



Ambient music: A selection from „Československý Jazz 1964 and 1965“ and „Jazzový slovník“ featuring musicians Jan Arnet, Laco Deczi, Jan Hammer, George Mráz, August Riska, Karel Růžička and Miroslav Vitouš who all emigrated in the USA .

Stand-by for future jazz talks and jamming.

Special thanks to the Czech Consulate in New York, Kateřina Kyselica, Jiří Eichler, Viktor Debnár, Zdeněk Fučík, Edward Toran, Kim Halsey, Anita and August Riska, Jitka and Kamil Hořejš.



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The Czechoslovak Society of Arts and Sciences (SVU-NY) is a 501(c)3 not-for profit organization promoting Czech and Slovak intellectual history and heritage in New York City. All contributions are tax-deductible.

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& LITERARY ASSOCIATION



THE CZECHOSLOVAK SOCIETY
OF ARTS AND SCIENCES NEW YORK

Presents

TOUGH NUTS TO CRACK

CHALLENGES IN CZECH TO ENGLISH
LITERARY TRANSLATION



Monday, May 2, 2011, 7:00 p.m.

Bohemian National Hall
321 E. 73rd St.
(between First and Second Aves.)
New York City

PROGRAM

<i>Welcome</i>	Suzanna Halsey
<i>Introductions</i>	Christopher Harwood
<i>Talks and discussion</i>	Robert Wechsler, Peter Kussi, Paul Wilson, Alex Zucker
Q&A	

Vote for the best translation of „ Poseděli jsme u skleničky vína“.

Wine and cheese reception follows.



PROGRAM NOTES

Peter Kussi describes himself as an extinguished professor. He taught Czech language and literature at Columbia University for more than 20 years. One of his most popular courses, *Writers of Prague*, dealt with the interplay of Czech, German, and Jewish writers prior to World War II. Professor Kussi's long list of translations includes the Milan Kundera novels *Life Is Elsewhere* (*Život je jinde*), *The Farewell Party* (*Valčík na rozloučenou*), and *Immortality* (*Nesmrtelnost*), as well as *The Questionnaire* (*Dotazník*) by Jiří Gruša, *Miss Silver's Past* (*Lvíče*) by Josef Škvorecký, and *What Ownership's All About* (*Dům na předměstí*) by Karel Poláček. His own published writings include a number of essays and articles, as well as short stories.
www.bookfinder.com/author/peter-kussi

Robert Wechsler is the owner of Catbird Press, which published works by Czech authors in translation, including Karel Čapek, Jaroslav Seifert, Vladimír Páral, Jáchym Topol and Karel Poláček. He himself translated the novel *Living Parallel* (*Nuda v Čechách*) by Alexandr Kliment, and is the author of *Performing Without a Stage: The Art of Literary Translation*.
www.catbirdpress.com

Paul Wilson lived in Czechoslovakia from 1967 until 1977, when he was expelled by the Communist authorities. He has translated many works of fiction and nonfiction by Czech authors including Josef Škvorecký, Ivan Klíma, Bohumil Hrabal, and Václav Havel. His most recent translation is *Leaving* (*Odcházení*), a Václav Havel play, which had its North American stage debut last year at the Wilma Theater in Philadelphia. A collection of his own essays on Czech culture and politics will be published later this year by Torst, in Prague. <http://paulwilson.ca/translations.html>

Alex Zucker won the 2010 National Translation Award for *All This Belongs to Me*, Petra Hůlová's debut novel (*Pamět mojeji babičce*). *City Sister Silver*, his translation of Jáchym Topol's first novel (*Sestra*), was selected for the 2006 guide *1001 Books You Must Read Before You Die*. His latest translation, *The Opportune Moment, 1855*, by Patrik Ouředník (*Příhodná chvíle, 1855*), was published in April by Dalkey Archive Press. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alex_Zucker

Christopher Harwood (*moderator*) studied with Professor Peter Kussi while earning his Ph.D. from Columbia University's Slavic Department, where he has served as Lecturer in Czech since 2001. In addition to teaching all of Columbia's courses in Czech language, literature, and culture, he also works as an occasional freelance Czech-English interpreter and translator.

Suzanna Halsey (*producer*) is an Adjunct Czech Instructor at New York University, administrator of Friends of Czech Greenways, and Vice President of SVU-NY. She has produced several programs celebrating Czech literature and culture at Symphony Space, and the reading series *A Salute to the Literature of Prague* at the World Financial Center. She describes herself as a chronic cross-cultural matchmaker of talented and creative people and ideas.

For information on Czech literature visit: www.czechlit.cz/en

The Czechoslovak Society of Arts and Sciences (SVU-NY) welcomes your membership, suggestions, support, and collaboration on any future programs promoting Czech and Slovak literature, and recognizing the work of translators. Contact Suzanna at newyork@svu2000.org