

# Czech Books for Children and Young Adults 2018







# Pavel Čech

## A

Pavel Čech's latest prize-winning comic book (a Golden Ribbon Award for the best comics for children and youth) comes as something of a surprise after his previous work. The wordless story not only adopts a grim Orwellian tone but is also reminiscent of Jiří Trnka's cartoon *Ruka* (The Arm). It rouses us and warns us against all forms of totalitarianism. This is embodied by the ever-present letter A, which is the only letter permitted. Although there are generally just six panels to a page, upon repeated viewing we discover a wealth of detail related to the

impact of autocracy: depersonalized factory machinery, a beret with a number on it, food rationing, dull school lessons and mass demonstrations in favour of the hysterically revered letter... One day, the inquisitive main character with the numbered beret spots a paper airplane with the letter B on it, for which an old man from the neighbourhood has been punished. Thanks to his desire to fly, he manages to reach a land full of colour and letters on a converted bicycle and decides to symbolically describe his experiences to others by going all the way from A to Z.

Age: 10+



A  
Illustrated by the author  
Havlíčkův Brod, Petrkov 2016, 60 unnumbered pages

AWARDS:  
2017 Golden Ribbon Award - Comics for children and youth

RIGHTS:  
Petrkov publishers  
Petr Novotný  
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Pavel Čech (1968) has been working freelance as a self-taught artist since 2004. The success of his children's tale *O čertovi* (About a Little Devil, 2002) inspired him to create more than 15 books and comic books for children and young people, including the stories *O zahradě* (About a Garden, 2005), *O klíči* (About a Key, 2007), *Tajemství ostrova za prkenou ohradou* (The Mystery of the Island Beyond the Wooden Fence, 2009) and the collection *Dědečkové* (Grandfathers; Muriel Prize for best drawing 2011). His poetic illustrations have accompanied Radek Malý's collections *Listonoš vítr* (The Postman Wind, 2009) and *Moře slané vody* (The Saltwater Sea, 2014). He was awarded a Magnesia Litera in 2013 for his comic book *Velké dobrodružství Pepíka Střechy* (The Great Adventures of Pepík Střecha) about the strength of friendship and the imagination. *Velká knižní záhada* (The Great Book Mystery, 2014) looked back on his boyhood reading. His ability to playfully build on the legacy of author Jaroslav Foglar was evident in his four comic books *Dobrodružství Rychlé Veverky* (The Adventures of the Fast Squirrel, 2013–2016).

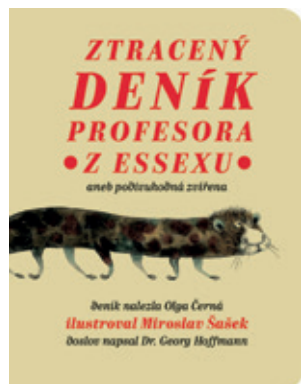
# Olga Černá & Miroslav Šašek

## THE PROFESSOR FROM ESSEX'S LOST DIARY: CURIOUS FAUNA

Just as Charles Darwin, sailing on the Pacific Ocean onboard the *Beagle*, was not the only person to discover the laws of evolution, so this bestiary from the studio of Miroslav Šašek is not the only weird and wonderful version of nature to come welling up from the depths of an artist's imagination. This set of illustrations, whose narrative was provided by the artist's great-niece Olga Černá, poses as the work of a shipwrecked naturalist who is studying the local fauna on an island under the watchful eye of his pragmatic wife. And because it not only includes abundant

two-headed species (the two-headed meadow squirrel), but also useful ones (the milk-yielding udderite) and edible ones (the four-legged patterperch), the enlightened Victorian scholar decides to become a conservationist. The appearance of the old notebook, its diary form, hint of absent-mindedness and the afterword by an expert all help to create the illusion of a "found" scientific work so convincingly that the result is destined to remain in the minds of lovers of humorous Robinsonades for a long time to come.

Age: 10+



ZTRACENÝ DENÍK PROFESORA Z ESSEXU  
Illustrated by Miroslav Šašek  
Prague, Baobab 2017, 80 pages

RIGHTS:  
Baobab publishers  
gplusg@gplusg.cz



ZTRACENÝ DENÍK + STRANA 8

Olga Černá (1964) studied agronomy at the University of Agriculture in Prague and has worked as a bookseller, teacher and librarian. She has written for the magazines *Mateřidouška*, *Sluníčko* and *Jonáš*, and she writes a blog for the weekly magazine *Respekt*. The most significant works by this core author of the Baobab publishing house, co-founder of the Miroslav Šašek Foundation and editor of the biographical album *To je M. Šašek* (This is M. Šašek, 2014) include *Kouzelná baterka* (The Magic Torch; Golden Ribbon, 2004) and *Jitka a kytky* (Jitka and the Flower, 2010; both illustrated by Michaela Kukovičová). She also captured the dreamlike world of nature in the books *Poklad starého brouka* (The Old Beetle's Treasure, 2007) and *Z domu a zahrady* (From the Home and Garden, 2011). The socially engaged prose *Klárka a 11 babiček* (Klárka and the 11 Grandmothers, 2015) was nominated for a Magnesia Litera award in 2016.

Miroslav Šašek (1916–1980) studied architecture and drawing at the Czech Technical University in Prague and at the École des Beaux-Arts in Paris. After the February Coup he remained in exile, mainly in Paris and Munich, where he worked at the Czech office of Radio Free Europe. Before leaving Czechoslovakia, he created books for children including *Benjamin a tisíc mořských draků kapitána Barnabáše* (Benjamin and the Thousand Sea Dragons of Captain Barnabas, 1947) and *Nejmilejší říkadla* (The Nicest Nursery Rhymes, 1948). His works were banned in Czechoslovakia until 1989. He became famous internationally for *This is...* (from 1959 onward), his series of illustrated travel guides to the world's great cities, which eventually enjoyed popularity in the Czech Republic too.

# Jiří Černý & Lukáš Fibrich PICTURES FROM MODERN CZECHOSLOVAK HISTORY 1945–1989

Jiří Černý's series of comic books took an earlier groundbreaking project of charting Czech history in *Mateřídouška* (a magazine for schools) to a phase which would not have got past the censors of the time. It helps to explain the tragedy of our democracy, dismantled in a supposedly "peaceful way", to today's adolescents, who have no experience of the postwar period or of communism and can often end up with distorted ideas about them as a result of older people's frustrations. The narrative goes on to describe 41 years of rule from Moscow, focusing on rebellious writers as well as jingoistic shock workers. It describes the more humane form

of socialism that was suppressed by the August invasion and the darkness known as "Normalization", followed by the stifling nature of "real socialism". The examination of the policies of the "party and state" is balanced out by references to everyday life and whole pages on the successes of Czech culture. Despite the fact that the extensive actions of the Mašín brothers go unassessed in the book, Lukáš Fibrich's pertinent caricatures manage to show the true nature of the "unanimity of the people". Perhaps it will encourage young people to become more actively involved in public affairs.

Age: 12+



OBRÁZKY Z MODERNÍCH ČESKOSLOVENSKÝCH  
DĚJIN 1945–1989, Illustrated by Lukáš Fibrich  
Prague, Knižní klub 2016, 136 pages

AWARDS:  
2017 Muriel Award - Best original book

RIGHTS:  
Euromedia group  
Berenika Ovčáčková  
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V srpnu 1985 se Václav Havel vydal na cestu po vlasti, aby navštívil přátele. Celou dobu ho sledovala policie; pár kroků za ním chodil policista a každého, s kým promluvil, legitimoval. Policistů na něj bylo nasazeno tři sta.



Veřejně, poprvé po devatenácti letech, Václav Havel vystoupil 3. září 1988 na festivalu v Lipnici nad Sázavou. Podruhé to bylo 10. prosince na první povolené manifestaci v Praze na Žižkovském Škroupově náměstí.

