

Consulate General of the Czech Republic in Los Angeles

The Consulate General of the Czech Republic in Los Angeles and UCLA Film & Television Archive present the <u>Czech That Film</u> festival, April 5-13, 2019, opening at the <u>Billy Wilder Theater at the Hammer Museum in Westwood</u>

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LOS ANGELES, CA (Mar. 22, 2019) – UCLA Film & Television Archive and the Consulate General of the Czech Republic in Los Angeles are delighted to announce the 8th edition of the touring *Czech That Film* festival (CTF), April 5-13, 2019, opening at the Billy Wilder Theater at the Hammer Museum in Westwood.

Throughout its eight years, the *Czech That Film* festival has become a tradition on Los Angeles' cultural calendar. This year, the Czech Republic commemorates 30 years since the Velvet Revolution in 1989, which restored democracy in the country. In order to celebrate this anniversary, *Czech That Film* includes a prominent biopic about Jan Palach (screening April 6, 7:30 p.m.), who set himself on fire in January 1969 in Prague's Wenceslas Square to protest the Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia.

Banned for 20 years by the Communist government, the archival masterpiece, *The Ear* (1970), directed by Karel Kachyňa, will highlight the celebration of 30 years of freedom in the Czech Republic (screening April 6, 9:45 p.m.). Ever since its foundation, *Czech That Film* has been committed to exhibiting films that expose audiences to Czech culture, enlighten audiences, and bring people together. *Czech That Film* presents an opportunity for audiences to become acquainted with established and new talents of Czech cinema, not only on the movie screen, but in person. The *Czech That Film* audience in Los Angeles will have an opportunity to hear Radim Špaček, director of *Golden Sting* (2018) which opens the festival on April 5.

"I have enjoyed tremendously being part of *Czech That Film* festival over the past four years. It has become a staple addition to the Czech cultural presence in North America, with the largest outreach among all of our public diplomacy projects. In 2019 again, many more cities than Los Angeles will have screenings of Czech and Czechoslovak movies that are critically acclaimed," said Pavol Šepeľák, Consul General of the Czech Republic in Los Angeles.

The Czech Oscar entry for the Best Foreign Language Film this year, *Winter Flies* (2018), will be screened on Thursday, April 11 at 7 p.m. at Laemmle's Monica Film Center. The film received the Best Director award at the Karlovy Vary International Film Festival.

The program will conclude on Friday, April 13 at 7:30 p.m. at the Billy Wilder Theater with *Dukla* 61 (2018). This family drama, based on one of the greatest mining tragedies, is from David Ondříček (*In the Shadow*), who was selected by *Variety* magazine as a "Director to Watch."

For films screening at the Billy Wilder Theater: Doors open at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$10 each.

All films will screen with English subtitles:

<u>April 5, 7:30 p.m. - Golden Sting</u> As the opening night, includes a post-screening conversation and Q&A

April 6, 7:30 p.m. - Jan Palach / The Ear

April 11, 7 p.m. - Winter Flies Off-site at Laemmle Monica Film Center

<u>April 13, 7:30 p.m. - Dukla 61</u>

For full program and more information about <u>Czech That Film</u>, please visit the Archive website: <u>www.cinema.ucla.edu</u> or <u>www.czechthatfilm.com</u>.

VENUES

Billy Wilder Theater at the Hammer Museum, 10899 Wilshire Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90024 **Laemmle's Monica Film Center**, *1332 2nd Street, Santa Monica, CA 90401*

For *Czech That Film* festival press inquiries, please contact Aneta Campbell at (310) 526-1897 or <u>aneta_campbell@mzv.cz</u>

About UCLA Film & Television Archive

The mission of the UCLA Film & Television Archive is to save film and television for future generations.

The Archive is internationally renowned for rescuing, preserving and showcasing moving image media and is dedicated to ensuring that the visual achievements of our time are available for information, education and enjoyment. The sixth-largest moving image repository in the world, and the second largest in the U.S., behind only the Library of Congress, the Archive's more than 450,000 holdings are stored in a state-of-the-art facility that meets and exceeds all preservation standards, from nitrate film to digital.

A unit of UCLA's School of Theater, Film and Television, the Archive's Research and Study Center provides free access to its holdings to researchers, writers and educators. Many of the Archive's

projects are screened at prestigious film events around the globe, as well as locally at UCLA's Billy Wilder Theater.

For more information about the UCLA Film & Television Archive, please visit the Archive website: <u>www.cinema.ucla.edu</u>.

For additional information, please contact Marisa Soto at (310) 206-8588 or msoto@cinema.ucla.edu