixed property	20		
<b>A. III. Financial fixed property</b>	21		
A. III. 1. Shares in controlled and managed people	22		
A. III. 2. Shares in accounting entity under essential influence	23		
A. III. 3. Bonds, debentures and similar securities held until maturity	24		
A. III. 4. Loans to organisations teams	25		
A. III. 5. Other long-term loans	26		
A. III. 6. Other financial property	27		
A. III. 7. Acquisition in progress of long-term financial assets	28		
<b>A. IV. Accumulated depreciations of long term property total</b>	29	<b>-1,731</b>	<b>-2,051</b>
A. IV. 1. Depreciations to immaterial results of sciene survey	30		
A. IV. 2. Accumulated depreciations of software	31	<b>-825</b>	<b>-825</b>
A. IV. 3. Accumulated depreciations of valuable rights	32		
A. IV. 4. Accumulated depreciations of long - term immaterial property	33		
A. IV. 5. Accumulated depreciations of other long - term property	34	<b>-39</b>	<b>-184</b>
A. IV. 6. Accumulated depreciations of buildings	35		
A. IV. 7. Accumulated depreciations of movable assets and sets of movable assets	36	<b>-867</b>	<b>-1,042</b>
A. IV. 8. Accumulated depreciations of cultivated areas	37		
A. IV. 9. Accumulated depreciations of livestock	38		
A. IV. 10. Accumulated depreciations of small long - term property	39	<b>+0</b>	
A. IV. 11. Accumulated depreciations of other long term property	40		

	row	Balance at the first day of accounting period	Balance at the last day of accounting period
<b>B. Short-term property total</b>	41	<b>+11,701</b>	<b>+7,667</b>
<b>B. I. Inventory</b>	42	<b>+2,642</b>	<b>+2,793</b>
B. I. 1. Materials in store	43		
B. I. 2. Materials in transit	44		
B. I. 3. Work-in-progress	45	<b>+484</b>	<b>+404</b>
B. I. 4. Semi-finished products	46		
B. I. 5. Finished products	47	<b>+2,010</b>	<b>+2,250</b>
B. I. 6. Livestock	48		
B. I. 7. Merchandise in store	49	<b>+148</b>	<b>+139</b>
B. I. 8. Merchandise in transit	50		
B. I. 9. Advance payments for inventory	51		
<b>B. II. Receivables total</b>	52	<b>+697</b>	<b>+892</b>
B. II. 1. Customers	53	<b>+211</b>	<b>+269</b>
B. II. 2. Bills of exchange to be collected	54		
B. II. 3. Receivables for discounted securities	55		
B. II. 4. Advance payments made	56	<b>+420</b>	<b>+623</b>
B. II. 5. Other receivables	57	<b>+31</b>	
B. II. 6. Receivables from employees	58	<b>+3</b>	
B. II. 7. Receivables from social security and health insurance institutions	59		
B. II. 8. Income taxes	60		
B. II. 9. Other direct taxes	61		
B. II. 10. Value added tax	62		
B. II. 11. Other taxes and fees	63		
B. II. 12. Subsidies receivable from state budget	64		
B. II. 13. Subsidies receivable from self-governing local area's budgets	65		
B. II. 14. Receivables from participants in an association	66		
B. II. 15. Receivables from fixed-term financial transactions	67		
B. II. 16. Receivables from issued bonds	68		
B. II. 17. Sundry receivables	69		
B. II. 18. Estimated receivables	70	<b>+32</b>	
B. II. 19. Depreciations to receivables	71		
<b>B. III. Short-term financial assets total</b>	72	<b>+8,067</b>	<b>+3,734</b>
B. III. 1. Cash on hand	73	<b>+41</b>	<b>+75</b>
B. III. 2. Stamps and vouchers	74		
B. III. 3. Bank accounts	75	<b>+8,026</b>	<b>+3,659</b>
B. III. 4. Shares and similar securities for trading	76		
B. III. 5. Bonds, debentures and similar securities for trading	77		
B. III. 6. Other bonds, debentures and securities	78		
B. III. 7. Acquisition of short-term financial assets	79		
B. III. 8. Cash in transit	80		
<b>B. IV. Other assets total</b>	81	<b>+295</b>	<b>+248</b>
B. IV. 1. Deferred expenses	82	<b>+295</b>	<b>+248</b>
B. IV. 2. Accrued revenue	83		
B. IV. 3. Foreign currency exchange losses	84		
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	85	<b>+12,747</b>	<b>+10,462</b>