Jiří Černý (1940) worked as a journalist after studying Spanish and Czech at Charles University. In the 1970s, he and the artist Jiří Kalousek (1925–1986) began creating a historical series for the magazine *Mateřídouška*, which was compiled into the single-volume *Obrázky z českých dějin a pověstí* (Pictures from Czech History and Legends) in 1980. He also contributed to the series *Obrázky z dějin zeměpisných objevů* (Pictures from the History of Geographical Discoveries, in book form 1992 and 2004; with Ervín Urban) followed by *Obrázky z československých dějin* (Pictures from Czechoslovak History, 2011; with Jaroslav Veis and Barbara Šalamounová), which covers the years 1918–1945. He created portraits of his exceptional fellow countrymen in the collection *Světová Češi 1* (International Czechs 1, 2015; with Jana Jůzlová and Jiří Fixl).

Lukáš Fibrich (1974) graduated in animation from the Film and Television School of the Academy of Performing Arts in Prague, and film and television graphics from Prague's Academy of Arts, Architecture and Design. He provides illustrations for language textbooks, creates cut-outs and contributes to the comic reviews *Aargh!* and *Bublifuk*. He worked with Zdeněk Šmíd on the travelogue *Tanec lovců lebek aneb Proč bychom se nevrátili* (The Dance of the Hunters' Skulls: Why we would not return, 2011). In collaboration with the magazine *ABC* he produced a comic book about the agile tomatcat *Mourrison* (2006) and *Mourrison 2, hrdina bez kázně a hany* (Mourrison 2, A Hero without Discipline and Shame, 2010). He also made use of a humorous abbreviation in Klára Smolíková's prose *H. U. S. – Hus úplně světověj* (H.U.S – Hus Utterly Special, 2015).

# Petra Dvořáková

## EVERYONE HAS A LINE TO HOLD – ON FLOORBALL, FIRST LOVES AND THE PRICE OF VICTORY

In modern Czech literature for adolescent readers there are surprisingly few stories which display an enthusiasm for sport and at the same time capture the joy and sorrow experienced by the participants. In the Anglo-Saxon world these types of books would be called *tweeners* – novels for young people on the cusp of adolescence. The main characters are a twin brother and sister who play floorball and experience the usual mixture of success and failure both on

the bench and on the playing field. The author also describes prejudices concerning well-off families, and at the end gambles on the strength of friendship, solidarity and the “good streak within us.” The plot also includes a fierce battle for a trophy and the fumbblings surrounding first loves and parties, while a parental divorce painfully foreshadows the reality of the adult life they are all heading for.

Age: 10+



KAŽDÝ MÁ SVOU LAJNU  
Illustrated by Karel Osoha  
Brno, Host 2017, 144 pages

RIGHTS:  
Host publishers  
Dana Blatná  
blatna@hostbrno.cz



Petra Dvořáková (1977) graduated in philosophy from Masaryk University in Brno and now works as a journalist. There was lively interest in her debut work – a collection of conversations called *Proměněné sny* (Transformed Dreams, 2007), reflecting on the themes of illusion and disillusion in faith – which won a Magnesia Litera for journalism. In 2009 she published the book *Já jsem hlad* (I am Hunger), in which she described her own struggle with mental anorexia as “a search, a journey and a return to the female soul”. Her debut children’s work, *Julie mezi slovy* (Julie between the Words), was awarded a Golden Ribbon in 2014. The children’s story *Flouk a Lila* (Flouk and Lila, 2015), is aimed at younger readers and looks at friendship in the form of a computer mouse and a cat.

Karel Osoha (1991) studies animation at Prague’s Academy of Arts, Architecture and Design. In 2015 he helped to organize an exhibition as part of the Komiksfest festival. His most important work to date is a comic book based on a story by the historian Pavel Kosatík *Češi 1948 – Jak se KSČ chopila moci* (The Czechs in 1948 – How the Communist Party Seized Power, 2016, Muriel Prize 2017 for best drawing), concluding an illustrated series on crucial events in Czech modern history.

# Renáta Fučíková

## SHAKESPEARE – 12 PLAYS RETOLD WITHIN THEIR HISTORICAL CONTEXT

For the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death of William Shakespeare, Renáta Fučíková offered older school-age readers a grand entrance into the playwright's universe. She skilfully avoided speculation about the dramatist's identity and instead looked at everyday life during the Renaissance. She has selected twelve of Shakespeare's plays, which are chronologically arranged, and which demonstrate the variety of the author's work, as well as pinpointing the periods when an individual recognises their main values developed. The human comedies and tragedies are not only retold for a young audience in colourful language, but some of the most

famous scenes are spoken by the main characters in a translation by Jiří Josek. The introduction and conclusion establish each play within the real historical world and interpret their ideas with an emphasis on the timelessness of their character and themes. The stage design here is presented through illustrations: the entire Renaissance world, both the turbulent theatrical and the real one, is brought to the reader etched in warm tones of brown. This unique encyclopaedia, which won a Golden Ribbon in the art category, might attract even the most stubborn opponent of this muse to the legacy of the Elizabethan bard.

Age: 10+



SHAKESPEARE – 12 PŘEVYPRÁVĚNÝCH HER V HISTORICKÝCH SOUVISLOSTECH, Illustrated by the author Prague, Vyšehrad 2016, 208 pages

AWARDS:  
2017 Golden Ribbon Award - Art Section: Non-fiction for children and youth

RIGHTS:  
Vyšehrad publishers  
Radka Fialová  
fialova@ivysehrad.cz



Renáta Fučíková (1964) graduated from Prague's Academy of Arts, Architecture and Design and works in book illustration, literature and art, including applied art. She has been working as a lecturer at the Ladislav Sutnar University of West Bohemia's Faculty of Design and Art in Plzeň since 2016. She has illustrated children's stories, legends and books on folklore, for example, *Pohádky Oscara Wildea* (The Fairy Tales of Oscar Wilde, 1995), *Staré pověsti české a moravské* (Old Bohemian and Moravian Legends, 2005) by Alena Ježková, *Čínské pohádky* (Chinese Fairy Tales, 2007) and *Příběhy dvanácti měsíců* (The Tales of the Twelve Moons, 2015) by Josef Krček. The publishers Práh have brought out a series of the author's own books *Největší Češi*, (The Greatest Czechs), who include *Tomáš Garrigue Masaryk* (2006), *Jan Amos Komenský* (2008), *Antonín Dvořák* (2012) and *Karel IV.* (2016). Her interest in history led to the enormous art-education tome *Historie Evropy – Obrazové putování* (The History of Europe – An Illustrated Pilgrimage, 2011, with Daniela Krolupperová) and the historical collage *Praha v srdci* (Prague in the Heart, 2015). For her *Vyprávění ze Starého zákona* (Stories from the Old Testament, 1998) the ten-times recipient of the Golden Ribbon was included on the IBBY Honour List and won first prize at the Biennial of Illustration in Teheran.

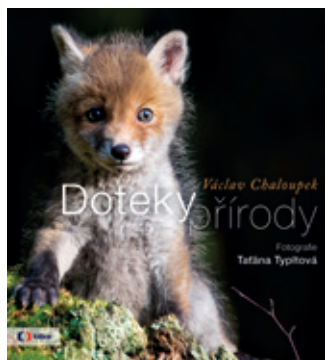
# Václav Chaloupek & Taťána Typltová

## ENCOUNTERS WITH NATURE

This accomplished art-education book records the carefully planned, long-term contribution of Václav Chaloupek towards popularizing the natural sciences for young television viewers. The author passes through the countryside and at each stop examines a common or rare flower, bird or animal from various habitats. Each trip is framed by the photographs of Taťána Typltová, who is aided by the fact that some plant species or animal tracks can only be seen by the most experienced gun-less hunters. However, memories of the

times wandering around the green expanses are occasionally interrupted by the writer with a mention of the unfortunate death of young animals due to agricultural machinery. In addition to this knowledge, the observer also takes away with them an awareness of how magnificent Czech meadows and groves are: you will learn about the meadowsweet, touch-me-nots and marsh calla. The photographs are an integral part of the publication, and in addition to full-page shots, there are also enlargements of blooming flowers.

