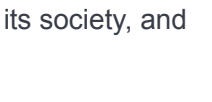


CZECHIA AS GUEST OF HONOUR AT THE FRANKFURT BOOK FAIR 2026

Press newsletter September 2026

From book art to samizdat to garden utopias: The Czech Republic's cultural program features ten exhibitions in the context of the Frankfurt Book Fair



The Czech Republic is coming to the Frankfurt Book Fair not only with numerous books and authors, but also with a diverse cultural program that extends far beyond the fairgrounds. This fall, ten exhibitions in Frankfurt and the surrounding areas invite visitors to discover Czechia from different perspectives: its art and history, its literature and illustration, its society, and its cultural diversity.

Each exhibition offers a fresh perspective on this country in the heart of Europe. Together, they demonstrate just how multifaceted the Czech cultural landscape is and how closely literature, visual arts, design, and social issues are intertwined.

We cordially invite you to experience the Frankfurt Book Fair's Guest of Honour beyond the fair's stages, in the city's museums and cultural institutions.

Museum für Kommunikation Frankfurt am Main & Moravian Library in Brno

[Samizdat: Words of Freedom in Czechoslovakia, 1939–1989 / 20.8.2026–24.1.2027](#)

The exhibition explores the suppression of freedom by dictatorships.

Klingspor Museum, Offenbach am Main & Museum of Decorative Arts, Prague (with the support of the Czech-German Future Fund)

[From the Centre of Europe: Czech Book Art from 1900 to the Present / 5.9. – 29.11.2026](#)

The exhibition showcases book designs by Czech artists and designers that impress not only with their content but also with their visual design.

Struwwelpeter Museum, Frankfurt am Main & Czech Centres

[Beyond Paper Plane / More Than Flat Paper / 17.9.2026–17.1.2027](#)

The traveling exhibition showcases just how radical, experimental, and surprising contemporary Czech picture book art is.

Deutsches Architekturmuseum DAM Frankfurt am Main & National Gallery Prague (with the support of the Czech-German Future Fund)

[More is Now! New Czech Architecture / 19.9.2026–17.1.2027](#)

The exhibition showcases innovative works by young architects, primarily from the millennial generation, and builds on the modernist legacy.

Deutsche Nationalbibliothek Frankfurt am Main & Reiner-und-Elisabeth-Kunze-Stiftung

[I Married the Czech Language: Reiner Kunze and Czech Poetry / 29.9.26–30.10.26](#)

The outdoor exhibition at the DNB commemorates the poet and translator Reiner Kunze, as well as the role that his wife Elisabeth, who was originally from Czechoslovakia, played in Kunze's life and work.

Grand opening: September 29, 2026, 7:00 p.m.

SCIRN KUNSTHALLE FRANKFURT (with the support of the Czech-German Future Fund)

[Anna Hulačová / 1.10.2026–10.1.2027](#)

Anna Hulačová's figurative sculptures blend influences from Surrealism, Social Realism, and Czech folk art into a unique universe of their own.

Press preview: September 30, 2026, 11:00 a.m.

Palmengarten, Frankfurt am Main

[Garden Utopias – A Look at the Landscapes of the Future, with Works by Veronika Richterová / 1.10.2026–7.2.2027](#)

The exhibition invites visitors on a multifaceted journey through real and imagined garden landscapes that reflect possible future scenarios.

Opening: September 30, 2026, 6:00 p.m.

Haus am Dom Frankfurt am Main & Museum of Czech Literature (with the support of the Czech-German Future Fund)

[Nothing Compels Me but Love \(B. N.\) – Literature from Czechia from Božena Němcová to Radka Denemarková / 3.10.–27.11.2026](#)

The exhibition is dedicated to the literary resistance movement led by women, from Božena Němcová to Radka Denemarková, and presents Czech literature by women in this context abroad for the very first time.

Opening: October 2, 6:00 p.m.

With author Radka Denemarková in attendance

Deutsches Filminstitut & Filmmuseum Frankfurt am Main & Galerie Teleport Prag (with the support of PPF Foundation and the embassy of the Czech Republic in Germany)

[Freude und Zuflucht / Joie et refuge / 4.10.2026–22.11.2026](#)

This is a "preview" of the traveling exhibition, which offers a cross-section of contemporary Czech photography.

Archäologisches Museum Frankfurt am Main & East Bohemia Museum in Pardubice

[The bronze beauty from Kladina / 5.10.2026–31.1.2027](#)

The unique discovery of a bronze cauldron from Kladina in the Pardubice District has significantly changed our understanding of the development of the Late Bronze Age in Eastern Bohemia. Visitors to the exhibition have the opportunity to admire the unique beauty of the exhibit and to experience the archaeological interpretations that have brought this artifact to life.

