#### **Ten Years**



The Jewish Museum in Prague 1994–2004

















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The Jewish Museum in Prague will be celebrating its centenary in August 2006. When, on this occasion, historians view its past, they will certainly not fail to notice that the fate of the Jewish Museum to a large extent personifies the modern history of Bohemian and Moravian Jewry.

It is as if the founding of the Museum in 1906 symbolised the transformation that had occurred in Jewish society since the end of the eighteenth century. Jewish religious traditions and customs remained an authentic expression of a faith which was passed on from generation to generation for a thousand years but which, in an age of civic equality and growing assimilation, became the focus of the secular interests of researchers and collectors. In the period of its establishment and throughout the First Republic, the Jewish Museum in Prague, which is the third oldest institution of its kind in Europe, reflected the transformation that Bohemian and Moravian Jewry had undergone on its path from expulsion to equal citizenship, from negative rejection to gradual recognition.

The persecution of the Jewish population that followed the German occupation of Bohemia and Moravia had no parallel in history. At the time, the fate of the victims of persecution was tragically connected with that of the Museum in a way that was historically unprecedented. The Nazi-controlled shipment of items from the liquidated Bohemian and Moravian Jewish communities to the Jewish Museum in Prague preceded the gathering of people. First the individual items were given numbers, and, soon after that, the people to whom these things had belonged were also given numbers. The collections of the Museum increased in size manifold, but this occurred against the background of the deaths of almost 80,000 Bohemian and Moravian Jews. The Jewish Museum in Prague, in its entirety, became a memorial to them for all time.

The items brought together in the Jewish Museum in Prague were silenced twice. The first time was when the Nazis grabbed them away from those to whom they had belonged for centuries. The second time was when the Communist dictatorship, during its more than forty years in power, prevented them from being exhibited within the Jewish spiritual and historical context. Forcibly taken over by the Communists, the Museum witnessed, to the full extent, the orders and restrictions that were characteristic of the



Communist regime's approach to all things Jewish. The Museum found itself in thrall to a system that did not hide its disregard for the Jewish cultural heritage. Not even the honesty and professionalism of many of the Museum employees could prevent the decline of the Museum and irreplaceable losses. The precious Jewish legacy was threatened at its core.

The situation changed only after the fall of the Communist regime. The collections were returned to the Federation of Jewish Communities and the historic synagogues and the Old Jewish Cemetery were returned to the Jewish Community in Prague. On 1 October 1994 — after 54 years — the Jewish Museum in Prague, too, was returned to the oversight of the Jewish community. It is now celebrating the completion of its first ten years of work as a special-interest association of legal entities.

It has been ten epoch-making years, in which far more was achieved than in the previous several decades. By repairing and reconstruction five historic buildings, particularly synagogues, in Prague's former Jewish Town, and by setting up new permanent exhibitions within their walls, the Museum has created a historically accurate and absorbing picture of the Jewish past in Bohemia and Moravia for its 10th century. The Museum has also founded an Educational and cultural centre, which offers a diverse range of awareness and artistic programmes, as well as constructing new depositories and installing a modern security system. Having refurbished two former hospital buildings, the Jewish Museum in Prague has gained, for the first time in its history, an optimum space for its specialist activities, facilitating the storage of its library holdings and the restoration and evaluation of its collection items. The Museum's new centre provides visitors with an advice service, internet access, a gallery and café. The former Smíchov Synagogue has been refurbished as a Jewish archive and depository. Hundreds of tombstones in the famous Old Jewish Cemetery and in another historic burial place in the Žižkov district of Prague have been restored. The Museum has published dozens of publications and has carried out a large number of specialist and public projects, for which it has gained respect at home and abroad. It has become a dignified memorial to the victims of the Shoah and an eternal reminder of the beauty and magnitude of Jewish culture.

Our thanks go to all those who have contributed to the development of the Museum in the last ten years — notably, the Federation of Jewish Communities and the Jewish Community in Prague, as well as the Czech State, which is represented on the Museum's administrative and supervisory board by the Ministry of Culture. The Museum owes the success of its activities also to its numerous sponsors, particularly from the United States.

My thanks go, above all, to the staff of the Jewish Museum in Prague. Museum's employees have shown a professional and sensitive approach to the Museum's unique Jewish monuments and memorial objects — witnesses to the magnitude and tragic nature of Jewish history in Bohemia and Moravia. The staff deserve thanks for the success of the activities of this institution, which remains the most visited museum in the Czech Republic.

The presence of these people, their understanding and the support for the Museum from the Federation of Jewish Communities in the Czech Republic, the Jewish Community in Prague and the Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic guarantee that the next decade of this institution can be just as successful as the ten years that have just passed.

Dr. Leo Pavlát Director, Jewish Museum in Prague



The Jewish Museum in Prague was founded on 1 October 1994 as an association of legal entities. On 30 September 1994, the collection items and library holdings of the former state-run Jewish Museum were returned to the Federation of Jewish Communities, which incorporated them into our association. Restituted property (including synagogues that house Museum exhibitions) were leased from the Jewish Community in Prague and, under a special agreement, the Old Jewish Cemetery was prepared for use as part of the complex of the Museum's exhibitions. The Jewish Museum began to repair the fifteenth century Old Jewish Cemetery, the sixteenth century Pinkas Synagogue, the early twentieth century Ceremonial Hall, the (originally) seventeenth century Klausen Synagogue, the sixteenth century Maisel Synagogue, the nineteenth century Spanish Synagogue, the administrative building in Jáchymova Street and a nineteenth century synagogue outside Prague that was used as a depository.

The Museum's supreme body is the administrative board, which comprises five members: two appointed by the Federation of Jewish Communities in the Czech Republic, two by the Jewish Community in Prague and one by the Czech Ministry of Culture. The above institutions are represented on the supervisory board with one member each.

The Museum's collections contained about 35,000 items (synagogue textiles from the late sixteenth century, silver ritual items, glass objects, paintings, items documenting Jewish customs and traditions and memorial objects from the period of the Nazi occupation, particularly drawings from the Terezín ghetto) and 100,000 books, including rare manuscripts and printed material.

Immediately after its establishment, the Museum set about repairing and reconstructing the most damaged architectural monuments, creating a project for the optimum storage of its collections (textile and silver depositories), stocktaking its collection funds and restoring tombstones. Work began on the repair and reconstruction of the Maisel Synagogue in October.

The Museum's former administrative building in Jáchymova Street has a chequered past. In 1920, a Jewish elementary school opened her. Among its initial supporters were Max Brod and Franz Kafka.

In June 1942, the school was closed down and the building became the headquarters of the newly established Central Jewish Museum. During the existence of the Central Jewish Museum, the building space was also used as a warehouse for synagogue items that had been shipped from the liquidated Jewish communities. From the end of the Second World War until 2001, the building served as the headquarters of the Jewish Museum.





President of the Jewish Community in Prague Zeno Dostál, Chief Rabbi of Prague and the Czech Republic Efraim Karol Sidon, Director of the Jewish Museum in Prague Leo Pavlát and President of the Czech Republic Václav Havel at the ceremonial opening of the Jewish Museum in Prague.

Ceremonial opening of the Jewish Museum in Prague, 20 October 1994. From the left: Chief Rabbi of Prague and the Czech Republic Rabbi Efraim Karol Sidon, President of the Czech Republic Václav Havel, Deputy Prime Minister Josef Lux, Minister of Culture Pavel Tigrid and Director of the Jewish Museum in Prague Leo Pavlát.



May 1995 saw the completion of the repair and reconstruction of the Maisel Synagogue. Work involved replacing the roof covering and facade, constructing a new depository, new tiling and under-floor heating, refurbishing the interior and installing security and fire alarms. The collection of silver items, porcelain and glassware were stored in the new depository and work continued on the second section of the depository for rare textiles.

A new permanent exhibition opened in the Maisel Synagogue on 29 May: "The History of the Jews in Bohemia and Moravia – Part I. From the First Settlements until Emancipation". Providing a cross-sectional look at the history of Bohemian and Moravian Jews from the tenth to the late eighteenth century, this was the first exhibition to cover this topic on such a scale since the founding of the Jewish Museum in 1906.

The Old Jewish Cemetery was declared a national cultural monument. In 1994–1995, many of the tombstones that were in danger of collapse were treated. In total, 91 tombstones were preserved and 103 underwent restoration.

The exhibition "Biblical Motifs in the Collections of the Jewish Museum in Prague" opened in the gallery of the Klausen Synagogue. This was held as part of the festival "The Old Testament in Art" under the auspices of the President of the Czech Republic Václav Havel.

The Museum introduced an automated system for the reservation and sale of tickets via the Reservation Centre. This helped to reduce overcrowding in the Museum's frequently visited historic buildings, and simplified the access to the Museum. Where required, the Reservation Centre can arrange for the services of tour guides who speak up to eight different languages (Czech, English, French, Hebrew, Italian, German, Russian and Spanish).