Age: 6+



DETEKY PŘÍRODY  
Photography: Taťána Typltová  
Prague, Czech Television – Edice ČT 2017, 368 pages

RIGHTS:  
Czech Television  
Jitka Saturová  
jitka.saturova@ceskatelevize.cz



Václav Chaloupek (1949) graduated from the Faculty of Education in Plzeň, where he also worked as an art teacher and in the local zoo. Viewers of Czech Television will be very familiar with this screenwriter and reporter. In 1997 he filmed his first television series *Tuláček* (The Little Wanderer, about fox cubs), which was followed by other programmes including *Pruhovaní kamarádi* (Striped Friends), *Měďové* (The Little Bears), *Výdrýšek* (The Little Otter, 2002 SUK Prize) and *Bráškové* (The Brothers, about wolf cubs' first steps). He also contributed to the wildlife documentaries *Kouzlo Afriky* (The Magic of Africa), *Minuta z přírody* (A Minute from Nature) and *Novinky z přírody* (The News from Nature) – with these two programmes being the basis for this book.

Taťána Typltová (1977) is from Mukačev in Transcarpathian Ukraine. She worked in Plzeň zoo, where she began to photograph professionally. A collection of photographs from this zoo published in the book *Dětky přírody* (Encounters with Nature) were presented in a separate exhibition. She is also involved in artistic portraiture.

# Eva Chupíková

## VOGUEABULARY: PRAGUE HAS STYLE

In this interactive guide, Eva Chupíková develops an area of her work in which schoolchildren are informed in a very creative manner about the cultural treasures of our homeland. Most recently, she has provided an overview of the range of architectural styles that contribute to the beauty of the Czech capital. Their principles usually come from the distant past, mainly from ancient ideas about the form of monumental and secular buildings, or from the

legacy of ideas from the Renaissance and Classicism. The author inventively enriches each period of Prague's architecture with stimuli for various art activities, such as colouring-in or cut-outs, so that children can create their own sgraffito writing, colour in palace arcades, or furnish an Empire room. It will also appeal to girls and style-conscious boys who are interested in the fashions of different centuries.



Age: 8+



SLOHOVNÍK, Illustrated by the author  
Prague, Albatros 2017, in a ringbound workbook  
with 60 unnumbered pages

RIGHTS:  
Albatros media  
Jana Cieslarová  
jana.cieslarova@albatrosmedia.cz

Eva Chupíková (1974), originally from Ružomberk in Slovakia, she graduated in philosophy and English philology from Olomouc University's Faculty of Arts. She works in book illustration and graphic design. She has created several designs for schoolbags and drawing boards. Her gentle writing, poeticizing the wonder of nature, found its place in the art-education books of Daniela Krolupperová, *Zákeřné keře* (Shifty Shrubs, 2010), *Rybí sliby* (Piscine Pledges, 2011) and *Mizící hmyzíci* (Bugs Begone, 2013). In the guidebooks *S pastelkami po...* (With Crayons Across...), she takes us to Czech castles, chateaux and monasteries. She also uses games in her own books *Můj prázdninový deník* (My Summer Diary, 2011) and *Královské karty Karla IV.* (The Cards of King Charles IV, 2016). Last year, she also illustrated Alžběta Dvořáková's *Herkules a strašidla* (Hercules and the Monsters), about a lazy town cat that moves to the country.

# Jiří Kahoun

## THE CHEEKY DEVILS

### IN DLOUHONOSY

The sentimental feeling associated with the approach of Christmas is also starting to affect the narrow-minded people of Dlouhonosy, whose bad deeds Hell has been registering approvingly for years, which is why it is necessary to protect their souls from the influence of good. However, Lucifer's own crime squadron, flying over Prague's Faust House, past Křivoklátsko, to their destination near Orlík, is made up of bunglers, boors and tearaways, so they are in trouble straight after landing.

Today this classic plot of villains who assert their ghostly rights and cause problem after problem was conceived by Jiří Kahoun as a "game with the devils". The children's wait for mid-night mass to celebrate Jesus' birth is spiced up in places by playful layers of language that embellish the characters' speech in a charming way. The writer's unplanned creative testament shows that by using this expressiveness, his children's stories have managed to caricature many human foibles.



Age: 6+



V DLOUHONOSECH ZLOBÍ ČERTI  
Illustrated by Lucie Dvořáková  
Prague, Knižní klub 2016, 112 pages

RIGHTS:  
Euromedia group  
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Jiří Kahoun (1942–2017), originally an artistic metal and stone worker, became one of the most experienced writers for young schoolchildren. He collaborated on the *Sluníčko* magazine and made an immediate impact with his debut work *Pískací kornoutek* (The Whistling Cone, 1984, filmed). His stories were made into the serials *Příhody včelích medvídků*, *Včelí medvídci od jara do zimy*, *Jak se mají včelí medvídci?* (The Tales of the Bee Teddy Bears, The Bee Teddy Bears from Spring to Winter, How Are the Bee Teddy Bears?, in book form 1992, 2005 and 2009; artist Ivo Houf) and *Toronto Tom, kocour z Ameriky* (Toronto Tom, the Tomcat from America, in book form 1993, illustrations Jitka Walterová). He later returned to what he knew best in his children's stories about animals *Co se zdá medvědům* (What Teddy Bears Think About, 2015). The legacy of this recipient of a Golden Ribbon for lifelong achievement was seen this year with a re-edition of *Kamarádi v kožíšku* (Friends in Fur, originally 2013).

Lucie Dvořáková (1959) graduated from the studio of film and television graphic design at the Academy of Arts, Architecture and Design. This double recipient of a Golden Ribbon has worked on the dreamlike works of Eduard Petiška, Jiří Žáček, Ivona Březinová, Miloš Kratochvíl and Petr Stančík. She also works in animation (*Vážně nevážně*, *Slepice* [Seriously not Serious, Hens]) and on scenery design for children's programmes (she created the sets for Fanfaria's Realm for Czech Television). She was awarded an honorary mention at the South Korean festival Namibook Island Illustration Concours 2013 for her series of illustrations for Martina Drijerová's *Pohádky ze středověku* (Medieval Fairy Tales).

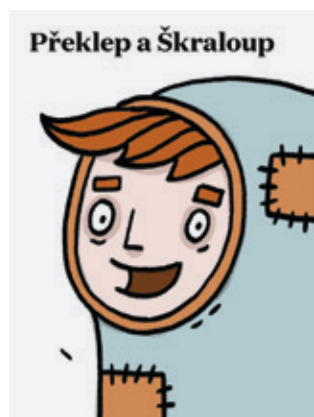
# Tomáš Končinský, Barbora Klárová, Daniel Špaček & Petr Štěpán

## TYPO AND SKIM

All things age – and the world can do nothing about it. Few know, however, that all of these destructive processes are due to entropic pixies, whose occupation is to destroy things. The narrative of the school-age pixie, Typo, reveals the educational curriculum of these determined vandals, and we also discover that it is the work of these pixies which causes children to cry over broken toys or spoiled birthday cakes. The co-writers of this story, which was awarded Magnesia Litera and Golden

Ribbon awards, chose a story filled with mischievous ideas, endless mess and tiny characters, reminiscent of Jaromír Zápál's drawings for Nikolay Nosov's Dunno books. Dozens of jokes within the text enhance Typo's journey to places where he and the slob, Skim, and the dung-beetle, Mořic, can stop the Tooth of Time as well as the laws of physics. However – will they not be frightened in the timeless, eternal darkness?

