



ŽIDOVSKÉ MUZEUM V PRAZE המוזיאון היהודי בפראג

Newsletter

3 2018

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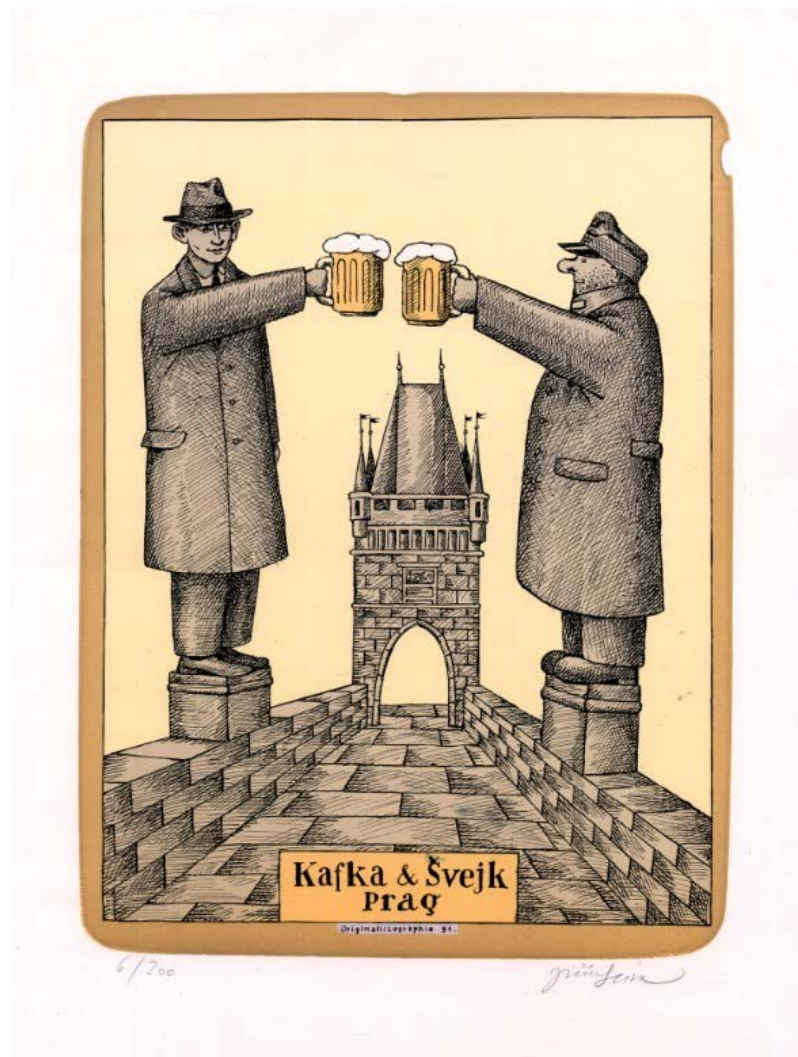
Thank you for your attention,

Jewish Museum in Prague

TEMPORARY EXHIBITION

“My Cup of Kafka... ” Drawings, Prints and Paintings by Jiří Slíva

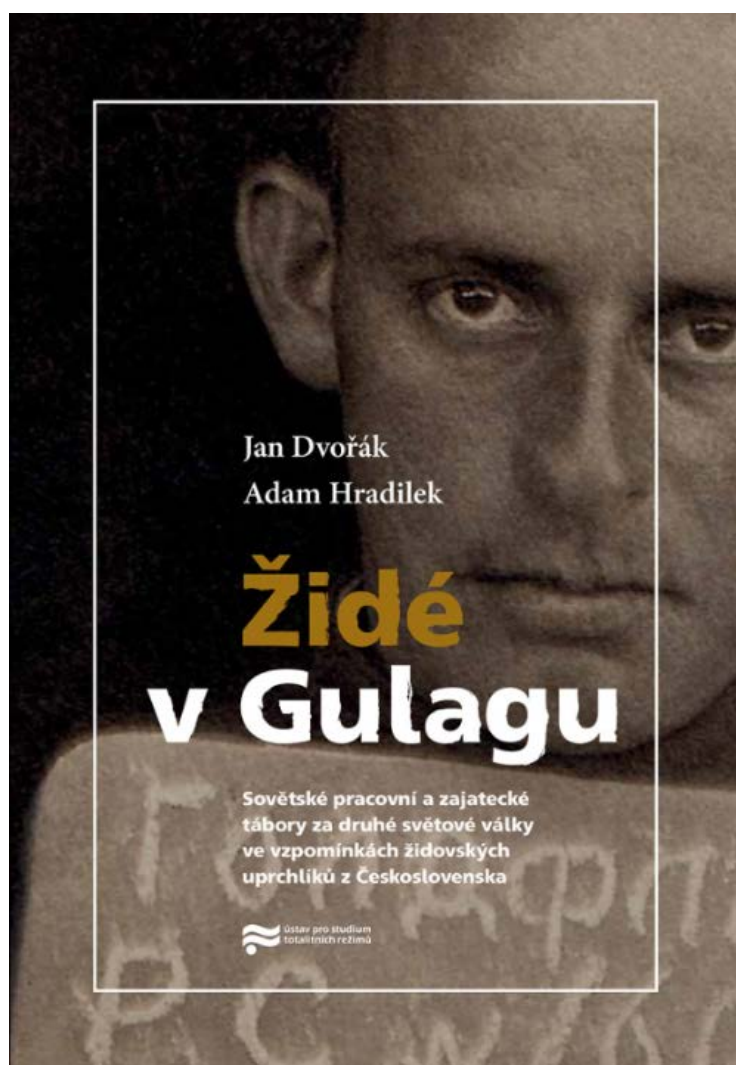
An exhibition of works by the graphic artist and illustrator Jiří Slíva is showing at the Jewish Museum's Robert Guttmann Gallery. It features a number of drawings, colour lithographs, etchings, pastels and oil paintings on the artist's favourite themes – Franz Kafka, Sigmund Freud, the Golem, Jewish customs/symbols, and biblical motifs – as well as other material inspired by the works of Jewish writers. Jiří Slíva has been preoccupied with Jewish humour and illustrating the works of Franz Kafka for many years. In December 2017, the Franz Kafka Publishing House published *My Cup of Kafka*, a book featuring Slíva's main artworks inspired by the great writer. A selection of these works is on display at the exhibition. Also on view is a range of Slíva's illustrations from books by the Czech-Israeli writer Ruth Bondy, which are dedicated to the language, names and special idioms of Czech Jews. Slíva's exhibited work also includes depictions of café society and scenes from everyday life, which are marked by absurd humour and a love of jazz, wine and dancing. The exhibition runs throughout 2018. A total of 38 086 people visited the exhibition since its opening in February.



