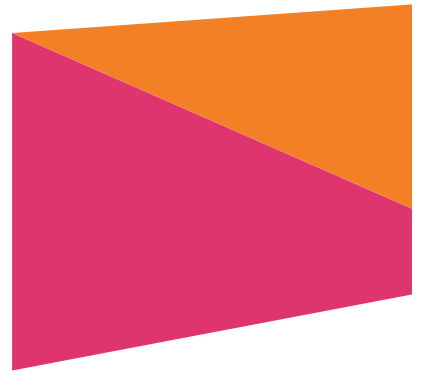




Jewish Museum in Prague 2012 Annual Report



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1

Legal framework of JMP activities and bodies

The Jewish Museum in Prague (JMP), an association of legal entities with common interests, was registered by the Prague 1 District Authority on 30 September 1994. In accordance with Act No. 122/2000 on the Protection of Museum Collections as subsequently amended, the JMP's activities as a cultural institution primarily include the following areas: creation, supplementation, management, collection and presentation of its collections; creation, supplementation and management of its library and archive holdings; activities relating to research, cultural, publishing and education; sales of souvenirs, publicity and other materials, publications, audio and audiovisual recordings and other things related to its purpose and activities; cultural and other activities related to Judaism, the Jews and Jewish history in Bohemia and Moravia. The JMP's chief activities also include research (basic, applied and experimental) and the dissemination of research results through education, publication and technology transfer. Also of importance are the making of necessary repairs and technical assessments of the rented properties where the JMP is based and where its collections are displayed in order to generate revenue for the payment of part of its lease. The JMP also rents out unused areas within its premises with the approval of the property owner, the Jewish Community in Prague. An additional area of activity for the JMP is the professional care of the Jewish cultural heritage in the Czech Republic through the Federation of Jewish Communities in the Czech Republic.

The JMP's supreme body is the Board of Trustees, which comprised the following members in 2012:

Jiří Daniček, Federation of Jewish Communities in the Czech Republic (Chairman)

Eva Lorencová, Jewish Community in Prague

Jan Munk, Federation of Jewish Communities in the Czech Republic

Eva Sedláková, Jewish Community in Prague

Petr Svojanovský, Czech Ministry of Culture

The JMP's control body is the Supervisory Board, which comprised the following members in 2012:

Jan Neubauer, Jewish Community in Prague (Chairman)

Vladimír Látal, Federation of Jewish Communities in the Czech Republic

Marta Rubínová, Czech Ministry of Culture

Five meetings of the Board of Trustees and two meetings of the Supervisory Board were held in 2012. Minutes were taken at each meeting in the presence of a lawyer.

The JMP director in 2012 was Leo Pavlát. At its meeting on 29 June 2012, the Board of Trustees re-elected him director for another five-year term, i.e. from 21 October 2012 to 23 October 2017



2

General information about the JMP

a) Properties and sites overseen by the JMP

- **Headquarters Office Building**, U Staré školy 1 and 3, Prague 1: JMP administration, specialist workplaces, depositories, Multimedia Centre, café, Robert Guttman Gallery (venue for temporary exhibitions).
- **Maisel Synagogue**: in the main nave, the permanent exhibition *The History of the Jews in Bohemia and Moravia – I. From the First Settlements until Emancipation*. 146 originals, facsimiles and copies on display.
- **Spanish Synagogue**: in the main nave and gallery, the exhibition *The History of the Jews in Bohemia and Moravia – II. From Emancipation to the Present*. 546 originals, facsimiles and copies on display; Winter Prayer Hall: permanent exhibition *Synagogue Silver from Bohemia and Moravia*. 224 items on display.
- **Pinkas Synagogue**: in the main nave, the *Memorial to the Bohemian and Moravian Jewish Victims of the Nazi Genocide*; in the gallery, the permanent exhibition *The Children's Story – Children's Drawings from Terezín*. 238, facsimiles and copies on display.
- **Klausen Synagogue**: in the main nave, the permanent exhibition *Jewish Customs and Traditions – I. The Synagogue and Festivals*; in the gallery, the permanent exhibition *Jewish Customs and Traditions – II. The Course of Life*. 481 originals, facsimiles and copies on display.
- **Ceremonial Hall**: continuation of the permanent exhibition *Jewish Customs and Traditions – II. The Course of Life*. 140 originals, facsimiles and copies on display.

Interior of the Spanish Synagogue



b) Services provided by the JMP

- Tours of five permanent exhibitions in historic sites; tours of the 15th–18th-century Old Jewish Cemetery of Prague and the 17th–19th-century Jewish Cemetery in Prague-Žižkov.
- Tours of temporary exhibitions in the Robert Guttmann Gallery.
- Educational programmes and tours organized by the JMP's Department for Education and Culture in Prague and Brno.
- Seminars on Jewish topics.
- Cultural programmes on Jewish topics at the JMP's Department for Education and Culture in Prague and Brno.
- Multimedia Centre (*ORT computer lab*) at the JMP's office building with online access to basic literature on Jewish topics and special software.
- Archive services for researchers (provision of archival materials for study purposes, specialist consultations, literature searches and reprographic services).
- Specialized library services for specialists and the general public.
- Reference access to the JMP's video and audio collection.
- Further training of educational staff via the JMP's Department for Education and Culture.
- Consultation for specialists and the general public on issues related to the history of Bohemian and Moravian Jews.
- Consultation for specialists and the general public on issues related to the persecution of Bohemian and Moravian Jews during the Second World War.
- Consultation for specialists and the general public on issues related to the JMP's holdings, specialist presentations and literature searches.
- Assessment and processing of requests for the permanent or temporary export of cultural objects.
- Access to historical pictorial materials for reproduction.
- JMP publications, CDs and publicity material, including the online sale of JMP publications via the JMP's website.
- Online sale of entries from the JMP's electronic encyclopaedia of Jewish communities in Bohemia, Moravia and Silesia via the JMP's website.
- Advance booking for museum visits via the JMP's Reservation Centre.
- Exhibition tours with qualified guides.
- Tours with audio-guides, provided under a contract with Gallery Service, s.r.o. (Promotion & Education, s.r.o.).

The Old Jewish Cemetery





3

Visitor numbers

Visitor numbers in 2012:

	Total Number of Visitors	Adults	Children
January	22 597	17 031	5 566
February	22 773	14 056	8 717
March	48 216	22 637	25 579
April	64 881	42 014	22 867
May	53 383	42 321	11 062
June	47 420	35 853	11 567
July	58 551	42 217	16 334
August	66 944	50 757	16 187
September	51 109	38 570	12 539
October	49 658	35 817	13 841
November	33 694	25 033	8 661
December	33 666	25 451	8 215
TOTAL	552 892	391 757	161 135

In 2012, the JMP saw a slight (0.44%) decrease in visitor numbers – 2,418 fewer than last year.

The JMP continued its measures from previous years to boost visitor numbers, which proved to be successful overall. These include primarily the introduction of a seven-day ticket, particularly for tours by local families. Accepting payment in euros at all its ticket counters and providing current exchange rates is also very much appreciated. In addition to entry discounts introduced earlier as part of *Pražská plynárenská's* Gold Card, *Česká spořitelna's* Bonus and *Perpedes* programmes, the JMP provided a 60% ticket discount for Opencard holders which was widely used. The JMP continued its successful participation in the Prague Card project, which encourages tourists to visit Prague's major cultural sites by purchasing an all-inclusive ticket. As in previous years, considerable discounts were provided to all school groups visiting the JMP via its Department for Education and Culture. The activities of the Society of Friends of the Jewish Museum in Prague also significantly helped to promote the JMP in 2012.

Greater interest in the JMP's activities is to be expected from projects that are being prepared as part of its overall transformation. While retaining its historical uniqueness and emphasizing the uniqueness of Prague's Jewish Town, the JMP aims to provide new incentives, to expand its activities and, in so doing, to improve the visitor experience and to develop a solid and long-term economic foundation for its work.



4

Organizational and staff structure

The JMP comprised eight departments in 2012, in accordance with its organisational structure. As of the end of 2012, it had 140 employees, including eleven on maternity leave and thirteen whose salaries are fully covered by grants. The average number of employees in 2012 was 144 and the number of full time equivalent employees was 129.8.

The staff structure in 2012 was as follows: director, 49 security staff and custodians, 53 research and specialist staff (including restorers), thirteen economic staff (including exhibition ticket sellers), twelve education and culture staff, five staff in charge of the maintenance, repair, reconstruction and management of the JMP's buildings and cemeteries, four administrative staff, four publicity and exhibition staff, and three Reservation Centre staff.

In the course of the year, 169 persons rendered their services to the JMP on a contractual basis (work agreements, agreements for the performance of work assignments, licence agreements)

The average monthly salary for JMP staff in 2012 was CZK 23,959. The average monthly gross wage in the Czech Republic was CZK 27,170; the average monthly gross wage in Prague was CZK 32,621.



5

Exhibitions

a) Exhibitions at the Robert Guttmann Gallery

In 2012, the JMP's Robert Guttmann Gallery (at U Staré školy 3, Prague 1) hosted four exhibitions – one on the contemporary life of the Jewish community in the Czech Republic, two on the work of Jewish artists and one on a major cultural anniversary.

The exhibition *Silver Tide* was on view until 5 February 2012. Part of the Jewish Presence in Contemporary Visual Art series, curated by Michaela Sidenberg, this show featured 20 exclusive photographic prints (mostly portraits) by the leading Czech documentary photographer Karel Cudlín and also included an experimental video-collage. The exhibition provided a glimpse into the life of senior citizens at the Jewish community's social care facility which since 2008 has been based at a newly refurbished site at the Prague Hagibor complex. The exhibition was seen by 3,500 separately paying visitors (the gallery can be visited with a combined entry ticket for all JMP sites, at a discount price in combination with a tour of the Spanish Synagogue, or separately).

The exhibition *Georges Kars (1880-1945) – Early Work* was on view between 22 February and 17 June 2012. Its curator was Arno Pařík. The main aim was to commemorate Kars's life and work, thereby contributing to a greater understanding and assessment of his oeuvre between 1905 and the early 1920s. Apart from a minor show at the Franz Kafka Centre in 1998, it was the first ever comprehensive presentation of this painter's work in Prague. It was held in collaboration with the Zlatá Husa gallery, the Municipal Museum in Velvary, the National Gallery in Prague, the Municipal Museum in Kralupy and private collectors. The exhibition was seen by more than 5,000 separately paying visitors. From their responses, it was clearly of great interest to the vast majority of them. Although almost forgotten in his home country, abroad Kars is considered to be one of the most well-known Czech Jewish artists.

G. Kars, In Hamburg, 1906, JMP



On view between 27 June and 11 November was a retrospective exhibition of the acclaimed U.S. artist and illustrator Mark Podwal. This show, entitled *Jewish Magic in the Art of Mark Podwal*, was curated by Arno Pařík and featured a selection of almost 80 drawings and gouaches from the JMP's collection and from the artist. These works are inspired by the mystical ideas of the Kabbalah and Jewish magic concerning the arrangement of the universe, as well as by the colourful legends from the Talmud and by the daily world of prayer and celebrations of the Shabbat and Jewish holidays. The exhibition was seen by a record number of separately paying visitors (more than 8,700). On the occasion of this exhibition, Czech Television prepared a film portrait of Mark Podwal as part of its Paths of Faith series, entitled *My Synagogue is in Prague*. In addition to interviews with Podwal, Jewish Museum director Leo Pavlát and Chief Rabbi of Prague Efraim Karol Sidon, it also featured examples of the artist's current work. The film premiered on Czech Television on 4 November 2012.

Mark Podwal with Norman Eisen, the U.S. Ambassador to Prague, at the opening show



The exhibition *"You won't need to see a rabbi." 500 Years of Hebrew Printing in Bohemia and Moravia* opened on 5 December 2012. The title is a quote from the heading of a glossary to the Hebrew Bible that was published in Prague in 1604. Curated by Olga Sixtová, this exhibition traced the history and development of Hebrew printing in Prague, particularly in the earliest period of this cultural phenomenon – between the 16th and 18th centuries. It featured up to 50 original printed books, including unique items such as the only preserved copy of the earliest Prague printed book from the Bodleian Libraries in Oxford and the 1526 Pesah Haggadah from the Braginsky Collection in Zurich, which is regarded as one of the most beautiful Hebrew books of all time. The exhibition also had a multimedia section which

From the opening of the exhibition *You won't need to see a rabbi.*



The opening of the exhibition *The Genocide of Roma in the Second World War* was attended by Detlef Lingemann, the German Ambassador to the Czech Republic (left)



gave visitors the opportunity to look through selected books in digital form and to see examples from the first ever systematic on-line bibliography of Hebrew printing in Bohemia and Moravia. The show runs until 28 February 2013 and has been seen by more than 2,500 separately paying visitors. It has been covered by the main media in the country, including the ČT24 television station (live broadcast), the *Mladá fronta Dnes* and *Lidové noviny* newspapers and the Czech Press Agency.

b) Exhibitions at the Department for Education and Culture

Other exhibitions were held at the JMP's Department for Education and Culture in Prague and Brno. Six exhibitions were held in Prague. Eight exhibitions were held at the Prague office (Maiselova 15): *Memory*, an exhibition of photographs by Jindřich Buxbaum; *Me and War*, an exhibition of artworks by school pupils from the 13th annual art competition held by the Terezín Memorial; *Jewish Brno*, an exhibition of photographs and architectural plans by Jaroslav Klenovský; *Righteous Among the Nations*, an exhibition commemorating Raoul Wallenberg, held in co-operation with the Hungarian Embassy to the Czech Republic; *Colour Etchings*, an exhibition of the Israeli painter Tuvia Beer, born in Topolčany, Slovakia; *The Displaced Elite*, an exhibition on the forgotten scholars of the German University in Prague, held in co-operation with Collegium Europaeum at the Charles University, Prague; *The Genocide of Roma in the Second World War*, a touring exhibition of Brno's Museum of Roma Culture, held as part of the Requiem for Auschwitz project in co-operation with the civic association "Slovo 21" (Word 21); *"Vedem" (In the Lead): The Journey of the Terezín Boys Continues*, an exhibition put together by students at *Gymnázium Přírodní škola*.



