



Parléřova 17, 169 00 Prague 6 | info@eurofilmfest.cz | eurofilmfest.cz

Prague, 8 June 2021

COME TO THE 28TH ANNUAL EDITION OF DAYS OF EUROPEAN FILM! THEY WILL TAKE YOU ON A TRIP THROUGH EUROPE!

16. - 20. 6. 2021 | PRAHA | Lucerna, Světozor, Kino Pilotů and Přítomnost cinemas

17. - 20. 6. 2021 | OSTRAVA | Art and Minikino cinemas

18. - 20. 6. 2021 | BRNO | Scala and Art cinemas

19. - 23. 6. 2021 | Echoes in the regions:

Hradec Králové | Bio Central, Jablonec nad Nisou | Junior, Boskovice | Panorama,

Hodonín | Kino Svět, Havířov | Centrum, Vrchlabí | Kino Střelnice,

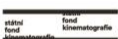
Červený Kostelec | Kino Luník

This year's edition of Days of European Films will take place from June 16 to June 23 in Prague, Ostrava, Brno and other Czech cities. DEF is a film festival that has been showing exclusively European films for 28 years now. This year, we will present almost fifty films from different corners of Europe. *"In this year's programme, we have been focusing on exciting experiences, courageous formal works and on the celebration of the existence of cinema as such. That's where the force of the 28th edition of DEF lies! The festival will open with Laetitia Dosch and Sergej Polunin in a provocative erotic drama by the director Danielle Arbid Passion Simple,"* says Šimon Šafránek, the DEF programmer.

Come to the cinema! Come to DEF!

www.dnyevropskehofilmu.cz

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THE OPENING FILM

The festival will open with Passion Simple by Danielle Arbid, screened at Cannes, in San Sebastian or Toronto. An intimate drama about the relationship of a divorced French woman (Laetitia Dosch) and a mysterious Russian diplomat played by the famous Russian dancer Sergej Polunin. The sexually open film offers intensive love scenes and deep emotional experience of dramatic turns in a relationship, seen through the eyes of the distinctive director Danielle Arbid.

AMBASSADORS AND GUESTS OF THE FESTIVAL

Meky on the cinema screen and LIVE! The legend of the pop music **Miro Źbirka** will play live after the screening of the documentary MEKY by the winner of the Czech Lion Award for his previous film King Skate, **Šimon Šafránek**. The concert will take place in the Lucerna screening hall and after the screening and before the concert, Šimon Šafránek will be talking live with Miro Źbirka. **Viera Čákanyová** will personally introduce her film White on White. After the screening of VR – Tata Bojs & PSH & Hrubá Hudba, the gamer **Naomi Adachi** will invite the public for a discussion with the artists – the director **Petr Hanousek**, the member of the band Tata Bojs **Milan Cajs** and others.

After the screening of the film The Trouble With Nature, full of beautiful mountain sceneries, a conversation of the philosopher and writer **Anna Hogenová** with Lukáš Rumlana will take place about the salutary effects the confinement can have on mental health. The talk will be streamed live on FB DEF. The film The Last Ones about the clash of civilizations in the deserted Lappish tundra, which won the award for the best Baltic film of 2020 at the Talin Film Festival, **Kateřina Krejčová** and **Petr Ptáčník** will screen their slides from their travels in the beautiful Lapland. The film Kala Azar about the last service provided to animals will be followed by a discussion with the charity **The Voice of Animals**, with the husband and wife **Plicka** and the actress **Kateřina Kaira Hrachovcová** about animal protection and the fight for their rights. One of the most awarded documentaries of the year 2020 Collective, casting an uncompromising view on the influence of the investigative journalism, the interconnection between politics and business or fake news, will be followed by a discussion with the Head of the Department of Media Studies and Journalism of the Masaryk University, **Lenka Waschková Císařová**. After the screening of the film Another Round, a Q&As session will take place with the director of the Czech film The Smiles of Sad Men – that also tells a story about alcohol - **Dan Svátek**. **Petr Vitek** (Digital Cinema), **Martin Pošta** (Association of Cinema Operators), **Aleš Danielis** (Union of Film Distributors), **Petr Veruňek** (Association of Czech Film Festivals), **Vladka Chytilová** (Creative Europe – MEDIA) and will be guests of the 11th meeting of film professionals Kino 2021.