# LIABILITIES

	Row	Balance at the first day of accounting period	Balance at the last day of accounting period
<b>A. Own resources</b>	86	<b>+6,304</b>	<b>+4,531</b>
<b>A. I. Equity</b>	87	<b>+6,215</b>	<b>+4,415</b>
A. I. 1. Own equity	88	<b>+66</b>	<b>+66</b>
A. I. 2. Funds	89	<b>+6,149</b>	<b>+4,349</b>
A. I. 3. Gains or losses from revaluation of assets and liabilities	90		
<b>A. II. Profit or loss</b>	91	<b>+89</b>	<b>+116</b>
A. II. 1. Profit and loss account	92	XXXXXXXXXXXXXX	<b>+27</b>
A. II. 2. Profit or loss to be approved	93	<b>+89</b>	XXXXXXXXXXXXXX
A. II. 3. Retained earnings, accumulated losses from previous years	94		<b>+89</b>
<b>B. Not-own capital total</b>	95	<b>+6,443</b>	<b>+5,931</b>
<b>B. I. Reserves Total</b>	96		
B. I. 1. Reserves	97		
<b>B. II. Long - term payables total</b>	98	<b>+3,744</b>	<b>+3,744</b>
B. II. 1. Long-term bank loans	99		
B. II. 2. Own bonds issued	100		
B. II. 3. Payables of lease	101		
B. II. 4. Long-term advances received	102		
B. II. 5. Long-term bills of exchange to be paid	103		
B. II. 6. Estimated payables	104		
B. II. 7. Other long-term payables	105	<b>+3,744</b>	<b>+3,744</b>
<b>B. III. Short-term payables</b>	106	<b>+2,305</b>	<b>+1,880</b>
B. III. 1. Suppliers	107	<b>+593</b>	<b>+228</b>
B. III. 2. Bills of exchange to be paid	108		
B. III. 3. Advance payments received	109		
B. III. 4. Other payables	110		<b>+1</b>
B. III. 5. Employees	111	<b>+352</b>	<b>+383</b>
B. III. 6. Other payables to employees	112		
B. III. 7. Payables to social security and health insurance	113	<b>+202</b>	<b>+218</b>
B. III. 8. Income taxes	114	<b>+8</b>	
B. III. 9. Other direct taxes	115	<b>+104</b>	<b>+82</b>
B. III. 10. Value added tax	116		<b>+22</b>
B. III. 11. Other taxes and fees	117		
B. III. 12. Payables to state budget	118		
B. III. 13. Payables to self-government local area's budgets	119		
B. III. 14. Payables for unpaid subscribed shares and participations	120		
B. III. 15. Payables to participants in association	121		
B. III. 16. Payables to fixed-term financial transactions	122		
B. III. 17. Sundry payables	123	<b>+236</b>	<b>+220</b>
B. III. 18. Short-term bank loans	124		
B. III. 19. Credits for discounted securities	125		
B. III. 20. Short-term bonds issued	126		
B. III. 21. Own bonds issued	127		
B. III. 22. Estimated payables	128	<b>+810</b>	<b>+726</b>
B. III. 23. Other short-term financial assistance	129		
<b>B. IV. Other liabilities</b>	130	<b>+394</b>	<b>+307</b>
B. IV. 1. Accrued expenses	131	<b>+394</b>	<b>+241</b>
B. IV. 2. Deferred revenue	132		<b>+66</b>
B. IV. 3. Foreign currency exchange gains	133		
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	134	<b>+12,747</b>	<b>+10,462</b>

Date of preparing:	Signature of statutory person:	Signature of responsible person:	Stamp:
Business Objective No. 1			<b>Knihovna Václava Havla, o.p.s.</b> Ostrovní 129/13, 110 00 Praha 1 tel.: 222 220 112 IČ: 27169413 DIČ: CZ27169413
Business Objective No. 2			

# PROFIT AND LOSS STATEMENT

as at **31.12.**.....**2015**.....