A SELECTION OF CULTURAL EVENTS AND LECTURES IN PRAGUE

The Jewish Museum's Department for Education and Culture has expanded its current range of seminars for teachers. One-day additional seminars have been held this year in the department's Prague and Brno offices. The Brno seminar was held on 30 August and dealt with the topic of the Jewish minority in Czechoslovakia between 1945 and 1989. The Prague seminar was held on 14 September and was titled "Czechoslovakia and Israel". The two seminars were attended by about fifty teachers from throughout the Czech Republic.

On 20 September, the Maisel Synagogue hosted a presentation of the book *Židé v gulagu. Sovětské pracovní a zajatecké tábory za druhé světové války ve vzpomínkách židovských uprchlíků z Československa* / [Jews in the Gulag: Soviet Labour and Prison Camps during the Second World War as Remembered by Jewish Refugees from Czechoslovakia], which was published with the support of the Foundation for Holocaust Victims (NFOH). The two authors of the book – Adam Hradilek and Jan Dvořák from the Institute for the Study of Totalitarian Regimes – talked about a topic that is not widely addressed in the Czech Republic, namely the Soviets' widespread persecution of Czechoslovak citizens during the Second World War. The event was attended by about sixty people and can be seen on the website of the Institute for the Study of Totalitarian Regimes.



On 26 September, an exhibition of artworks by elementary and secondary school pupils was launched in the Auditorium of the Department for Education and

Culture. In the first quarter of 2018, the school pupils were involved in a project for International Holocaust Remembrance Day. As part of this project, they had the opportunity to meet with Shoah survivors, to visit the Pinkas synagogue, and to find out about the cultural life of the Terezín ghetto. On the basis of this experience they created 30 absorbing artworks, which were put on display to great acclaim at the opening show. Students of *Gymnázium Přírodní škola* (Nature School) performed music at this event. Titled “I Know What Happened: A Tribute to Dagmar Lieblová”, the event was dedicated to the memory of Dagmar Lieblová (1929-2018), the former long-serving chairperson of the Terezín Initiative. At the end of the evening, the hall resounded to the strains of the Terezín Anthem, which was sung by the students and headmaster of the Nature School, František Tichý, along with all the visitors and survivors who were present. We would like to thank not only all of the schools involved in this project, but also all of the Shoah survivors who came to the event, namely: Asaf Auerbach, Růženka Blechová, Toman Brod, Jana Dubová, Doris Grozdanovičová, Bohunka Havránková, Helga Hošková-Weissová, Eva Keulemansová-Smolková, Dita Krausová, Evelína Merová, and Míša Vidláková.



**BRNO DEPARTMENT FOR EDUCATION
AND CULTURE**

In the last week of the summer holidays we set about preparing a seminar for teachers in Brno. This seminar took place on 30 August and met with unprecedented interest among those taking part. The topic focused on the the post-war existence of the Jewish minority in Czechoslovakia. The event included a workshop on the return of Shoah survivors and emigrants to Czechoslovak society, a lecture by Eva Taterová (Department of Territorial Studies at Mendel University, Brno) titled “Czechoslovak Diplomacy and Israel, 1948-1967”, and a lecture by Martin Šmok on the period of normalization in Czechoslovakia. We are very grateful for the opportunity we had to hold the last part of the seminar in the enchanting rooms of Villa Stiassni.



Villa Stiassni

On 22 September, the Brno office of the Jewish Museum’s Department for Education and Culture was invited to take part in a neighbourhood festival with its children’s programme. The festival was organized by the social and environmental NGO *Nesehnutí* with the aim of publicly presenting the activities of the various organizations that are located on the street *třída Kapitána Jaroše*. Thanks to this event, we now know where to go for the best coffee in the area and we also know who plays and records great jazz music just a stone’s throw from our office. We also got to know a great many of our affable and talented

“neighbours”. We look forward to meeting them at one of our evening events in October.



During September and October, our Brno office is the venue for a touring exhibition about Anne Frank, her family and her famous diary. The exhibition was kindly provided to us on loan by the Terezín Initiative Institute, which has also trained a group of local students to show visitors around the exhibition. For school groups, which are the main target group of the exhibition, we have also prepared a workshop on the topic of the war-time diaries kept by Czech authors, such as Ondřej Sekora, Egon Redlich and Ota Wolf.



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