

**CZECH
& SLOVAK
FILM FESTIVAL**



Media Release

The 3rd Czech and Slovak Film Festival (CaSFFA)
upcoming highlights

Selfie Budka in the Spirit of Adventure exhibition

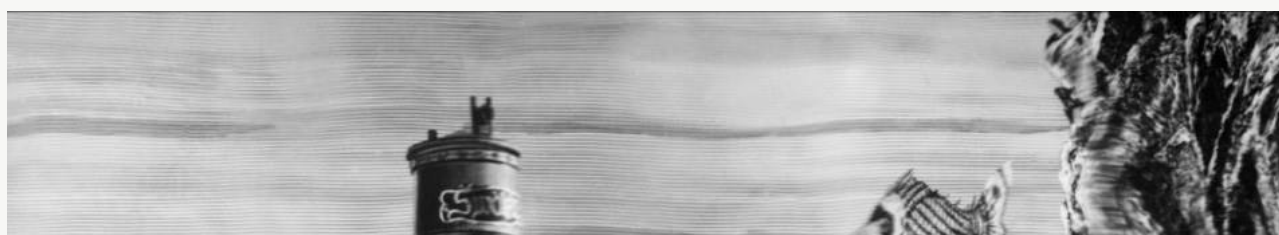
Final screenings of our Karel Zeman retrospective,
co-presented with the Melbourne Cinémathèque

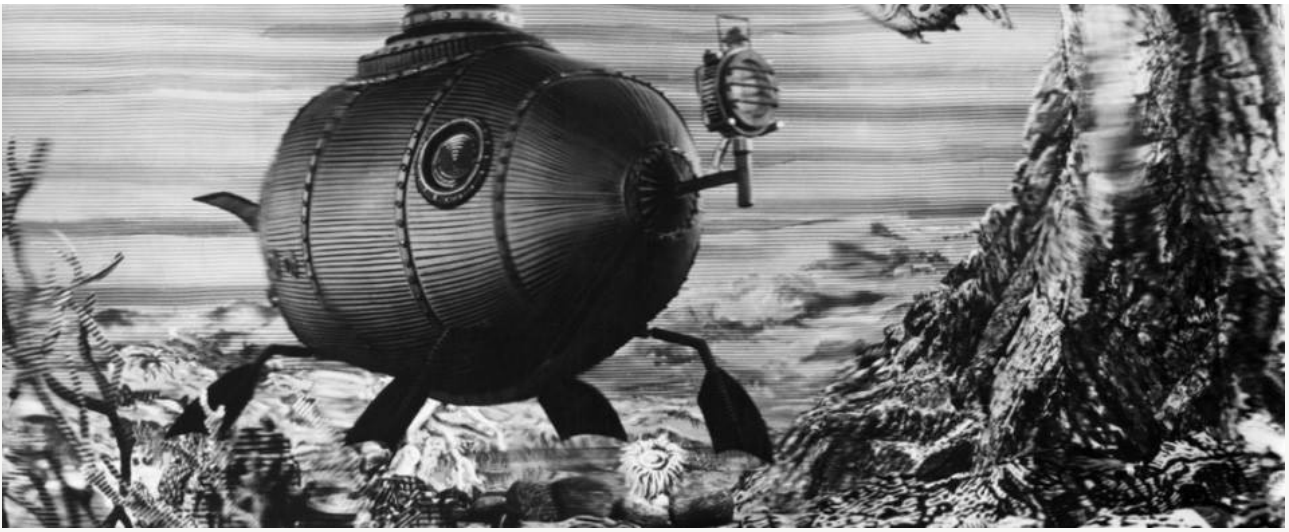
SPECIAL EVENT: The Cathedral Builder

Closing Night: The Magic Voice of a Rebel

Melbourne, 21 September 2015 - We hope you've enjoyed the first few days of CaSFFA and everything on offer at our festival this year. There is still more fun to be had in the coming week, so have a glance at our highlights below and colour in your calendars with all things CaSFFA - perhaps an archival feature film or two, or even three! We've certainly got a bountiful week of screenings for you this week at the Australian Centre for the Moving Image (ACMI)... and in the Melbourne Town Hall!