( in thousands of CZK )

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<b>2 7 1 6 9 4 1 3</b>

Name, seat and legal  
form of accounting unit

Knihovna Václava Havla o.p.s.

Ostrovní 129/13

Praha 1

11000

	Row	Situation to balancing day		
		Main activity	Economic activity	Total
<b>A. Expenses</b>				
<b>A. I. Consumed spendings total</b>	1	<b>+281</b>	<b>+11</b>	<b>+292</b>
A. I. 1. Consumed materials	2	<b>+281</b>		<b>+281</b>
A. I. 2. Energy consumption	3			
A. I. 3. Consumption of other non-inventory items	4			
A. I. 4. Merchandise sold	5		<b>+11</b>	<b>+11</b>
<b>A. II. Services total</b>	6	<b>+8,459</b>		<b>+8,459</b>
A. II. 5. Repairs and maintenance	7	<b>+8</b>		<b>+8</b>
A. II. 6. Travelling expenses	8	<b>+99</b>		<b>+99</b>
A. II. 7. Representation expenses	9	<b>+197</b>		<b>+197</b>
A. II. 8. Other services	10	<b>+8,155</b>		<b>+8,155</b>
<b>A. III. Personal expenses total</b>	11	<b>+8,118</b>		<b>+8,118</b>
A. III. 9. Wages and salaries	12	<b>+6,125</b>		<b>+6,125</b>
A. III. 10. Legal social insurance	13	<b>+1,993</b>		<b>+1,993</b>
A. III. 11. Other social insurance	14			
A. III. 12. Legal social security expenses	15			
A. III. 13. Other social security expenses	16			
<b>A. IV. Taxes total</b>	17	<b>+3</b>		<b>+3</b>
A. IV. 14. Road tax	18			
A. IV. 15. Real estate tax	19			
A. IV. 16. Other taxes and fees	20	<b>+3</b>		<b>+3</b>
<b>A. V. Other expenses total</b>	21	<b>+177</b>		<b>+177</b>
A. V. 17. Contractual fines and interest on late payments	22			
A. V. 18. Other fines and penalties	23			
A. V. 19. Write-off of receivables	24	<b>+4</b>		<b>+4</b>
A. V. 20. Interest expense	25			
A. V. 21. Foreign exchange losses	26	<b>+37</b>		<b>+37</b>
A. V. 22. Gifts	27	<b>+67</b>		<b>+67</b>
A. V. 23. Shortages and damage	28	<b>+19</b>		<b>+19</b>
A. V. 24. Sundry other expenses	29	<b>+50</b>		<b>+50</b>
<b>A. VI. Depreciations, sold property, additions to reserves total</b>	30	<b>+320</b>		<b>+320</b>
A. VI. 25. Depreciation expenses of intangible and tangible fixed assets	31	<b>+320</b>		<b>+320</b>
A. VI. 26. Net book value of intangible and tangible fixed assets sold	32			
A. VI. 27. Shares and ownership interests sold	33			
A. VI. 28. Materials sold	34			
A. VI. 29. Additions to reserves	35			
A. VI. 30. Additions to adjustments	36			
<b>A.VII. Membership fees total</b>	37			
A.VII. 31. Operating contributions paid to branch	38			
A. VII. 32. Membership fees	39			
<b>A.VIII. Taxes total</b>	40			
Taxes	41			
<b>Expenses Total</b>	42	<b>+17,358</b>	<b>+11</b>	<b>+17,369</b>

