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Special thanks to

Helena Fisera, Jiří Mírovský, and Ilona Kohlová /typopiknik.cz/,
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Notes:



Czechoslovak Society of Arts and Sciences

Společnost pro vědy a umění (SVU)

New York Chapter

BBLA

BOHEMIAN BENEVOLENT
& LITERARY ASSOCIATION



Image by Ilona Kohlová

The 6-Minute Challenge XV

December 7th 2023 / 7 pm
Bohemian National Hall
New York

The Czechoslovak Society of Arts and Sciences (SVU), New York Chapter, is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization promoting Czech and Slovak intellectual history and heritage through cultural events at the Bohemian National Hall in New York City, with the support of the Bohemian Benevolent and Literary Association (BBLA).

Design by [czechmatters](http://czechmatters.com)

Produced by Suzanna Halsey
Moderated by Christopher Harwood, PhD

PRESENTERS *(in order of appearance)*

Jana Křupková
Klára Zíková English
Luboš Náprstek
Ilona Kohlová
Alička Pistek
Aneta Kohoutová
Yvette Vašourková
Barbora Lišková
Pavel Liška
Matěj Číp

Q&A

Special Toast

Light refreshments and networking

Please hold your questions until the Q&A, after the last presentation.

The event will be recorded and later posted on our YouTube Channel.

The SVU 6-MINUTE CHALLENGE is a series conceived in 2015 by Suzanna Halsey for SVU New York. Czech and Slovak artists, professionals, scholars and scientists are challenged to present their talent, the subject of their work, project, research, or studies in a short presentation limited to six minutes.

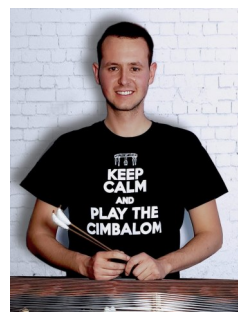


Pavel Liška is an immersive multidisciplinary artist from Pilsen who integrates live video performance, light design, scenography, illustration, kinetic objects, and interactivity. After several years as an electrical engineer, Pavel completely changed his field. He earned his B.A. in Comics and Illustration and an M.A. in Animation and Interactive Media from Ladislav Sutnar Faculty of Design and Art in

Pilsen. His characteristic artistic elements include interactivity, movement, and concept. His projects include interactive and educational exhibitions for children, escape games, stage designs, pop-up books, light objects, and murals. Long-term collaborations include exhibits for DEPO2015 in Pilsen and for the National Technical Museum in Plasy, and light objects for the BLIK BLIK light festivals in Pilsen and Vary Září in Karlovy Vary. In 2019 Pavel founded the pop-cultural festival CO.CON in Pilsen. He is currently experimenting with kinetic sculptures and paintings during his residency at Gray Nivas in Accord, NY.

Interests and hobbies: movies, experimental music, traveling, philosophy.

Contact: <https://liskapavel.art/>, IG: Lishown



Matěj Číp a pioneering cimbalom performer from the village of Hodslavice near Nový Jičín, discovered his life's calling at age eight. Trained by the Czech Republic's leading cimbalom educators, he garnered first-prize accolades at the 2017 International Cimbalom Festival and a Summa Cum Laude graduation with a minor in Chinese from Northern State University, making history as the first U.S. university-level cimbalom student. In 2021, Číp

ventured to China's prestigious Central Conservatory of Music in Beijing. His studies led to groundbreaking performances incorporating the cimbalom with traditional Chinese instruments, earning him a stage at the 2022 Winter Olympics. With a broad musical palette that spans genres from classical and folk to jazz, Matěj believes the cimbalom can potentially attract international audiences. Currently, Matěj is busy playing and studying Live Music Production and Design for the cimbalom at Berklee NYC School in Manhattan.

Interests and hobbies: cooking Chinese food and running.

Contact: www.cimbalomguy.com



Yvette Vašourková born in Brno, is an architect and an educator. After studying architecture at the Czech Technical University in Prague, Yvette completed her postgraduate studies at the Berlage Institute in Rotterdam. She earned her Ph.D. in Theory of Architecture at CTU in Prague, and is a faculty member of the ARCHIP School of Architecture in Prague. In 2018, she was a visiting

professor at l'ESA Paris. Yvette co-founded a nonprofit CCEA (Centre for Central European Architecture) and the MOBA architecture studio. Currently, Yvette is a Fulbright visiting scholar at the Pratt Institute GCPE in New York, focusing on the potential of infrastructure spaces for creating a more livable and resilient city. She came to NYC with her two teenagers and chose to stay in LIC, where one can find one of the best examples of a flooded park, Hunter's Point South Park, which is an excellent resilient solution for contemporary cities.

Interests and Hobbies: exploring cities, running, skiing, cooking.

Contact: yvette@cceamoba.cz, www.cceamoba.cz



Barbora Lišková is a project manager and producer from Pilsen. Originally trained as a translator from French and English with a B.A. from University of West Bohemia, she shifted her focus and became eventually the head of production at the creative center DEPO2015 overseeing her team and coordinating operational and technical departments. Projects included the light festivals

BLIK BLIK and Vary Září, (50,000 visitors), sales and exhibition fairs such as *Svět knihy* and *Skvosty s vůní benzínu*, and conferences *Hands-On* and *Industry Open*. An important milestone in her career is the founding and organizing of the TEDxPlzeň conferences in 2016 and the sustainable clothing exchange initiative SWAP Plzeň in 2019. This year, after six years at DEPO 2015, Barbora left her position and currently collaborates primarily with her husband, Pavel Liška, in the USA.

