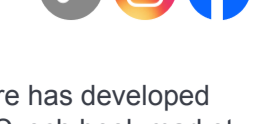


CZECHIA AS GUEST OF HONOUR AT THE FRANKFURT BOOK FAIR 2026 Press newsletter April 2026

Diverse, innovative, and with a global presence: Contemporary Czech children's and young adult literature



In recent years, Czech children's and young adult literature has developed into one of the most dynamic and creative sectors of the Czech book market and has also established a visible presence internationally.

A hallmark of the current scene is the close collaboration between authors and illustrators. Artistic picture books and graphically experimental formats demonstrate that children's literature in Czechia is often understood as a visual work of art.

Children's and young adult literature has also become much more diverse in terms of content. Alongside classic narrative themes, topics such as identity, history, the environment, and social issues are increasingly coming to the fore.

Many works explore fundamental emotional experiences: fear, loneliness, or the feeling of being different. Books about fear—such as fear of the dark—about social exclusion and family problems are among the defining themes.

Another trend is the growing importance of nonfiction books for young readers. These often combine narrative elements with in-depth knowledge and explore historical or scientific topics.

Czech children's and young adult literature of the past decade is characterized by a spirit of experimentation, artistic quality, and social relevance. It is not only aimed at young readers but increasingly sees itself as literature for all generations—open, diverse, and internationally connected.

Your Guest of Honour Czechia press team Annika Grützner, Nathalie Weber and Mathias Voigt

Please contact us if you would like further information, review copies, or if we can arrange interviews for you!

Digital Evening about the Guest of Honour Czechia

We cordially invite you to join us for a digital evening to explore Czech literature and culture. The event will take place on Monday, April 27, 2026, at 5:30 pm on Zoom and will be in German.

Martin Krafi, Program Director for the Guest of Honour Czechia, will speak about the Czech literary program and upcoming events. Following that, we will present a selection of current book titles from Czechia.

We look forward to receiving your registration via email at tschechien@literaturtest.de.

Events

16.04.2026, 6 pm Film Screening Discussion: Nebelkind – The End of Silence Bundesplatz-Kino, Berlin

23.04.2026, 7 pm Reading & Discussion: Alice Horáková und Eli Benes Zentralbibliothek Bremen

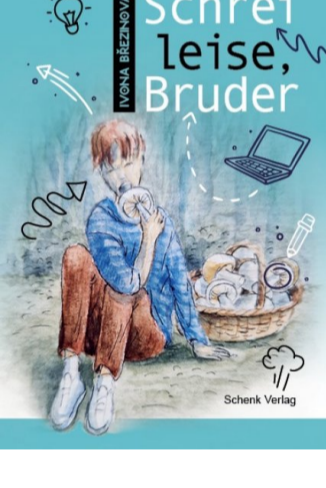
24.04.2026, 5 pm Reading & Comic projection: Jan Novák GALERIE am schwarzen meer, Bremen

21.-27.04.2026 Tschechien at goEast film festival Wiesbaden

28.04.2026, 6:30 pm Wellenwelten | Příliv přiběhů: Die verkehrte Stadt with Mikael Ross and Petr Šesták Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin

Book tips

Ivona Březinová: „Schrei leise, Bruder“ (Schenk Verlag, translated by Theresa Clauberg, illustrations by Marta Poszpisek, published on 1.03.2026)

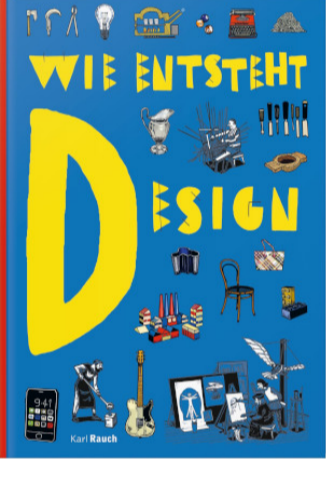


Jeremias is different. He lives in a world with strict rules, a world where every day of the week has a different color and where slices of bread are round.

Ivona Březinová tells the story of an autistic boy and the people around him—who have to cope with his condition every day—with sensitivity but also the necessary distance.

You can find further information on the book here.

Jiří Pelcl & Silvie Šeborová: „Wie entsteht Design“ (Karl Rauch Verlag, translated by Lena Dorn, illustrations by Jiří Franta, published on 17.03.2026)



The Great Book of Knowledge for Children and Adults: Visions, new materials, new approaches—many factors can lead to the creation of something extraordinary that has the power to transform our everyday lives.

Design doesn't have to be pretentious or expensive. Together with two children, we embark on a journey through history and an expedition where we learn a great deal.

You can find further information on the book here.

Lenka Blaze: „Deine Eltern trennen sich?“ (Gabriel Verlag, translated by Stefanie Bose, published on 24.03.2026)



Suddenly, everything has changed: Parents are separating, and feelings like anger, sadness, or guilt seem overwhelming. This journal guides children ages 10 and up through this difficult time—with empathy, support, and understanding.