Tuvia Beer at the opening of the *Colour Etchings* exhibition in Brno

The Brno office of the JMP's Department for Education and Culture (at the Brno Jewish Community Building) hosted ten exhibitions: *The Gate of Hope*, an exhibition of the leading Czech photographer Jindřich Štreit; *History of the Jewish Community in Ivančice*, an exhibition on loan from the Ceremonial Hall of Ivančice Cemetery; *Keeping Memory Alive – Children in the Holocaust*, an exhibition of winning posters from an international competition for graphic design students; *I Won't Forget*, an exhibition of paintings by Jana Dubová; *R.I.P. or Requiescet in Pace*, an exhibition of black-and-white photographs by Helena Bretfeldová; *Jewish Traces in the History of the Jihlava Region – a Colourful Look Back*, an exhibition of artworks by elementary and secondary school pupils, held in co-operation with the Museum of Vysočiny in Jihlava; *Colour Etchings*, an exhibition of the Israeli painter Tuvia Beer; *Chief Rabbis of Moravia*, an exhibition held by the Regional Museum in Mikulov; the exhibition *Hieronymus Lorm – The Man who Opened the World to Deaf-Blind People*; *The Jewish School Today – The Kiev Yeshivah*, an exhibition of black-and-white photographs by Jindřich Buxbaum.

c) Exhibitions held in co-operation with other institutions

As in previous years, the JMP co-ordinated the lending of its travelling exhibitions. The *Jewish Customs and Traditions* and *History of the Jews in Bohemia and Moravia* exhibitions were on view in Dobruška, at the F. Drtikol Gallery in Příbram and at the Museum in Dvůr Králové. The *Jewish Education* and *Long-lost Faces* exhibitions were shown at the Regional Museum of Prague–East in Brandýs nad Labem; the *Jewish Education* exhibition was subsequently on view in Teplice as part of the town's Days of Jewish Culture in Teplice. *The Second Life of Czech Torah Scrolls* exhibition was shown at the Ceremonial Hall in the town of Bzenec. The Municipal Museum and Gallery of Břeclav hosted the exhibition *"Who Will Find a Brave Woman..." – The Story of Hana Volavková (1904–1985)*. The *Baroque Synagogues* exhibition (initially on view at the Robert Guttman Gallery in the second half of 2011) was successfully presented at the synagogue in Třebíč.

The JMP once again made available six of its travelling exhibitions on the topic of the Shoah: *Don't Lose Faith in Mankind – The Protectorate Through the Eyes of Jewish Children*; *Anne Frank – A Story for Today*; *A Ghetto Called Baluty/Report on Lodz*; *Neighbours Who Disappeared – Tribute to the Child Holocaust Victims*; *The Girls from Room 28, L 410, Terezín* and *The Children's Story – Children's Drawings from Terezín*. In 2012, these exhibitions were installed at 60 schools and museums in the Czech Republic and at five venues abroad (including as part of the Sudeten German Days in Nuremberg).

The JMP's Brno office of the Department for Education and Culture provided technical and organizational support for the exhibition *In Suffering and Struggle – Fateful Moments in the 20th Century for Brno Jews*, which was held at the Noblewomen's Palace at the Moravian Museum in Brno between 14 March and 23 September 2012. The exhibition preview was attended by the Israeli Ambassador to the Czech Republic Yaakov Levy, and it was accompanied by two additional exhibitions: *Yamim Mikedem – Old Jewish Postcards* (from the František Bányai Collection), which was on view at the Noblewomen's Palace, and *Shalom Israel*, an exhibition of photo journalism by Jindřich Buxbaum, which was on view in the basement of the Labyrinth under the Vegetable Market. The exhibition was also accompanied by an interactive programme for school children, which was organized in co-operation with the Moravian Museum in Brno. As part of the exhibition, there were also eleven public lectures and a concert by the Flying Rabbi Band.



6 Care and documentation of the collections

a) Care of the collections

As in previous years, the objects and books in the JMP's collections were kept in completely safe conditions that are optimal in terms of heat, light and climate control. The JMP's restoration staff responsible for the state of these items carried out regular checks on the climate control conditions both in its depositories and in the permanent exhibitions, where they also took measurements of the light intensity.

Preventative insect control was carried out twice within selected areas of the JMP's office building and depositories.

The restoration of items continued in the JMP's restoration workshops, primarily for its exhibition projects.

In view of the need to reduce costs, external specialists were commissioned to restore only objects that were in immediate risk of deterioration due to their poor state of repair – these included items that could not be treated in the JMP's workshops for capacity reasons and items for whose treatment the JMP did not have the appropriate experts. In 2012, external specialists were commissioned to conserve or restore 23 objects – primarily manuscripts and rare printed books for display at the exhibition "You won't need to see a rabbi." 500 Years of Hebrew Printing in Bohemia and Moravia.

The textile restoration workshop restored or conserved 65 collection objects and items from its auxiliary collection. It also prepared 11 new textiles for installation in Prague's Old-New Synagogue (the Altneuschul), which were donated to the Prague Jewish Community by the U.S. artist Mark Podwal. Together with the Collections Management Department, it also contributed to an inventory of a collection of textiles from genizot and to a special inventory of a group of Torah mantles. In addition, half of the mantles in the depository outside Prague were put on new hangers.

The JMP's paper restorers contributed to an inventory of manuscripts and rare printed books and newly stored items from the group of children's drawings in archive containers. They were also involved in

Hymns for the Shabbat and Grace After Meals with an illustration of a hare hunt. Prague, 1514, JMP



the preparation of the exhibitions *Georges Kars* and *Jewish Magic in the Art of Mark Podwal*. The key task of the year for the paper restoration workshop was to restore 19 books for the exhibition “*You won’t need to see a rabbi.*” *500 Years of Hebrew Printing in Bohemia and Moravia*. Work for the JMP’s individual departments included the restoration of 115 artworks on paper and cardboard for the visual art collection, 53 various paper items for the Shoah History Department and four photo albums for the Photo Archive. Forty-six books were fully restored for the JMP Library. Eleven bound archive sources – primarily from the holdings of the Jewish communities of Mikulov and Kroměříž – were restored for the JMP Archives.

The metal restoration workshop conserved or restored 76 silver, brass, wooden and iron objects, in particular for loans and also for the systematic digitization of the silver collection and for the grant project *Identifying Donors of Objects in the Collections of the Jewish Museum in Prague*, which was financially supported by the Rothschild Foundation Europe in 2012–2013. In addition, the wooden components of the holy ark in the synagogue in Golčův Jeníkov were chemically treated for protection against insects.

The tombs of Mordecai Maisel and Shlomo Ephraim Luntschitz and three selected tombstones by the supporting wall alongside the Klausen Synagogue in the Old Jewish Cemetery were partly reconstructed and restored under the supervision of the JMP’s archivists.

b) Documentation

The JMP’s Collections Management Department, which was set up in 2011, continued to focus on stabilizing and optimizing the climate-control conditions in the depositories.

In the JMP’s Prague depository of metal and three-dimensional objects, the storage system for tin plates was improved, the location labels were repaired and supplemented, and essential repairs were made to the water and waste mains. In addition, part of the depository was painted and an anti-mould paint was applied to the walls. Biological pest control measures were also taken. At the end of 2012, the central office for monitoring and regulating the indoor climatic conditions of the depository was replaced and new sensors were installed where the climatic conditions had not previously been systematically monitored

In the JMP’s Prague depository of visual art, the location labels were repaired and supplemented, and items were taken out of storage for systematic digitization and then placed back.

In the JMP’s textile depository outside Prague the humidity conditions were stabilized following the measures taken in the previous year but it was also necessary to arrange for the building’s structure to be analyzed. For the future, it appears that the best solution would be to move this depository to a site nearer Prague. Biological pest control measures were also carried out in this depository. In addition, protective covers and hangers were replaced for part of the Torah mantle collection, and locator lists were supplemented.

The Collections Management Department made out 165 issue slips for 2,447 items in the JMP’s collections (to be taken out of the depository and subsequently placed back in storage) over the course of 2012. The items were taken out of storage mainly for digitization or to be restored, conserved or cleaned. In total, 1,684 items remained out of storage as of 1 January 2013 (mainly in exhibitions and on loan for exhibition purposes).

The Collections Management Department also focused on an inventory of the JMP’s holdings in 2012. Tasks related to the previous year’s inventory were completed (tracing incorrect registration numbers, marking catalogue cards with a stamp to show that they have been reviewed and drawing up a final

inventory report). In addition, a further component of the JMP's holdings was inventoried in accordance with the Central Registration of Collections Act. In co-operation with paper restorers and the curator of the collection of manuscripts and rare printed books, the latter was physically inspected and catalogued in locator lists. A physical inspection was also undertaken of the collection of objects acquired from genizot. An inventory was made of 2,990 items – approximately 7.7% of the total number overseen by the Collections Department. An exceptional inventory was also made of the Torah mantles that are kept in the JMP's depository outside Prague – 4,100 items (approx. 10.5% of the collection) – and no shortcomings were found there.

By the end of the year, 100% of the JMP's holdings had been physically checked as part of all the inventories carried out so far, thus completing the full ten-year inventory as required under law (Act 122/2000 Coll.).

Three reports concerning changes to the Central Registration of Collections were submitted to the Czech Ministry of Culture in 2012. In accordance with the relevant legal regulations, documents were prepared for the cataloguing of acquisitions for the year 2009 and 15 new registration numbers in the Judaica sub-collection were reported.

Information on collection objects was added to the JMP database on an ongoing basis. Work continued on the transcription of data from acquisition registers into an Excel database. About 35,000 of the approx. 80,000 entries had been transcribed by the end of the year.

In collaboration with the curators of the JMP's collections, work continued on the documentation of Judaica materials that are stored outside of the JMP's premises – at the Municipal Museum in Dvůr Králové nad Labem.

Department staff updated the regulation concerning the handling of collection objects, which is binding on all JMP staff. They also contributed to the collection of metadata relating to collection objects for the purposes of the project *Identifying Donors of Objects in the Collections of the Jewish Museum in Prague*, which is financially supported by the Rothschild Foundation Europe.

The Photo Department digitized 170 three-dimensional objects, 197 paintings, 62 prints and drawings and 92 photographs. In addition, a group of archeological finds were documented in preparation for their handover to the Prague City Museum.

The Photo Department continued to digitize collection objects, as well as archive and library materials (approx 9,200 images – more than 6,400 for the Shoah History Department, more than 1,800 for the JMP Archives).). All the photographic work was completed for the book *Silver Judaica*, which was published in 2012. Ninety images were processed for the book *Hebrew Printing in Bohemia and Moravia*. These photos were then added to the JMP's digital archive system and to the Collective Access database

Photos were taken for opening shows, prominent visits and other important events hosted by the JMP (approx. 950 images), and photographic documentation was taken of building exteriors, interiors and exhibitions (approx. 300 images).

A substantial portion of the Photo Archive's work involved dealing with requests (about 200) from researchers in the Czech Republic and abroad, and providing the necessary materials (mostly in electronic form). Some of the information on the Photo Archive's current Demus database was transferred to the new Collective Access database, which the Photo Archive began to use for the registration and cataloguing of its holdings.



7

Specialist activities

a) Collections Department

The JMP's curators focused on the following specialist and research activities in 2012:

The curator of the metal collection, Jaroslav Kuntoš focused on completing and proofreading the translated English text and catalogue items for a major publication about the JMP's collection of ritual silver objects. Entitled *Judaica from the Collection of the Jewish Museum in Prague* and published in August 2012, this book is the first detailed exploration of this part of the JMP's holdings. The curator also focused on acquiring catalogue and photographic documentation on items in the JMP's metal collection for work on the project *Identifying Donors of Objects in the Collections of the Jewish Museum in Prague*; the Torah shields, ritual spice boxes and alms boxes in the collection were documented in this way by the end of 2012. For the journal *Judaica Bohemiae XLVII-2*, the curator wrote an article about the unique find of a medieval signet ring with a Hebrew inscription from an archaeological survey in náměstí Republiky (Republic Square), Prague.