In 1995, Museum staff made partial finds of historical materials during repair and reconstruction work on synagogues in Bohemia and Moravia. Having decided to devote closer attention to this research, the Museum launched the "Genizah Project", as part of



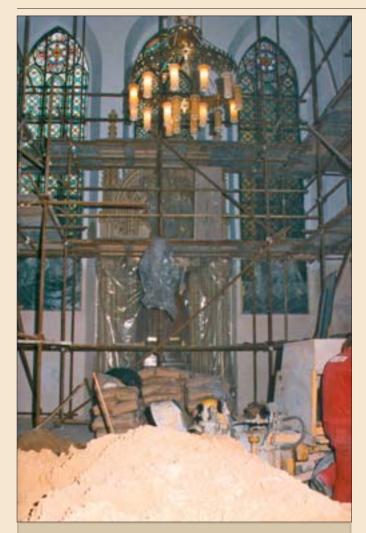
Kiddush cup. Silver, chased, hammered and gilt, early seventeenth century. Traditionally believed to have belonged to Rabbi Loew.

which a team of Museum specialists, in cooperation with the Federation of Jewish communities and the Jewish Community in Prague, systematically examined numerous originally Jewish buildings, in particular synagogues, in selected localities.

Apart from the restoration of the Museum's monuments and holdings, work also began on the gradual restoration of the Hebrew manuscripts that form part of the Museum's rare library holdings. In 1994–1995, external specialists treated 33, mostly paper, manuscripts of the works of traditional rabbinic literature.

The Klausen Synagogue was closed due to reconstruction in November 1995, and basic preservation work was carried out on the Spanish Synagogue.

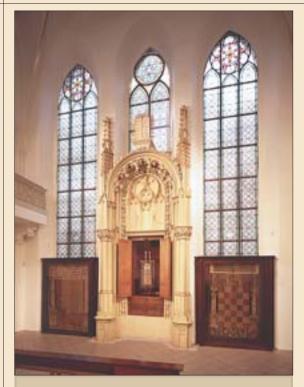
In 1995, the Museum commenced work on a long-term project involving the cataloguing of Jewish communities. The aim was to gradually bring together, in electronic form, all the available information on the history and monuments of Jewish communities and prayer houses that have ever existed in the territory of what is now the Czech Republic.



Repair and reconstruction of the interior of the Maisel Synagogue. As part of the building work, the heating system was repaired, tiles were renovated and the historic features of the interior (banisters, windows, gallery, etc.) were restored.

The repair and reconstruction of the Maisel Synagogue, which was undertaken in 1994-1995, began with the repair of the roof covering the nave.





The new permanent exhibition, "The History of the Jews in Bohemia and Moravia — Part I. From the First Settlements until Emancipation", was installed in the nave and the aisles of the Maisel Synagogue. This exhibition provides an extensive look at the earliest history of the Jews in the Czech lands. Depicted here is the restored Ark and the oldest curtain in the Museum's collection from the late 16th century.



Restored tympanum of the entrance portal of the Maisel Synagogue, dating from 1895, with vine motifs and the inscription: "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord." (Psalm 118:26).



Frontal view of the newly reconstructed Maisel Synagogue.



Ehud Olmert, the Mayor of Jerusalem, on a visit to the Jewish Museum in Prague. From the left: director of the Terezín Memorial Jan Munk, President of the Jewish Community in Prague Zeno Dostál, Ehud Olmert and Director of the Jewish Museum in Prague Leo Pavlát.

The exhibition "Biblical Motifs in the Collections of the Jewish Museum in Prague" in the gallery of the Klausen Synagogue was held as part of the festival "The Old Testament in Art" under the auspices of the President of the Czech Republic, Václav Havel. In its entirety, it covered all areas concerning Jewish arts in Bohemia and Moravia. The exhibit depicted here is a Pidjon ha-ben, a silver tray dating from 1850.



March 1996 saw the completion of the repair and reconstruction of the Baroque Klausen Synagogue. On 29 April, a new permanent exhibition, "Jewish Customs and Traditions", opened here, with focus on the synagogue, festivals and the cycle of life.

On 16 April 1996, on Yom ha-Shoah (Holocaust Remembrance Day), the newly reconstructed Memorial to the Victims of the Holocaust opened in the Pinkas Synagogue in the presence of the ambassadors of USA, Germany and Austria and representatives of the Embassy of Israel. This memorial comprises the names of the almost 80,000 Jewish victims of persecution from Bohemia and Moravia, which are written on the ancient walls of the synagogue. Work began on the reconstruction in 1992 and was completed in March 1996.

Also installed in the Pinkas Synagogue was a newly designed, fully air-conditioned depository for the storage of a collection of paintings, drawings and graphic art.

At the end of August 1996, the Jewish Museum in Prague commemorated the 90th anniversary of its existence. The celebrations of this important anniversary were attended by the President of the Czech Republic Václav Havel, members of the Czech Government, representatives of the diplomatic corps and other important political and cultural figures from the Czech Republic and abroad.

29 August saw the opening of the Museum's Education and Culture Centre in the presence of President Václav Havel. As an integral part of the Jewish Museum in Prague, the Centre offers people from home and abroad a detailed interpretation of Judaism, anti-Semitism and the history of the Jews with focus on Bohemia and Moravia. The Centre was entrusted by the Czech Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport to undertake the further training of pedagogical employees in the above areas. It also started educational programmes for school children and university students. The Information Technology Centre was opened at the Centre as a branch of the important international Jewish educational and training institution,.



Curtain. Velvet, embroidery, appliqué, southern Moravia (Brno), 1857

Three temporary exhibitions were held in the gallery of the reconstructed Klausen Synagogue in 1996: "The Story of the Jewish Museum in Prague", "Historicism in Synagogal Textiles from the Nineteenth and Early Twentieth Centuries" and "Ruth Levin – The Peace of the Desert".

The restoration of tombstones in the Old Jewish Cemetery continued with the treatment of 88 tombstones.

In 1996, a long-term project was launched for the preservation of the collection of children's drawings from the Terezín ghetto. This involved storing and conserving the drawings, creating a computer database for the drawings and transferring all the data onto CD-ROMs.

The Museum completed the stock-taking of its collections, which was carried out in connection with the restitution of the collections of the state-run Jewish Museum to the Federation of Jewish Communities.

A computer network was created for the various workplaces of the Museum and use was made of the international library program Aleph.

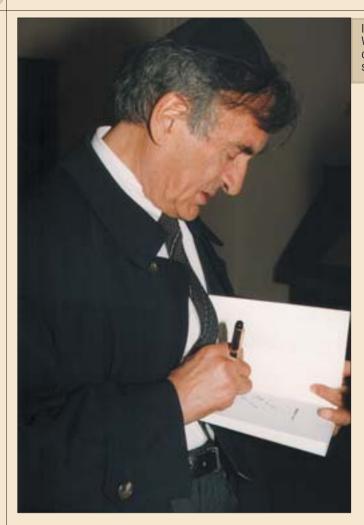
The Jewish Museum launched its quarterly Czech-English Newsletter.

Repair and reconstruction of the Baroque Klausen Synagogue. New air-conditioning, electric installations, electronic security and fire alarms were installed. The window-panes were also repaired. Building work uncovered the foundations of the original bimah and tiles, which were then conserved and incorporated into the exhibition space.





Opening of the new permanent exhibition in Klausen Synagogue, "Jewish Customs and Traditions", which focuses on the synagogue, festivals and the cycle of life.



In May 1996, the Jewish Museum was visited by Elie Wiesel, the writer, thinker and Nobel Laureate for Peace, on his first trip to the Czech Republic. He is depicted here signing his name in the Museum chronicle



The newly reconstructed Memorial to the Victims of the Holocaust in the Pinkas Synagogue, which comprises the names of the almost 80,000 Jewish victims of persecution from Bohemia and Moravia, written on the ancient walls of the synagogue.

The two-day celebrations of the 90th anniversary of the founding of the Jewish Museum in Prague commenced on 29 August with the unveiling of a memorial plaque on the administrative building in Jáchymova Street. The inscription on the plaque (in Czech, English and Hebrew) recalls the chequered past of the building. The Museum also issued a memorial medal (designed by Michal Vitanovský).







The opening at the Museum's Education and Culture Centre of the Information Technology Centre of the educational and training institution was attended by the Director of ORT's educational programme, Gideon Meyer (depicted here with the Director of the Museum Leo Pavlát). ORT equipped the Centre with computers and, together with JOINT and the Rich Foundation, contributed towards further facilities and operations.



The newly constructed meeting room at the Museum's Education and Culture Centre, which regularly hosts lectures for schools, seminars for teachers and thematic lectures for the public in the evening.

Child's drawing from Terezín. Margit Gerstmannová, paper cut-out, water-colour, Terezín. 1942–44

On 5 May, a new permanent exhibition, "Children's Drawings from Terezín 1942–1944", opened in the Memorial to the Victims of the Holocaust in the Pinkas Synagogue. Information on the project for the preservation of children's drawings from the Terezín ghetto is featured in the vestibule, and a selection of the drawings is on display in the main hall.

Three exhibitions were held in the gallery of the Klausen Synagogue in 1997. The first, "Restored Textiles of the Jewish Museum in Prague", revealed the high professional standards of the Museum restorers and their associates. The second, "The Architecture of Destroyed Synagogues", provided an overview of the diverse history of synagogues in Bohemia and Moravia. The third exhibition, "Jewish Dreams", featured drawings and water-colours by the prominent contemporary US graphic artist and illustrator Mark Podwal.

In February 1997, new specialised facilities for the storage of synagogue textiles (synagogue curtains, Torah mantles, valances and synagogue covers) were installed in the Museum's textile depository outside Prague. Work on the development of the facilities commenced in May 1995. Textiles were newly deposited after the prototype had been tested and amended.