**Last chance to see Karel Zeman's fantastical films
projected across the big screen**

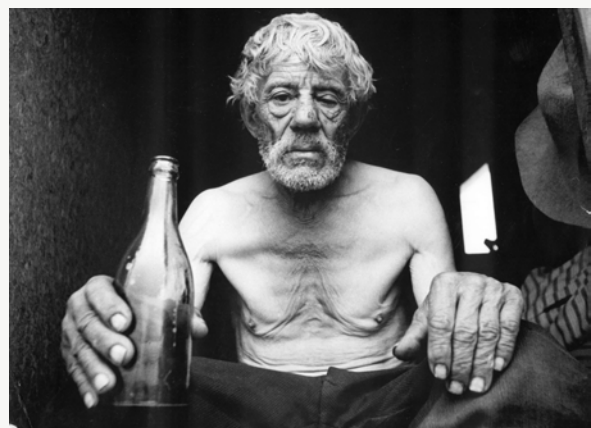




Our Karel Zeman retrospective continues on Wed 23 at 7pm. Kicking off the night will be [An Invention for Destruction \(Vynález zkázy\)](#), followed by [A Jester's Tale \(Bláznova kronika\)](#). As a wonderful bonus, special guest Anthony Lucas will present a thematically related screening of his superb Oscar-nominated silhouette animation, *The Mysterious Geographic Explorations of Jasper Morello*.

Tickets for the Karel Zeman films are Cinémathèque passes which can be purchased through the [ACMI website](#). A Cinémathèque mini-pass is Full \$28 / Conc. \$23 - incredible value! Whereas an annual membership allows the purchaser to enjoy a whole year of Wednesdays' worth of superbly curated big screen riches, Czech, Slovak and otherwise, for only Full \$150 / Conc. \$130.

This week at CaSFFA



There are so many great films to choose from this week!

Tonight, Mon 21, will commence at 6:30pm with [38](#), a touching tribute to ice hockey legend

Pavol Demitra, who died tragically in a plane crash in 2011. This moving film, rich in archival footage, focuses on those closest to Demitra – family, friends and hockey luminaries alike – as it paints a portrait of an eminently decent, humble man whose sporting career attained many great highs and who remains an inspirational figure in Slovakia.

Following, at 8:30pm, will be [Children \(Deti\)](#), an anthology film looking at four parent-child relationships, one for each season. Combining documentary verism in performance, featuring professional and non-professional actors alike, with beautifully composed cinematography, Children is a very striking, moving big-screen experience.

On Tue 22 at 6:30pm, we'll be screening Tomáš Hodan's fantastic documentary [Film Adventurer Karel Zeman \(Filmový dobrodruh Karel Zeman\)](#), a testament to the enduring talent of Zeman and his visionary cinema. The genius of the "Czech Méliès" is attested to through demonstrations of the trickery behind the effects in his films and is further championed by talking heads including Terry Gilliam, Tim Burton and Japanese master animator Kōji Yamamura, his daughter and latter years collaborator Ludmila Zeman and a range of past cast and crew members.

There will be a very special ending to the evening at 8:45pm with Štefan Uher's [The Organ \(Organ\)](#). This digital restoration, courtesy of the Slovak Film Institute, explores the depths of psychological tension during WWII as a Polish deserter and organ virtuoso hides from the fascists in a Slovak monastery.

And a gentle reminder that on Thu 24 at 9:30pm, following Pavel Kohout's live score of [The Cathedral Builder](#) at the Melbourne Town Hall, mentioned in more detail below, CaSFFA will screen [Pictures of the Old World \(Obrazy starého sveta\)](#), a deeply human masterwork about those left behind in the face of a modern world.

Voted in 2000 by Slovak critics as the best Slovak film of all time, Dušan Hanák's second feature film is an outstanding documentary that was banned until 1988. Inspired by the black-and-white ethnographic photographs of Martin Martinček, taken when documenting the people of the Liptov region in central, northern Slovakia, the film presents nine weathered old men and women, five of whom had featured in Martinček's photographs. This will also be a digital restoration, courtesy of the Slovak Film Institute.