The curator of the visual arts collection, Michaela Sidenberg, carried out research into archive sources relating to the members of Prague German-speaking Jewish families. This research, which the curator has been systematically focusing on since the previous year, is an integral part of the mapping of the area from which a large number of artists, art collectors and patrons came. The research will be continuing in the next few years, as it is also useful for identifying an important part of the material in the JMP's sub-collection of historical photographs and for working on the JMP's provenance catalogue of art collections. Another focus of attention in 2012 was on the study of archive documents the National Archive of the Czech Republic and the Archives of the National Gallery in Prague.

The curator of manuscripts and rare books, Olga Sixtová, continued her research into rare Hebrew books from Bohemia and worked on studies on the history of Prague Hebrew printing between 1512 and 1672 and on the beginnings of Hebrew typography in Prague. Both of these studies, together with seven others by different authors, were included in the book *Hebrew Printing in Bohemia and Moravia*, which was edited by the curator. The results of research done partly in co-operation with P. Voit, CSc. (Strahov Library of the Royal Canonry of Premonstratensians, Prague) were also used in the preparation of an exhibition and other events relating to the 500th anniversary of Hebrew printing in Bohemia and Moravia. In co-operation with A. Jelínková, the curator prepared an on-line bibliography of Hebrew printing in Bohemia and Moravia (www.jewishmuseum.cz/hebrewprinting), which was supported by the Rosa Luxemburg Foundation.

The textile curator, Dana Veselská, focused mainly on the project *Identifying Donors of Objects in the Collections of the Jewish Museum in Prague* with financial support from the Rothschild Foundation Europe (to continue in 2013). This project aims to find information relating to the persons mentioned in inscriptions on textiles and metal objects that were donated to synagogues. A report on the project and its results was published in the journal *Judaica Bohemiae XLVII-2*. The curator also focused on preparing a new scenario for the JMP's permanent exhibition on Jewish customs and traditions in the Klausen Synagogue.



Map of the Israelites' wandering through the desert. Prague, 1610, JMP

The head of the Collections Management Department, Magda Veselská, completed the book *Ark of Memory. The Jewish Museum in Prague's Journey Through the Turbulent Twentieth Century* for publication in 2012 (richly illustrated with about 230 photographs and including footnotes). Magda Veselská also prepared a text on Josef Polák's contribution to the development of the local art scene in Košice for the proceedings *Košická moderna / Košice Modernism* (to be published in Košice, 2013). In preparation for working on the scenario for a planned new permanent exhibition on the JMP's history in the Ceremonial Hall, the department head went on a study trip to the Jewish museums in Hohenem and Amsterdam.

The unKnown project continued throughout the year under the supervision of the head of the Photo Archive, Martin Jelínek. The main aim of this project is to identify people in portrait photographs from 1942–1944 that are kept in the JMP's Photo Archive.

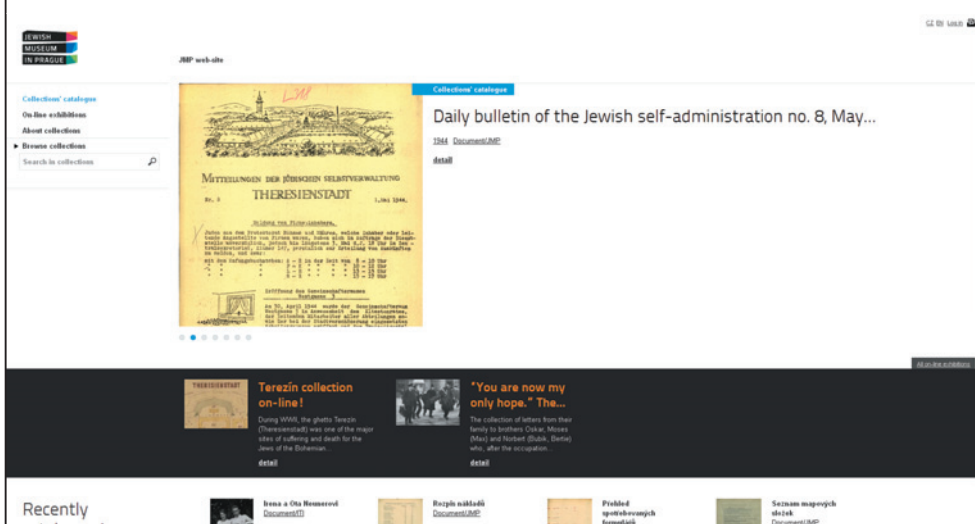
Specialist staff from the Collections Department gave a number of lectures, mostly in connection with JMP permanent and temporary exhibitions. The annual lecture on the exhibitions was held for students at the Institute for Art History in collaboration with the Faculty of Arts at Charles University in Prague. Specialist staff from the Collections Department also attended a number of conferences, symposia and discussions.

The JMP's textile restorers attended textile seminars at the National Museum that were organized by the Textile Group at the Commission of Conservators and Restorers of the Czech Association of Museums and Galleries (AMG). Members of the JMP's restoration workshop staff attended a nationwide conference held by the AMG's Commission of Conservators and Restorers in Litoměřice. The JMP's metal restorers attended a seminar on the preservation of weapons in museum collections, which was held by a working group at the AMG's Commission of Conservators and Restorers.

b) Shoah History Department

After several years of preparing, scanning and describing anew a wealth of documents, the JMP provided access to its new on-line collections catalogue on the website <http://collections.jewishmuseum.cz/>.

On-line screenshot of the JMP collections catalogue



As it is one of the JMP's long-term priorities to publish the archival and other sources that are kept in its collections, additional information on its archival documents, photographs and collection objects will be gradually added to the online catalogue. To mark the 71st anniversary of the first transport to the Terezín ghetto, the complete Terezín Archive Collection was made available on this catalogue. The Terezín Archive Collection contains an important group of documents relating to the history of the

Terezín Ghetto. Many of the original documents drawn up by the Terezín ghetto's commandant and by the Jewish "self-administration" were destroyed on Nazi orders at the end of the Second World War. Several prisoners and groups of prisoners, however, took it upon themselves to save as many of these documents as possible, and some survivors continued this work on their own even after 1945 – primarily as part of the 'Documentation Operation' and later at the Jewish Museum in Prague. The Terezín Archive Collection, which was later processed by Anna Hyndráková and Anita Franková at the JMP, contains, for example, fragments of original proceedings of the Jewish Council of Elders in Terezín and documents on setting up the ghetto's structure and operations, on the education of children, or on the cultural life of inmates. The digitization project was made possible with the financial support that has been provided by the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany since 2009. With this support, more than 100,000 pages of archival material have been researched, re-catalogued and provided with structured metadata.

Deportation train in front of the Jägerkaserne [Hunter Barracks], Terezín, 1943



To mark the 70th anniversary of the Jewish transports from Ostrava to Terezín, the JMP published on-line a collection of personal and family documents that illustrate everyday Jewish life in Ostrava before the Second World War and the fate of Ostrava's Jews during the Holocaust, as well as the stories of those who survived. The collection contains about two thousand letters, photographs and official documents. The catalogue also includes an on-line exhibition based on the unique family correspondence of the Goldberg, who were divided between Great Britain and occupied Europe during the war. This collection of documents is the result of several years' work by volunteers at Kingston Synagogue in southwest London, which has a Torah scroll from pre-war Ostrava on permanent loan. Kingston Synagogue's Ostrava Group set to work in 2006, gradually creating a 'virtual' community of Ostrava Jews who are now scattered across the world. The JMP became involved in the group's activities in 2009 and, in a joint project, saw to the cataloguing, digitizing and publication of this unique collection.

The presentation of the project in Prague was attended by Norbert Goldberg in person



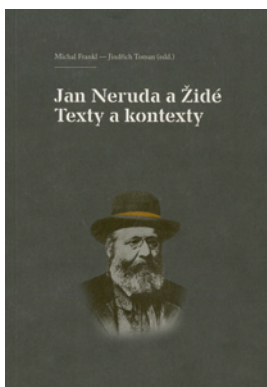
The European Holocaust Research Infrastructure (EHRI) project is one of the most important projects the department was involved in. Its aim is to improve co-operation between Holocaust archives in Europe, thereby facilitating the work of historians and other researchers. It is co-ordinated by the Dutch Institute for War, Holocaust and Genocide Studies (NIOD) and involves the contribution of 20 European archives, including Yad Vashem in Israel. An extensive online portal with access to information about archive collections will be put together as part of the project. A new methodology for describing archive materials and sharing data will also be devised. This four-year project is funded by the European Union as part of the Seventh Framework Programme for Research, Technological Development and Demonstration. As part of the EHRI, the JMP's Shoah History Department is running the sub-project Trans-institutional Research Guides, which aims to connect archive documents that are currently scattered across several archives in various countries. One of the two resulting guides will be focused on the Terezín ghetto, the main archive collections relating to which are housed in the Terezín Memorial, the JMP, Yad Vashem and Beit Terezín in Israel; smaller groups of documents are kept in dozens of other archives.

In 2012, the JMP managed to gather together the majority of data on the main Terezín archive collections and to connect this data to groups of controlled metadata (in particular, key words and places). In addition, it prepared sketches of the functionality of the on-line 'research guide' which, among other things, will enable access to documents by means of full-text and structured searches and of maps (including of the individual buildings in the Terezín ghetto), and will also place the archive data in a historical context.

Wireframe of the guide to the Terezín archive collections



As part of the EHRI, the JMP co-hosted a workshop entitled *Early Attempts At Historical Documentation of the Holocaust*. Held in November at the Holocaust Museum in Budapest, this meeting brought together historians and archivists from more than ten countries. The participants undertook the first comparative analysis of the activities of the Jewish historical commissions in Poland and in the DP camps, the Centre de Documentation Juive Contemporaine (CDJC) in France, Yad Vashem and Lohamei HaGheta'ot and the Czechoslovak 'Documentation Operation'.



A project involving the recording of interviews with Shoah survivors and eyewitnesses to document their lives in post-war Czechoslovakia continued in 2012. Their return from concentration camps, reintegration into society and relationship to Jewish identity under Communism are the main topics in these interviews. Thirty interviews with members of the first and second generation were recorded; these will subsequently be made available to the public once they have been processed and authorized in accordance with copyright provisions. In addition, a large amount of family photographs and documents were provided by the interviewees and added to the electronic catalogue for access to researchers.

In co-operation with the National Film Archives of the Czech Republic, preparations continued for the exhibition *Reality and Film Fiction. Filming in the Terezín Ghetto, 1942–1945*. The exhibition curators, Jana Šplíchalová (JMP) and Eva Strusková (National Film Archives), focused mainly on archive research in the Czech Republic and abroad and on an analysis of various preserved fragments of Terezín films.

The department head, Michal Frankl, focused mainly on research into the history of Czech anti-Semitism and prepared several conference papers and specialist articles. The main research task was a project entitled *Building a State Without Anti-Semitism? Anti-Semitism in the Czech lands and Slovakia, 1917–1923*, which is being supported by a grant from the Grant Agency of the Czech Republic (for the 2011–2013 period). As part of this project, Michal Frankl, in co-operation with Miloslav Szabó, is preparing a comparative study on the role and character of anti-Semitism in the formative post-WWI period and on the creation of the Czechoslovak national state. In 2012, he focused mainly on an analysis of anti-Jewish violence in 1917–1920.

Michal Frankl, together with Jindřich Toman (University of Michigan) prepared for publication a collective monograph, entitled *Jan Neruda and the Jews. Texts and Contexts*. This study is the results of a workshop that was held by the JMP in 2010 in co-operation with the Institute for Czech Literature at the Czech Academy of Sciences.

The Shoah History Department also spent considerable time providing services to researchers and journalists, working on new archive materials and responding to the many queries relating to Shoah victims.

c) Department of Jewish History and Jewish Studies

The department head, I. Cermanová, with the assistance of A. Putík, edited two issues of the JMP's journal *Judaica Bohemiae* (Volume XLVII / 2012) and began editorial work on the first issue of *Judaica Bohemiae* XLVIII (2013). Two meetings of the journal's editorial board took place in 2012. The journal began to draw on three-year grant support from the Rothschild Foundation Europe.

The preparation of a new exhibition in the Maisel Synagogue, *Jews in the Bohemian Lands, 10th–18th Century* was a priority for the department. I. Cermanová and A. Putík prepared a detailed scenario and a definitive list of exhibits for the exhibition. In addition, the route for a 2D virtual tour of Prague's Jewish Town based on Langweil's model of Prague – which will be the main multimedia exhibit – was formed and a substantial part of the background material for another multimedia presentation in the exhibition was completed (A. Putík, I. Cermanová, J. Fiedler).