At the end of 1997, the Jewish Museum completed the construction of the second section of the depository in the Maisel Synagogue, which is intended for the Museum's rarest synagogue textiles, dating from the first half of the seventeenth and the eighteenth century. About 500 unique synagogue curtains were placed in special depository drawers and 50 selected Torah mantles were hung over stands. The new depository in the Maisel Synagogue includes a dust-free glazed cabinet for the permanent storage of Torah crowns.

1997 saw the launch of an integrated security system that covers all of the Museum's buildings.

The restoration of tombstones in the Old Jewish Cemetery continued with the treatment of 81 tombstones.

From February to the end of June 1997, part of the Museum's library holdings were moved to the newly constructed depository. In total, 62,000 books were moved.



In September 1997, a newly constructed depository of the Photo Archive opened. Its main task was to put together a database for the improved recording of archive materials, comprising about 40,000 items – in particular, photographs of collection items, Museum exhibitions, synagogues and cemeteries dating from the late nineteenth century to the present.

The textbook "Jews — History and Culture" was published. This publication was put together under the supervision of Museum Director Leo Pavlát by Museum staff, along with external specialists. 6,000 copies were distributed to schools through the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport.

The Museum's Education and Culture Centre hosted a seminar for high school teachers entitled "History of the Jews in Bohemia and Moravia".

On 30 April 1997, the Czech Ministry of Transport and Communications and the Israeli Ministry of Communications jointly issued two special postage stamps depicting Jewish sites in Prague. This was done at the instigation of the Jewish Museum in Prague.

May 1997 was the 110th anniversary of the birth of the prominent scientist, librarian of the Prague Jewish community and employee of the Museum, Dr. T. Jakobovits. On this occasion, a memorial plaque in his memory was unveiled in the administrative building of the Jewish Museum in Jáchymova Street.

The Museum set up a website.

At the end of the year, work began on the repair and reconstruction of the Spanish Synagogue.

View of the newly opened exhibition "Children's Drawings from Terezín, 1942–1944" in the Pinkas Synagogue.







The exhibition "The Architecture of Destroyed Synagogue" provided the Jewish Museum's first comprehensive overview of the architecture of synagogues. In view of the breadth of information and the range of the exhibited documents, this was quite a unique achievement.



The main depository for the collection of synagogue textiles is located in a synagogue outside Prague. A special structure was designed and constructed for the storage of synagogue curtains, Torah mantles, valances and synagogue covers from the Museum's collections.



As part of building work in the Maisel Synagogue, alterations were carried out in order to provide a more effective use of non-exhibition spaces. The loft space was extended to produce a depository of synagogue textiles and metal artefacts. Depicted is the newly constructed depository which is intended for the Museum's rarest synagogue textiles.



The opening of "Jewish Dreams", an exhibition of drawings and water-colours by the contemporary US graphic artist and illustrator Mark Podwal was attended by the writer Elie Wiesel, who gave an introductory speech. The exhibition was also seen by the former Israeli Prime Minister Simon Peres, who was in Prague as a guest of the international symposium, Forum 2000. Mark Podwal is depicted here with the exhibition curator, Arno Pařík.



On 25 May 1997, the Museum was visited by Ronald S. Lauder, significant representative of international Jewish organizations and patron of arts with his wife, Jo Carol. Ronald S. Lauder established a US-based foundation in 1987 with the aim of supporting Jewish education in Central and Eastern Europe. With the contribution of the Lauder Foundation, Jewish schools, kindergartens and other cultural and educational institutions have been founded in many post-Communist countries, including the Czech Republic. In Prague, the Lauder Foundation supports a Jewish kindergarten, elementary school and high school. Since 1997, it has regularly contributed to the activities of the Jewish Museum's Education and Culture Centre.





In March 1997, on the occasion of a visit to the Czech Republic by the King Harald V of Norway, the Jewish Museum was honoured by a visit from his wife, Queen Sonja. In the company of the First Lady of the Czech Republic, Dagmar Havlová, she went on a tour of the Old-New Synagogue, the Memorial to the Victims of the Holocaust in the Pinkas Synagogue and the Old Jewish Cemetery.

The repair and reconstruction of the Spanish Synagogue was completed in 1998. Building work included the general repair of the roof, the complete restoration and conservation of the original floor, and the restoration of the historically valuable window panes, wall paintings, wood panelling and chandeliers. The electricity network was repaired and a new heating system and security and fire safety equipment were installed. A special ramp was put in place to allow disabled access.

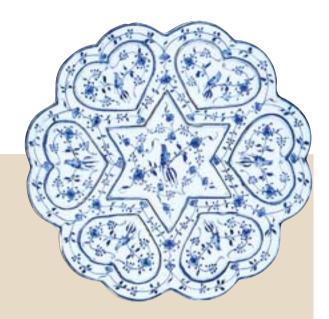
November saw the opening of the Spanish Synagogue, along with the second part of the exhibition "The History of the Jews in Bohemia and Moravia – From Emancipation to the Present". The collection items and documents illustrate the involvement of the Jewish population in economic, political and cultural life from the end of the eighteenth century and highlight the Nazi persecution of the Jews.

The Winter Prayer Hall of the Spanish Synagogue came to be used for temporary exhibitions. The first of these – "The Repair and Reconstruction of the Spanish Synagogue" – documented in photographs the entire course of building work in the Spanish Synagogue and the restoration of its interior.

March 1998 saw the opening of the exhibition "Jewish Traditions and Customs – The Course of Life" in the gallery of the Klausen Synagogue and in the Ceremonial Hall of the former Burial Society. It was preceded by minor building alterations to the Ceremonial Hall.

The devout nature of the Pinkas Synagogue Memorial to the Victims of the Holocaust from Bohemia and Moravia was heightened by recordings of the names of 500 victims, which are read out by two celebrated Czech actors — Vlasta Chramostová and Radovan Lukavský. The readings alternate with the prayers Kel male rahamim ("God Full of Mercy") and Shemah Yisrael ("Hear O' Israel") as recited by Rabbi Solomon Katz in a unique recording made after the Second World War.

Preparatory work began on the digital photodocumentation of collection items.



Seder plate. Porcelain, Vienna, c. 1900, maker: Josef Vater

Preservation works was carried out on 49 tombstones in the Old Jewish Cemetery, and 39 tombstones were restored.

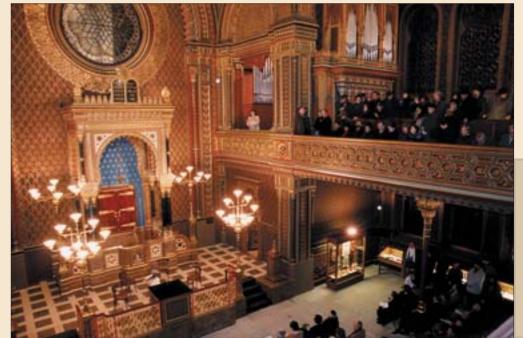
In January, the Prins Eugens Waldemarsudde Museum in Stockholm hosted a travelling exhibition entitled "Treasures of the Jewish Museum in Prague." Featuring almost 250 rare exhibits, the show later moved to the Auckland War Memorial Museum in New Zealand and subsequently (December 1998 – February 1999) to the Powerhouse Museum in Sydney and then to Melbourne. It was the first exhibition of its kind in Australia.

Work continued on the research into genizot – the most valuable find was made in the synagogue in Luže.

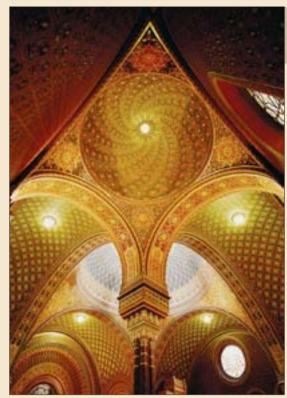
The Museum's Education and Culture Centre hosted the conference "Jewish Literature, Jewish Themes and Translation", which involved the participation of leading translators. The seminar "How to Teach about the Holocaust" was held in association with the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport and with the writer Arnošt Lustig. Another seminar, "Education in Judaism" was co-organized with the Javne College (Australia).

Restoration work at the Spanish Synagogue was particularly demanding. Among other things, the historically valuable decorative painting that covers the entire interior of the nave on the ground floor and gallery was restored.





In November 1998, the Spanish Synagogue opened to the public on its 130th anniversary. At the opening of the second part of the exhibition on the history of the Jews in Bohemia and Moravia, the Budapest soprano Dagmar Wanke-Szendrey performed traditional Yiddish and Sephardic songs, accompanied by organist Prof. Michal Novenko. After many years of silence the synagogue once again resounded to the organ.



The Spanish Synagogue opened after almost twenty years – another important site in Prague opened by the Jewish Museum.



Olga Sixtová, a member of the Jewish Museum staff, at the discovery of a genizah in the synagogue in Luže, a Czech town lying 115 km to the south-east of Prague. The Luže genizah contained manuscripts, printed books, textiles, wooden ornaments for the Ark and tefillin. Among the rarest finds were calendars, popular printed books and decorative plaques for various festive occasions. Textile items of particular interest included Torah mantles dating from the end of the seventeenth century, prayer shawls and garments, such as children's caps.



In March, the Museum's Education and Culture Centre welcomed a prominent guest from London — Sir Nicolas Winton. In 1938–39 he played a key role in the rescue of 664 mostly Jewish children from Nazi-occupied Czechoslovakia and in providing them with refuge in Britain. Nicolas Winton's presentation was attended by some of those who were rescued 60 years ago. Nicolas Winton is depicted here with Vera Gissing, one of the children saved by Winton.