Selfie Budka in the Spirit of Adventure exhibition



Visit ACMI's Australian Mediatheque, choose your props and take a selfie in the [Selfie Budka](#) by #CaSFFA2015 artist Abmarva Price in Booth 4. Inspired by the work of Karel

[Diorama](#) by #CaSFFA2015 artist Annamaria Price in Booth 4. Inspired by the work of Karel Zeman, participants are invited to create and enter their very own diorama. Photos are being uploaded to a growing Zeman-esque [slideshow on Facebook](#).

The Spirit of Adventure exhibition's remaining opening hours in the Australian Mediatheque are:

Mon, 21 Sep 6pm - 8:30pm
 Tue, 22 Sep 6pm - 8:45pm
 Wed, 23 Sep 6pm - 9:15pm

The Cathedral Builder & Pavel Kohout live score at Melbourne Town Hall



As a unique addition to this year's festival, we have included in our program a special concert and screening event with one of the finest concert recitalists of his generation, Czech organist Pavel Kohout.

Save the date for this unmissable FREE EVENT, presented in partnership with the City of Melbourne and the National Film Archive in Prague, taking place at the Melbourne Town Hall and utilising the Grand Organ, the largest instrument of its kind in the Southern Hemisphere: Thu 24 Sep, 7pm.

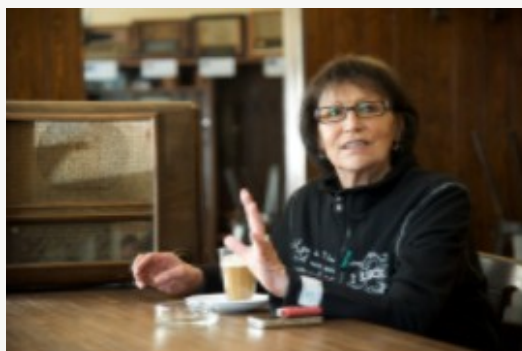
Pavel Kohout will perform works by Josef Klička and Antonín Dvořák, followed by his own live score to a wonderful silent film, *The Cathedral Builder* (Stavitel chrámu, dir. Karel Degl & Antonín Novotný, 1919).

[The Cathedral Builder](#) concerns a legend surrounding Petr Parléř, the architect of Prague's Saint Vitus Cathedral and Charles Bridge, and a pact he may have made with the devil in order to complete Prague's celebrated cathedral...

Closing Night

On Fri 25 Sep, CaSFFA will close triumphantly with a screening of a superb documentary on Czech pop singer and icon of the Prague Spring, Marta Kubišová. [The Magic Voice of a Rebel \(Magický hlas rebelky\)](#) is a wonderful profile of a fascinating woman who endures as a symbol of freedom in the post-revolutionary Czech and Slovak Republics.

#CaSFFA2015 Closing Night, Friday 25 September: The Magic Voice of a Rebel plus party in the ACMI Lightwell. Includes a traditional festive Czech beverage upon arrival in the cinema at 7.00pm, a first drink at the afterparty free, and nibbles and live music, including a tribute to Marta Kubišová, from Vardos!



All tickets for Melbourne sessions of CaSFFA can be purchased online on the [ACMI website](#), over the phone (03 8663 2583) or at the ACMI box office.

More information on the 2015 program can be found on the fantastic, user-friendly [CaSFFA website](#) or amongst the pages of our official festival program, available to pick up from our festival venues and various inner city cafes, eateries, galleries, community centres and more.

The 3rd Czech and Slovak Film Festival of Australia

Melbourne: 16-25 September, Australian Centre for the Moving Image (ACMI), Federation Square and the Melbourne Town Hall

Sincerely,

Cerise Howard, Artistic Director, and the CaSFFA team: Brendan Black, Denisa Cross, Lilliana Hajncl, Linda Studená, Lenka Hadravová, Carmen Reid, Jack Russo, Miriam Fletcher, Jana Ridillová, Olivia Hărășan, Ioana-Lucia Demczuk, Markéta Fillingerová, Victor Griss and Eleanor Colla

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 for an interview with Artistic Director Cerise Howard or with festival guest Pavel Kohout, to request press kits, screeners or other publicity materials, please contact:

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Email: publicity@casffa.com.au



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