	Row	Situation to balancing day		
		Main activity	Economic activity	Total
<b>B. Revenues</b>				
<b>B. I. Revenues from own efficient</b>	43	<b>+1,420</b>	<b>+38</b>	<b>+1,458</b>
B. I. 1. Revenues from own products	44	<b>+614</b>		<b>+614</b>
B. I. 2. Revenues from services	45	<b>+806</b>		<b>+806</b>
B. I. 3. Revenues from merchandise	46		<b>+38</b>	<b>+38</b>
<b>B. II. Change own innerorganisations supplies total</b>	47	<b>+370</b>		<b>+370</b>
B. II. 4. Change in work-in-progress	48	<b>+127</b>		<b>+127</b>
B. II. 5. Change in semi-finished products inventory	49			
B. II. 6. Change in finished products inventory	50	<b>+243</b>		<b>+243</b>
B. II. 7. Change in animal inventory	51			
<b>B. III. Aktivation total</b>	52			
B. III. 8. Capitalization of materials and merchandise	53			
B. III. 9. Capitalization of internal services	54			
B. III. 10. Capitalization of intangible fixed assets	55			
B. III. 11. Capitalization of tangible fixed assets	56			
<b>B. IV. Other revenues total</b>	57	<b>+15,568</b>		<b>+15,568</b>
B. IV. 12. Contractual fines and interest on late payments	58			
B. IV. 13. Other fines and penalties	59			
B. IV. 14. Revenue from written-off receivables	60			
B. IV. 15. Interest	61	<b>+7</b>		<b>+7</b>
B. IV. 16. Foreign exchange gains	62	<b>+51</b>		<b>+51</b>
B. IV. 17. Accounting for funds	63	<b>+15,421</b>		<b>+15,421</b>
B. IV. 18. Sundry other revenues	64	<b>+89</b>		<b>+89</b>
<b>B. V. Revenues from sales of property, account. reserves and a</b>	65			
B. V. 19. Revenues from sales of intangible and tangible fixed assets	66			
B. V. 20. Revenues from sale of shares and ownership interests	67			
B. V. 21. Revenues from sales of materials	68			
B. V. 22. Revenues from short-term financial assets	69			
B. V. 23. Accounting for reserves	70			
B. V. 24. Revenues from long-term financial assets	71			
B. V. 25. Accounting for legal adjustments	72			
<b>B. VI. Accepted contributions total</b>	73			
B. VI. 26. Received operating contributions	74			
B. VI. 27. Received donations	75			
B. VI. 28. Received membership fees	76			
<b>B. VII. Operating subsidies total</b>	77			
B. VII. 29. Operating subsidies	78			
<b>Total revenues</b>	79	<b>+17,358</b>	<b>+38</b>	<b>+17,396</b>
<b>C. Profit (loss) before taxation (r. 63 - 33)</b>	80	<b>+0</b>	<b>+27</b>	<b>+27</b>
C. I. 34. Income tax	81			
<b>D. Profit (loss) after taxation</b>	82	<b>+0</b>	<b>+27</b>	<b>+27</b>

Date of preparing:	Signature of statutory person:	Signature of responsible person:
Business Objective No. 1		
Business Objective No. 2		



Knihovna Václava Havla, o.p.s.  
 Ostrovní 129/13, 110 00 Praha 1  
 tel. 222 220 112  
 IČ: 27169413 DIČ: CZ27169413  
 www.vaclavhavel-library.org



# The Václav Havel Library

## Notes to financial statements

Year ended on 31 December 2015  
(in thousands of CZK)

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### 1. Characteristics and main activities

#### *The establishment and characteristics of the company*

Knihovna Václava Havla, o.p.s. (“the Company”) was established on 26 July 2004.

The main purpose of the Company is archive, research, documentary and library activities focused on the works of Václav Havel and documents or items associated with his activities, expert analysis thereof, and the related educational and popularising activities.