In May, the Jewish Museum was visited by Israeli humorist Efraim Kishon. In the picture he is depicted on a tour of the Old Jewish Cemetery in Prague.

Havdalah for festivals. Paper cut-out, ink, water-colours, Luže, 1773, (Luže Genizah)

On 16 September 1999, there was a unique radio broadcast from the Pinkas Synagogue in Prague. Marking the culmination of the Days of Jewish Culture, Radio Vltava broadcasted a live memorial service for the Bohemian and Moravian Jews who perished in the Shoah. Some 300 invited guests read out the selected names of 3,000 Czech Jews – some of the nearly 80,000 who perished during the war. Among the readers was President Václav Havel, members of the Czech Government and Parliament, diplomats, cultural and social figures and survivors of the Shoah. Concurrently with the reciting of names in the Pinkas Synagogue, a panel discussion entitled Every Person has Their Name took place in the Museum's Education and Culture Centre with the participation of leading historians.

Some 3,500 Torah mantles were deposited in the textile depository outside Prague. A specially designed cart was installed to facilitate better handling of textiles.

Three temporary exhibitions were held in the Winter Prayer Hall of the Spanish Synagogue in 1999: "Viktor Munk – Faces and Figures" presented the work of a little-known Czech Jewish "naive" painter. "Genizot, Findings in Bohemian and Moravian Synagogues" brought together the results of the research carried out by the Museum staff as part of the "Genizah Project". The last exhibition – "Murder in Polná" – commemorated the centenary of the notorious trial of Leopold Hilsner from Polná, who was falsely accused of ritual murder. The Museum's Education and Culture Centre, in association with the T. G. Masaryk Institute and Charles University, followed on from this exhibition with a seminar entitled "The Hilsner Affair and Czech Society, 1899–1999". This was attended by a number of leading Czech historians, political scientists and other specialists in social science.

In March, there was a performance in the Spanish Synagogue by the world famous cantor Joseph Malovany with organ accompaniment by Jaroslav Tůma. This concert launched the regular series "Music in the Spanish Synagogue".

In June, the Jewish Museum in Prague took over administration of the Jewish Cemetery in the Prague district of Žižkov – a major site,



dating from the seventeenth century to the eighteenth, and an important source of historical information. Several prominent figures in Judaism are buried here.

The Museum's Education and Culture Centre, in association with the Israeli-based Rich Foundation, hosted a seminar entitled "Pluralistic Judaism."

The project focused on the digitization of the Museum's collection of children's drawings was completed. The outcome is a set of 83 CD-ROMS containing approximately 7,000 images.

In January 1999, a special digital scanning suite opened in the Museum's Photo Studio.

Work started on the general repair and reconstruction of the two former Jewish hospital buildings adjoining the Spanish Synagogue in U staré školy Street – the future administrative and research centre of the Museum.

A long-term project of the Museum's Education and Culture Centre – "Neighbours Who Disappeared" – was launched as part of the Holocaust Phenomenon conference under the auspices of the Office of the President of the Czech Republic. The aim of this project is to involve young people from throughout the Czech Republic in a search for answers as to what happened to Holocaust victims who disappeared from their neighbourhoods.

In 1999, work began on the general repair, reconstruction and conversion of the two former hospital buildings in U Staré školy Street, to make way for the Museum's new administrative building. The entire project was undertaken by the Znamení čtyř architectural studio (architects R. Sidej, J. Matula, and M. Bambas). It was necessary to change the function of the buildings adjoining the Spanish Synagogue and to adapt them to the specific operational requirements of the Museum and to its mission as a public institution. This was achieved by extending and making maximum use of the interior spaces and by connecting the buildings on all floors. Depicted is part of the building which, after completion of the reconstruction work, became the Museum Library with a reading room and study room for the depository administrator.





A conference commemorating the centenary of the anti-Semitic Hilsner Affair was prepared by the Museum's Education and Culture Centre and held at the Philosophy Faculty, Charles University. The conference was attended by a number of leading Czech historians, political scientists and other specialists in social science. Among the speakers was the philosopher, Prof. Milan Machovec (right). Depicted around the conference table are historian Prof. Jaroslav Opat, Museum Director Leo Pavlát, Director of the Museum's Education and Culture Centre Miloš Pojar and Prof. Jiří Kovtun.



Specially designed electrically controlled equipment for the storage of curtains. The cart facilitates simpler and more effective handling of valuable curtains.



The Winter Prayer Hall of the Spanish Synagogue started to be used for temporary exhibitions. The first of these presented the work of Viktor Munk, a Jewish naive painter from Prague. Munk's self-portrait from 1985 is depicted here.



The cantor of the prestigious New York Synagogue on 5th Avenue, Joseph Malovany, performed in the Spanish Synagogue.



President Václav Havel reading out the names of victims of the Holocaust from Bohemia and Moravia in a live radio broadcast from the Pinkas Synagogue.

In the autumn of 1999, the Jewish Museum was visited by the Swedish Prime Minister, Göran Persson. He is depicted here with the Director of the Museum on a tour of the Old Jewish Cemetery.





In March, the Jewish Museum in Prague hosted the annual meeting of the Association of European Jewish Museums, which was attended by 40 specialists from 23 European Jewish museums. The meeting was held at the Museum's Education and Culture Centre. Those attending also looked round all the exhibitions and depositories of the Museum.

Two other temporary exhibitions were held in the Winter Prayer Hall of the Spanish Synagogue in 2000: "Jamim mikedem" provided a cross-sectional look at one of the most extensive private collections of postcards with Jewish motifs from pre-war Czechoslovakia. In the next exhibition, "Beit Levitus", the Prague-born Israeli artist Chava Pressburger reflected on her childhood before the Nazi occupation.

In February 2000, the Jewish Museum in Prague commemorated the 10th anniversary of the renewal of diplomatic relations between Czechoslovakia and Israel. On this occasion, the Museum's Education and Culture Centre held a gala evening that was attended by a number of political and social figures – including Erella Hadar, the ambassador of the State of Israel, and the writer, Prof. Eduard Goldstücker, who was the first Czechoslovak envoy to Israel.

The Museum's Education and Culture Centre hosted part of a three-day seminar for teachers, entitled "How to Teach about the Holocaust", which was held in association with the Terezín Memorial.

In association with the Institute of the Terezín Initiative, the Museum's Education and Culture Centre hosted a conference entitled "The Aryanisation of Jewish Property in Bohemia and Moravia".

An educational CD-ROM was published for schools, entitled "History of the Jews in Bohemia and Moravia".

The Jewish Museum published a book entitled "Prague Synagogues". Written by Arno Pařík, photographed by Dana Cabanová and Petr Kliment, this publication provides a detailed art-historical description of the unique sites of the Jewish Prague and rich photographic documentation.

Under the terms of a Czech restitution law designed to "mitigate certain injustices concerning the property of Holocaust victims", 62 paintings, drawings and prints were restituted to the Museum from the vaults of the National Gallery in Prague. These were mostly artworks by prominent Czech and international painters.

Work started on a long-term project focusing on the documentation of dedicatory inscriptions on textiles in the Museum's collections. Some 700 inscriptions were transcribed and translated.

85 tombstones were restored, cleaned and treated in the Old Jewish Cemetery.

A new wall was built in the Jewish Cemetery in the Prague district of Žižkov, and preservation and conservation work was carried out on 85 tombstones and 2 vaults.

The integrated security system connecting all of the Museum's properties was completed.



Wedding ring. Gold, probably eastern Europe, c. mid-nineteenth century

The Jewish Museum in Prague built a 157 metre-long wall and entrance building at the Jewish Cemetery in the Prague district of Žižkov.



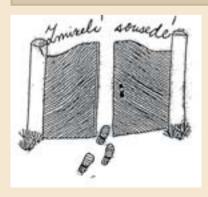


Participants of the meeting of the Association of European Jewish Museums in a lecture on the restoration of tombstones in the Old Jewish Cemetery

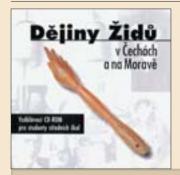


The Jewish Museum in Prague prepared a project for the gradual restoration of the Old Jewish Cemetery. Each year a team of external specialists fully restores about 100 tombstones and over 4,000 tombstones are conserved in order to prevent their destruction.

The "Neighbours Who Disappeared" project met with great interest from young people and teachers. On the basis of their personal encounters with Holocaust survivors, archive work and other findings, students put together a literary and documentary work which was later published. At the end of November 2000, the participants of the project were received by the President of the Czech Republic Václav Havel.







The CD-ROM "History of the Jews in Bohemia and Moravia" was the Museum's first electronic publication. It is divided into four sections: the first covers the basic historical development of local Jewish settlements, the second provides an overview of Jewish sites in Bohemia and Moravia, the third looks at the specific features of Judaism, exploring festivals and the Jewish calendar, as well as and referring to the basic texts of the Jewish religion, and the last section includes a glossary of terms and a multimedia disc (with illustrations and musical excerpts). Each section has hypertext references and the CD-ROM is provided with a browser.





While visiting Prague, the Israeli Foreign Minister, David Levy, looked round the Jewish Town, its synagogues and the Museum's permanent exhibitions. He is depicted here with Museum Director, Leo Pavlát, on a tour of the Old Jewish Cemetery.