Work on long-term research projects continued at the department; staff members undertook research in archives and research libraries, presented the results in six research studies and added them to internal databases. A. Putík wrote the paper *New Source for the Trial of Lipmann Heller and the Political Conflict in the Prague Jewish Community, 1629–1630: Kurtzer Summarischer Wahrhafter Bericht* in the second issue of the journal *Judaica Bohemiae* XLVII (2012), completed the study *The Censorship of Hebrew Books in Prague, 1512–1670 (1672)* for the book *Hebrew Printing in Bohemia and Moravia*

(ed. O. Sixtová) and wrote the introductory study for the book *Sworn Declarations of Prague Jewish Families, 1748–1749 (1751). Edition of a source on the return of Jews expelled by Maria Theresa* (ed. L. Petrusová). I. Cermanová wrote the study *The Fall and Rise of Hebrew Book Printing in Bohemia, 1780–1850* for the book *Hebrew Printing in Bohemia and Moravia*. D. Polakovič wrote the paper *Samuel David Ungar (1886–1945) and the Yeshivah of Nitra* for the journal proceedings *Piešťany and Trenčín at the Time of the Holocaust* (ed. E. Nižňanský), the text *Hebrew Manuscript Fragments on the Bindings of Incunabula and Early Printed Books in the Library of the Franciscan Monastery in Cheb* for the publication *Libri catenati egrensis* (eds. K. Boldán – J. Marek), the report *The Hebrew Manuscript? Fragments in the Archives, Libraries and Museums in the Czech Republic (2004–2012): A Preliminary Report* for the journal proceedings *Genizat Germania, Vol. 2* (Leiden) and the paper *The Oldest Tombstones in the Old Cemetery in Telč* for the journal proceedings *Jews and Moravia (2011)*.

I. Cermanová focused on research into Hebrew book printing in Bohemia between 1750 and 1850 and the history of the Prague Jewish community at the turn of the eighteenth and nineteenth century. A. Putík undertook genealogical research into Prague Jewish families and added about 175 names to a genealogical database while focusing mainly on the representatives of the Jewish self-government and printers. A. Putík also continued to prepare a Czech monograph on the history of Prague Jews in the modern era, as part of which he focused in detail on research into the internal political history of the Prague Jewish community in the latter half of the sixteenth century, Hebrew book printing and censorship, administrative and topographical aspects of the return of Prague Jews after their expulsion in 1745. D. Polakovič identified new findings of Hebrew fragments in the collections of Bohemian and Moravian archives, libraries and museums, prepared a comprehensive catalogue of medieval Hebrew manuscript fragments in the Czech Republic (there are currently more than 617 recorded fragments), carried out epigraphic research into Hebrew inscriptions on tombstones and in synagogues and put together a biographical and bibliographical database relating to the history of the Jews in the Czech lands up to the year 1938. During a study trip to the Vatican Apostolic Library, D. Polakovič studied medieval Hebrew manuscripts from Bohemia. J. Fiedler continued his research into the demography and topography of Jewish settlements.

In co-operation with the JMP archive staff, the Prague Jewish Community's property management company Matana, a. s. and the Český Les Museum in Tachov, D. Polakovič continued work on the documentation of Jewish cemeteries in Prague and in four rural communities.

Considerable progress was made on the electronic *Encyclopaedia of Jewish Communities in Bohemia, Moravia and Silesia*, which is being prepared by J. Fiedler. By the end of the year, 383 complete entries were prepared for sale via the JMP's website and a further 773 entries were made available to order.

In addition to providing consultations to specialists and the general public and responding to queries from researchers, department staff carried out two reviews of academic studies and grants, and gave six lectures.

d) Archives

The physical condition of archive documents was continually checked by archive staff, dust was mechanically removed from documents with the help of external staff, and selected documents were restored in the JMP's restoration workshop. In 2012, a total of 379 archive books and five document files were cleaned and eight archive books were restored. In addition, items were mechanically cleaned and newly acquired documents were disinfected where necessary before being deposited in the archives.

Archive sorting continued to focus on reviewing and re-cataloguing materials in the archive with particular attention paid to the collection of personal papers and miscellaneous items (M. Hanková, V. Hamáčková) and the Prague Jewish Community Collection (L. Petrusová). In addition, the JMP's

business archive was processed (M. Kurečková). Work also continued on the processing of documents that were received from Jewish communities in the period after 1945 (M. Hanková). The Prague Jewish Community's collection of documents from the period of Nazi occupation was prepared for digitization (review of the collection, minor corrections, foliation – V. Hamáčková, M. Kurečková).

Five new archival aids, including four electronic inventories, were added (there were previously 309 archival aids, amounting to 97% of the collections). In addition, an additional five electronic inventories were created, replacing the previous archival aids after the collections had been checked and re-organized. In total, nine electronic inventories were completed in 2012.

Work was completed on a database of people buried in the New Jewish Cemetery in Prague-Strašnice (checking the Hebrew section, making additions, verifying disputable data). In preparation for a database of people buried in the Jewish cemetery in Fibichova Street, Prague-Žižkov, archive staff (M. Kurečková, L. Petrusová, V. Hamáčková) analyzed data contained in the Prague Burial Society books. On the basis of a database list of Prague Jews from 1748 to 1838, an edition of the earlier section from 1748 to 1749 was prepared for publication (L. Petrusová in co-operation with A. Putík, Department of Jewish History and Jewish Studies).

In collaboration with the JMP's photography workshop, work continued on the gradual process of digitizing selected archive documents with the aim of providing study and back-up copies of material that is of historical value and of great use to researchers. Selected *pinkasim* (minute books) and other archive documents that are mainly used for genealogical research were digitized on an ongoing basis. Six archive books and eight individual documents (1,043 images) were digitized in 2012. File documents from the collection of the Olomouc and Holešov religious Jewish communities were also digitized (7,640 images, processed by Scanservice, a. s.) as part of the Shoah History Department's project involving the digitization of archive material from the Holocaust period.

The specialist activity of the JMP's archivists continued to focus mainly on research into the history of the Jews in the Nazi-occupied border areas and on the history of the Jewish community in the Czech lands after 1945. The research into the history of the Jews in the Czech border area, undertaken by V. Hamáčková in collaboration with M. Lhotová from the Museum of North Bohemia in Liberec, was supported by the Grant Agency of the Czech Republic (Grant Project P410/102399).

Focusing mainly on the 1945–1956 period, M. Hanková continued to put together a detailed overview of material relating to Jewish issues in the individual collections of the Security Services Archives. On the basis of the material studied, M. Hanková wrote a paper entitled *"The Prague Rabbi" from New York, or Viktor Vorhand and the Activities of Jewish Orthodox Organizations in Post-war Czechoslovakia (1945-1949)*, which she presented at the *Jews in Bohemia* seminar in Trutnov. The JMP's Archives continued to work with museums and archives in the Czech border areas on the organization of seminars relating to the modern history of the Jews in Bohemia. The fourth annual seminar was held in Trutnov on 17 and 18 October 2012. Work also continued on research into Judaica in archives in the Czech Republic. On the basis of this research, V. Hamáčková wrote a paper entitled *On the Fate of the Documents of Jewish Communities in the Occupied Border Region*, which was presented at the *Jews in Bohemia* seminar.

In collaboration with the Department of Jewish History and Jewish Studies, the JMP's archivists contributed to the documentation of Jewish cemeteries and to work on the newly found epigraphic material (after the completion of alterations and the renovation of Jewish cemeteries, the staff supplemented and corrected the documentation of epitaphs in the Jewish cemeteries of Dřevíkov and Hroubovice). Archivists also carried out specialist supervision of the reconstruction and restoration work at Prague's Old Jewish Cemetery and at the Jewish cemetery in Fibichova Street, Prague-Žižkov.

The JMP's archivists took part in two training sessions relating to the administration of documents and general inventories, as well as two conferences on current trends in archive studies with particular focus on issues connected with digitization.

The JMP Archives received 182 visits from researchers in 2012 (84 researches carried out research here and 1,295 library units were presented). As in previous years, the main focus of researchers' interest was on genealogy, the history of individual Jewish communities and the documentation of sites (cemeteries, synagogues, ghettos). The JMP's archivists undertook 14 literature searches and provided about 115 consultations and replies to written queries. In total, 2,847 images were scanned for exhibitions, publications and researchers.

e) Library

The JMP Library had a total of 715 registered members in 2012. The library and multimedia centre were visited by 1,154 researchers; other technical queries were dealt with in writing. As in previous years, the library also provided inter-library loans and access to seven specialist databases abroad.

Library staff continued to focus on the specialist cataloguing of books, magazines and individual articles and essays. The library added 1,925 records to its electronic catalogue, which contained more than 51,400 records by the end of the year. Seventy-four magazine titles were itemized in the periodical depository at Pinkas Synagogue and were recorded in the library's catalogue. In addition, 99 entries on events held at the Department for Education and Culture were included in the catalogue. The library became involved in the creation of a database of nominal and corporate national authorities. In accordance with an agreement with the National Library of the Czech Republic, library staff drafted new entries and supervised the transcription of Hebrew names and the names of institutions. In October, the library upgraded to version 21 of Aleph.

The calendar *Luah li-shenath* (published by Jacob W. Pascheles) for the years 1852/53–1894/95 was digitized and the information was made available on-line.

Biographical and topographical information continued to be added to the database in connection with a retrospective inspection of the collection with the aim of determining original ownership. In total, 287 volumes were checked and 124 records were entered in the database in 2012; there are now 45,444 entries in the database. Checks were also carried out on the list of books in S. H. Lieben's German Provenance Catalogue in preparation for restitution proceedings.

In the historical part of the library's collection, ongoing checks were carried out on 203 books in the Central Register of Collections. An additional 131 volumes were registered over the course of the year. In addition, scans of title pages were gradually added to the electronic catalogue.

In the multimedia centre, access was provided to the USC Shoah Foundation's Archive of Visual History, which contains recorded interviews with Shoah survivors and witnesses. The department's services were extended to include the sale of JMP publications.

f) Representation in other organizations in the Czech Republic and abroad

The JMP was represented at the annual meeting of the Association of European Jewish Museums and at the meetings of the Association of Museums and Galleries in the Czech Republic. The art curator M. Sidenberg represented the JMP on the board of the European Shoah Legacy Institute, initiating the Provenance Research Training Program (PRTP) with focus on issues concerning Nazi-looted art.

M. Veselská served as a board member of the Association of European Jewish Museums and took part in the Curatorial Education Programme in Frankfurt am Main.

The JMP was represented by two members of staff – Z. Pavlovská and J. Šplíchalová – in the Czech delegation to the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA, formerly the Task Force for International Cooperation on Holocaust Education, Remembrance and Research – ITF). Both employees attended IHRA meetings in Mechelen (June) and Lutych (December).

The head of the Shoah History Department Michal Frankl represented the JMP in the Prague Centre for Jewish Studies at the Faculty of Arts, Charles University, Prague. The JMP director Leo Pavlát continued to serve on the board of the Academy of Performing Arts in Prague and on the board of the Czech-German Discussion Forum and also became a member of the editorial board of the Academia Publishing House.



8

Preparation of new exhibitions and changes to the JMP

In connection with the plan for the JMP's new exhibitions, work continued on the preparation of the new show *Jews in the Bohemian Lands, 10th–18th Century* in the Maisel Synagogue. A competition for the architectural design and implementation of the new exhibition, which was won by Hynek Fetterle. In co-operation with the conceivers of the exhibition, I. Cermanová and A. Putík, the architect prepared an architectural study for the exhibition, as well as a digital 3D model of the exhibition. In addition, negotiations were held with the Prague City Museum with regard to the main audiovisual exhibit – a 2D virtual tour of Prague's Jewish Town based on Langweil's model of Prague. Meetings were also held with AV Media for project implementation.

As part of the transformation project approved by the JMP's Board of Trustees, work continued on the new Reservation and Information Centre. With the consent of the Board of Trustees, the JMP set out the projects that it intends to carry out in the next few years, depending on its financial options:

- Building a second auditorium in the Winter Prayer Hall of the Spanish Synagogue – screening room for programmes relating to the current exhibition during the day and for special film programmes (documentary and feature) in the evening.
- Setting up a new shop in the Klausen Synagogue by connecting the current shop to the current Reservation Centre.
- Installing two information kiosks – at the Maisel or Spanish synagogues and at the Pinkas Synagogue.
- Paving the paths at the Old Jewish Cemetery.
- Drawing up studies for other transformation projects as material for applications for funding (a new exhibition of children's drawings in the current Robert Guttmann Gallery, exhibitions in the Spanish, Pinkas and Klausen synagogues and the Ceremonial Hall).

Changes were made to the JMP's printed material in connection with new visual style – the quarterly Newsletter was newly designed, made available only in electronic form and was supplemented by a two-monthly printed guide with basic information on the sites overseen by the JMP, its permanent exhibitions and forthcoming events, including exhibitions, concerts, programmes for parents and children, guided tours, lectures and discussion evenings. The JMP also prepared a new look for its annual reports, entry tickets, information leaflets, staff visiting cards and the security staff uniform. The new visual style and logo were also used in the design of new publications and reprints.

A competition for redesigning the JMP website was won by Nux, s.r.o. In co-operation with this company, on the basis of a previous website audit by Naviga 4 and with attention paid to the presentation of relevant institutions in the Czech Republic and abroad, the new website structure was created with a description of the individual functionalities and with a design proposal for the homepage and sub-pages, including layout.

Launched in the autumn of 2011, the JMP's volunteer programme was further developed within its Society of Friends. Volunteers got involved mainly by helping out at cultural events but also, to a lesser extent, provided technical assistance (e.g., transcribing interviews with Shoah survivors and witnesses, archiving documents, processing video recordings, etc.). Twenty-seven people – mostly students – were involved in the volunteer programme in 2012.