Selected programme sections or individual screenings are supported by different ambassadors, be it Czech influencers or famous personalities. The audience will meet **Kateřina Kaira Hrachovcová**, who will be present at the screening of Kala Azar about the last service provided to animals, and she will also participate in the discussion with the charity The Voice of Animals

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about animal protection and the fight for their rights. The actress and hostess **Tereza Kostková** will be present at the special screening of the film Gauguin for seniors and she will also talk about film, theatre and dance with the audience after the screening.

VR for families with big children will be hosted by the gamer **Naomi Adachi** – who will take part after the screening of VR – Tata Bojs & PSH & Hrubá Hudba in the Q&As with the artists. **Kateřina Vintrová**, social manager and mother of two small children, will be the guest of the workshop for families with small kids. The book influencer **Lucie Zelinková** will support the section Media at the screenings.

PROGRAMME SECTIONS

The film menu of DEF offers mixed genres, films awarded at various festivals and audacious first films. DEF traditionally presents European films based on different themes and genres, this year in 6 programme sections covering a broad thematic scope. The audience can look forward to new films by renowned filmmakers, to the traditional section of music films or to series of VR films.

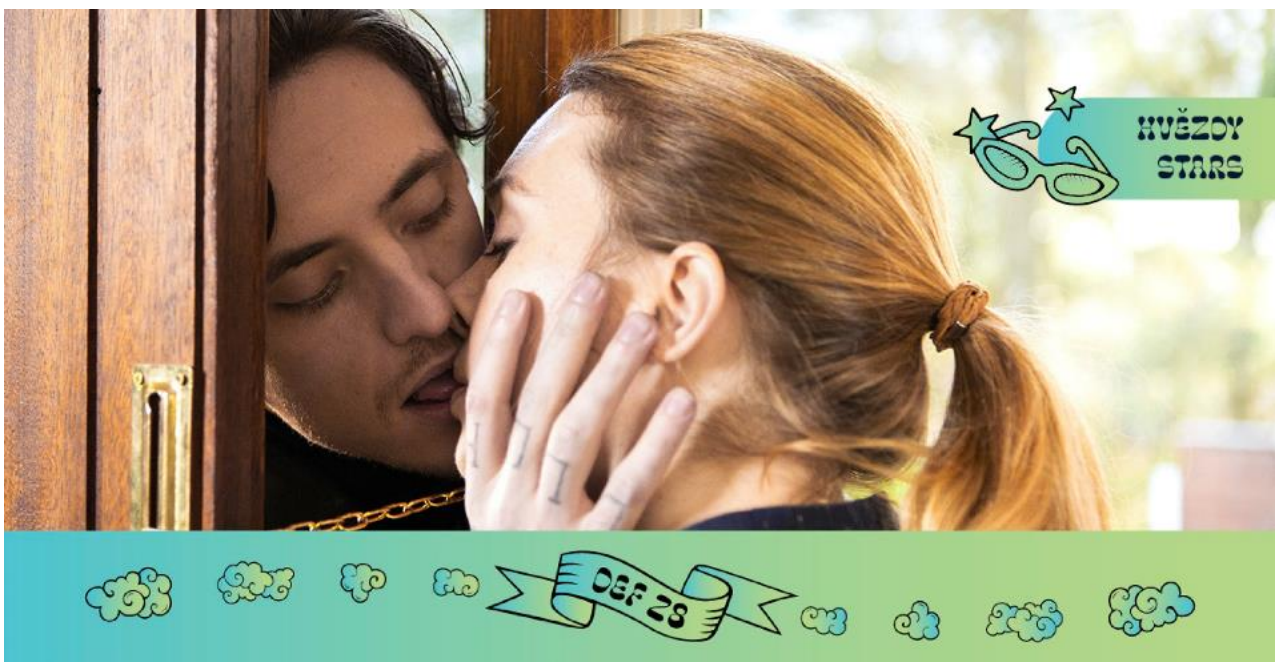


TO THE POINT: SECLUSION / Our lives have slowed down and changed because of the coronavirus. They have been stripped of in-person gatherings, replaced very often by separation and confinement. We don't want to view it tragically, though - the confinement itself enables us to establish stronger ties both with nature and the world beyond human civilization. It also opens the doors to meditation and turns our attentions inwards into one's soul.