In October, the Museum was visited by the Queen Paola of Belgium, who came to Prague on a state visit with her husband, King Albert III of Belgium.

Bohumil Kubišta, View of the Cement Works in Braník, oil on canvas, 1911 Painting restituted to the Jewish Museum in Prague

2001 was a year of change for the Jewish Museum, as it moved its administrative and research base from Jáchymova Street to a newly refurbished property in U Staré školy Street. It also opened a new gallery for temporary exhibitions here – the Robert Guttmann Gallery.

19 April saw the opening of an expanded and newly arranged permanent exhibition in the Maisel Synagogue: "The History of the Jews in Bohemia and Moravia – Part I. From the First Settlements until Emancipation".

In September 2001, the Jewish Cemetery in Žižkov opened to the public.

Two temporary exhibitions were presented in the Winter Prayer Hall of the Spanish Synagogue in 2001: "Vavro Oravec – a Painter of the Soul" and "Avi Biran – Dialogue with Time". All subsequent temporary exhibitions were to be held in the Robert Guttmann Gallery, which opened on 12 April 2001 with an exhibition on the artist after whom the new gallery is named – "Robert Guttmann – Painter and Traveler from Prague". This was followed by an exhibition entitled "Restituted Works of Art – The Collection of Dr. Emil Freund".

A new permanent exhibition, "Synagogue Silver from Bohemia and Moravia", opened in the Winter Prayer Hall of the Spanish Synagogue.

Work commenced on a project to identify the hitherto unknown owners of books in the Museum's library holdings.

A project entitled "Help in the Search for Neighbours who Disappeared" was launched. Through adverts in national dailies and presentations on the radio and television, the Museum managed to bring together a great number of rare documents and photographs which recall the pre-war life of subsequent victims of the Shoah.

In May 2001, a major award – the Dr. Bernard Heller Prize – was conferred upon the Jewish Museum in Prague. This prize is conferred annually by the Ohio-based Hebrew Union College – Jewish Institute of Religion for work that contributes to the betterment of humanity.



The Museum's Education and Culture Centre launched a series of seminars for teachers, entitled "Jewish History, Tradition, Culture and Education for Tolerance".

The "Neighbours Who Disappeared" project continued. In August, Czech Television broadcasted a documentary film on the project, basing the script on material brought together in the project's first publication. In December, an exhibition on the project opened at the Museum's Education and Culture Centre, later travelling across the Czech Republic.

Preparations began for the registration of the Museum's holdings in the Czech Ministry of Culture's Central Registry of Collections. A computer program was created for the automatic reading of illustrated data on the servers of the Jewish Museum's Photo Studio.

Restoration work began on the former synagogue in the Smíchov district of Prague with the aim of creating a base for the Jewish Museum's archive and a depository for its art collections.

In May, Jewish Museum staff found another genizah with textiles and printed books in the attic of the synagogue in Neveklov, Central Bohemia.

The former Jewish hospital, repaired and reconstructed for the needs of the Jewish Museum in Prague. For the first time in its more than ninety-year history, the Museum now has an appropriate space for its own activities. The Museum's new headquarters are also equipped with air-conditioned depositories for books, manuscripts and rare printed materials, as well as modern workshops for the restoration of metalworks, textiles and paper.





Fully equipped restoration workshops were set up in the Museum's new headquarters. Textile restorers Helena Votočková and Veronika Nauschová are depicted here working on the restoration of a historical curtain.



Scene from the opening of the exhibition "Robert Guttmann – Painter and Traveler from Prague" in the Museum's new gallery. Depicted are the exhibition curator Arno Pařík, singer Rudolf Pellar, pianist Milan Jíra and Museum Director Leo Pavlát.



The Museum's new headquarters provide improved visitor facilities, including a large reading room (with an air-conditioned section for reading early manuscripts and printed books) and a reference centre.



President of Portugal, Jorge Sampaio, with Museum Director Leo Pavlát, on a tour of the Old Jewish Cemetery.



Torah shield, silver, chased, part gilt, set with emeralds. rubies and pearls. Height: 419 mm, Prague, 1785, maker: Richard Fleischmann. In view of the period and the somewhat conservative environment in which it was made, the design seems quite modern. In 1785, it was donated to the Pinkas Synagogue by Wolf Gadeles and his wife Petschi. This shield is on display in the exhibition "Synagogue Silver from Bohemia and Moravia" in the Winter Prayer Hall of the Spanish Synagogue.





The Bernard Heller Prize was awarded to the Jewish Museum in Prague for the "the clarity of vision with which it has preserved the unique historical material documenting the centuries of vibrant Jewish life in Bohemia and Moravia and the destruction of European Jewry during the Shoah". Also stated was the following: "Principle repository for one of the most extensive collections of Jewish art, silver and textiles, the Museum is today an inspiring example of an institution governed by conscience and memory. The Museum representing Jewish history and heritage is a vibrant symbol of Jewish survival as an institution devoted to memory, scholarship and education for future generations".

From the opening of the exhibition "Synagogue Silver from Bohemia and Moravia"

The banner of the martyr Solomon Molcho. Linen embroidered with silk threads, probably Italy, c. 1530 (?)

In mid-August 2002, Prague was struck by devastating floods, which also affected the Jewish Museum. Exhibitions had to be closed for more than two months — until 15 October. It was only thanks to the great effort and self-sacrifice of all the Museum staff that no damage occurred to collection items or to the books in the Museum's permanent exhibitions and depositories. Fortunately, there was no damage to any of the Museum's irreplaceable artefacts.

The historic buildings that house permanent exhibitions and the administrative and research centre of the Museum, however, were damaged by floodwater. The Pinkas Synagogue – the Memorial to the Victims of the Holocaust in Bohemia and Moravia – suffered the most damage. Together with the exhibition "Children's Drawings from Terezín 1942–1944", it had to be closed until the end of September 2003. Repairs of damaged building were carried out for the rest of the year.

An air-conditioned vitrine for the permanent display of two rare sixteenth century exhibits – the robe and flag of the messianic pretender Solomon Molcho – was added to the exhibition "The History of the Jews in Bohemia and Moravia – Part I. From the First Settlements until Emancipation" in the Maisel Synagogue.

The Robert Guttmann Gallery hosted three temporary exhibitions in 2002. The first of these, entitled "The Essence", featured work by the Prague-based contemporary US artist Robert Horvitz. This was followed by "Encounters", an exhibition of drawings, water-colours and gouaches by the contemporary Israeli-US painter Benjamin Levy. The third exhibition, "Paintings from 1999–2002", showcased work by the young Prague painter, Michal Singer. An exhibition of paintings by Adolf Kohn, which was to open on 15 August, had to be cancelled due to flooding.

Work began in 2002 on the repair and reconstruction of the Smíchov Synagogue – the future base of the Museum's archive and depository for the Museum's art collections.

In the Old Jewish Cemetery, 69 selected tombstones were restored and conservation work was carried out on 80 tombstones.

Preservation and conservation work was carried out on 104 tombstones in the Jewish Cemetery in the Prague district of Žižkov. On the basis of a review of its security system, the Jewish Museum in Prague was awarded a quality guarantee certificate by the Association of Technical Security Services, Gremium Alarm.

The project "Help in the Search for Neighbours Who Disappeared" continued. About 500 people contacted the Museum with archive documents, photographs and reminiscences of Jewish families and communities.

The Museum's Education and Culture Centre took part in a Euroclio seminar for social science teachers with a presentation of the projects "Jewish Wedding", "Researchers in the Field of Judaism" and "Neighbours who Disappeared".

The Museum's Education and Culture Centre hosted a seminar entitled "The Golem in Religion, Science and Art". Held in association with the Argentine Embassy in the Czech Republic, the Philosophy Faculty of Charles University in Prague and the Jewish Community in Prague, it was part of the project "Golem 2002/5763".

The "Neighbours Who Disappeared" project was further developed in 2002. Twelve new panels were prepared for the Neighbours Who Disappeared exhibition which was installed in the places where the individual project assignments were carried out, as well as for special occasions.

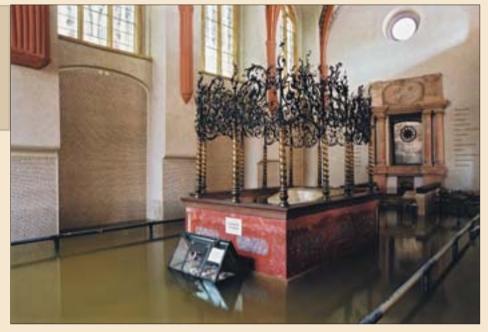
The Museum's holdings were included in the Czech Ministry of Culture's Central Registry of Collections.

The Library of the Jewish Museum in Prague was included in the Central Registry of Libraries.

In June 2002, the Museum was involved in the organization of the European Day of Jewish culture.

On 19 December 2002, the Jewish Museum held a concert in the Spanish Synagogue concert for all those who had helped the Museum with the clear-up of flood damage.

During the August floods, contaminated groundwater reached a height of 1.5 metres, inundating the nave and south-west vestibule of the Pinkas synagogue. The water destroyed the underfloor heating system and the lighting. It also damaged the walls with the inscriptions of the Shoah victims from Bohemia and Moravia, as well as other artistic and historical features, and disrupted the building structure.