9

Acquisitions

There were three ordinary and two extraordinary meetings of the JMP's Collection-Building Commission with external associates in attendance in 2012. Most of the acquisitions to the JMP's collections in 2012 were donations – 107 items given by individuals and institutions from the Czech Republic and abroad; about a third of these items were bequeathed by Anna Fialová from Bratislava, including jewelry, artworks and Jewish household objects from the first half of the 20th century. Forty-three items were purchased. In addition, 125 items were removed from the collections following an exceptional inventory, mainly due to deterioration of character or to incompatibility with the JMP's collection programme

In total, 1,075 volumes were added to the JMP's library collection in 2012.

A set of food and spice containers, late 19th century





10

Educational activities

As in previous years, the JMP organized a large number of events, programmes and projects via the Prague and Brno offices of its Department for Education and Culture.

The Prague office prepared nine types of thematic lectures with 16 interactive art and drama workshops. Its programmes dealt with various aspects of Jewish life, including traditions, customs, biblical history and the history of Jews in Bohemia and Moravia. As usual, much attention was paid to teaching about anti-Semitism and the Shoah.

The Department for Education and Culture developed the project *Ours or Foreign? Jews in the Czech Twentieth Century*, which is being prepared together with the Shoah History Department and in co-operation with Terezín Initiative Institute. This project is financed by funds from the European Union and the Czech Ministry of Education. New educational materials on the Shoah and on the twentieth-century history of the Jews in the Czech lands are being prepared and offered to schools as part of this project. Focusing on Jewish refugees in Czechoslovakia and the refugee crisis of 1938, the *Unwelcome Foreigners* workshop, which was created last year, found broad application in 2012. There was also a new workshop focusing on Petr Ginz, to which contributed *Gymnázium Přírodní škola* and the public-benefit association Opona. These workshop were held in the spring and autumn and included a screening of the U.S. documentary film *The Last Flight of Petr Ginz* (directed by Sandra Dickson and Churchill Roberts)

The *Unwelcome Foreigners* workshop prepared by the Jewish Museum in collaboration with Gymnázium Duhovka



In total, 8,431 pupils and students took part in the department's programmes in Prague and 1,010 people attended its seminars outside Prague. Programmes and seminars were also held for foreign students, as well as for Czech visitors. In 2012, the Prague-based offerings attracted 967 people from Germany, the USA, the UK, Hong Kong, Canada, the Netherlands, Italy and France.

At the beginning of the 2012/13 school year, the Department for Education and Culture – for the third time – joined the Crocus Project, which has been organized for several years by the Holocaust Education Trust of Ireland and involves the participation of schools around the world each year. Via the Department for Education and Culture, the organizers provided the students and pupils taking part with yellow crocus bulbs which they will plant in the autumn as a reminder of the million and a half Jewish children who were murdered during the Shoah. More than 180 schools and several kindergartens were involved in the project in the Czech Republic.

The department also worked on various projects with a number of other institutions, including the National Institute of Children and Youth for the literary and historical competition *Daniel* and the United Nations Office in the Czech Republic for a series of workshops for Prague schools to mark International Holocaust Remembrance Day.

Great importance was attached to programmes for teachers in 2012. The department organized four two-day seminars and a one-day seminar for teachers on the topic *Jews, History and Culture*, which were attended by 38 teachers. An important, by now regular, partner in the further training of teaching staff was the Terezín Memorial, with which the JMP held two three-day seminars for 100 teachers on the topic *How to Teach about the Holocaust*. In co-operation with the Holocaust Documentation Centre in Bratislava and the Terezín Memorial, a seminar was organized for 25 teachers from Slovakia. With support from the Czech Ministry of Education, the Department for Education and Culture hosted a follow-up seminar for 34 teachers as part of the *Jews, History and Culture* series, which focused on the post-war history of the Jewish population. Other one-day seminars were prepared for 40 teachers from the Regional Facility for the Further Education of Teachers, the Nový Jičín Information Centre and for 35 teachers from Brno. In January 2012 the first off-site seminar for 50 teachers in Ústí nad Labem, Klášterec nad Ohří and Varnsdorf was held in co-operation with Yad Vashem, the USC Shoah Foundation and the Terezín Memorial.

The *Centre for Education and Dialogue* project, organized in co-operation with the International Christian Embassy Jerusalem (ICEJ), was completed in 2012. As part of this joint project, the ICEJ provides lectures on the Holocaust and anti-Semitism for instructors trained at the Department for Education and Culture. At the end of the project, 20 certificates were awarded to the participants, enabling them to give lectures at elementary and secondary schools.

The Brno office of the Department for Education and Culture developed its activities for schools, interest groups and societies in Brno and other places in Moravia. Workshops, lectures and Q&A sessions were prepared for school groups – 39 for 828 pupils and students on its premises, 24 for 778 pupils and students elsewhere.

Educational activities at the Brno office were also the result of collaborations with other institutions in 2012. Together with the Moravian Museum, above all, it contributed to the exhibition *The Suffering and Struggle: the Jews of Brno in the Fateful Moments of the 20th Century*. JMP staff put together an interactive training scheme for schools, which included 35 exhibition workshops that were attended by 661 pupils and students of elementary and secondary schools. The long-term collaboration with the Museum of Roma Culture successfully continued in 2012 with focus on the interactive educational programme *Shoah, Porajmos, Holocaust*, which was held at the JMP's Brno office and at the Museum of Roma Culture; ten programmes here were attended by 202 pupils and students. Q&A sessions with Holocaust survivors and witnesses continued in schools across Moravia, particularly as part of the project *Ours or Foreign? Jews in the Czech Twentieth Century*. In addition, the spring and autumn series of seminars, *Jews, History and Culture*, was held for 114 teachers in eight lecture blocks at the Brno office.

An instructor from the Brno office gave four guided tours of the Jewish cemetery in Brno for 107 pupils and students. With the agreement of the Brno Jewish Community, 29 guided tours of the Brno Synagogue and mikveh were offered to 721 pupils and students pupils/students.

The Brno-based educational programmes were nicely complemented by Divadlo Kufř's theatre production, *A Jewess or Juggling with Life*, which was launched under the auspices of the JMP's Brno office in 2007. The show was followed by a Q&A with a Shoah survivor. Six of these performances were held for 149 pupils and students in 2012.

Work on the JMP's educational project *Neighbours Who Disappeared* continued in 2012 for the thirteenth year running. Intended for elementary and high school pupils, this project charts the fate of Shoah survivors and eyewitnesses in the neighbourhoods of those taking part. The Prague office of the Department for Education and Culture once again collaborated with the civic association Zapomenuti/The Forgotten Ones. Among the outcomes of the project are exhibitions, publications, a collection of archival material and testimonies from survivors and eyewitnesses. So far, the project has involved the active participation of almost 200 schools and more than a thousand young researchers.

Two Czech-language roll-up versions of the exhibition (comprising 20 panels) were seen in schools and institutions across the Czech Republic in 2012, as in the previous year. Students and pupils once again presented their own project at the international seminar *How to Teach about the Holocaust* at the Terezín Memorial. One of the copies of the exhibition is also on permanent display in the Attic Theatre vestibule of the Magdeburg Barracks at the Terezín Memorial.

The JMP's *Neighbours Who Disappeared* project was also featured abroad. The German-language version of the exhibition was seen at three venues in Germany. Another English-language version was on view at several venues in the UK and Ireland (Holocaust Education Trust Ireland, Clifton House) where students are also developing the project with their own research. The exhibition also went to Slovakia, where it was shown at four places.

In addition to taking part in the meetings of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (formerly the Task Force for International Cooperation on Holocaust Education, Remembrance and Research) in Mechelen and Lutych, staff member Z. Pavlovská attended the International Educational Conference at the Yad Vashem Memorial in Jerusalem where she presented the Lodz Ghetto workshop in the educational block on the history of the ghettos during the Second World War.



a) Evening programmes at the Department for Education and Culture

Cultural programmes were prepared for the public at both the Prague and Brno offices of the Department for Education and Culture in 2012. The Prague office hosted 70 evening programmes for 2,100 visitors. These included debates on topical issues moderated by publicist Petr Brod (e.g. *Life after the Catastrophe* with Martin Šmok and *From Prague to Prague via Terezín, Auschwitz and Leningrad* with Evelina Merová), as well as four concerts (including Aneta Majerová and Petr Nouzovský – *Concert in Honour of Mieczyslav Weinberg*; Alexandr Shonert – *Jewish Violin*; Mišpacha Choir – *Prepare for Purim with Mišpacha*; Ester Duo – *Treasure Trove of Jewish Songs*). Notable film screenings included films dealing with the Roma Holocaust: *Just the Wind* made by the Hungarian director Benedek Fliegauf, *...Those Are Tough Memories* (documentary made by Monika Rychlíková), *To Live! Ceija Stojka* (documentary made by Anna Juránková) and *Poles and Jews: The Second World War* in co-operation with the Polish Institute in Prague. There were nineteen presentations of books on Judaism, anti-Semitism or the Shoah, together with discussions and authors and experts on the given topics: these included Reinhard Kaiser's *Royal Children*, which was presented by the translator Erika Bezdíčková, Geraldine Brooks' *People of the Book*, which tells the story of the famous Sarajevo Haggadah, and *The Gates of the Righteous: Synagogues of Moravia, Silesia and Bohemia* by the architect Jaroslav Klenovský. Of particular interest was the presentation of Helga Hošková-Weissová's *Diary 1938–1945: The Story of a Girl Who Survived the Holocaust*. A lecture series launched in 2010 and 2011 (*The Middle East – Yesterday and Today*) continued. A new lecture series (*Judaism Through the Eyes of Jewish Luminaries*) features profiles of eminent Jewish scholars from the Middle Ages to the present (e.g. Judah ha-Levi, Maimonides and Moses Mendelssohn). In addition, a loose series of lectures by Jan Fingerland (*Jews as People and as Images*) started at the end of 2012. The Prague office also hosted eight exhibitions with previews, including an exhibition of photographs taken by Jindřich Buxbaum in the former Auschwitz-Birkenau and Treblinka concentration camps, an exhibition on the history of the Jews of Brno by Jaroslav Klenovský (*Jewish Brno*), an exhibition of colour etchings by the Israeli painter Tuvia Beeri, and the exhibition "*Vedem*" (*In the Lead*): *The Journey of the Terezín Boys Continues* (with contributions from the students at *Gymnázium Přírodní škola* and the public-benefit association Opona).

As part of the programme accompanying the exhibition "*Vedem*" (*In the Lead*): *The Journey of the Terezín Boys Continues*, there was a Skype interview with survivor Jiří Brady



The monthly Sunday afternoon workshops for children and their parents remained popular in 2012, and were attended by 200 people. These programmes are regularly supported by the Foundation for Holocaust Victims (NFOH).

The Prague office of the Department for Education and Culture also hosted several conferences that were supported by the JMP. These included *Jewish Studies in the 21st Century. Prague – Europe – World*, which was organized by the Prague Centre for Jewish Studies at the Arts Faculty of Charles University in Prague and *Knaanic Language: Structure and Historical Background*, which was held on 25 and 26 October, also in co-operation with Arts Faculty of Charles University in Prague.

The Brno office of the Department for Education and Culture hosted 67 programmes in the early evening hours, which were attended by 1, 530 visitors. These includes lecture series such as *(Un)suspected Connections* and *From Jewish Private Law* by Rabbi Šlomo Kučera and *Polish-Jewish Relations in the 20th Century* by Jaroslav Kadlec (Masaryk University). The *Reading Suits Everyone* series, in which actors from Brno theatres read from popular books by Jewish authors, attracted a large number of people. There were also book presentations, such as Yeshayahu Leibowitz's *Meditations on the Torah* and Blanka Bergerová's *Největší byznys mého života* [The Best Deal of My Life]; Bergerová's son Avihou Efrat came to Brno from Israel to speak about the book. The Brno office also presented screenings of the films *The Last Flight of Petr Ginz*, *Der Student von Prag* and *Judgement at Nuremberg*; the latter film was followed by a discussion with the vice chairman of the Constitutional Court Pavel Holländer on Nazi law and the responsibility of judges. Q&A sessions also attracted great interest – e.g., with the chairman of the Brno Jewish Community Pavel Fried (*Faith in the Eyes of Man – From the Holocaust to the Present*) and the writer Ivan Kraus who entertained with his reminiscences and readings from his books. Also popular were programmes that were presented by members of the Brno Jewish Community – *Through Holland – Not Only Jewish*; *The Brno Period of Fredy Hirsch* (Alena Mikovcová); *When I Went Through the Jewish Gate* (Zuzana Prudilová) and *Reminiscences of China* (Anna Hanusová-Flachová). Other lectures were given by guests from abroad – such as *The Making of Czech Jewry* (U.S. historian Hillel J. Kieval) and *The Last Rotten Bastions of German Domination: Political Jewish Communities in Moravia, 1848-1919* (Prof. Michael L. Miller). There were also two concerts, which were organized in co-operation with the Brno Jewish Community – *Music by Composers of the Interwar Period* and *JazzPoint*, a Jewish American band.