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To The Point is a traditional section prepared by DEF in cooperation with the European Commission Representation in the Czech Republic. "I recommend the comical-historical road movie The Trouble With Nature, where a philosopher burdened with debt sets out to explore the Alps. I bet you haven't seen a costume film like this one before," remarks the programmer Šimon Šafránek. The Dutch drama Kala Azar is an exceptional debut of the director Janis Rafa. A young couple do pet cremations for living, but they soon realize that the line between life and death is thinner than the dividing line on a road. The emotional and heart-breaking debut won awards in Rotterdam, Hong Kong and in Thessaloniki. Another aesthetic experience will be the Bulgarian film February, screened in the Cannes film festival programme. A contemplation about life and the relationship of a man with the environment that form his life was directed by Kamen Kalem and shot on a beautiful film material. The Estonian director Veiko Ōunpuu in the drama The Last Ones presents a clash between reindeer shepherds and miners about a piece of virgin Lapland. Even more chilling is the weather in Antarctica, the setting of the documentary White On White by Viera Āákanyová, a kind of supplement to her previous film FREM. A crime and hiding in Portuguese wilderness is the topic of the Portuguese-French film Alva.



STARS / A collection of current films you shouldn't miss. They won at renowned festivals, they were made by world-famous directors with personalities of European film starring in them. Laetitia Fosch and Sergej Polunin in the provocative erotic drama about the sources of passion – that is the opening film of the festival Passion Simple. It is a liberating film that depicts a burning passion with fresh, feminist eyes. DEF will also screen the portrait of the famous German filmmaker Rainer Werner Fassbinder, called Enfant Terrible, directed by Oskar