The Spanish Synagogue is connected with the administrative and research centre of the Museum, whose basement was flooded in August 2002. The water destroyed the transformer station, central heating boiler, cooling ventilation, air-conditioning facilities and elevator, the vast majority of publications for visitors, postcards and printed guidebooks. The packing-room, security office, maintenance workshops and café also underwent considerable damage.



In the difficult situation after the floods, the Jewish Museum in Prague met with great solidarity and assistance. Dozens of volunteers, fire fighters and soldiers helped out by clearing up, cleaning and disinfecting the area.



The Israeli-US painter Benjamin Levy at the opening of his exhibition of drawings, water-colours and gouaches – "Encounters".



Their Royal Highnesses, the Grand Duke Henri and Grand Duchess Marie Teresa of Luxembourg, on a tour of the Old Jewish Cemetery.



Laura Bush, the First Lady of the United States of America, on a visit to the Old Jewish Cemetery.

# 2003

Torah mantle. Silk velvet embroidered with metal thread, Moravia (Loštice), 1735

Work continued on the removal of damage caused by the devastating floods of August 2002. Thanks to comprehensive insurance cover, support from countless donors, the professionalism of the Museum's specialist staff and sufficient investment, the Museum managed to return all the flood-damaged buildings to their original form.

October 2003 saw the reopening of the Pinkas Synagogue – Memorial to the Victims of the Holocaust in Bohemia and Moravia. Only minor restoration work continued.

The permanent exhibition of children's drawings "Children's Drawings from Terezín 1942–1944" was reinstalled on the upper floor of the synagogue. The introductory part of the exhibition was enlarged to include an informative text on "Art in Extreme Situations", a programme that is held as part of the Workshop project at the Museum's Education and Culture Centre.

The Jewish Museum in Prague, in association with the Prague Castle Administration, held an exhibition at the Imperial Stables, Prague Castle, entitled "For Dignity and Adornment – Textiles from Bohemian and Moravian Synagogues". This was a unique display of synagogue textiles from the Museum's collections and the largest ever exhibition of its kind in the Czech Republic.

The Robert Guttmann Gallery hosted the following temporary exhibitions in 2002: "Mountain of Mountains: Aleš Veselý's Desert Projects" (followed by an inter-disciplinary colloquium), "Silenced Tones – The Life and Work of the Czech Jewish Musicians Gideon Klein and Egon Ledeč" and "Adolf Kohn. Painter of the Prague Ghetto". The last exhibition of the year at the Robert Guttmann Gallery was "Long-lost Faces – Recollections of Holocaust Victims in Documents and Photographs ", which marked the culmination of the project "Help in the Search for Neighbours who Disappeared".

Museum staff put together a touring panel-based version of the exhibitions "Jewish Traditions and Customs" and "History Jews in Bohemia and Moravia", both of which are based on the Museum's collections and permanent exhibitions. They were presented at the Museum's Education and Culture Centre and subsequently in the Děčín Synagogue and the Municipal Museum in Náchod.

In association with the London-based European Performing Arts Forum, the Museum's Education and Culture Centre co-organised a seminar entitled "Jewish Spaces in European Theatre".

The Neighbours Who Disappeared project continued. In 2003, four exhibition panels featuring the results of the research to date were translated into English. Participants of the project presented their work at the international seminar "European Association of Shoah Survivors" and at an international seminar for teachers at the Terezín Memorial. A website was created for the project.



The Encyclopaedia of Jewish Communities was made available on the Museum's website.

Work continued on the overall repair and reconstruction of the Synagogue in Smíchov, during which the founding document of 1863 was discovered.

A book entitled "Textiles from Bohemian and Moravian Synagogues from the Collections of the Jewish Museum in Prague" and a CD-ROM entitled "Synagogue Textiles" were published. A film about the Jewish Museum in Prague and its synagogue textiles was made under the direction of Irena Pavlásková, entitled "For Dignity and Adornment".

53 tombstones were restored in the Old Jewish Cemetery and 80 tombstones were restored in the Jewish Cemetery in the Prague district of Žižkov.

An agreement was signed between the Austrian Institute for Jewish History, the Jewish Museum in Prague and the Archive Administration Department of the Czech Ministry of the Interior, which provides researchers with easier access to archives relating to the cultural and economic life of the Jews in Central Europe in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries.

Work began on a project to document Jewish cemeteries in Bohemia. Moravia and Silesia.

The Jewish Museum's Library Catalogue was made available on the Museum's website.



Restoration work in connection with the renovation of inscriptions on the walls of the Pinkas Synagogue continued until March 2004. Restorer Jitka Čeřovská is depicted here painting over the flood-damaged inscriptions of the names of Shoah victims.

The Pinkas Synagogue, which is the best preserved site of Prague's former Jewish Town, reopened in October 2003 after 14 months of closure. In the late 1950s, it was converted into the unique Memorial to the Victims of the Holocaust from Bohemia and Moravia, but from 1968 remained closed for over 20 years until the fall of the Communist regime in November 1989. It was renovated in the following years, as were the inscriptions of the names of the almost 80,000 Shoah victims that are hand-written on the synagogue walls. Of all the Jewish buildings that are subject to heritage protection, however, the Pinkas Synagogue suffered the most flood damage.





During building work in the Smíchov Synagogue in January 2003, a discovery was made of a memorial parchment document — the founding document of the Smíchov Synagogue, dating from 1863. After the completion of repairs it was returned to its original place in the synagogue.



The exhibition "Long-lost Faces" met with an extraordinary response from visitors to the Museum. Through documents and personal items, including diaries, scrapbooks, poems and reminiscences, this exhibition highlighted the day-to-day life of Jewish families during the Second World War.



A scene from the exhibition "For Dignity and Adornment — Textile Treasures of Bohemian and Moravian Synagogues", at the Imperial Stables, Prague Castle. 138 items were on display, including 44 synagogue curtains, 85 Torah mantles, 6 valances and 3 covers for reading-desks in synagogues. For reasons of space, it was not possible to display such a large range of textiles, or to create a representative selection of comparable artistic and historical importance, in the Museum's permanent exhibitions.



While looking round the Jewish Museum in Prague, the world-famous Israeli writer Amos Oz (left) also saw the "Mountain of Mountains: Aleš Veselý's Desert Projects" (right) in the Robert Guttman Gallery.

2004

Emil Orlik, Danish film actress Asta Nielsen in Orlík's studio, lithograph, 1921

The end of April saw the completion of the reconstruction of the synagogue in the Smíchov district of Prague, which will be used by the Jewish Museum in Prague for the storage of archive materials and as a depository for its art collections.

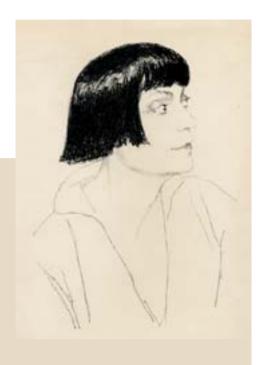
Since October 1994, when it became an independent Jewish institution, the Jewish Museum has repaired and reconstructed eight large buildings, both in and outside Prague, including historic synagogues which it uses for exhibitions and specialized activities. The culmination of this work is the repair and reconstruction of the former Smíchov Synagogue, which was founded over 140 years ago. This project was entirely financed by the Jewish Museum in Prague.

Restoration work continued on the almost 2,000 names of Shoah victims that had been destroyed by the floods in August 2002.

The Jewish Museum in Prague received two important awards for its English catalogue, "Textiles from Bohemian and Moravian Synagogues". This book was published for the last year's exhibition "For Dignity and Adornment". The first award was the main prize in the Gloria Musaealis competition for museums in the Czech Republic – in the category Museum Publications of 2003. The second award for the catalogue of synagogue textiles was the main award in the Most Beautiful Czech Books of the Year competition for 2003 – in the specialist and scientific literature category.

In April, Prague hosted the international conference "The Future of Jewish Heritage in Europe", which was organised by the European Association for Jewish Culture in association with the Jewish Museum in Prague.

As of late September, four temporary exhibitions have been held in the Robert Guttmann Gallery this year. The first of these, entitled "Portraits of Friends and Contemporaries", featured paintings, prints and drawings by Emil Orlik, an early twentieth century Prague artist. The second, entitled "Passageways", featured photographs by Karel Cudlín. This was followed by "Laces from the Collections of the Jewish Museum in Prague", which was held for the 11th World Lace Con-



gress in Prague. The last exhibition to date is the experimental project of the US-Israeli artist Mel Alexenberg, entitled "Cyberangels".

The of the Jewish Museum in Prague, in association with the Centre for Ecumenical Encounters and Dialogue in Olomouc, held a memorial evening to mark the 75th anniversary of the birth of Anne Frank.

In association with the Argentinean Embassy in the Czech Republic and the Franz Kafka Centre, the co-organised the festival "Kafka-Borges/Buenos Aires-Prague".

The spring musical season at the Spanish Synagogue culminated in June with a concert held as part of the Prague Spring International Music Festival. The vocal group Adash presented two synagogue compositions set to Hebrew texts, written by František Škroup, the composer of the Czech national anthem. They were composed in the nineteenth century for the Association for Reform Service at the Old Synagogue, which once stood on the site of today's Spanish Synagogue.

View of the reconstructed Smíchov Synagogue and its extension. Once the microclimatic conditions have been stabilised, the Museum's archive materials and art collections will be moved to this former synagogue. The synagogue will begin to carry out its new mission as a study and research centre for the history of Jewish communities in the Czech lands next year. The ground floor of the extension includes a reading room and a research room, while the synagogue itself will remain closed to the public. The former lobby of the synagogue contains a specialized bookstore.