Opening: October 5, 2026, 6:00 p.m.

Please do get in touch if you would like further information, to receive review copies or to arrange an interview!

Events

01.09.–31.10.2026

[Czechia in the Dark – A sensual journey into Böhmerwald](#)

DIALOGMUSEUM, Frankfurt am Main

8.10.2026, 6 pm

[Read with your fingers, travel with all your senses – Braille reading with Jaroslav Rudis](#)

DIALOGMUSEUM, Frankfurt am Main

8.10.2026, 6 pm

[Experience Czechia Through Touch – Braille and Tactile Books from Tactus.cz](#)

DIALOGMUSEUM, Frankfurt am Main

30.09.–2.10.2026

[Ahoj! Tschechien setzt über](#)

LiteraturSchiff, Bad Ischl

29.09.–1.10.2026

[Ahoj! Tschechien setzt über](#)

Literaturhaus Wien

Book tips

Jiří Hájíček: „Der Drache auf dem Feldweg“
(Karl Rauch Verlag, translated by Kristina Kallert, published on 15th September 2026)



Kristýna, a music teacher, returns to her hometown after spending years in Prague. At thirty-five, she tries to reconnect with her family. She has known Tomáš, who lives on his family's old farm, her whole life—and soon their relationship becomes more than that. But little by little, tensions arise—subtle disagreements stemming from the contrasts between city and country life. Suddenly black cars appear in the village, and young men in suits step out, offering money in exchange for shares in the farms. What sounds like a tempting offer turns out to be an attack. And Tomáš realizes that a crisis far greater than his own is looming.

An atmospherically rich novel about love, responsibility, and the question of who owns the land.

You can find more information about the book [here](#).

Jan Křesadlo: „Astronautilia“
(Kétoš Verlag, translated by Ondřej Cikán, to be published on 1st October 2026)



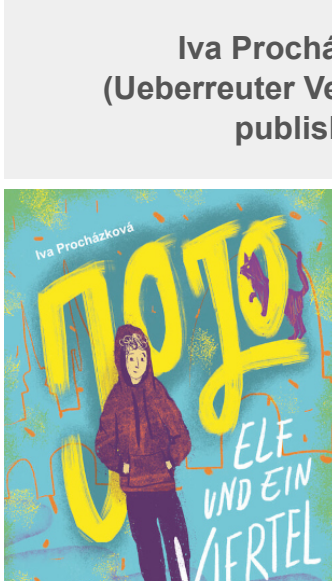
In 1994, the polyglot Czech author and psychologist Jan Křesadlo wrote the epic "Astronautilia" in Homeric Ancient Greek. He then translated the nearly 7,000 hexameters into Czech.

In the distant future, it is discovered that there must be a being that observes space, and without whose observation the universe cannot exist. This being is a sheep. An evil guardian named Manysa kidnaps it, and Captain Nemo is dispatched with a crew of robots, Theroids, and humans to capture the sheep and its kidnapper in the canyons of space. The chase leads Captain Nemo and his skunk-like universal translator, Franta, to Prague in the early 1990s. To reach the Tatla Mountains, where their spaceship is supposed to pick them up, they unexpectedly need ID cards because Czechoslovakia has since disintegrated. A certain archivist lends them his ID to forge, but in return demands a science fiction novel. The universal translator Franta believes he is in the Renaissance and delivers an epic in Ancient Greek: the Astronautilia.

Now, this amusing magnum opus by Křesadlo is being published in German for the first time to mark the 100th anniversary of his birth. The edition is trilingual—featuring both original texts (Ancient Greek and Czech) along with a German translation—and appears in two volumes totaling approximately 950 pages.

You can find more information about the book [here](#).

Jindřich Janíček: „Westnordwest“
(Rotopol, translated by Katharina Hinderer, to be published on 1st October 2026)



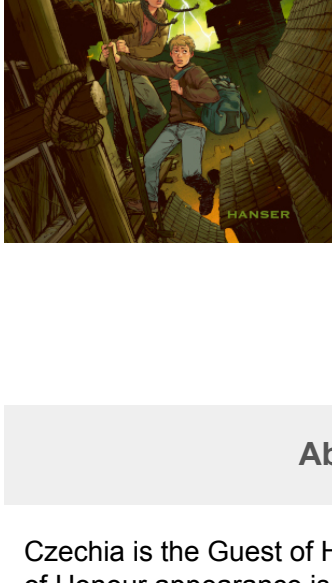
What would the soundtrack of cities like Seattle, Salt Lake City, Portland, or Vancouver sound like? What might happen to you on the filming locations of *Twin Peaks*? How much time can you spend at a bookstore, and why would someone in the Pacific Northwest of the U.S. think of the Czech city of Znojmo?