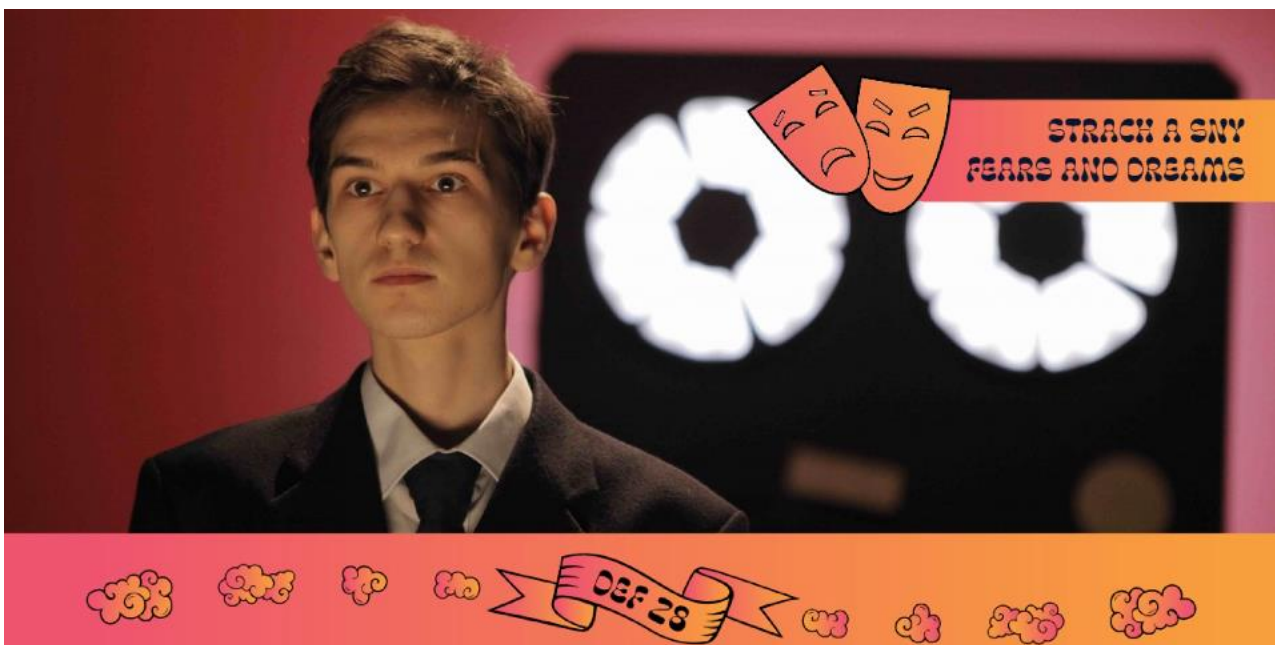




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Roehler. "I was captured by the self-indulgent performance of Oliver Masucci (*Er ist wieder da*) and by the fact that the story takes place mainly in offstage areas of a theatre," says Šimon Šafránek and adds: "We are also screening the newest documentary feature by the Italian master of silent observation Gianfranco Rosi *Nocturne* (*Notturmo*) as well as a number of films in preview showing like *Le Discours* (*Aerofilms*) and *À l'abordage!* (*Artcam*) or the German drama *Undine* (*Film Europe*)." You will also find the Czech Oscar candidate and winner of five Czech Lions in the Starts section - the historical film *Charlatan* by Agnieszka Holland, in which the audience go through turbulent events of the 20th century together with the main character - a popular healer. The Hungarian film *Those Who Remained* by Barnabás Tóth also reflects the post-war era. It tells a story of a relationship between a girl who is waiting for news about her parents and a man who returned from a concentration camp. It was shortlisted for Oscar in 2019.

The Stars section presents two films nominated for the LUX Audience Award of the European Parliament and the European Film Academy. "To drink or not to drink?" - the fundamental question of the award-winning Danish film *Another Drink*, which got, among others, the Academy Award - Oscar for Best International Feature Film in 2021. Another award-winning film is *Corpus Christi* - 20 year-old Daniel experiences a personality change in a youth detention centre. He would like to become a priest, however, his criminal record hardly allows it.



FEAR AND DREAMS / The section in which DEF brings together films full of emotion and action – detective stories, thrillers, ghost stories, horrors and atypical relationship dramas. In this section we highlight films that cross genres and show the European film as an exciting and living organism. Šimon Šafránek describes some of the films in this section as follows:

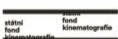




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"I was fascinated by the Latvian film paraphrase of the Snow White in the setting of a fitness studio In the Mirror, film in a sharp black and white image by Laila Pakalnina. The filmmaker is inspired by the incessant selfies and she lets her characters to look straight in the camera. The drama Uppercase Print is the next-to-last film by the renowned Romanian director Radu Jude, who won this year's edition of Berlinale with his film Bad Luck Banging or Loony Porn. In the Uppercase Print, Jude follows a young man who protested against Ceausescu's dictatorship in Romania with writings on street walls." Among other blockbusters of the section, you will find a western from contemporary Greece Digger, about the fight of an individual against a mining company. Also The Last Days of Spring are a debut – the director Isabel Lambert, born in Berlin, presents dramatic events around clearing out of a slum town in the outskirts of Madrid. The film won the New Directors Award at San Sebastián. Another film in this section is the black Irish comedy Redemption of a Rogue. In it, the renowned Irish playwright Philip Doherty stages an attempt at "last farewell" in the Irish countryside, which in the end becomes a personal purification for the main character. The wear and tear of an ordinary robot girl in Vienna in the near future – that is the Austrian-German film The Trouble With Being Born, presented at the Berlinale in 2020. N.P is a Belgian silent story about one summer in Japan, in which one book connects four young people's fates. It was supposed to be a nice Sunday, but then an accident happened – the Polish film Supernova got the Association of Polish Filmmakers Critics Award 2019 for the Best Polish Film. The VR Series will present three short films that in a remarkable way combine virtual reality with various genres. The 1st Step lets the audience follow the footsteps of Apollo expeditions on the Moon, the Dreamin' Zone by the director Fabienne Giezendanner brings us - thanks to animation - to the demilitarized zone between North and South Korea. Ash Khabiti went to Chernobyl to recreate in his documentary film A Fire at Chernobyl the night when the fate of his family turned upside down.

