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## CZECH & SLOVAK FILM FESTIVAL



## Media Release

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Czech and Slovak Film Festival of Australia (CaSFFA) has released its festival program, a refurbished website and a brand new trailer

**Tickets for Melbourne go on sale at 3am, Thursday, 31 July**

**CaSFFA thanks its supporters for helping make this festival "Pozible"**

**Melbourne, Wednesday, 30 July 2014** – The Czech and Slovak Film Festival of Australia is delighted to announce that the 2014 **festival program** has been unleashed from the printers and is now hitting the streets of Melbourne, with Sydney to follow soon and with the full film and event schedule available now to view on the glorious [new CaSFFA website](#).

This year's festival will be an all-round cultural treat focused on the **theme of "resistance"**, inspired by the fact that **2014 marks the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the non-violent, extraordinarily effective "Velvet Revolution"** in Czechoslovakia and the collapse of Communism in Europe.

Our wonderful new **festival trailer** encapsulates this year's theme of resistance, creating an exciting collage inspired by the films and artworks in this year's festival. We invite you to [enjoy the trailer right now on our YouTube channel](#).

Just a few weeks ago, our Pozible crowd-funding campaign ended successfully, well over our initial target, with just under **\$12,000 raised!**

The entirely-volunteer run team fueling the production of the festival is over the moon with joy, but there is no time to lose! We are now working hard to **fulfil our promise of delivering an event that is even "bigger and better"** than our inaugural festival held in June last year.

The official program can already be collected in Melbourne from festival venues and various inner city cafes, eateries, galleries and community centres. **Tickets will be on sale in Melbourne from 3am on Thursday, 31 July**, and will shortly be available in Sydney too, via the new [CaSFFA website](#), designed, like our program, by our wonderful partners, [Sense](#).

Provided below is a recap of our previous program announcements, supplemented with some further exciting screening and exhibition highlights.

## Films



Films illuminating the 2<sup>nd</sup> CaSFFA include:

- **Opening Night** in Melbourne, and **Closing Night** in Sydney: the superb **To See the Sea** (*Pojedeme k moři*, dir. Jiří Mádrl, 2014)
- The paranoid historical thriller **The Confidant** (*eŠteBák*, dir. Juraj Nvota, 2012) will open the festival in Sydney
- HBO Europe mini-series **Burning Bush** (*Hořící keř*, dir. Agnieszka Holland, 2013)
- Digitally restored treasures from the past including **Closely Observed Trains** (*Ostře sledované vlaky*, dir. Jiří Menzel, 1966), **Birds, Orphans and Fools** (*Vtáčkovia, sirotky a blázni*, dir. Juraj Jakubisko, 1969) and **Before Tonight is Over** (*Kým sa skončí táto noc*, dir. Peter Solan, 1966)
- Jan Švankmajer retrospective including **Alice** (*Něco z Alenky*, 1987) and **Conspirators of Pleasure** (*Spiklenci slasti*, 1996) and, in Melbourne, **Faust** (*Lekce Faust*, 1994) and **Little Otik** (*Otesánek*, 2000), co-presented with the Melbourne Cinémathèque
- **Delight** (*Rozkoš*, dir. Jitka Rudolfová, 2013), which competed at Karlovy Vary this year
- The controversial and gripping documentary **Normalization** (*Kauza Cervanová*, dir. Robert Kirchhoff, 2013), including a Q&A with the director after the Sydney screening
- A selection of new Czech and Slovak shorts, with a short preceding feature films throughout the festival
- **Closing the festival** in Melbourne will be the political comedy-thriller **Candidate** (*Kandidát*, dir. Jonáš Karásek, 2013)

[Click here for more information on films at the 2014 CaSFFA](#)

# Exhibitions



The festival will bring you some extraordinary art, photographic and sculpture exhibitions which tie in both with the Švankmajer retrospective and the theme of resistance. These include:

- **Jan Švankmajer: Dimensions of Dialogue / Between Film and Fine Art** – a life and career overview in text and images, organised by Czech Centres, with concept and text by Švankmajer's fellow members of the Group of Czech-Slovak Surrealists
- **Prague through the Lens of the Secret Police** – Photos and text providing insight into the surveillance practices employed by the dreaded Czechoslovakian secret police.
- **Conspirators** (Melbourne only) – an exhibition of sculptural works by local Australian artists, forming an international dialogue with the rich themes and irresistible tactility of Švankmajer's oeuvre.

[Click here for more information on exhibitions at the 2014 CaSFFA](#)

Sincerely,

**Cerise Howard, Artistic Director, and the CaSFFA Team, Melbourne:** Brendan Black, Denisa Sehnalová, Lilliana Hajncl, Linda Studená, Lenka Hadravová, Carmen Reid, Dean McInerney, Jack Russo, Miriam Fletcher, Jana Ridillová, Rochelle Siemienowicz, Olivia Hărășan, Sofie Ham

**CaSFFA Co-producer (Sydney): IKSIMA Films and its team:** Ika de Detrich, Silvia Panáková, Martina Vacková

## Socialise

Join us for news, photos and fun on our social networks. Hashtag #CaSFFA

**Facebook:** [Czech and Slovak Film Festival of Australia](#)

**Twitter:** [@CaSFFA](#)

**Instagram:** [@CaSFFA](#)

## Media Enquiries

For more information about the festival, **to arrange an interview with Artistic Director Cerise Howard**, or to request screeners or other publicity materials, please contact:

**Olivia Härşan:** +61 415 881 472

**Email:** [publicity@casffa.com.au](mailto:publicity@casffa.com.au)

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Czech and Slovak Film Festival of Australasia Inc. PO Box 1356, Collingwood, VIC 3066, Australia

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