The repair and reconstruction of the former synagogue in the Smíchov district of Prague was preceded by the demolition of an old annex. This was later replaced by a new annex, which became the base for the specialist offices of the Museum's archive.



The Gloria Musaealis competition is organised by the Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic and the Czech Association of Museums and Galleries. Apart from the best museum publications, it also comprises categories for the best museum exhibition and museum achievement of the year. This year, 29 museums and galleries from throughout the Czech Republic entered the competition and 45 projects were presented. The main prize was awarded to representatives of the Jewish Museum on 18 May at the Pantheon of the National Museum in Prague. Depicted are the Museum Director Leo Pavlát (left), the editors of the award-winning book, Eva Kosáková and Alexandr Putik, and the President of the Czech Association of Museums and Galleries. Pavel Ciprian (right).



The Jewish Museum in Prague prepared a series of programmes to coincide with the exhibition "Karel Cudlín: Passageways". This was launched by singer Kateryna Tlustá-Kolcová, who enthralled the audience with her beautiful, captivating alto during an evening of Yiddish songs, entitled "Lider fun dor cu dor – Songs from Generation to Generation".



A competition for the best design and execution of the symbol of Judaism – the Star of David – was held by the Jewish Museum in Prague and the specialist magazine Krajka (Lace) for the exhibition "Laces from the Collections Jewish Museum in Prague". The specialist jury is depicted here assessing the entries: (from the left) Alena Mašková, specialist teacher at the Secondary Art School for Textile Trades in Prague; Samuel M. Abramson, rabbi of the Jerusalem Synagogue in Prague; Alexandr Putík, a Judaist at the Jewish Museum in Prague; Anna Halíková, President of the Civic Association Krajka (Lace); and Dana Veselská, curator of the textile collection of the Jewish Museum in Prague and curator of the exhibition.



The Israeli Foreign Minister and Deputy Prime Minister, Silvan Shalom, with his wife on a visit to the Jewish Museum in Prague.



### Services provided by the the Jewish Museum in Prague

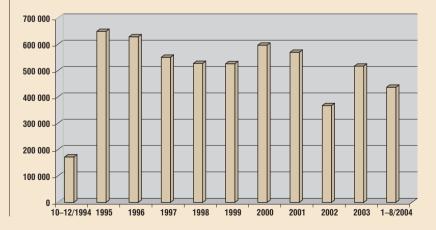
- Tour of the Maisel Synagogue featuring the permanent exhibition "The History of the Jews in Bohemia and Moravia Part I. From the First Settlements until Emancipation"
- Tour of the Spanish Synagogue featuring the permanent exhibition "The History of the Jews in Bohemia and Moravia Part II. From Emancipation to the Present" and, in the Winter Prayer Hall, the permanent exhibition "Synagogue Silver from Bohemia and Moravia"
- Tour of the Pinkas Synagogue and the Memorial to the Victims of the Holocaust from Bohemia and Moravia featuring the permanent exhibition "Children's Drawings from Terezín. 1942–1944"
- Tour of the Klausen Synagogue featuring the permanent exhibition "Jewish Customs and Traditions I. – The Synagogue, Holidays and The Course of Life"
- Tour of the Ceremonial Hall featuring the permanent exhibition "Jewish Customs and Traditions II. The Course of Life"
- Tour of the 15th–18th century Old Jewish Cemetery
- Tour of the 17th–19th century Jewish Cemetery in Žižkov
- Temporary exhibitions in the Robert Guttmann Gallery

- Special lectures and tours organized by the Museum's Education and Culture Centre
- Seminars on Jewish themes
- Awareness and cultural programmes on Jewish themes at the Museum's Education and Culture Centre
- Access to basic Judaic literature and special software in the Reference Centre
- Use of the ORT computer room specialising in Jewish subject matter, with access to the Internet and special software
- Specialised library services for specialists and the general public
- Consultation for specialists and the general public on issues related to the history of Bohemian and Moravian Jews
- Consultation for professionals and the general public on issues related to the persecution of Bohemian and Moravian Jews during the Second World War
- Historical illustrated materials available for reproduction
- Museum publications and publicity material
- Advanced booking via the JMP Reservation Centre
- · Guided tours of exhibitions
- Audio-guides (in association with Gallery Service, s.r.o.)

### Attendance figures for the Jewish Museum in Prague, 1 Oct 1994 - 31 Aug 2004

Year	10-12/1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	1-8/2004
No. of visitors	172 511	649 249	628 819	551 061	527 662	526 663	597 088	570 077	367 447	517 454	437 419

Note: The number of visitors dropped in 2002 due to flooding.





## Completed repairs and reconstructions of Museum properties / new permanent exhibitions and projects

- 1995 Maisel Synagogue general repair and reconstruction; installation of the permanent exhibition The History of the Jews in Bohemia and Moravia – Part I. From the First Settlements until Emancipation in the nave. 145 originals and facsimiles on display
- 1995–2004 15th–18th century Old Jewish Cemetery (ongoing restoration of tombstones, maintenance of greenery).
- 1995 Introduction of on-line ticket sales; opening of the Museum's Reservation Centre.
- 1996 Klausen Synagogue general repair and reconstruction; installation
  of the permanent exhibition Jewish Customs and Traditions I. The Synagogue and Holidays in the nave; installation of the permanent exhibition Jewish Customs and Traditions II. The Course of Life in the gallery. Total of 474
  originals and facsimiles on display.
- 1996 Ceremonial Hall general repair and reconstruction; continuation of the permanent exhibition Jewish Customs and Traditions II. – The Course of Life. Total of 140 originals and facsimiles on display.
- 1996 Founding of the Museum's Education and Culture Centre, with library, audio and video collections, computer room and two lecture halls.
- 1996 Installation of an integrated security and fire safety system (to be gradually streamlined and developed) for all the Museum's properties.
- 1997 Pinkas Synagogue general repair and reconstruction; completion of the inscriptions of Shoah victims in the nave; reopening of the Memorial to the Victims of the Holocaust from Bohemia and Moravia; installation of the permanent exhibition A Children's Story. Children's Drawings from Terezín, 1942–1944 on the upper floor. Total of 238 originals and facsimiles on dis-

- play. A recording was made of the names of selected Shoah victims being read out, together with a recital of the Kaddish prayers and Hear O' Israel.
- 1998 Spanish Synagogue general repair and reconstruction; installation
  of the permanent exhibition The History of the Jews in Bohemia and Moravia
   Part II. From Emancipation to the Present in the nave and gallery. Total of
  535 originals and facsimiles on display.
- 1998 completed repair and reconstruction of the synagogue in Golčův Jeníkov: putting into full operation of the textile depository.
- 2001 Spanish Synagogue Winter Prayer Hall: installation of the permanent exhibition Synagogue Silver from Bohemia and Moravia. Total of 193 items on display.
- 2001 Administrative buildings general repair and reconstruction; opening
  of the Museum's administrative and research centre, depositories, reference
  centre, café and Robert Guttmann Gallery.
- 2001 17th–19th century Jewish Cemetery in Žižkov (construction of a new wall, commencement of the restoration of tombstones, maintenance of greenery).
- 2003 spring: clear-up of flood damage in five buildings affected by the floods in August 2002.
- 2003 autumn: reopening of the Pinkas Synagogue, seriously damaged in the floods of August 2002.
- 2004 Synagogue in Prague-Smíchov, dating from the 1930s general repair and reconstruction; opening of a base for the Jewish Museum's archive and a depository for its art collections.

### Temporary exhibitions of the Jewish Museum in Prague held in 1994-2004

#### 1995

#### Klausen Synagogue - Gallery:

"Biblical Motifs in the Collections of the Jewish Museum in Prague" (6. 9. – 31. 10. 1995)

Curators: Jiřina Šedinová, Eva Kosáková

Held as part of the festival "The Old Testament in Art" under the auspices of the President of the Czech Republic Václav Havel.

#### 1996

#### Klausen Synagogue - Gallery:

"The Story of the Jewish Museum in Prague" (12. 6. – 8. 9. 1996) Curator: Arno Pařík

Focusing on the history of the Museum, this exhibition documented the life and work of the founders of the Museum. It expressed respect and recognition of people whose work has not been sufficiently acknowledged in the past.

"Historicism in Synagogal Textiles from the Nineteenth and Early Twentieth Centuries" (18. 9. – 29. 11. 1996)

Curator: Ludmila Kybalová

This exhibition of rare synagogue curtains and Torah mantles from the collections of the Jewish Museum in Prague was held for the ICOM (International Council of Museums) Symposium in Prague.

"Ruth Levin – The Peace of the Desert" (11. 12. 1996 – 28. 2. 1997) Curator: Arno Pařík

An exhibition of water-colours and paintings by the well-known Prague-born Israeli artist, featuring motifs from the Judea Mountains, the Dead Sea, the Negev and Sinai, as well as from Jordan and Egypt.



#### 1997

#### Klausen Synagogue - Gallery:

"Restored Textiles of the Jewish Museum in Prague" (19. 3. – 30. 5. 1997)

Curator: Ludmila Kybalová

The items on display (rare Torah mantles, synagogue curtains and small textiles, such as covers, binders, tefillin bags and head covers dating from the 17th-19th centuries) reflected the high professional standards of the Museum restorers and of the specialist associates of the Museum.