The Department for Education and Culture in Brno hosted ten exhibitions with previews and talks by authors. Of particular interest were the exhibitions at which the authors presented their work in person. At the beginning of 2012 there was an exhibition of large black-and-white photographs by Prof. Jindřich Štreit, entitled *Gates of Hope*. The preview of an exhibition of paintings by Jana Dubová entitled *I Will Not Forget* was an emotional experience with the artist in attendance; it recalls the fate not only of her murdered family but of all Holocaust victims. There was also a unique meeting with the Slovak-born painter Tuvia Beeri, a resident of Tel Aviv since 1948, who displayed a collection of his colour etchings

The Sunday afternoon workshops for children and their parents continued; in the autumn of 2012 it was renamed *What Life Was Like in Biblical Times...* Through narration and various art techniques, this series shows children what life was like in towns and villages at the time the Bible was written.

b) Concerts at the Spanish Synagogue and other cultural events for the public

In addition to the events held as part of the Polish Season – which are covered in the next section of this report – the JMP directly organized or was involved in the organization of a number of concerts and film screenings in the Spanish Synagogue.

Gala evening at the Spanish Synagogue to mark International Holocaust Remembrance Day

On 28 January, the JMP and the Prague Jewish Community hosted a gala concert at the Spanish Synagogue to mark International Holocaust Remembrance Day. The Israeli male choir Zimratya sang a selection of songs and Robert Hugo performed organ music by Mendelssohn and Antonín Matzner.

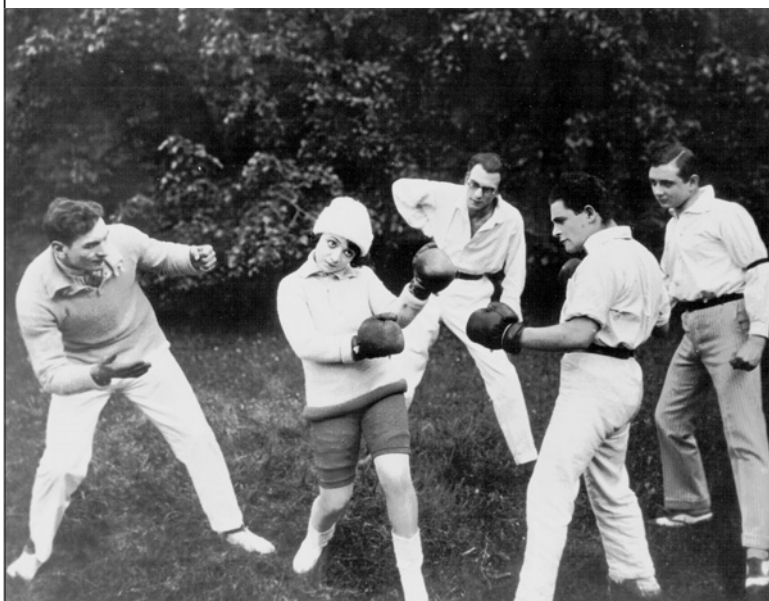


On 26 March one of four concerts in the EuroRadio season was held at the Spanish Synagogue in association with Czech Radio; this concert season is devoted to music that is rarely performed. The programme, entitled *Dreams and Prayers*, was broadcast live via thirteen national radio companies from the European Broadcasting Union in Europe, Australia and New Zealand. It featured compositions by Sheila Silver, Jan Dušek and Osvaldo Golijov, which were performed by the Berg Orchestra under the baton of Peter Vrábel with solos by soprano Irena Troupová, cellist Dominika Weiss Hošková and clarinetist Irvin Venyš.

A month later, on 26 April, another concert series culminated in the Spanish Synagogue – this was the third *Biennale Kafka/Borges – Prague/Buenos Aires*, which is organized by the Franz Kafka Society and the Fundación Internacional Jorge Luis Borges. The aim of this series of cultural programmes is to feature Argentine and Czech culture by drawing on the example of Kafka and Borges, two exceptional figures of modern world literature. As a partner of the series, the JMP hosted the final concert *In Tribute to Two Countries* at which the Stamic Quartet performed works by Leoš Janáček, Astor Piazzolla and Bohuslav Martinů.

The JMP became a partner of the 21st St. Wenceslas Festivities in Prague. On 13 September, as part of this event, the Spanish Synagogue hosted a concert by Jill Rogov, an acclaimed Israeli performer of medieval songs. With guitar accompaniment, Jill Rogov performed traditional Jewish music from various corners of the world, singing in Hebrew, Ladino, Yiddish, Aramaic, Kurdish and Arabic.

The fourth annual *Cinegogue* ('cinema' + 'synagogue') programme took place on 15 and 16 October 2012. This is an ongoing series prepared by M. Sidenberg, the JMP's visual arts curator, which features a screening of classic silent films with contemporary live music in the unique space of the Spanish Synagogue. The film shown this year was *East and West*, a 1923 Austrian production made by the American director Sidney M. Goldin. It was restored and digitized by the National Center for Jewish Film at Brandeis University (Waltham, MA, USA) with which the JMP regularly collaborates as part of the *Cinegogue* project. A new score for the film was commissioned by the Berg Orchestra under its artistic director and conductor Peter Vrábel and was written by the Czech composer Jan Dušek.



The JMP also contributed to the seventh annual *Light of Understanding* concert, which was held on 7 November in collaboration with the Prague-based Conservative Jewish congregation and the Holy Spirit Church. Other events included a concert organized by the Prix Irene Committee (1 December).

The Spanish Synagogue was also the venue for regular concerts organized by the BM Art and MF Reklama agencies.

The guitarist Lubomír Brabec completed the twelfth series of concerts for season-ticket holders (*Lubomír Brabec Presents Prague Musical Evenings in the Spanish Synagogue*).

The Pueri Gaudentes Choir performed in concert with the Israeli choir Moran on 12 April.

On 13 May, The Flying Rabbi Band performed Klezmer melodies in a concert entitled *Franz Kafka Prague Klezmer Ensemble*.

In total, 222 concerts were held at the Spanish Synagogue in 2012.

c) The Polish Season at the Jewish Museum in Prague

The cultural highlight of the year at the JMP was the Polish Season, which followed on from the previous year's successful Israeli Season. The aim was to showcase the history of what was once Europe's largest Jewish community and to draw attention to contemporary Jewish culture while showing how it is received in the wider society. The Polish Season was organized in association with the Polish Institute in Prague and supported by the Czech-Polish Forum. It included Q&As on various historical and social topics with leading experts from Poland and the Czech Republic, concerts by top Polish bands inspired by the Jewish musical tradition, and screenings of the most recent works of Polish cinematography that focus on 20th-century Polish-Jewish relations.

The season was launched on 24 April with a concert in the Spanish Synagogue by the band Cukunft, led by guitarist Raphael Rogiński, which draws on elements of traditional klezmer, jazz and rock. A day later, the Department for Education and Culture hosted a presentation of the new Warsaw-based Museum of the History of Polish Jews and a meeting with its programme director, Albert Stankowski. At the end of the meeting, there was an internet presentation of the *Virtual Shtetl* project which charts the history and fate of Jewish communities in Poland. The spring portion of the series was completed

Cukunft brings a dynamic modern sound to traditional music

on 2 May with a screening of *Po-lin. Slivers of Memory*, a unique feature-length documentary on the vanished world of Galician shtetls.



On 18 July, as part of the summer portion of the Polish Season, the Spanish Synagogue hosted a concert by *Shofar*, a band that combines jazz improvisation and religious Hassidic music from the area of what is now Ukraine and Moldavia.

The autumn portion of the series was launched on 19 September with a screening of the 1992 documentary *Birthplace (Miejsce Urodzenia)*, based on Henryk Grynberg's book *Heritage*. Directed by Paweł Łoziński, this documentary film has received many awards but has also provoked a great deal of controversy. The screening was followed by a discussion with the Israeli architect, academic and honorary consul of the Polish Republic in Jerusalem, Zeev Baran, and with the historian and journalist Piotr Zychowicz, who is the executive editor of the new monthly *Uważam Rze – Historia*, which focuses on the history of Polish-Jewish relations



Piotr Paziński © P. Paziński

On 24 October there was a meeting with the novelist and essayist Piotr Paziński, the author of the novel *Pensjonat* (Boarding House), who spoke about contemporary Jewish culture in Poland and showcased the Jewish cultural magazine *Midrasz*.

The star of the final concert in the Polish Season was André Ochodlo, a German-born Polish musician who is one of the world's most outstanding vocalists in Yiddish. He appeared at the Spanish Synagogue on 6 November with the Odem Trio in a concert programme revolving around his latest project

André Ochodlo © K. Maleszka



Layla that has contemporary Polish composers writing music inspired by texts from leading Yiddish poets.

The Polish Season came to a close on 14 November with the Czech premiere of director Agnieszka Holland's most recent film *In Darkness*. The screening was at the Spanish Synagogue and was attended by the director. Based on true events that took place in Nazi-occupied Lvov (formerly in Poland, now in Ukraine), the film has an Academy Award nomination for best foreign-language film and has won a number of prestigious awards in Poland and internationally.

From the film *In Darkness*



d) Commemoration of the deportations of 1941

The JMP paid great attention to the commemoration of the 71st anniversary of the transports of Jews from Bohemia and Moravia to the ghettos in Lodz and Terezín. On 14 October a 25 November it provided free access to the Pinkas Synagogue where Shoah History Department staff were available throughout the day to help visitors around the memorial and in their search for information about people mentioned in the Terezín memorial books and in the database of victims. The aim was to provide public access to the memorial as an important place of memory. Guided tours were also provided with focus on the origin, history and function of the memorial in the context of remembering the Holocaust.

One of the guided tours at Pinkas Synagogue





12

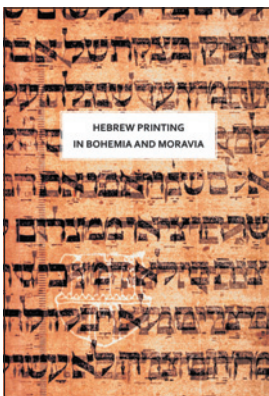
Publications

The JMP published five major publications in 2012.

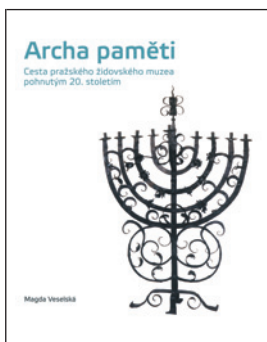
A catalogue was published in conjunction with the exhibition *Jewish Magic in the Art of Mark Podwal*. Written by the curator A. Pařík and with an introductory text by Elisheva Carlebach (professor of Jewish history and culture at Columbia University), the book includes illustrations of almost all of the 80 works on display



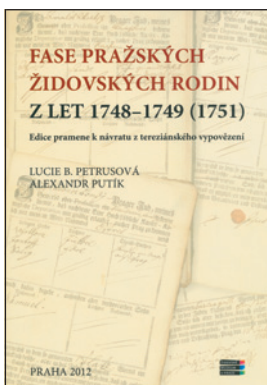
A selective catalogue on the collection of ritual silver objects was published as a follow-up to the series of catalogues on the JMP's collections. Entitled *Silver Judaica from the Collection of the Jewish Museum in Prague*, it contains information on about a tenth of this part of the museum's holdings. The text, which is written by the JMP's metal curator Jaroslav Kuntoš, deals with the structure and time frame of the collection, and with the localities where the objects were made. It ascertains the proportion of items of local and foreign provenance and explores their connections and the routes through which they came to be in this country. With regard to objects of local origin, it describes the special features of the main types and shows how they differ in various regions. It traces groups of Christian master silversmiths who worked in various localities for Jewish clients and shows the proportion of ritual objects in the collection that were made by them. It focuses on the special status of Jewish producers, the differences in their products in various regions, and their share in the total number of ritual objects in the collection; it also seeks to clarify the reasons for the relatively small amount of items that came from their workshops. In conclusion, it draws attention to interventions by the Austrian state at the beginning of the nineteenth century – which had a strong influence on the structure and number of items that have been preserved to the present day – and explains how the individual Jewish communities dealt with this situation. The catalogue section is arranged according to the individual types of objects and comprises a total of 475 items with all the relevant information. There is also an index of places and names.