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NO PARENTS / Mobile phones, friendship, first relationships. The focus of this section is the life of teenagers. The mosaic of relationships Lovecut reflects the contemporary obsession with social networks. “The sci-fi crossover Fortuna set on the high roofs of a housing estate in Naples was a revelation for me. The hero of the film is a little girl, but I would rather recommend this film to audacious viewers,” says Šimon Šafránek. The teenage British drama Rocks by Sarah Gavron tells a story about a girl from London who all of a sudden has to take care of her younger sibling. This energetic film carried by its brilliant cast got a BAFTA 2021 award and was nominated in six other categories. In his feature debut, the Swiss director Christian Johannes Koch presents a thrilling drama from the world of teenagers Spagat. It tells a story of a Ukrainian high school student Uljana, whose ambition to become a ballet dancer is thwarted by an incautious mistake – she and her father don’t have a legal residence permit in Switzerland, so instead of her ballet training, she has to play a thrilling game of hide and seek. The Italian Fortuna is an aesthetic horror fairy tale told from a child’s perspective. For boys and girls who like to learn new things, DEF offers a new visually extraordinary documentary Tune Into the Future by the experimenter Eric Schockmel. It is a gripping story of the writer, inventor and publisher of sci-fi of Luxembourg origin, Hugo Gernsback. All children will surely enjoy the Czech Hungry Bear Tales by Alexandra Májová and Kateřina Karhánková.





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FILM AND MUSIC / In this section, DEF offers feature films, VR films and documentaries, in which rhythm, tunes and music in general play a substantial role. A daring combination of modern dance and techno in the documentary feature If It Were Love about the work of the avant-garde choreographer Gisèle Vienne will surely become one of the hits of this section. The film got the award for the best documentary at the Berlinale 2020. Very playful is the documentary The Mystery of the Pink Flamingo by Javier Gandía about the biggest kitsch people have fallen for. DEF will also screen the comic - but heart-breaking - directorial debut of the popular Swedish actor and screenwriter Henrik Schyffert Run Uje, Run. This autobiographical music comedy about life twists was awarded with three Swedish annual awards at Guldbagge Awards 2021.

The music documentary Rytmus: Tempos is the story of Patrik Rytmus Vrbovský and his 30-year career as a rapper. Collective, an uncompromising view on the influence of the investigative journalism, was awarded with the Best documentary feature in 2020 at the European Film Awards and was nominated for Oscar 2021 for the best foreign film and documentary. A series of VR music videos directed by Petr Hanousek will present four songs by the band Tata Bojs. Their keyboard player Jiří Hradil also takes part in the project Hrubá Hudba - a fusion of jazz and raw Hornácký folklore. The last entry in this programme will be an unusual adaptation of the song Debut by PSH with participation of La Putyka Ensemble. The screening of the documentary MEKY about the legend of the Slovak pop music - Meko Žbirka, followed by live musical performance of the main protagonist of the film, will be this year's special DEF event.



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MEDIA: BETWEEN THE LINES / DEF will screen a collection of older, but very thrilling and successful films (supported by the Creative Europe MEDIA programme) based on popular novels or short stories. In this section, DEF brings distribution films back to the big screen and creates experience that TV or PC can never achieve. You can catch up with movies like Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy (Aerofilms) by Tomas Alfredson with Gary Oldman and Colin Firth or Julieta by Pedro Almodóvar (Bioscop) on the big screen. In the French film Gauguin, you can enjoy the impressive and exquisite performance of Vincent Cassel. DEF will screen the award-winning Norwegian film Headhunters (based on a successful book by Jo Nesbo) or the Finnish comedy The Grump about an old grumpy man who sets out to a town to provoke a little personal hell in his son's family. Raoul Taburin is a cute comedy based on the eponymous book by a genius illustrator, humorist and the author of Little Nicholas Jean-Jacques Sempé. The Hundred Year-Old Man Who Climbed Out Of The Window And Disappeared is an adaptation of the eponymous bestseller by Jonas Jonasson. The novel has been published in 40 countries and more than 8 million copies have been sold. The film, directed by Felix Herngren and starring Robert Gustafsson, has had the highest budget in the history of Swedish cinema.

In its sections Stars and Film and Music, DEF will screen all three films shortlisted for the LUX Audience Award created by the European Parliament and the European Film Academy: Another Round, Corpus Christi and Collective. The audience all over Europe could have voted for the winner. The winner will be announced in a ceremony in the European Parliament at the LUX Award Ceremony on 9 June 2021. More information [here](#).





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DEF 28 ONLINE



DEF will be also online for the first time this year! From June 16 to June 23, the audience will have the unique opportunity to watch selected films from the comfort of their home. The special selection of films (for 80 CZK admission fee each) will be available only from 6 pm to midnight. More information [here](#) and at www.supremexp.net.