Ideal for children of divorce, blended families, and anyone looking for answers to children's questions about separation and family.

You can find further information on the book here.

Marie Iļašenko: „Menschen hören überhaupt nur sehr wenig“ (Anthea Verlag, translated by Julia Miesenböck, published on 17.03.2026)

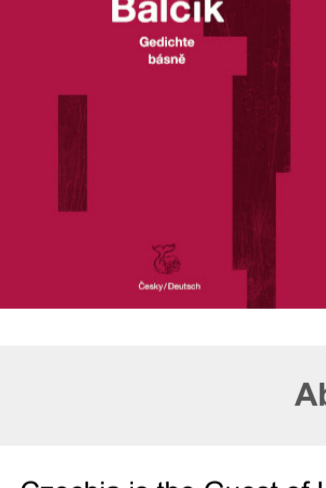


In her poems, Marie Iļašenko explores urban space as a habitat for animals and humans. Amid pheasants and kestrels, rainbow trout, martens, and mice, urban landscapes emerge—from New York to Prague, Barcelona, and Tokyo—a world in which humans often become secondary figures and frequently bring harm to animals, as in the war in Ukraine.

Through precise observations, Iļašenko paints a sensitive portrait of modern existence, where closeness and threat lie in close proximity.

You can find further information on the book here.

Radka Rubilina: „Balčik“ (Kétos Verlag, translated by Ondřej Cikán, published on 18.03.2026)



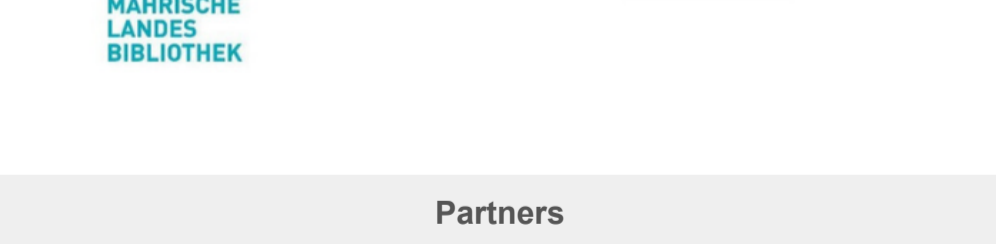
On the Black Sea, in the Bulgarian town of Balchik (Balschik), the ancient Dionysopolis, stands the summer palace of Queen Maria of Romania, which blends countless cultural influences, including the palace park, the "Quiet Nest." There is also a temple to Cybele in Balchik.

Cybele was originally a man from whose genitals her lover, the youth Attis, emerged. When he wanted to marry another woman, Cybele struck him with madness. In her poetic collection, Rubilina intertwines the fates of Cybele and Maria with the longings of a contemporary narrator: myth and the present—who can tell them apart?

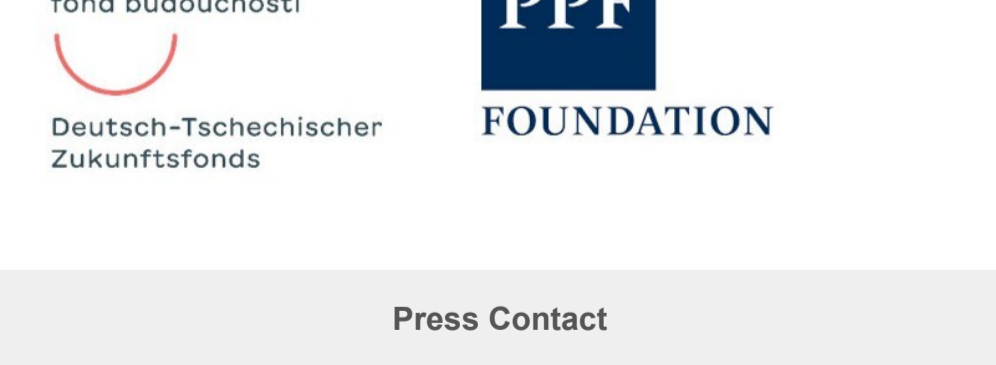
You can find further information on the book here.

About the Guest of Honour

Czechia is the Guest of Honour of the Frankfurt Book Fair 2026. The Guest of Honour appearance is being organised by the Moravian Library in Brno and its Czech Literature Centre section. It is being financed by public funds from the Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic and is implemented with the support of PPF Foundation.



Partners



Press Contact

Press Contact Guest of Honour Czechia Annika Grützner, Nathalie Weber and Mathias Voigt

Literaturtest c/o The Base Berlin ONE Pestalozzistraße 5-8 13187 Berlin

Tel. +49 (0)30-531 40 70-27 Fax +49 (0)30-531 40 70-99 tschechien@literaturtest.de http://literaturtest.de

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