"Westnordwest" recounts the experiences of a grand journey through North America: from Washington through British Columbia to Oregon and back to Washington. The result is an original and visually opulent travelogue in which the author and comic artist Jindřich Janíček gives free rein to his fascination with North American geography, folklore, and pop culture. Humorous comic segments intertwine with illustrated prose, enriched with encyclopedic curiosities, drawings, maps, and diagrams.

The book, which runs to over three hundred pages, is a blend of visual and written travel diary—and serves as both a personal confession and a political commentary.

You can find more information about the book [here](#).

Iva Procházková: „Jojo, elf und ein Viertel“
(Ueberreuter Verlag, translated by Ferdinand Hauser, published on 16th September 2026)



A literary children's book about growing up—honest, funny, and touching.

Jojo is eleven—and a quarter. And suddenly, everything is different. When he sees Agatha, he's lost for words. His grandmother is sick and will soon die. And his rival on the basketball court is seriously injured. Amid school, theater rehearsals, and basketball, something happens that Jojo doesn't quite understand: he's right in the middle of growing up. And he has to figure out who he really is.

With subtle humor and keen observation, this literary children's book tells the story of what it feels like to be caught between childhood and adolescence.

You can find more information about the book [here](#).

Vojtěch Matocha: „DunkelZone“
(Hanser Verlag, translated by Claudia Adlhoch, published on 15th September 2026)



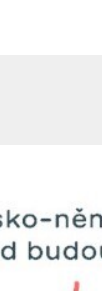
Jules Verne meets Dan Brown—an action-packed thriller set in the heart of Prague. The breathtaking opener to Vojtěch Matocha's DunkelZone series.

What lies behind the mysterious Dark Zone in Prague? As power outages occur in more and more places and the enigmatic Dark Zone begins to expand, Jirka and his friends En and Tonda must figure out what's going on before the city is completely engulfed in darkness. Their search leads them to the Prašná district, which lies like a gloomy island in the midst of the radiant capital. Here, electricity doesn't work—there's no power and no reception for radios or cell phones. But the friends aren't the only ones on the trail of the mystery behind the darkness: In the labyrinthine alleys of the Dark Zone, a nerve-wracking race against time begins, with the three of them being hunted by ruthless adversaries.

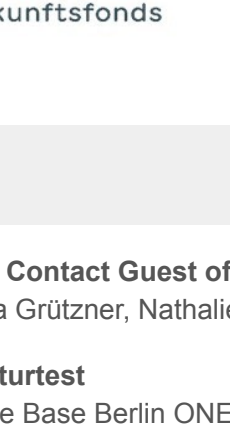
You can find more information about the book [here](#).

About the Guest of Honour

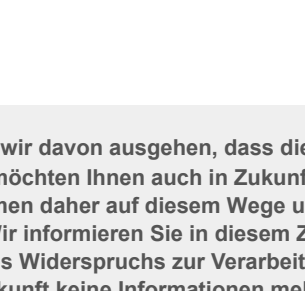
Czechia is the Guest of Honour of the Frankfurt Book Fair 2026. The Guest of Honour appearance is being organised by the Moravian Library in Brno and its Czech Literature Centre section. It is being financed by public funds from the Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic and is implemented with the support of PPF Foundation. Partner of the Year of Czech Culture and Guest of Honour is Deutsch-Tschechischer Zukunftsfonds / Česko-německý fond budoucnosti. The Frankfurt Book Fair, which will take place from October 7 to 11, 2026, is the world's largest trade fair for publishing. The Guest of Honour presents its literature and culture at the fair, in the city of Frankfurt, and at many other locations in Germany, Austria, and Switzerland. Czechia's Guest of Honour appearance is themed "Czechia – A Country on the Coast." <https://czechia2026.com>



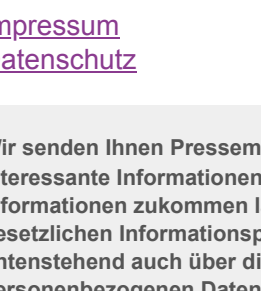
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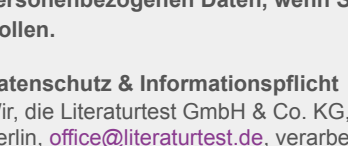
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