Age: 6+



PŘEKLEP A ŠKRALOUP  
Illustrated by Daniel Špaček, typography Petr Štěpán  
Prague, Albatros 2016, 120 pages

AWARDS:  
2017 Golden Ribbon Award - Literary Section:  
Literature for children  
2017 Magnesia Litera Award - For children and youth

RIGHTS:  
Albatros media  
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Tomáš Končinský (1978) graduated from the department of screenwriting and dramaturgy at the Film and TV School of the Academy of Performing Arts. He works as a TV dramaturg and screenwriter, mainly for Czech Television's children's channel. He was nominated for a Czech Lion for his screenplay for the film *Schmitke* (2015). He is the spiritual father of Květa the Curator, whose unbelievable non-adventure from a gallery chair won a Muriel prize for best comic-strip in 2014.

Barbora Klárová (1983) graduated from Charles University's College of Education and has worked as a teacher, translator and lyricist. She now concentrates on screenwriting and dramaturgy for Czech Television's children's channel (the programmes *Černobílo*, *NoNoNo!*, *Planeta Yó*, *Tamtam* etc.).

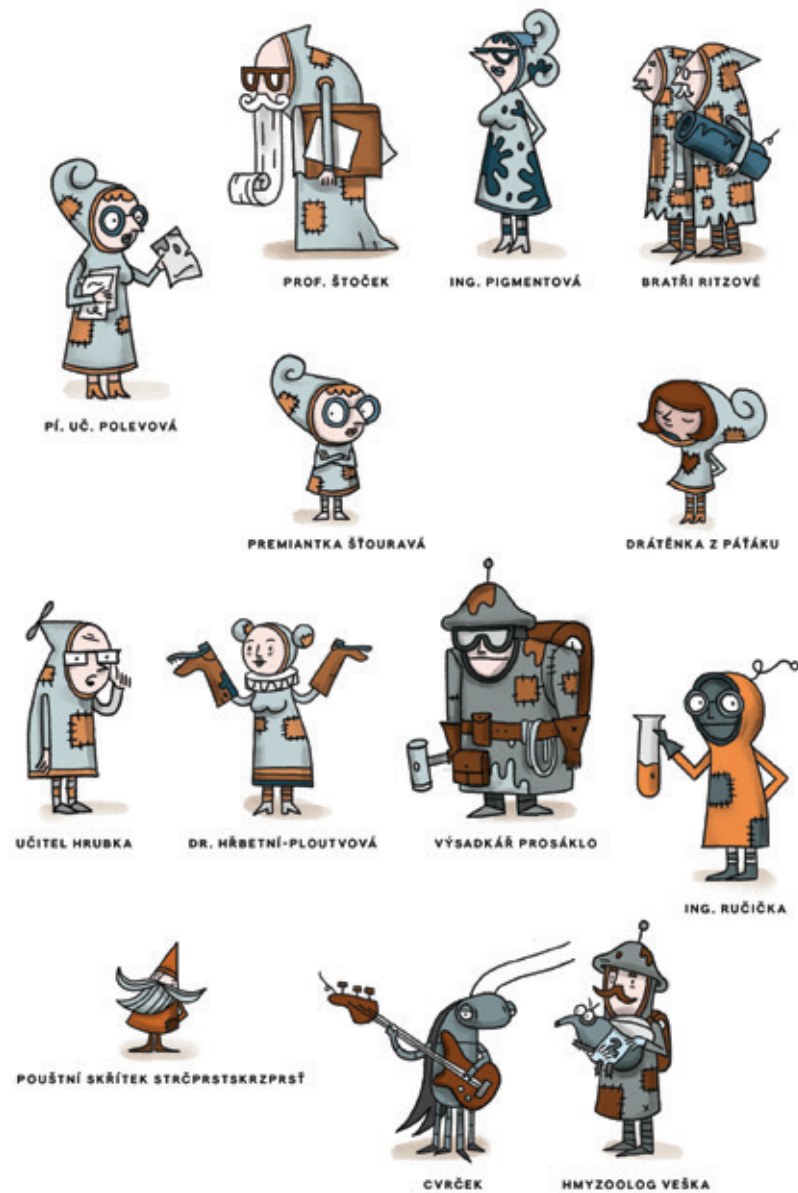
Petr Štěpán (1979) graduated in script and typography from the Academy of Arts, Architecture and Design. He was a member of the Studio Najbrt from 2004 to 2014. He is a recipient of the Czech Grand Design award and the Czech Lion, and is behind the visual style of Czech Television, the Prague Spring festival (from 2010–2013), the company ČD Cargo, as well as the orientation system of Czech Railways.

Daniel Špaček (1977), a graduate from the Prague Academy of Fine Arts and designer of the internationally recognised visual style of the Czech Television's children's channel. He created and directs the series *NoNoNo!* (2017). He has worked on the television series *Černobílo* (2015) and *KOSMO* (2016) and also writes electronic music (the album *Mythematica*).



Typo and Skim

Typo and Skim

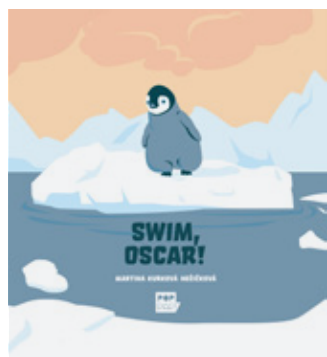


# Martina Kurková Nožičková SWIM, OSCAR!

The imperative in this book's title is aimed at a penguin called Oscar, an outsider from an Antarctic colony, which he is separated from due to his fear of the water and a stubborn desire to fly to the sun. The simple story has a foreseeable end. The penguin resists the others' efforts to teach him how to swim until he discovers the self-preservation instinct to swim home following an accidental trip on a break-away ice floe. Thanks to this, he finds out about the beauty of the undersea world and the wonderful similarity to flying, and as a result, his fear of the unknown disappears. Martina Kurková Nožičková wrote the story and digitally created the illustrations,

and a brief libretto was added by Lukáš Csicsely (1989). However, the most outstanding aspect of the work is the graphic treatment: here the expanses of the Antarctic are tangible from the first fold-out pages, where the characters stand out from the blue, white and grey shades of snow. The enclosed myriorama, consisting of 18 cards to cut out and fold, allows the reader to prolong their experience based simply on their own creativity. There were similar techniques in books for children in the 19th century, but in conjunction with modern typography they acquire a new dimension which can shake up the characters as well as readers.

Age: 3+



OSKARE, PLAVÍ!, Illustrated by the author  
Prague, POP-PAP 2017, 40 unnumbered pages + 2  
blank pages with cards

RIGHTS:  
Pop-pap publishers  
Marcela Konárková  
marcela@pop-pap.cz

This book has also been published in English.

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Martina Kurková Nožičková (1987) graduated from the Ladislav Sutnar Faculty of Art and Design at the West Bohemian University in Plzeň. Since 2014 she has worked as a graphic artist at Mendl University in Brno. She has worked on group publications such as the comic-book collections published as part of the Plzeň – European City of Culture 2015 project. She illustrated the Czech version of H. G. Wells's *War of the Worlds* (2013) and Shirley Jackson's novel *The Haunting of Hill House* (2015).

# Radek Malý & Renáta Fučíková

## FRANZ KAFKA – A MAN OF HIS TIME AND OUR OWN

It is impossible to reduce the personality of Franz Kafka to the captivating, sombre face destined for mass consumption by tourists visiting our “mother with claws”, or even to the subject at an academic conference in Liblice, which in 1963 augured in the brief period of social freedom. Most importantly he was a person like you and I, an individual of flesh and bones, with his many fears and values. And who better to show this than a colleague-writer? Driven by the urge to comprehend the perhaps incomprehensible, Radek Malý follows in the footsteps of Mr K across his homeland – unfortunately handicapped by more than one Kafkaesque shambles – with

an emphasis on his relationships and interests, on his anxieties, and on his fatal lung disease which this fragile man from Prague succumbed to. Thanks to dozens of illustrations by Renáta Fučíková, he also manages to produce three comic books using motifs from well-known stories (*The Judgement*, *Metamorphosis* and *The Hunger Artist*), and so regardless of the generalizations needed for adolescent readers, we are part of his necessary humanization. Stereotypes in the case of Kafka would not be a good idea – as his last lover, Dora Diamant, said, “One day in the company of Franz surpassed anything he wrote”.