#### *Company’s registered office*

Knihovna Václava Havla, o.p.s.  
Ostrovní 129/13, Nové Město  
110 00 Praha 1  
Czech Republic

#### *Company registration number*

271 69 413

#### *Members of the Board of Trustees as of 31 December 2015*

Gabriel Eichler (chairman)  
Michaela Bakala (vice-chairwoman)  
Dagmar Havlová  
Božena Jirků  
Martin Palouš  
Jacques Rupnik  
Nina Smitová  
Iva Brožová  
Milan Šimečka

#### *Members of the Board of Trustees as of 31 December 2014*

Jan Macháček (chairman)  
Dagmar Havlová  
Michal Horáček  
Mark Vydra  
Bessel Kok  
Michaela Bakala  
Martin Palouš  
Jacques Rupnik

# The Václav Havel Library

## Notes to financial statements

Year ended on 31 December 2015  
(in thousands of CZK)

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Nina Smitová

The statutory body of the Company is the Executive Director Mr Michael Žantovský.

*Members of the Supervisory Board as of 31 December 2015*

Luděk Niedermayer

Emil Holub

Ondřej Jonáš

*Members of the Supervisory Board as of 31 December 2014*

Dita Stejskalová

Emil Holub

Ondřej Jonáš

*Company founders*

Dagmar Havlová

Miloslav Petrušek

Karel Schwarzenberg

Upon establishing, the Company founders pledged investment contributions at a total amount of TCZK 3. These investment contributions have been paid in full and are not entered in the Register of Public Benefit Companies.

# The Václav Havel Library

## Notes to financial statements

Year ended on 31 December 2015  
(in thousands of CZK)

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### *Changes in the Register of Public Benefit Companies*

As of 30 March 2014 Mrs Dagmar Havlová was reappointed as a member of the Board of Trustees. This circumstance was entered in the Register of Public Benefit Companies on 23 January 2015.

As of 12 January 2015 Mrs Michaela Bakala was reappointed as a member of the Board of Trustees. This circumstance was entered in the Register of Public Benefit Companies on 12 March 2015.

As of 26 January 2015 the membership and chairman appointment terminated to Mr Jan Macháček. On 26 March 2015 Mrs Michaela Bakala was appointed vice-chairwoman of the Board of Trustees. Those circumstances were entered in the Register of Public Benefit Companies on 25 May 2015.

As of 24 March 2015 Mrs Božena Jirků was appointed as a member of the Board of Trustees. This circumstance was entered in the Register of Public Benefit Companies on 12 June 2015.

In the Register of Public Benefit Companies was as of 25 May 2015 entered change of the company's registered office from Kateřinská 487/18, Nové Město, 128 00 Praha 2 to Ostrovní 129/13, Nové Město, 110 00 Praha 1.

As of 1 July 2015 memberships in the Board of Trustees terminated to Mr Mark Vydra, Mr Michal Horáček and Mr Bessel Kok. As of 1 July 2015 Mr Gabriel Eichler, Mrs Iva Brožová and Mr Milan Šimečka were appointed and Mrs Nina Smitová, Mr Martin Palouš and Mr Jacques Rupnik were reappointed as members of the Board of Trustees. As of 1 July 2015 membership in the Supervisory Board terminated to Mrs Dita Stejskalová. As of 1 July 2015 Mr Luděk Niedermayer was appointed, Mr Emil Holub and Mr Ondřej Jonáš were reappointed as members of the Supervisory Board. Those circumstances were entered in the Register of Public Benefit Companies on 25 November 2015.

As of 31 August 2015 Mrs Marta Smolíková resigned from the post of the Executive Director. As of 1 September Mrs Michael Žantovský was appointed the Executive Director. Those circumstances were entered in the Register of Public Benefit Companies on 10 September 2015.

On 15 September 2015 Mr Gabriel Eichler was appointed the chairman of the Board of Trustees. This circumstance was entered in the Register of Public Benefit Companies on 14 April 2016.

# The Václav Havel Library

## Notes to financial statements

Year ended on 31 December 2015  
(in thousands of CZK)

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### 2. Fundamental accounting policies applied by the Company

(a) The method of processing accounting records and the method and place of their storage

Account keeping is outsourced to VGD, s.r.o. using the Byznys VR software system. The accounting documents are stored with the aforementioned accountants.