In collaboration with the Academia publishing house, the JMP published a monograph in Czech and English for the exhibition *"You won't need to see a rabbi." 500 Years of Hebrew Printing in Bohemia and Moravia*. Edited by the JMP's curator of manuscripts and rare printed books, Olga Sixtová, with essays by various specialists from academic institutions in the Czech Republic and abroad, this work provides the first ever detailed look at various aspects of this topic which it places in a wider context. Looking at Hebrew printing from a broader cultural and historical angle, Pavel Sládek's study takes us into a world in which this phenomenon was still something new and shows how it was regarded, appraised and utilized by contemporaries. There are two studies by the editor of the book, Olga Sixtová: the first provides an overview of Prague Hebrew printing in 1512-1672, the second deals with the earliest period in the development of the typography and decoration of Prague Hebraica, and also includes a detailed bibliography of about the first fifty years (1512-1569). Facilitated by the bringing together of a unique collection of pictorial materials, Petr Voit's original study casts new light on the extent of the first Jewish printers' association with their Christian colleagues and the aesthetic trends of the day. The essays by Andrea Jelínková and Lenka Veselá focus on Jewish printing in Prostějov and Christian Hebrew typography in Bohemia. Shlomo Z. Berger examines the printing of Yiddish books in Prague through a comparison with that other major centre of Jewish printing, Amsterdam. Alexandr Putík tackles censorship and denunciation affairs, examining previously unpublished archive materials. Focusing on Moses Israel Landau – the leading Jewish intellectual of Prague – Iveta Cermanová's essay explores the last creative period of Hebrew printing in the Bohemian lands. The book is amply illustrated with more than 200 photographs of books from dozens of collections from around the world.



At the end of 2012, the JMP, together with the Academia publishing house, published the book *Ark of Memory. The Jewish Museum in Prague's Journey Through the Turbulent Twentieth Century*. Written by the head of collections management Magda Veselská, this is the very first monograph on the history of the JMP. The chronological story of the museum begins with the modest activities of the pre-war museum association which put together a unique and representative collection. Following on from this is a description of the heroic efforts of the Prague Jewish Community staff who managed to safe keep the confiscated property of Protectorate Jewish communities during the war – under the cover name “museum”. The final passage of this chapter provides a detailed analysis of the oft repeated “museum of an extinct race” hypothesis, providing new and surprising insights. Of vital importance in the brief yet chaotic period immediately after the war – which is covered in chapter three – were the prudent approach and determination of the museum staff, particularly Hana Volavková, who managed to preserve the collection in its entirety. The history of the Jewish museum under the unfavourable circumstances of the anti-Semitic Communist regime – which is dealt with in the fourth and final chapter – was characterized by its constant struggle to defend its own existence. The epilogue by the director Leo Pavlát characterizes the work of the JMP since its return to the original owners in October 1994. The text is based mainly on extant archival material, much of which has not previously been systematically examined, and provides a number of completely new insights about this particular chapter in the Jewish history of the Czech lands.



The next book published by the JMP in 2012 was *Sworn Declarations of Prague Jewish Families, 1748–1749 (1751)*, a unique source on the history of Prague Jews, which is kept in the JMP's Archives. This edition was prepared by Lucie B. Petrusová in co-operation with Alexandr Putík. Sworn declarations (*Fassionen*) were made by the heads of Jewish families after returning to Prague following the repeal of their expulsion order by Maria Theresa (1745-1748). These declarations, of which there are 1,473 at the JMP, were put together for the registration requirements of the Jewish self-government and were, in fact, a substitute for the official comprehensive list of Prague Jews. The publication supplements the series of Jewish population lists produced by the National Archives in Prague



The JMP's annual journal *Judaica Bohemiae* (XLVII) came out as usual in 2012. Originally published twice a year, it became an annual journal in 1994 and has come out biannually since 2009. Issue 47 (2012), Vol. 1 includes a study by Marie Malivánková Wasková on the development and gradual demise of the medieval Jewish community in Pilsen; a paper by Peter Kónya on the history of the Jewish community in Prešov; an article by Adam Dobeš on the historical background to the little known anti-Jewish incidents in the southern Bohemian towns of Jindřichův Hradec (Neuhaus) and Nová Bystřice (Neubistritz) that occurred in 1859; and a study by Andrea Jelínková on the war-time and post-war fate of the Terezín books. Issue 47 (2012), Vol. 2 includes a study by Marie Buňatová on commercial relations between the Jews of Prague and Krakow in the period before the Battle of White Mountain; a paper by Ivo Cerman on the almost forgotten work *Jüdischer Blut-Eckel* (1753) by Alois von Sonnenfels which was written in defence of Jews for the purpose of disproving allegations that they used Christian blood; and a detailed analysis by Alexandr Putík on a new source relating to the trial of Yom-Tov Lipmann Heller from 1629-1630. In 2008, *Judaica Bohemiae* was included in the List of Peer-reviewed Journals without Impact Factor in the Czech Republic, as well as in the Web of Science Database and the Arts and Humanities Citation Index. In 2009 the journal was also included in Elsevier's prestigious citation and abstract database, Scopus. The journal regularly features papers from contributors abroad, as well as from the Czech Republic.

As usual, information leaflets and fliers were published for all the exhibitions held at the Robert Guttmann Gallery. Previously published materials, in particular guidebooks, workbooks and fliers, were supplemented where required.



13

Co-operation with institutions

a) Specialist co-operation and loans

As in previous years, the JMP collaborated with a large number of political, administrative, cultural, academic and educational institutions in the Czech Republic and abroad in 2012. In various areas of its activity, it worked with 190 local and 121 foreign entities.

A large number of objects from the JMP's collections were loaned to organizations in the Czech Republic, primarily to individual Jewish communities for liturgical purposes. As usual, the main recipients of loaned objects were the Jewish communities in Prague and Brno, but objects were also provided on loan to Jewish communities in Pilsen, Karlovy Vary, Děčín, Ostrava, Teplice, Liberec and Olomouc.

Other objects on loan were provided to museums and synagogues, documenting the life of local Jewish communities. The JMP also loaned objects to exhibitions held by other organizations in the Czech Republic – specifically for *The Suffering and Struggle: the Jews of Brno in the Fateful Moments of the 20th Century* (Moravian Museum in Brno) and *Monarchy. Life of Children under Emperor Franz Joseph I.* (National Museum in Prague). Among the most interesting projects in the Czech Republic was a loan of for the synagogue in Kolín; this collection of objects will be loaned with replacements for each exhibition season in the next decade.

Significant loans made abroad included 19 original textiles for the European Patchwork Meeting, which was held in Sainte Marie aux Mines, France. As in previous years, loans of original children's drawings from Terezín were made to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington and co-operation continued with the Czech Memorial Scrolls Trust in London and with the Jewish Museum in Berlin. Also of significance was the loan of two Max Ernst canvases for a retrospective exhibition at the Albertina in Vienna.

From the Jewish Museum in Prague exhibition at the 18th European Patchwork Meeting



The JMP issued dozens of permissions to use JMP materials for books, magazines, publicity and study purposes, as well as permissions for taking photos and filming in JMP sites in 2012.

Also of importance was the JMP's co-operation with institutions and NGOs in the fields of education and culture, which are mentioned separately in the relevant sections of this report.

As part of its collaboration with schools, the JMP provided work experience in its restoration workshops for two students from the Higher School of Graphic Art (VOŠG) and the Secondary School of Applied Arts (SPŠG) in Prague. Staff at the Collections Department provided expert opinions on final and bachelor dissertations by students of the School of Museum Propedeutics at the Association of Museums and Galleries in the Czech Republic. Specialist JMP staff provided information and consultations for other institutions and specialists of various disciplines, as well as for the renovation of heritage sites and the preparation of exhibitions across the Czech Republic.

As in previous years, the JMP director Leo Pavlát provided expert opinions for textbooks applying for an endorsement from the Czech Ministry of Education and commented on issues relating to anti-Semitism for the media and for the internal requirements of the Czech Federation of Jewish Communities.

b) Involvement in other projects

In 2012, the JMP successfully took part in several festivals and events held by other institutions, including *Icy Prague* (3-5 February), European Heritage Days (12 September) and *UNESCO Open Day* (2 December) and – along with 38 other museums, galleries and cultural institutions – the 9th *Prague Museum Night* (9 June). For the latter event, the JMP provided free access to the Maisel and Spanish synagogues; in less than three hours, the Maisel – which also hosted a children's programme – received 1,333 visitors, the Spanish Synagogue as many as 1,765.

Our guides were on hand for visitors during Prague's Museum Night



The JMP also focused its attention, as usual, on the public commemoration of the Shoah. A special concert was held at the Spanish Synagogue to mark the International Holocaust Remembrance Day. In co-operation with the Terezín Initiative, a ceremony commemorating the extermination of the Terezín family camp in Auschwitz-Birkenau was held on 8 March.

Together with the Terezín Initiative Institute and the Foundation for Holocaust Victims, the JMP was once again involved as a partner in the annual reading of the names of Shoah victims at Náměstí Míru

(Peace Square) in Prague on 18 April – in commemoration of Yom Ha-Shoah, which marks the anniversary of the beginning of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising (19 April – 16 May 1943).



Oded Ezer talking about the *New American Haggadah*

On 20 March the JMP, in association with the Embassy of the United States and the Embassy of the State of Israel, put together a special programme for the whole family: *Haggadah – An Open-Ended Story*. In interactive workshops throughout the day, children had an opportunity to find out about the history of the Jewish calendar and the symbolism of the Hebrew alphabet. Visitors could also browse the JMP's digitized collection of Haggadot and talk to the curators of the exhibition *And you shall tell your son...*, which was on view at its Robert Guttmann Gallery in 2011. The project also included thematic lectures by Marc Michael Epstein (Professor of Jewish studies at Vassar College in Poughkeepsie, USA, and the author of an extensive monograph on the most beautiful medieval Haggadot) and one of the most acclaimed Israeli typographers Oded Ezer, who introduced his latest book, the *New American Haggadah*.

Together with the DOX Centre for Contemporary Art, the JMP provided support for the project *Artwall:Link*, which was organized by the c2c association of curators and critics and held between April and May under the auspices of the Mayor of Prague Bohuslav Svoboda. Work by 11 young Czech and foreign artists was displayed on available advertising spaces and in an online gallery – at first glance concealed – accessible from QR codes. The JMP's contribution involved providing photographs from 1942–1944 for Daniela Deutelbaum's presentation, which sought to create unsettling parallels between contemporary items of everyday use and items that were confiscated from Jews during the Second World War.

On 24 September, the JMP became involved in an event at the Goethe Institute at which Ilse Weber's letters and poems were read out. This event was held in conjunction with the publication of a Czech translation of Ulrike Migdal's book *Wann wohl das Leid ein Ende hat: Briefe und Gedichte aus Theresienstadt* [Will the Suffering Ever End? Letters and Poems from Terezín].

The *Artwall: Link* project involved placing 250 posters in trams and 10 City-Light posters at public transport stops





14

Maintenance and reconstruction

The JMP's Technical Operations Department oversaw the management of the 15 properties that it rents from the Prague Jewish Community and its joint-stock company Matana for its activities, as well as its library depository which is based in a rented property in Prague 4. The JMP carried out repairs and reconstruction work on its buildings and technical facilities and saw to the cleaning and maintenance of the sites, the maintenance and development of the integrated security system, the maintenance of greenery in the Jewish cemeteries and outside the Maisel Synagogue, undertook checks on compliance with obligations relating to fire protection and security regulations and to safety and health at work, and arranged for the subletting of space in the synagogues and retail areas. The Technical Operations Department was also involved in outsourcing the JMP's IT facilities.

The department's main work in 2012 included: renovation of the Klausen Synagogue roof, minor roof and ledge repairs at the Maisel Synagogue, reconstruction of the water and sewage mains and the cooling system in the Maisel Synagogue depository, improvements to the air-conditioning equipment in the Maisel Synagogue depository, insulation and installation of a new floor above the Maisel Synagogue depository, reconstruction of the stained-glass windows, metal work and locks in the synagogue in Golčův Jeníkov, replacement of the cooling units in the paper restoration workshop, technical adjustments to the heating system in the Spanish Synagogue, ceiling plaster repairs in the Ceremonial Hall (including restoration of the attic ceilings and floors) repairs to the plasterboard in the attic of the JMP office building (including renovation of the fire retardant paint on the wooden structures) and technical inspection of the synagogue in Golčův Jeníkov by a structural engineer. In addition, a security review was carried out on the synagogue in Golčův Jeníkov and plans were subsequently drawn up for the installation of CCTV cameras there, brick repairs were carried out to the caretaker's building at the cemetery in Fibichova Street, and cleaning and restoration repairs were made on the Pinkas Synagogue walls bearing the names of Shoah victims. In co-operation with ChemEko, a business ecology system was introduced, including related strategic and operational adjustments to the JMP's office building.

The mikveh at Pinkas Synagogue after overhaul



After prior discussions with the relevant authorities, thirteen dangerous trees in the Old Jewish Cemetery were cut down as part of the maintenance and care of greenery.

In the IT area, unsuitable computer equipment was replaced, the necessary software licences were secured, the JMP began to use Office 365 for educational institutions providing access to email and the complete functionality of Microsoft Exchange.

A substantial portion of the Technical Operations Department's activities in 2012 involved work relating to the JMP's transformation project.

The JMP issued a tender for the design and implementation of the building alterations and the new exhibition in the Maisel Synagogue. A contract was subsequently concluded with the winning architect H. Fetterl. The necessary surveys and planning permit and implementation documents were prepared. The architect L. Kovář prepared the design documents for the sanitary facilities, as well as obtaining the relevant building permit.

A tender was also issued for the design of the JMP's Reservation and Information Centre in Maiselova Street. A contract was subsequently concluded with the winning architect J. Tejkl, the necessary surveys, planning permit and implementation documents were prepared, and several small-scale tenders for the implementation of the sub-contracted part of the works.