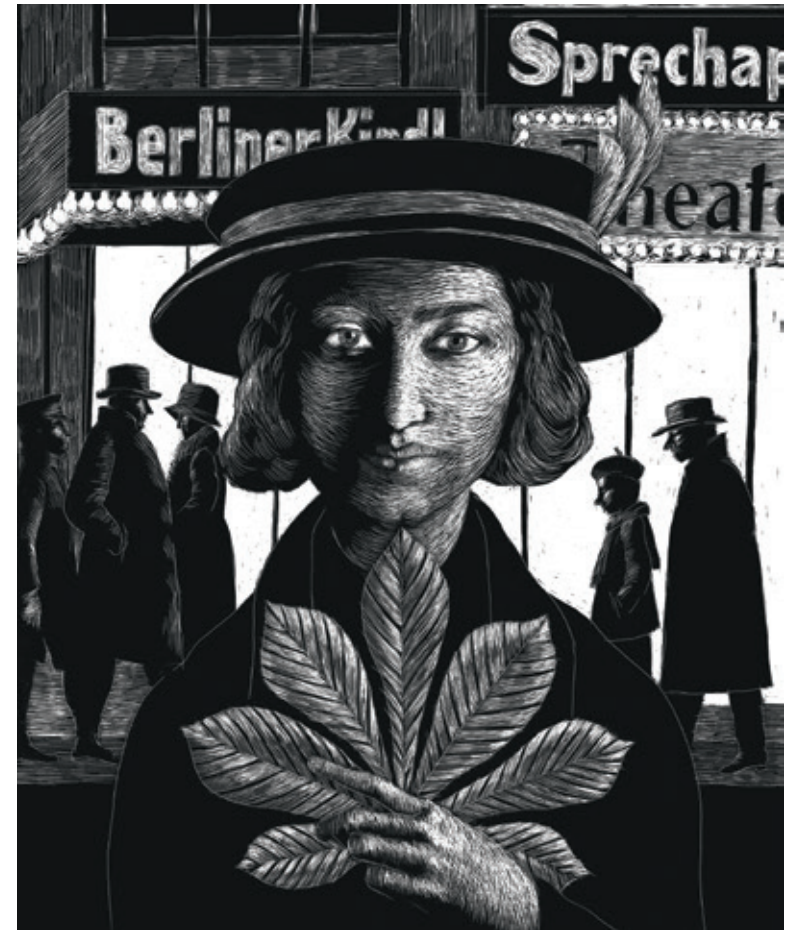
Age: 12+



FRANZ KAFKA - ČLOVĚK SVÉ I NAŠÍ DOBY  
Illustrated by Renáta Fučíková  
Prague, Práh 2017, 104 pages

RIGHTS:  
Práh publishers  
Martin Vopěnka  
vopenka@prah.cz

This book has also been published  
in English and German.



Radek Malý (1977) graduated in Czech and German Studies from Olomouc University's Faculty of Arts. He teaches at both Charles University's Faculty of Social Sciences and his alma mater. He also works as a translator. His poetry for children and adults has been met with critical and public acclaim: *Vraní zpěvy* (Crow Songs) won the Jiří Orten Prize 2004 and the collection *Větrní – Zcestné verše* (Wind – Well-travelled Verse) won the Magnesia Litera for poetry in 2005. In the collection *Kam až smí smích* (Where Laughter Can Go, 2009), he used his poetry and nursery rhymes in school reading books. The melancholic poetry of *Listonoš vítr* (The Postman Wind, 2011, Magnesia Litera 2012, IBBY Honour List 2014) was followed up with the collection *Moře slané vody* (The Saltwater Sea, both books illustrated by Pavel Čech). In 2012 he published *Kamarádi z abecedy* (Friends from the Alphabet), a versified alphabet book inspired by the pictures of František Petrák.

Renáta Fučíková (1964) – see page 13

# Iva Mrkvičková MAJA AND KIM

Who are we to imagine from the names of the title characters of this short story for young readers? It is probably not giving too much away to say that the author's detective style of narration has been influenced by the internationally famous author Astrid Lindgren (1907–2002). Maja is a Swede living alone in Prague with her father, who has opened up a beautiful sweet shop for little children. She is very attentive to the world around her, she loves her tomcat Erik, she is a passionate drawer (and chews her crayons while doing it) and occasionally does not pay attention

in class. The only thing preventing the girl from being completely happy is that her mother is still in Stockholm with a new husband. The unravelling of these tangled relationships occurs on Maja's birthday with the arrival of her eccentric Swedish grandmother and Kim, a resourceful girl shrouded in just the right amount of mystery. The book is also brought to life by Tereza Ščerbová's illustrations, which boast a whole range of colours. And after reading this, who wouldn't want a Danish pastry, a sweet bun, or at least some pepper gingerbread?

Age: 6+



MAJA A KIM  
Illustrated by Tereza Ščerbová  
Prague, Meander 2017, 104 pages

RIGHTS:  
Meander publishers  
nakladatelstvi@meander.cz

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Iva Mrkvičková (1977) graduated in Czech Studies from Charles University's Faculty of Arts. She has taught at primary schools (specializing in Czech for the hard of hearing) and at the South Bohemian University's College of Education in České Budějovice. She lives with her family in South Bohemia. She also writes books to help children learn to read (*Pipin, Týna a obludáci* [Pipin, Týna and the Gargoyles], 2016). She has written an amusing book for adults called *Psí historky* (Dog Stories, 2014).

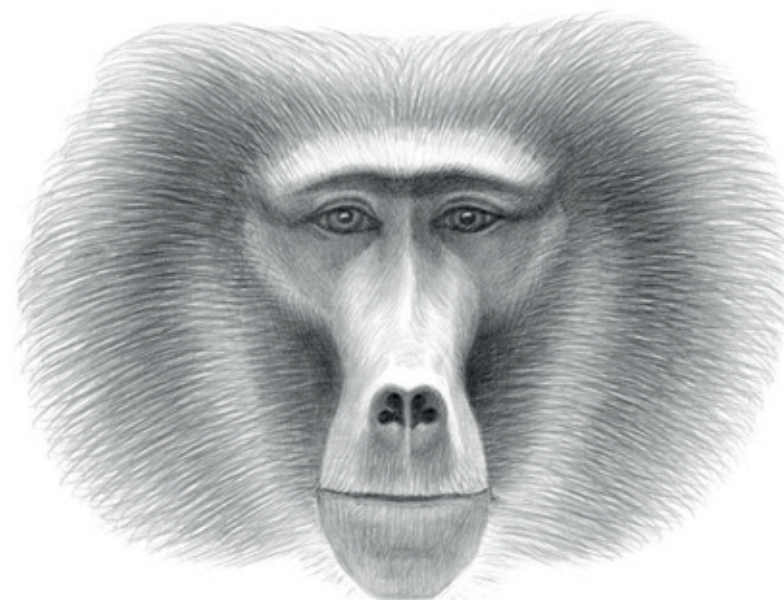
Tereza Ščerbová – see page 41

# Petr Nikl

## MYSTERY APES

The subject for Petr Nikl's thirteenth book will not come as a surprise to his fans as animals and natural phenomena have been an inexhaustible well of imagination for this versatile artist. This time our closest relatives have grabbed his attention and he presents us with a collection of fifteen types of monkeys in perfect pencil drawings. He focuses on their stances and poses, which present the most rewarding possibilities from the many shaped tails of these agile creatures. In coiled and extended forms, the monkeys

become an allegorical design for the letters of the alphabet, and thus each portrait brings with it a message which is understandable only if we work out the picture code. If you fail to do this, you can go through the contents of the book. More verse then arranges the species in a poetically precise way, for example, characterizing the Javan slow loris ("on a bright night, poison covering its fur, the slow loris carries Java in his heart") or the Japanese macaque ("the snow monkey dreams in the hot pool, its stalactite beard ringing").