(b) Fixed tangible assets

Fixed tangible and intangible assets are recorded at their acquisition price. Fixed tangible assets with the acquisition price of up to CZK 40,000 and fixed intangible assets of up to CZK 60,000 are not recorded in the balance sheet and are expensed in the years of acquisition.

The following table sets out depreciation methods and periods by asset groups:

Assets	Method	Period
Office equipment, software	Linear	3 years
Software	Linear	5 years

(c) Conversion of foreign currencies

When converting foreign currencies, the Company uses the Czech National Bank's daily exchange rate. Only realised currency gains and losses are carried in the course of the year.

Assets and liabilities in foreign currencies are converted as of the balance sheet day according to the foreign exchange market rate published by the Czech National Bank. Unrealised currency gains and losses are recorded in the balance sheet.

# The Václav Havel Library

## Notes to financial statements

Year ended on 31 December 2015  
(in thousands of CZK)

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### (d) Inventory

Unfinished products and finished products (books) include material, payroll and other direct costs. Cost is determined using the weighted average.

The goods are valued at acquisition prices. The acquisition price includes the price of acquisition and any secondary acquisition costs (e.g. transport). Cost is determined using the weighted average.

Books acquired for the purposes of the library's archive are recorded off the balance sheet and expensed over a period of 5 years.

### (e) Received and provided gifts

The Company carries the funds received on the basis of deeds of gift on the Funds account, from which the finances received are charged in the following manner depending on the nature of their utilisation:

- in the Profit and Loss account, for the benefit of the Fund Accounting account up to the amount of costs expended on the individual projects (centres) or on operating activities in the relevant accounting period;
- in a bank account in the event of provision of funds for third-party projects selected as part of the Company's various projects.

# The Václav Havel Library

## Notes to financial statements

Year ended on 31 December 2015  
(in thousands of CZK)

### 3. Long-term assets

#### (a) Intangible fixed assets

	Software	Other fixed assets	Total
<b>Acquisition price</b>			
Balance as at 1 January 2015	825	246	1,071
Additions	--	1,069	1,069
Disposals	--	--	--
Transfers	--	--	--
Balance as at 31 December 2015	825	1,315	2,140
<b>Accumulated depreciation</b>			
Balance as at 1 January 2015	825	39	864
Depreciation expense	--	145	145
Disposals	--	--	--
Transfers	--	--	--
Balance as at 31 December 2015	825	184	1,009
<b>Net book value as at 1 January 2015</b>	<b>---</b>	<b>207</b>	<b>207</b>
<b>Net book value as at 31 December 2015</b>	<b>---</b>	<b>1,131</b>	<b>1,131</b>

#### (b) Fixed tangible assets

	Office equipment, furniture	Works of art, items and collections	Total
<b>Acquisition price</b>			
Balance as at 1 January 2015	1,429	277	1,706
Additions	--	1,000	1,000
Disposals	--	--	--
Transfers	--	--	--
Balance as at 31 December 2015	1,429	1,277	2,706
<b>Accumulated depreciation</b>			
Balance as at 1 January 2015	867	--	867
Depreciation expense	175	--	175
Disposals	--	--	--
Transfers	--	--	--
Balance as at 31 December 2015	1,042	--	1,042
<b>Net book value as at 1 January 2015</b>	<b>562</b>	<b>277</b>	<b>839</b>
<b>Net book value as at 31 December 2015</b>	<b>387</b>	<b>1,277</b>	<b>1,664</b>



# The Václav Havel Library

## Notes to financial statements

Year ended on 31 December 2015  
(in thousands of CZK)

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### 4. Bank accounts

Funds are held in current accounts denominated in the CZK, USD and EUR currencies. The balance in bank accounts as of 31 December 2015 is TCZK 3,659 (TCZK 8,026 in 2014).