SPECIAL EVENTS

*„This year’s accompanying programme has undergone several changes. I am personally very much looking forward to the conversation of the leading Czech philosopher Anna Hogenová with Lukáš Rumlana about the salutary effects the confinement can have on mental health, which will take place after the screening of the Danish film *The Trouble With Nature*, itself full of beautiful mountain sceneries. The Estonian film *The Last Ones* will take us on a trip to Lappish tundra and this experience will be intensified by *Diáky* – a traveller’s talk and screening of slides from a journey to Lapland. If you like open-air cinema like I do, don’t miss our exclusive screening of the Swedish musical comedy *Run Uje Run* in the courtyard of the Bethlehem Chapel. And if you can’t wait to see a concert again, be sure to note down the date June 18, when we will meet in Lucerna to see a live concert of Miro Žbirka after the screening of the film *Meky*. See you in the cinemas!”* says the director of DEF, Barbora Golatová.

Meky – film and concert! / more information [here](#)

Screening & workshop for families with small children / more information [here](#)

In solitude in the woods / more information [here](#)

Open air cinema – The Bethlehem movie theatre / more information [here](#)

Slides from travels - Lapland / more information [here](#)

Animal Rights and Protection – Kala Azar / more information [here](#)

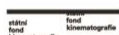
Investigation & disinformation – Collective / more information [here](#)

Alcohol as a way out of the pandemic – Another Round / more information [here](#)

Screening for seniors & schools / more information [here](#)

Film education for schools / more information [here](#)

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Cinema European House / more information [here](#)

CINEMA 2021/ more information [here](#)

VR – PSH & Tata Bojs & Hrubá hudba / more information [here](#)

VR – BREJLANDO: Homeowner Association / more information [here](#)

VR – For families with big children / more information [here](#)

Special Events of the 28th DEF: <https://2021.eurofilmfest.cz/doprovodny-program/>

The entrance fee for individual films at DEF in Prague, Ostrava and Brno is 130 CZK. There is a special senior discount for all regular screenings - 65 CZK + senior screenings in Lucerna.

Online screenings cost 80 CZK.

The prices of Special events vary, you can find them on the DEF website [here](#).

You can buy tickets online at www.dnyevropskehofilmu.cz through the reservation systems of each [cinema](#) or in the [box offices](#). Tickets can be also reserved per phone or e-mail.

You will find the DEF Catalogue [here](#). The author of the concept, the graphic design and the jingle of the 28th edition of DEF is Marija Petrinjac.

The traditional host of the opening ceremony will be Lukáš Rumlena.

To obtain an accreditation, contact Michaela Dvořáková at pr.michaeladvorakova@gmail.com

Films illuminate reality, make it brighter, try to explain it sometimes and at the same time offer a way to overcome it or view it from a higher and broader perspective. That is what we need more than ever today.

**So let's go to the cinema!
Let's go on a trip through Europe!
Come to the 28th edition of Days of European Film!**

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THE FESTIVAL TAKES PLACE UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE CZECH CULTURE MINISTER LUBOMÍR ZAORÁLEK, THE REPRESENTATION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC, ZDENĚK HŘIB - THE LORD MAYOR OF THE CAPITAL CITY OF PRAGUE, MARKÉTA VAŇKOVÁ - THE LORD MAYOR OF THE STATUTORY CITY BRNO, TOMÁŠ MACURA - THE LORD MAYOR OF THE STATUTORY CITY OSTRAVA, PETR HEJMA - THE MAYOR OF THE CITY DISTRICT OF PRAGUE 1, AND HANA TŘEŠTÍKOVÁ - COUNCILLOR OF THE CITY OF PRAGUE FOR CULTURE / ORGANISED BY THE EMBASSIES AND CULTURAL INSTITUTES OF EUROPEAN COUNTRIES AND BY THE REPRESENTATION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC / WITH THE SUPPORT OF THE CZECH FILM FUND, THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC, THE CAPITAL CITY OF PRAGUE, THE STATUTORY CITY OF BRNO, THE STATUTORY CITY OF OSTRAVA AND THE CITY DISTRICT OF PRAGUE 1, THE CREATIVE EUROPE MEDIA DESK AND THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

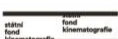
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Press:



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