Age: 8+



JINOTAJE OPIC, Illustrated by the author  
Prague, Meander 2017, 120 pages + 3 boxes with the monkey alphabet

RIGHTS:  
Meander publishers  
nakladatelstvi@meander.cz

Petr Nikl (1960), co-founder of the art group Tvrdohlaví and recipient of the 1995 Jindřich Chalupecký Award, graduated from Prague's Academy of Fine Arts. He experiments with many different art forms, from painting to puppetry to musical projects. He designed the interactive exhibitions *Orbis pictus*, *Hnízda her* (The Nest of Games) and the touring exhibition *Krajina fantazie a hudby* (A Landscape of Imagination and Music), originally for the Czech pavilion at the EXPO 2005 in Aichi. His shy, dreamy vision of the world can be seen in the writer's books *Pohádka o Rybitince* (A Fairy Tale about a Wee Fish Called Rybitinka, 2001), *O Rybabě a mořské duši* (Rybabá and the Sea Soul, 2002), *Lingvistické pohádky* (Linguistic Fairy Tales, 2006), *Záhádky* (Puzzles, Magnesia Litera for book of the year 2008), *Přeshádky* (Across Puzzles, 2010), *Divníáci z Ňjújorku* (The Weirdos from New York, 2012) etc. He also illustrated Jiří Dědeček's nonsense fairy tale *Život a cesta hrocha Obludvíka* (The Life and Travels of Obludvík the Hippo, 2013). In the series *Foukací povídky* (Blow-up Stories, 2013), the several-time recipient of the Golden Ribbon reminisces about the toys made by his mother, the artist Libuše Niklová.

# Luisa Nováková

## WHITE RAVENS

Within the highly diversified family of fantasy genres, high-quality works aimed at teenagers only appear sporadically in the Czech context. The novel *Bílí havrani* can be categorized as historical fantasy, since it presents an image of a firmly established ruling hierarchy in the kingdom of Kaymeira; however, it also displays the typical literary features of works for young readers. Luisa Nováková offers them a thrilling tale about the emotional journey of two noble siblings who are waging

a long and merciless struggle against their usurper stepfather. The young displaced king and his sister are forced to take refuge in the inhospitable town of Věže and negotiate with dozens of the local inhabitants. The characters that will help them through their many adventures are endowed with distinctive personalities and heroic qualities as well as ancient wisdom, not to mention an esotericism reinforced by the author's elevated language and fresh similes.

Age: 12+



BÍLÍ HAVRANI  
Illustrated by Pavel Trávníček  
Prague, Argo 2017, 460 pages

RIGHTS:  
Argo publishers  
Veronika Chaloupková  
veronika.chaloupkova@argo.cz



Luisa Nováková (1971) lectures on Czech literature and literature for children and young people at the Faculty of Arts of Masaryk University, which she graduated from, as well as doing occasional illustration work and translating from Polish. For her two-volume prose debut *Sestra volavek* (Sister of Herons) and *Kámen vládců* (Stone of the Rulers) she won a Golden Ribbon in 1998. She mainly focuses on fiction for young people and adults that draws on history, myths and folklore. She attracted attention with her novel *Krajina s jednorožcem* (Landscape with a Unicorn, 2006) and a collection of original adaptations of Polish legends *Štěpěj královny Jadwigy* (Queen Jadwiga's Footsteps, 2009), which she supplemented with her own translations of Polish folk poetry.

Pavel Trávníček (1984) graduated from a graphic arts college, and yet he still feels like an eternal autodidact. He works in graphic design, typography, painting and illustration. Co-founder of the creative group MSC and the game studio ARK8 (Coraabia online card game), he has participated in numerous internet and television projects. He is also the co-creator of the award-winning experimental construction toy RIPO (with Jan Kysela).

# Tereza Říčanová

## WORLD PICTURES

This guide to the beauty of the world by Tereza Říčanová harks back to her album *Noemova archa* (Noah's Ark) and its artistic composition, abstraction and symbolism. Through 14 fold-out sheets, it takes us into mythological and human times, using them to introduce the universe, underground, sea, forest, garden, jungle and arid desert, and eventually also castles, towns and our sense of community. We can return to her densely conceived scenes again and again, explore and examine them, meditate over them endlessly,

and occasionally also browse through the separate book summarizing the cultural and literary context. It incorporates various types of memory, fabulous ideas and scientific discoveries. So, for example, the sheet with creatures and magical objects looks at the dream archetypes hidden in each of us, regardless of whether they were originally material from fairy tales (*The Seven Ravens*, *Little Red Riding Hood*), the famous rabbits from a magician's hat or even an ordinary rainbow marble.

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Age: 8+



OBRAZY SVĚTA, Illustrated by the author  
Prague, Baobab 2016, 14 colour sheets (unfolding maps)  
and the 192-page Guide to World Pictures in a slipcase

RIGHTS:  
Baobab publishers  
gplus@gplus.cz

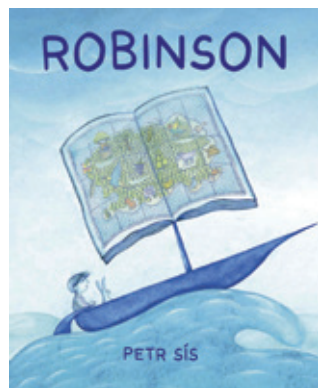
Tereza Říčanová (1974) graduated in illustration and graphic arts from the Academy of Arts, Architecture and Design in Prague. She lives with her large family in the Vysočina area. The subject matter of her books is based on Christian traditions or directly on rudimentary rustic experiences, as demonstrated by *Kozí knížka* (Goat Story, 2005), *Vánoční knížka* (Christmas Story, 2006), the book of folk songs *Měsíček svítí* (The Moon Is Shining, 2008) or *Velikonoční knížka* (The Easter Book, 2012). In her illustrations and accompanying text, myth and paganism are recast into an everyday experience. *Noemova archa* (Noah's Ark, 2010), an unconventional depiction of the Bible story enriched by her own experience of flooding in the courtyard of her farm, won the Most Beautiful Czech Book award for 2011 and the 2011 Golden Ribbon. In 2012 the work was included in the IBBY Honour List.

# Petr Sís ROBINSON

In *Robinson* by Petr Sís, the aura of the immortal adventure story is given material form, fed by an enviable boyhood fantasy. The main character, in whom we recognize the author at a tender age, is getting ready for a carnival celebration and initially wants to dress up as a pirate like the rest of his classmates. Through the influence of some exciting reading – essentially Josef Věromír Pleva's iconic adaptation of Defoe's novel from that time – and on the advice of his mum, he eventually decides upon a Robinson Crusoe costume. But among the buccaneers and other typical figures he looks out of

place in his shaggy outfit, is the subject of derision and feels a deep sense of injustice. In a feverish state heightened by a sudden illness, he experiences his own shipwreck story on a miraculous island. The artist depicts the boy's adventures among the animals with amazing inventiveness. With this remarkable book, the writer and illustrator again went back to his childhood days in Prague's Lesser Quarter – and unlike the globally successful *Zed'* (The Wall), which deals with the trials and tribulations of adolescence in an un-free Czechoslovakia, here he presents a deeply personal memory.

Age: 7+



ROBINSON  
Illustrated by the author  
Prague, Labyrint / Raketa 2017, 48 unnumbered pages

RIGHTS:  
The Wylie Agency (UK) Ltd.  
Luke Ingram  
lingram@wylieagency.co.uk

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Petr Sís (1949) graduated from the Academy of Arts, Architecture and Design in Prague and the Royal College of Art in London. Since 1982 he has lived in the USA. He devotes himself to animated film and book illustration for children and young adults – his books have also come out in other languages including English, French, German, Spanish and Japanese. He has won numerous awards; for example, he is twice winner of the Bologna Ragazzi Award (for the books *Strom života* [The Tree of Life] and *Zed' aneb Jak jsem vyrůstal za železnou oponou* [The Wall: Growing Up Behind the Iron Curtain]). In 2012 he was awarded a Hans Christian Andersen Award in the category of illustration, i.e. the highest distinction in the field, conferred by IBBY. The very personal texts of his work resonate with the use of imagination – *Tři zlaté klíče* (Three Golden Keys, 1995), *Tibet aneb Tajemství červené krabičky* (Tibet Through the Red Box, 2005), *Zed'* (The Wall, 2007) – even when the author is focusing on the deeds of distinguished scientists, e.g. Galileo Galilei (*Hvězdný posel*, Starry Messenger, 1996). In the biographical book *Pilot a Malý princ* (The Pilot and the Little Prince, 2014) he commemorated the humanistic legacy of the aviator and writer Antoine de Saint-Exupéry.