### 5. Receivables and liabilities

#### (a) Receivables

Receivables amount to a total of TCZK 892 (TCZK 697 in 2014), of which TCZK 53 is overdue (TCZK 14 in 2014). Operating advances represent advances for lease-related services in a total amount of TCZK 351 (2014 – 0 TCZK) and a principal to the rent in a total amount of TCZK 271 (2014 – TCZK 271)

#### (b) Liabilities

Short-term liabilities amount to a total of TCZK 1,880 (TCZK 2,305 in 2014), of which TCZK 48 is overdue (TCZK 312 in 2014).

The Company records a long-term liability as of 31 December 2015 based on an interest-free loan of TCZK 3,744 provided to the Company in January 2011 (TCZK 3,744 in 2014) for operational purposes, which is due by 10 January 2018 at the latest.

### 6. Deferred costs

Deferred costs total TCZK 248 (TCZK 295 in 2014) and represent primarily the deferred cost of the books purchased for the archive and the deferred cost of film production.

### 7. Inventory

The inventory of finished products as of 31 December 2015 totals TCZK 2,250 (TCZK 2,010 in 2014) and consists of the stock of the library's own books.

The inventory of goods as of 31 December 2015 totals TCZK 139 (TCZK 148 in 2014) and represents the stock of books and DVD intended for sale as part of the "Václav Havel in a Nutshell" exposition.

The unfinished production as of 31 December 2015 totals TCZK 404 (TCZK 484 in 2014) and represents unfinished books from own production.

As of 31 December 2015 the total amount of inventory not posted in the balance sheet was TCZK 1,139 (TCZK 1,763 in 2014), of which TCZK 129 (TCZK 132 in 2014) was attributable to other parties' goods in consignment sale, borrowed books represented TCZK 460 (TCZK 1,081 in 2014), and books registered in the archive amounted to TCZK 550 (TCZK 550 in 2014).

# The Václav Havel Library

## Notes to financial statements

Year ended on 31 December 2015  
(in thousands of CZK)

### 8. Own funds

	Registered capital	Funds	Undivided profit	Accumulated losses (-)/ Retained earnings from previous years	Total
Balance as at 1 Jan 2015	66	6,149	--	89	6,304
Transfer of profit	--	--	89	-89	--
Donations received	--	13,825	--	--	13,825
Donations provided	--	-204	--	--	-204
Change in fund balance	--	-15,421	--	--	-15,421
Profit of 2015	--	--	--	27	27
<b>Balance as at 31 Dec 2015</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>4,349</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>4,531</b>

### 9. Employees and executives

Average number of employees and personnel costs in 2015 and 2014:

2015	Average number of employees	Wages and salaries	Social security and health insurance expenses	Social expenses
Employees	11	6,125	1,993	--

2014	Average number of employees	Wages and salaries	Social security and health insurance expenses	Social expenses
Employees	11	5,755	1,883	--

### 10. Rewards and loans to board members

From 1 September 2015 company paid bonuses to the statutory body arising from the post in total amount of TCZK 328; these costs are reflected in the personnel costs. No rewards or loans were paid or provided to the members of the Board of Trustees and Supervisory Board in 2014 and 2015. No contracts binding the Company to pay out any benefits in the case of the termination of the activities of individual members of the statutory and supervisory bodies were concluded either in 2015.

### 11. Social security and health insurance liabilities

Social security and health insurance liabilities amount to TCZK 218 (TCZK 202 in 2014), of which TCZK 152 (TCZK 141 in 2014) is attributable to social security liabilities, and TCZK 66 (TCZK 61 in 2014) is attributable to health insurance liabilities. None of the above liabilities are overdue.

# The Václav Havel Library

## Notes to financial statements

Year ended on 31 December 2015  
(in thousands of CZK)

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### 12. Other direct taxes and subsidies

Other direct taxes representing advances for natural person income tax amount to TCZK 82 (TCZK 104 in 2014). None of the above liabilities are overdue.

The Company received no state subsidy in 2015 (2014 – TCZK 200).

### 13. Information on the Company's projects

As in the previous period, the Company organised a number of public and club meetings in 2015. The “Václav Havel in a Nutshell” exhibition in Ostrovní street in Prague’s New Town is open to public.