Architect R. Sidej prepared an architectural design proposal for alterations to the Old Jewish Cemetery, to be completed over several phases. Planning permit and implementation documents were prepared in the first phase, which focused on dealing with the critical state of portions of the visitor's trail

Architect J. Matula prepared an architectural study for a cinema hall in the winter prayer room of the Spanish Synagogue.

Architect L. Kovář prepared an alternative architectural study for ground-floor alterations in the Klausen Synagogue in connection with the planned building of a central shop at the JMP.

The Technical Operations Department undertook the required reviews and checks of the JMP's technical and electrical facilities, elevators, wheelchair ramps, and security and fire protection systems.

On the basis of a cost development analysis and after negotiating more favourable conditions for the supply of gas to properties overseen by the JMP, a gas supply agreement was concluded with the Pragoplyn gas company for 2013–14.

In the areas of fire protection and health & safety at work, the necessary documentation was updated and the work organization systems were updated with a view to meeting current regulations. At the beginning of the year, the Fire Rescue Service in Prague undertook a complete fire safety compliance check in the Smíchov Synagogue; no faults were found that could result in lower fire safety in this property.



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Investments

Investment projects in 2012 included the reconstruction of the roof over the Pinkas Synagogue Mikveh together with the ceiling insulation and installation of a new floor in the synagogue attic (Báča, Polička, s.r.o. building firm). On the basis of plans drawn up by the engineer P. Plch, the Sieza company installed a new system for the transmission of emergency messages between the JMP sites and a back-up for the transmission of emergency messages to the JMP office building. The Trend-IT company connected specific JMP sites with a data circuit while ensuring internet connectivity, installed new disk drives (2x25 TB) for the server in the JMP office building (including back-up) and installed a new virtualization server in the JMP office building.



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Grants and donations

In 2012, the JMP filed 30 grant applications, of which 20 were accepted and ten were rejected. Z tohoto počtu bylo 20 žádostí vyřízeno kladně a 10 bylo zamítnuto.

Nine of the applications for grant support that were filed in 2011 were also dealt with in 2012; five of these were accepted and four were rejected.

In 2012, the JMP was awarded grant support totalling CZK 1,171,000, GBP 13,000 and EUR 12,000. Some of the projects approved in 2012 grant programmes will begin in 2013 while others are spread over several years. In total, CZK 8,964,449 in grant support was added to the JMP's bank account in 2012. The Embassy of the State of Israel provided the JMP with a special donation of CZK 9,067.

The following institutions provided considerable support for JMP projects carried out in 2012:

- The Czech Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports (for *Jews, History, Culture* – seminars for teachers);
- The Czech Ministry of Culture (for the publication *Hebrew Printing in Bohemia and Moravia*, for the exhibition “*You won't need to see a rabbi. 500 Years of Hebrew Printing in Bohemia and Moravia*”, and for the project *Providing access to endangered periodicals and providing library services in the JMP Library by means of digital technology*);
- The City of Prague (for the *Cinegogue* project and the exhibition “*You won't need to see a rabbi. 500 Years of Hebrew Printing in Bohemia and Moravia*”);
- Foundation for Holocaust Victims (NFOH) (for the restoration of 19 tombs in the Old Jewish Cemetery and for the projects *Education about Judaism for Children and Adults* and *Jewish Memory in the Twentieth Century*).

The JMP is also undertaking long-term projects with the support of the Czech Ministry of Education's operational programme Education for Competitiveness (for the Creation of Educational Programmes Relating to the History of the Jews in the Twentieth Century) and the Grant Agency of the Czech Republic (for *Building a State without Antisemitism?*, *Liquidation of Jewish Organizations in the Czech Border Area Annexed by Nazi Germany in October 1938* – in co-operation with the Museum of North Bohemia, Liberec). A training project for the JMP's collections staff as part of the operational programme Prague – Adaptability was launched in 2012.

With regard to contributions from abroad, the JMP received support from the Dutch Jewish Humanitarian Fund (ongoing support for JMP projects from 2010 onwards), the Rosa Luxemburg Foundation in Poland and the Rothschild Foundation Europe. The Rothschild Foundation Europe provided financial support for the publication *Silver Judaica from the Collection of the Jewish Museum in Prague* (research from 2009), for the journal *Judaica Bohemiae* and for three projects undertaken by the JMP's specialist workplaces. The JMP is also one of the partners of the *European Holocaust Research Infrastructure* project, for the implementation of which it received funds amounting to CZK 1,111,208 in 2011.

As a partner of the ICEJ (International Christian Embassy Jerusalem), the JMP received CZK 27,862 for its work in connection with the *Centre for Education and Dialogue* grant project.

Individual donors in 2012 contributed, among other things, to the implementation of the exhibition *“You won’t need to see a rabbi.” 500 Years of Hebrew Printing in Bohemia and Moravia* and to the repair of tombstones in the Old Jewish Cemetery.



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Finances

In 2012, the JMP received 2,418 fewer visitors than in the previous year, and this was reflected in lower revenues from ticket sales, which were down by CZK 828,600. Total revenues for 2012, however, were up by CZK 840,600 (an increase of 0.5% on last year). This increase was mainly due to higher income from rental property, the sale of goods, other revenues and higher amounts of grants received. The favourable situation with regard to revenues was accompanied by a positive development in the area of cost reduction, as the JMP managed to lower costs by CZK 3,205,800 (down 2.17% on last year). This result was achieved even though implementation work was starting on the JMP's transformation project.

A considerable amount of the costs (CZK 8,945,000) – particularly for wages, services, repairs, travelling expenses and material – were covered by grants.

Some costs were higher than originally planned for, but this was due to an increase in the amounts covered by grants. After deducting the costs covered by grants, however, no costs exceeded the budgeted amounts.

Savings were made mainly on the cost of promotion (down CZK 1,119,000 – a 60.67% reduction), electricity, water and gas (down CZK 806,000 – a 17.16% reduction), travelling expenses (down CZK 509,500 – a 61.45% reduction) and representation (down CZK 108,700 – a 71.98% reduction). In addition, thanks mainly to the grants awarded for specific jobs, wage costs were reduced by CZK 3,223,100 (down 7.33%) and other costs were down by CZK 1,162,000 (a 59% reduction). Social security and health insurance costs were also reduced – by CZK 1,701,500 (down 10.88%)

The JMP's financial results for 2012 were positive with gross profit of CZK 23,524,250.18 and net profit of CZK 19,346,700.18 (after paying CZK 4,177,550 in tax). Net profit was down by CZK 3,775,657.82 year-on-year.

Unlike in previous years, the Board of Trustees decided not to distribute net profit at the time of receipt of the annual report

At Prague, 28 May 2013

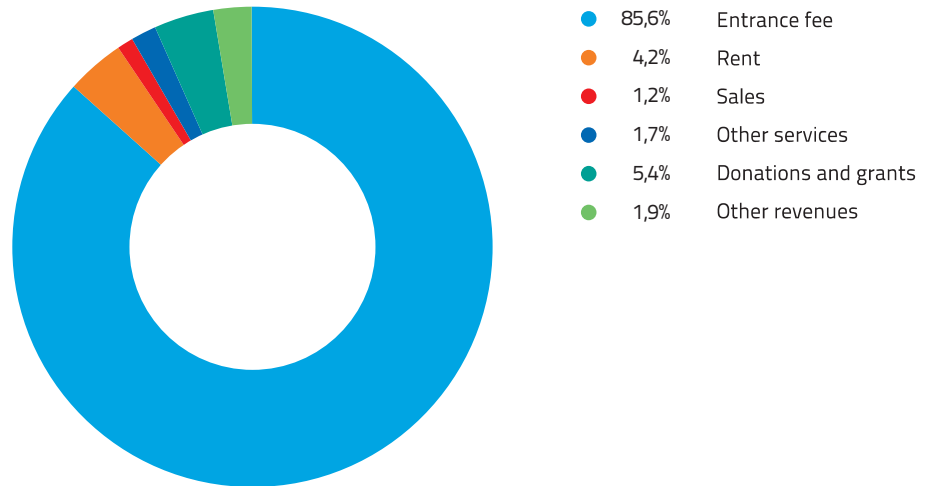
Leo Pavlát
Director of the Jewish Museum in Prague



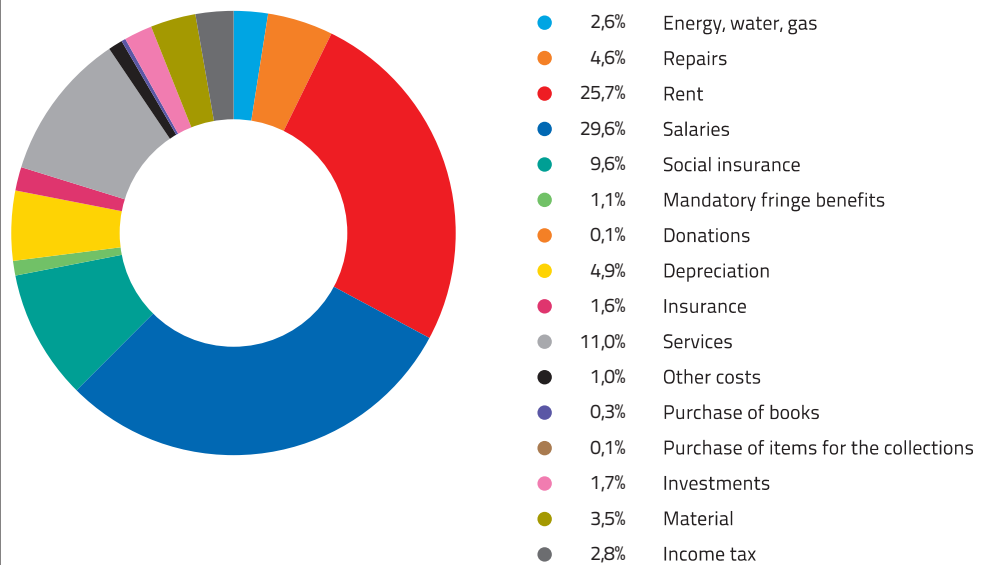
18

Appendix 1 – 2012 budget implementation

The Jewish Museum in Prague revenue sources (2011)



Expenses of The Jewish Museum in Prague (2011)





Appendix 2 – Profit and loss statement ('000 CZK)

	As of 31 December 2011	As of 31 December 2012
REVENUES	167 192	168 032
Sales of goods and services	11 116	11 933
Entrance fees	144 730	143 901
Subsidies	7 207	9 003
Recognition of provisions	0	0
Other revenues	4 139	3 195
OPERATING COSTS	138 642	144 508
Expenditures on realized sales	72 932	73 074
Personnel costs	56 048	60 127
Depreciation	7 302	7 495
Other operating costs and provisions	2 360	3 812
INCOME TAX	5 427	4 178
RESULT	23 123	19 346



Appendix 3 – Balance sheet ('000 CZK)

	As of 31 December 2011	As of 31 December 2012
PERMANENT ASSETS	103 825	101 943
Intangible fixed assets	675	711
Tangible fixed assets	103 150	101 232
Financial investments	0	0
CURRENT ASSETS	204 555	211 737
Inventories	7 980	7 659
Receivables	8 175	7 118
Financial assets	187 664	195 223
OTHER ASSETS	736	1 737
TOTAL ASSETS	308 380	313 680
OWN SOURCES	291 917	297 530
Funds	268 795	278 184
Financial results in current accounting period	23 122	19 346
EXTERNAL RESOURCES	16 463	16 150
Short-term commitments	13 425	13 265
Provisions	0	0
OTHER LIABILITIES	3 038	2 885
TOTAL LIABILITIES	308 380	313 680



Appendix 4 – Staff structure

In accordance with its organisation manual, the JMP comprised eight departments in 2012. As of the end of 2012, it had 140 employees, including nine on maternity leave and five whose salaries are fully covered by grants. The average number of employees employed by the JMP in 2012 was 144 and the number of full time equivalent employees was 129,8.

Director	1
Research and specialist staff, including restoration staff	53
Education and culture staff	12
Staff in charge of the maintenance, repairs, refurbishment and administration of buildings and cemeteries	5
Publicity and exhibition staff	4
Reservation Centre staff	3
Administrative staff	4
Economic staff, including exhibition ticket sellers	13
Security staff and custodians	49

Average monthly salary for JMP staff in 2012: CZK 23.959



Appendix 5 – Building repairs and reconstruction ('000 CZK)

JMP site	1995–2012
Spanish Synagogue	34 126
Office Building, Jáchymova St., Prague 1	3 215
Maisel Synagogue	18 962
Pinkas Synagogue	14 780
Ceremonial Hall	2 916
Klausen Synagogue	9 613
Textile Depository, Golčův Jeníkov	4 467
New Headquarters Office Building, U Staré školy, Prague 1	97 046
Department for Education and Culture, Maiselova St., Prague 1	661
Smíchov Synagogue	72 921
Brandýs Synagogue	855
Book Depository, Hlavní St., Prague 4	210
Jewish Cemetery, Fibichova St., Prague 3	11 908
Old Jewish Cemetery	9 251
Total	280 931



Jewish Museum in Prague

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