# Petr Stančík & Lucie Dvořáková

## CHRUJDA THE BADGER CONQUERS SPACE

The gods must be crazy – and the creators of these pleasantly potty stories would probably go along with that. Just as a falling Coke bottle disrupted the traditions of a tribe in the African desert in the well-known film, a discarded tennis racquet stirs up the playful absurdity of an animal community in Habřinec forest, based on Petr Stančík's sumptuous linguistic comedy. For the fourth time, the intrepid Chrujda demonstrates the zeal inherent in all badgers without sedentary habits when, under the patronage

of an owl called Stáňa, he climbs into a rocket converted for space exploration and heads towards Pidiluna, a tiny satellite of our Moon. He immediately becomes an authority figure for the local three-legged extra-terrestrials, but even there he probably hasn't heard the last of his treacherous adversary Smradolf. This clash between good and evil may lack the mythic stature of *Star Wars*, but attention: all the equipment and weapons in this comic tale are 100% organic!



Age: 5+



JEZEVEC CHRUJDA DOBÝVÁ VESMÍR  
Illustrated by Lucie Dvořáková  
Prague, Meander 2017, 28 unnumbered pages

RIGHTS:  
Meander publishers  
nakladatelstvi@meander.cz

Petr Stančík (1968), poet, novelist and essayist of a surrealistic persuasion; until 2006 he wrote under the pseudonym Odillo Stradický ze Strdic. He studied at the Faculty of Education of Charles University and at the Theatre Faculty of the Academy of Performing Arts in Prague and worked as a teacher, copywriter and consultant. His novel *Pěrák* (The Spring Man, 2008) offered a tongue-in-cheek commentary on the myth of the superman from the protectorate of Prague. The capital city, this time in the grip of the Austro-Prussian War, also formed the backdrop to his comic detective story *Mlýn na mumie* (Mummy Mill, 2014; Magnesia Litera 2015 for the best work of prose). He also demonstrated an interest in the absurdity of history in the tragicomic novel *Andělí vejce* (An Angel's Egg, 2016). In his work for younger readers, he followed up on the success of the interactive vegetable thriller *Mrkev ho vcucla pod zem* (A Carrot Sucked Him Underground, 2013) by developing the animal escapades from Habřinec forest – previously in the short works *Jezevec Chrujda točí film* (Chrujda the Badger Makes a Film, 2014), *Jezevec Chrujda staví nejdřív urychlovač a pak zase pomalič* (Chrujda the Badger Builds an Accelerator and a Decelerator, 2015) and *Jezevec Chrujda našel velkou lásečku* (Chrujda the Badger Finds his Great Love, 2016).

Lucie Dvořáková (1959) – see page 19

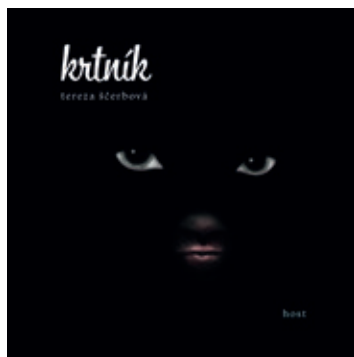
# Tereza Ščerbová

## KOOKI

Her debut work as an author, *Krtník* (Kooki) is based on this acclaimed artist and illustrator's diploma thesis. Over the years she has produced illustrations for the monthly literary magazine *Host*, whose publisher also brought out this book. The mysterious though not gloomy visual accompaniment to this work is provided by large-scale paintings. From their chiaroscuro emerge the figures of Kooki, Bear, the all-consuming villain Jelly and the young designer Madla. Tereza Ščerbová places

them in a fairy-tale-like story whose power will be felt by all those who encounter the title character transformed into a performing monkey in the town. That is no small thing, since we often forget about ourselves and those closest to us in today's pursuit of material goods. But there is much more to this story: the desire to reinvent oneself, inspired by the strength of friendship and new hope. The clouds have also brought rain back to a parched land.

Age: 10+



KRTNÍK  
Illustrated by the author  
Brno, Host 2016, 96 pages

AWARDS:  
2017 Golden Ribbon Award - Art Section: Literature  
for older children and youth

RIGHTS:  
Host publishers  
Dana Blatná  
blatna@hostbrno.cz



Tereza Ščerbová (1982) studied art education at the College of Education at Ostrava University and illustration at the Academy of Arts, Architecture and Design in Prague, in Juraj Horváth's studio. As part of her studies, she undertook a residency in Lucerne, Switzerland under the leadership of Pierre Thomé. She has worked with the magazines *Živel* and *Host*, the Argo publishing house and the Malvína art school. Her dreamy illustrations for Marka Míková's *Škvíry* (Cracks, 2014) won her a Golden Ribbon in the category of books for older children and young people. She gave a similar boost to Lenka Brodecká's fairy-tale-like text *Hledá se hvězda* (Looking for a Star, 2015).

# Tereza Vostradovská

## ANISCIENCE

What do bees feed on that makes forest honey taste different from meadow honey? Why is the mud at the bottom of a pond important, and what does loosestrife look like? Children will find out all this from *Hravouka* (Aniscience). This encyclopaedia for pre-schoolers and older children combines factual information with the charms of a story about a conscientious mouse who is expecting a rare visit from her aunts from the town and would like to give them a thorough introduction to her home. Armed with a magnifying glass, a notebook and curiosity, she begins to explore the surroundings of her underground burrow, the woods, pond and

garden, with infectious enthusiasm. The text is mainly composed of monologues and aphorisms through which the explorer comments on her observations and unobtrusively prompts readers to do likewise. In this way, they become direct witnesses to the creation of an unusual reference guide whose illustrations respect the educational aim and yet also make room for cartoon-style humour. And if they want to set the static scenes in motion, they can make use of applications for mobile phones and tablets which bring the surroundings of the mouse's burrow to life, fill them with sounds and respond to the child's input.

Age: 4+



HRAVOUKA  
Illustrated by the author  
Prague, Běžíliška 2016, 52 unnumbered pages

AWARDS:  
2017 Golden Ribbon Award - Literary Section /  
Art Section: Non-fiction for children

RIGHTS:  
Běžíliška publishers  
František Havlůj  
info@beziliska.cz



Tereza Vostradovská (1988) graduated in film and television graphics from the Academy of Arts, Architecture and Design in Prague. She works in illustration, animation and graphic design and runs art workshops. Her illustrations accompany Robin Karl's pop-up book *Franta spadl blízko školy* (Franta Fell Down Near the School, 2015) and Markéta Hrušešová's culinary tale *Pan Brambora a jeho kamarádi* (Mr Potato and his Friends, 2017). For the book *Hravouka* (Aniscience) she was awarded two Golden Ribbons (for the text and for the illustrations) and also received a nomination for a Magnesia Litera award.

# Alena Wagnerová & Jitka Němečková

## HOW MARTHA TAMED THE DRAGON

Jesus's contemporary Martha, who liberated the town of Nerluc (today's Tarascon) from the clutches of a dragon called the Tarasque while she was in exile by the river Rhône, is such an inspiring figure that the annual procession in honour of this saint has become part of UNESCO's intangible cultural heritage. As recorded in the manuscript *Legenda aurea* (Golden Legend), which preserved this Provençal parable for the centuries to come, Martha overpowered the monster without any weapons, using only twigs held in the shape of a cross and sweet singing, after which she

tied the monster to her girdle and set off towards the town walls with it. But whether the beast embodies an unwelcome pagan from abroad or is a general representation of Evil crawling penitently towards the cross, it is clear from the initial harsh reaction by the townspeople of Nerluc that there can be no reconciliation without forgiveness. This economical yet eloquent adaptation of the material penned by Alena Wagnerová is elevated by the drawings, whose orange light above the brown figures stimulates the goodness of the heart. After all, tolerance doesn't even require a miracle.