All of the Company’s activities are described in detail in the Annual Report. All of the received and provided gifts are listed in the Annual Report as well.

### 14. Income tax

The Company reported tax liability from its activities subject to the corporate income tax TCZK 0 as of 31 December 2015 (TCZK 8 in 2014).

Its other revenue is not subject to income tax pursuant to the provision of Section 18 of Income Tax Act No 586/1992, as amended, since it is obtained on the basis of activities arising from the mission of a public benefit organisation.

### 15. Administrative costs

The Company’s administrative costs for 2015 total TCZK 3,583 (TCZK 4,897 in 2014). Their structure is as follows:

2015	Total costs	Of which, administrative costs
Consumed purchases	292	104
Services	8,459	924
Personnel expenses	8,118	2,413
Taxes and fees	3	3
Other expenses	177	81
Depreciation, assets sold, creation of provisions and adjustments	320	58
Corporate income tax	--	--
<b>Total</b>	<b>17,369</b>	<b>3,583</b>

# The Václav Havel Library

## Notes to financial statements

Year ended on 31 December 2015  
(in thousands of CZK)

2014	Total costs	Of which, administrative costs
Consumed purchases	600	32
Services	9,216	1,855
Personnel expenses	7,638	2,800
Taxes and fees	--	--
Other expenses	148	46
Depreciation, assets sold, creation of provisions and adjustments	271	156
Corporate income tax	8	8
<b>Total</b>	<b>17,881</b>	<b>4,897</b>

# The Václav Havel Library

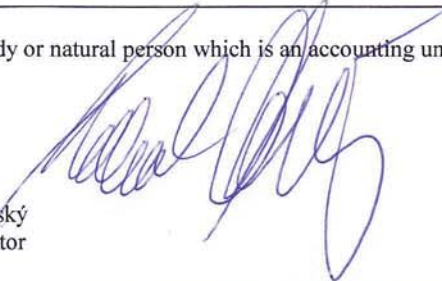
## Notes to financial statements

Year ended on 31 December 2015  
(in thousands of CZK)

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### 16. Material subsequent event

The company is not aware of any events that have occurred since the balance sheet date that would have any material impact on the financial statements as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2015.

Date:  17 June 2016	Signature of the governing body or natural person which is an accounting unit:    Michael Žantovský Executive Director
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This document is an English translation of the Czech auditor's report.  
Only the Czech version of the report is legally binding.

**Independent Auditor's Report to the Board of Trustees of  
Knihovna Václava Havla, o.p.s.**

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Knihovna Václava Havla, o.p.s., prepared in accordance with Czech accounting legislation, which comprise the balance sheet as of 31 December 2015, and the income statement for the year then ended, and the notes to these financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes. Information about Knihovna Václava Havla, o.p.s. is set out in Note 1 to these financial statements.

*Statutory Body's Responsibility for the Financial Statements*

The statutory body of Knihovna Václava Havla, o.p.s. is responsible for the preparation of financial statements that give a true and fair view in accordance with Czech accounting legislation and for such internal controls as the statutory body determines are necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

*Auditor's Responsibility*

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with the Act on Auditors, International Standards on Auditing and the relevant guidance of the Chamber of Auditors of the Czech Republic. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal controls relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal controls. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.





We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

*Opinion*

In our opinion, the financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of Knihovna Václava Havla, o.p.s. as of 31 December 2015, and of its financial performance for the year then ended in accordance with Czech accounting legislation.

*Other Information*


Other information is defined as information (other than the financial statements and our auditor's report) included in the annual report. The statutory body is responsible for the other information.

Our opinion on the financial statements of Knihovna Václava Havla, o.p.s. as of 31 December 2015 does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of opinion thereon. In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information included in the annual report is not materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit and whether such information otherwise does not appear to be materially misstated. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Prague  
17 June 2016

  
KPMG Česká republika Audit, s.r.o.  
Registration number 71

  
Petr Škoda  
Partner  
Registration number 1842