Interests and hobbies: traveling, music, meditation.

Contact: IG: Lanaquila

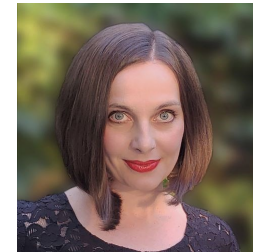


Jana Křupková, a native of Zlin, has a degree in Classical Piano from the Prague Music Conservatory and continued her studies at the William Paterson University in New Jersey where she received a B.A. in Music Business. Since then, Jana has collaborated with multiple art institutions such as the Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts in New York, the Grammy U Program, the Si-Yo Music Society

Foundation, and the Center for Musical Excellence (CME). Recently, she established her boutique artist management and production company NU AVE ART, bringing her vision and passion to the international arts industry.

Interests and hobbies: live music, good conversation, wine, arts, traveling, Latino dancing, Spanish, theater.

Contact: jana@nuave.art, Instagram @justmejanita



Klára Zíková English, a mezzo-soprano from Prague, has been a New York City resident for over two decades. She studied voice performance at the Westminster Choir College and has performed with many Tri-state area ensembles such as The Bronx Opera Company, Opera Orchestra of New York, The New York Cantata Singers, Melodia Women's Choir and Orchestra

Amadeus. Klára is a long-time member and a soloist of the Cathedral Choir at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark, NJ. Aside from her singing, Klára teaches Czech at the Czech and Slovak Language Center in Astoria, Queens, and occasionally works as a Czech diction coach.

Interests and hobbies: Irish traditional music and dance.

Contact: klarazenglish@gmail.com



Luboš Náprstek, a luthier, born in Kladno, picked up his first instrument, the mandolin, at the age of 13. Later, he switched to the guitar. While in high school, he began learning the art of instrument design. By the age of 17, Luboš had designed and built his first classical guitar. In 1983, he emigrated to the United States. Repairing instruments for musicians on cruise ships, he started making customized instruments on the side. After a few successes, he decided in 2023 to turn his passion into a career and build custom instruments full-time. Luboš also promotes concerts of his clients, such as Prof Vladislav Bláha, Lukáš Sommer, and Duo Tortorelli at Carnegie Hall. As an expert in vintage classical guitars, he has private access to some of the oldest and rarest guitars in the world at the Metropolitan Museum of Art and Christie's Auction House.

Interests and hobbies: Tennis, skiing, and fishing.

Contact: <http://lubosnaprstek.com/>

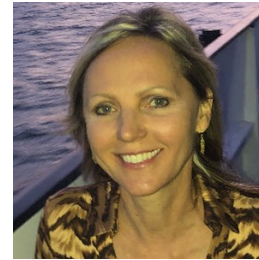


Ilona Kohlová is an artist from Prague specializing in type, typography, and calligraphy, currently residing in New York City. She earned her MA in Graphic Design from the Ladislav Sutnar Faculty of Design and Art in Pilsen, Czech Republic. For her thesis, she wrote and designed a book on Japanese calligraphy, emphasizing its spirituality and the learning process inherent in calligraphy. She has engraved calligraphic poems onto the walls of the Letterpress Café in Prague

and created a collection of calligraphic greeting cards and notebooks, all printed via letterpress. Following the birth of her son, Alois, in 2021, she felt a powerful internal urge: 'You have to paint!' Her paintings are a culmination of her extensive study in Japanese calligraphy and her enthusiasm for abstract expressionism. She hopes that at least one of her paintings resonates with you.

Interests and Hobbies: Dancing, splashing in puddles with her son Alois and their dog Becky, baking bread, and indulging in daydreams.

Contact: ilona@typopiknik.cz, www.typopiknik.cz, IG: @typopiknik



Alička Pistek a native of Prague, grew up in San Diego, California, where her parents emigrated, partially so her father could fulfill his dream of becoming an oceanographer from a landlocked country. Alička received her B.A. in Linguistics from the University of California, San Diego, and an M.A. in German Translation from the University of Salford, U.K. She spent over 15 years in the publishing industry in New York as an agent and foreign rights director. She also ran her boutique literary agency, providing literary and film representation to clients. She has ghostwritten non-fiction books (focused on health and self-help) and translated a book of poetic prose from Czech, *The Diary of Mr. Pinke* by Ewald Murrer (Twisted Spoon Press). In 2019, inspired by the potential of blockchain, she switched careers to work in web3 and is now exploring the interplay between A.I. and human creativity.

Interests and hobbies: yoga, technology, books, travel, and the ocean.

Contact: [linkedin.com/in/alickacpistek](https://www.linkedin.com/in/alickacpistek), IG: @blockchainista.x



Aneta Kohoutová a native of Hradec Kralove, is a PhD candidate at the Centre for Ethics at Pardubice University, Czech Republic. She considers herself an active, urban citizen. Her research deals with different philosophical approaches toward citizenship, a sense of belonging, power relations, and various layers of public spaces. During the academic year 2021/2022, she was a visiting researcher at the University of Tartu, Estonia, where she worked on a project concerning the distinction

between private and public in the light of Hannah Arendt's philosophy. In her writing, she applies theoretical frameworks to a lived, real experience in order to understand how the built and lived environment are mutually intertwined. Her articles are published in the Czech biweekly magazine A2 in the Public Space section. Currently, Aneta is a visiting Fulbright Scholar at the New School for Social Research, focusing on the ethics of public space.

Interests and hobbies: traveling, biking, learning, writing and sauna.

Contact: aneta.kohoutova@student.upce.cz, www.saunanuuk.net