Age: 8+



JAK MARTA ZKROTLILA DRAHA  
Illustrated by Jitka Němečková  
Prague, Argo 2017, 44 unnumbered pages

RIGHTS:  
Argo publishers  
Veronika Chaloupková  
veronika.chaloupkova@argo.cz

Alena Wagnerová (1936) graduated in biology, teaching and theatre studies from Masaryk University in Brno and has practical experience of working in all these fields. She established herself as a writer in *Plamen* and *Literární noviny* and continued writing after departing for Germany in 1969. She won particular acclaim for her reportage essay about the resistance group Předvoj, *Neohlížej se, zkameníš* (Don't Look Back or You'll Turn to Stone, 1968), and then for the novel *Dvojitá kaple* (The Double Chapel; German 1982, Czech 1991) and biographies of Sidonie Nádherná, Milena Jesenská and Jiří Weil. In the books *Odsunuté vzpomínky* (Expelled Memories), *Neodsunuté vzpomínky* (Unexpelled Memories) and *A zapomenuti vejde do dějin* (And the Forgotten Will Go Down in History) she records the oral history of Sudeten Germans. She lives in Saarbrücken and Prague. Winner of the Pelikán 2005 and Gratias agit 2017 awards, this is her first book for child readers.

Jitka Němečková (1963) graduated from the Technical College of Graphic Arts in Prague and worked at the Pressfoto publishing company and as an advertising graphic artist at DTP studios. One of her outstanding smaller works is a cycle of illustrations for the exhibition at the Visitor Centre of the Podyjí National Park. She created a set of 30 fine press works for the Spanish publishing house Pandora, each of which contains 25 scenes summarizing the history of Andalusia (in the pipeline). She contributed illustrations to the collection of fairy tales *Vánoční kniha* (The Christmas Book, 2012) and also makes jewellery.

# Alžběta Zemanová

## JOSKA GOES SOUTH

Boat, car, bicycle, sledge, bus and hot-air balloon. These are the six means of transport used for a voyage to the sunshine and back again by northern European Joska in Alžběta Zemanová's large-format book. Joska undertakes the journey in an attempt to enjoy more light and heat than he gets on his gloomy little island near the Arctic circle, at least for a while. Fortunately, he receives a warm welcome in the south of mainland Sweden and then in the Baltics, the Alps and

the sunny Riviera. The artist presents all this to pre-schoolers through naïve watercolours, equally amusing double-page spreads of his wanderings bordered with dialogue in the style of a minimalistic comic, and most importantly the peaceful coexistence of idiosyncratic folks and talking animals of various species and colours of fur. In the hero's trip with a safe return, nosy parkers from both worlds mix together as harmoniously as semolina pudding with sugar and cocoa powder.



Age: 4+



JOSKA JEDE NA JIH  
Illustrated by the author  
Prague, Baobab 2017, 32 unnumbered pages

RIGHTS:  
Baobab publishers  
gplus@gplus.cz

Alžběta Zemanová (1987) comes from a family of film animators. She graduated in illustration and graphic arts in Juraj Horváth's studio at the Academy of Art, Architecture and Design in Prague. She is a member of the artistic groups Napoli and Ilugang, creates artist's books and paper cut-outs, and also works as a book-seller. In terms of mood, she gravitates towards the poetics of northern Europe, which she has visited several times. She provided a visual accompaniment to the artistic and educational book *Hvězdy pražské zoo* (Stars of Prague Zoo, 2015) by Emma Pecháčková and Jiří Dědeček. She has also contributed illustrations to the collective projects *Nebe, peklo, ráj – Tyglík české poezie pro děti 20. století* (Heaven, Hell, Paradise – A Melting Pot of Czech Poetry for 20th-Century Children, 2009), *12 malých hororů* (12 Little Horror Stories, 2013), *12 ukolébavek* (12 Little Lullabies, 2016) and adaptations of Bible stories as part of the *Manamana* series (2017).

The presentation of Czech book culture at book fairs abroad has a long tradition. The Moravian Library in Brno, one of the leading Czech heritage institutions, has been in charge of coordinating the Ministry of Culture's national expositions since 2014. In cooperation with the Ministry of Culture, authorities of Czech literary culture and Czech Centres abroad, the Moravian Library focuses not only on presenting major publishing houses but also on small publishers and printers. Significant Czech literary awards and their winners, along with a collection of current fiction and non-fiction are presented within the frame-work of a thematic national exposition. The accompanying cultural programme aims at bringing Czech authors together in the form of discussions and readings, especially at the Leipzig Book Fair (focused primarily on translations) or at the most important venue, the Frankfurt Book Fair. Czech book culture is presented in a similar scope also at the book fair in Bologna, which focuses on books for children, and at the London Book Fair. The Moravian Library in Brno is also the parent organisation of the Czech Literary Centre, which supports and promotes Czech literature abroad and in the Czech Republic.

Moravian Library  
Kounicova 65a  
601 87 Brno  
Czech Republic

[www.mzk.cz](http://www.mzk.cz)  
[mzk@mzk.cz](mailto:mzk@mzk.cz)



## Golden Ribbon Awards

The Golden Ribbons have been awarded to the authors of the best Czech books for children and young adults for more than 20 years. It is the only award in the Czech Republic focusing solely on children's literature. The prize is organised by the Czech section of IBBY.

Pavel Čech in 2017 for A  
– p. 4  
Renáta Fučíková in 2017 for Shakespeare –  
12 Plays Retold Within Their Historical Context  
– p. 12  
Tomáš Končinský, Barbora Klárová, Daniel  
Špaček & Petr Štěpán in 2017 for Typo and Skim  
– p. 20  
Tereza Ščerbová in 2017 for Kooki – p. 38  
Tereza Vostradovská in 2017 for Aniscience  
– p. 40

## Magnesia Litera Awards

Magnesia Litera is a set of annual Czech literary awards that recognizes many categories, including books for children and young adults. The main award, The Book of the Year, includes a financial bonus of CZK 100,000. Since being established in 2002, the awards have gained notable media coverage.

Tomáš Končinský, Barbora Klárová, Daniel  
Špaček & Petr Štěpán in 2017 for Typo and Skim  
– p. 20

## Muriel Awards

In 2006–2016, the Muriel prize for Czech comics was awarded annually in 10 categories as the only Czech award in this genre as part of the international festival KomiksFEST! It is currently awarded in 9 categories as part of the LUSTR illustration festival.

Jiří Černý & Lukáš Fibrich in 2017 for Pictures  
from Modern Czechoslovak History 1945–1989  
– p. 8

## GRANTS FOR PUBLISHING CZECH LITERATURE ABROAD

Every year, the Czech Ministry of Culture awards grants to support the publication of Czech prose, poetry, drama, essays, comics and children's literature abroad.

Publishers can apply for funding for:

- translation costs
- graphic design, typesetting and printing costs
- copyright costs
- promotion costs

In total, the grant can cover up to 70% of the total cost of publishing.

Deadlines

- **15th April** for books and excerpts to be published in the same year as the application is submitted
- **15th November** for books and excerpts to be published in the following year after the application is submitted

Publishers, agents and translators can apply for funding for:

- the translation of an excerpt of between 10–25 standard pages (1800 characters with spaces)

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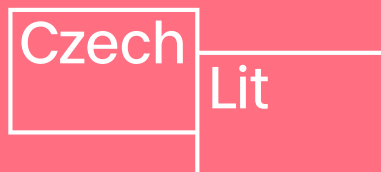
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