"The Architecture of Destroyed Synagogues" (18. 6. – 30. 8. 1997)

Curator: Arno Pařík

The Museum's first comprehensive treatment of the architecture of synagogues. Considering the breadth of information and the range of documents on display, this was a unique exhibition that provided an in-depth look at the diverse history of synagogues in Bohemia and Moravia.

"Mark Podwal – Jewish Dreams" (3. 9. – 31. 11. 1997)

Curator: Arno Pařík

An exhibition of drawings and water-colours by the prominent contemporary US graphic artist and illustrator Mark Podwal – his first presentation in Prague. Many of his drawings were inspired by a visit to Prague in 1996 and were made specially for this exhibition.

#### 1998

#### Winter Prayer Hall of the Spanish Synagogue:

"The Repair and Reconstruction of the Spanish Synagogue in Prague" (25. 11. 1998 – 28. 2. 1999)

Curator: Arno Pařík

This exhibition documented in photographs the entire course of building work in the Spanish Synagogue and the restoration of its interior.

#### 1999

#### Winter Prayer Hall of the Spanish Synagogue:

"Viktor Munk – Faces and Figures" (25. 3. – 16. 5. 1999)

Curator: Arno Pařík

An exhibition of the work of the Czech Jewish "naive" painter, Viktor Munk (1928-1997), a survivor of the Terezín ghetto and Auschwitz who later settled in Central Bohemia. The paintings on display were made mainly in the 1960s and 1970s.

"Murder in Polná" (17. 6. – 15. 10. 1999)

Curator: Arno Pařík

An exhibition for the centenary of the notorious trial of Leopold Hilsner, focusing on period documents and illustrated materials that convey the tense climate of anti-Semitism surrounding the trial and the attitudes of Austrian and Czech society towards the Jewish minority.

"Genizot, Findings in Bohemian and Moravian Synagogues"

(4. 11. 1999 – 30. 1. 2000)

Curator: Olga Sixtová

This exhibition presented the partial results of ongoing research into Bohemian and Moravian Synagogues, carried out by Museum staff since 1996. Also on display were finds from genizot in Luže, Březnice, Zalužany, Rychnov nad Kněžnou and Holešov.

#### 2000

#### Winter Prayer Hall of the Spanish Synagogue:

"Jamim Mikedem - Old Jewish Postcards" (1.3. - 31.8.2000)

Curator: Arno Pařík

A cross-sectional look at one of the largest collections of postcards featuring Jewish motifs from Bohemia and Moravia in the years 1895–1930. The exhibition was held in association with the private collector František Bányai, whose unique documents had never previously been on display.

"Chava Pressburger – Beit Levitus, Memories of a Family House"

(13.9. - 31.12.2000)

Curator: Arno Pařík

An exhibition of work by the Prague-born Israeli artist Chava Pressburger, whose unique paintings recall pre-war life in Bohemia.

#### 2001

#### Winter Prayer Hall of the Spanish Synagogue:

"Vavro Oravec - A Painter of the Soul" (17. 1. - 30. 4. 2001)

Curator: Arno Pařík

A presentation of the work of this little-known 20th century Jewish artist. The paintings on display were donated by Oravec to the Museum.

"Avi Biran – Dialogue with Time" (17. 5 – 26. 10. 2001)

Curator: Jaroslav Kuntoš

An exhibition of liturgical items from the Museum's collections alongside the contemporary work of Israeli designer Avi Biran.

#### **Robert Guttmann Gallery:**

"Robert Guttmann – Painter and Traveller from Prague" (12. 4. – 19. 8. 2001)

Curator: Arno Pařík

The most extensive exhibition to date of the work of this Prague Jewish naive artist from the period of the First Republic. Apart from Guttmann's work, the exhibition also showed paintings and caricatures of Guttmann by other artists, as well as period photographs and documents from the Museum's collections.

"Restituted Works of Art – The Collection of Dr. Emil Freund"

(6. 9. 2001 – 6. 1. 2002) Curator: Michaela Hájková



An exhibition of artworks that were confiscated during the Second World War by the Nazis from a private Jewish collection. On display was a selection of paintings that were restituted to the Museum from the National Gallery in Prague in October 2000 under the terms of a Czech restitution law designed to "mitigate certain injustices concerning the property of Holocaust victims."

#### 2002

#### **Robert Guttmann Gallery:**

"Robert Horvitz - The Essence" (17. 1. - 7. 4. 2002)

Curator: Michaela Hájková

An exhibition of work by the contemporary US artist Robert Horvitz. This marked the launch of the series "The Jewish Presence in Contemporary Visual Art Jewish", which features representative selections of works by contemporary artists that are united by a common focus on their Jewish identity.

"Benjamin Levy – Encounters" (25. 4. – 27. 5. 2002)

Curator: Arno Pařík

An exhibition of drawings, water-colours and gouaches by the contemporary Israeli-US painter Benjamin Levy.

"Michal Singer - Paintings from 1999-2002" (7. 11. 2002 - 26. 1. 2003)

Curator: Arno Pařík

An exhibition of paintings by the young Prague painter, Michal Singer.

#### 2003

#### **Robert Guttmann Gallery:**

"Mountain of Mountains: Aleš Veselý's Desert Projects" (12. 2. – 6. 4. 2003) Curator: Michaela Hájková

A presentation of Aleš Veselý's large-scale sculptural projects for the deserts of Israel (chiefly the Judean and the Negev), which he has intensively worked on since the mid-1990s.

"Silenced Tones" – The life and work of the Czech Jewish Musicians Gideon Klein and Egon Ledeč" (16. 4. – 15. 6. 2003)

Curator: Anita Franková and Jana Šplíchalová

An exhibition from the series "New Acquisitions of Museum Collections" which presented documents relating to the lesser known works of two Czech Jewish musicians before their deportation to the Terezín ghetto.

"Adolf Kohn. Painter of the Prague Ghetto" (26. 6. – 26. 9. 2003)

Curator: Arno Pařík

The first ever solo exhibition of paintings by Adolf Kohn (1868-1953), capturing the atmosphere of Prague's Jewish Town before its clearance.

"Long-lost Faces – Recollections of Holocaust victims in documents and photographs" (16. 10. – 23. 1. 2004)

Curator: Anita Franková and Jana Šplíchalová

Marking the culmination of the project "Help in the Search for Neighbours who Disappeared", this exhibition presented a selection of newly acquired documents relating to the Nazi persecution of Bohemian and Moravian Jews.

#### Imperial Stables, Prague Castle:

"For Dignity and Adornment – Synagogue Textiles From the Collections of the Jewish Museum in Prague" (26. 3. – 23. 6. 2003)

Curator: Ludmila Kybalová

An exhibition held in association with the Prague Castle Administration at the Imperial Stables, Prague Castle, presenting a unique selection of synagogue textiles from the Museum's collections. This was the largest ever exhibition of its kind in the Czech Republic.

#### 2004

#### **Robert Guttmann Gallery:**

"Emil Orlik – Portraits of Friends and Contemporaries" (5. 2. – 11. 4. 2004) Curator: Arno Pařík

An exhibition of paintings, graphic art and drawings by the early twentieth century artist, Emil Orlik, whose work has been rediscovered in the last few years. Also on display was a selection of sixty-nine Orlik drawings that were donated to the Museum by Anita Bollag of New Jersey.

"Karel Cudlín – Passageways" (22. 4. – 6. 6. 2004)

Curator: Michaela Hájková

An exhibition of works by the eminent Czech photographer Karel Cudlín. Part of the series "Jewish Artists' Presence in Contemporary Visual Art", which seeks to chart the relation between contemporary visual culture and Judaism.

"Laces from the Collections of the Jewish Museum in Prague"

(24.6. - 22.7.2004)

Curator: Dana Veselská

An exhibition from the series "New Acquisitions of Museum Collections" which was held for the 11th World Lace Congress in Prague. On display was a broad range of bobbin laces on synagogue textiles, as well as on garments and pieces of clothing. The exhibition also included portraits from the Museum's art collection.

"Mel Alexenberg – Cyberangels" (12. 8. – 26. 9. 2004)

Curator: Michaela Hájková

Part of the series "Jewish Presence in Contemporary Visual Art", this exhibition presented digital artworks by the renowned Israeli-based US Jewish artist Mel Alexenberg. This experimental curatorial project was focused on an aesthetic peace plan for the Middle East.



### Publications of the Jewish Museum in Prague, 1994-2004

#### JEWISH CUSTOMS AND TRADITIONS

Text by Jana Doleželová, Alexandr Putík and Jiřina Šedinová; translation by Till Gottheinerová; photographs by Dana Cabanová. Prague, The Jewish Museum in Prague, 1994. 101 pp.

THOSE WHO WANT TO SAY SOMETHING TO FUTURE GENERATIONS SHOULD SPEAK OUT!

Text by Margit Herrmannová and Helena Schützová; translation by Olga Kuthanová. Prague, The Jewish Museum in Prague, 1994, 101 pp.

#### KDO CHCE BUDOUCÍM NĚCO ŘÍCI. MÁ PROMLUVIT

Text by Margit Herrmannová and Helena Schützová. Prague, The Jewish Museum in Prague, 1994. 89 pp.

#### JÜDISCHE TRADITIONEN UND GEBRÄUCHE

Text by Jana Doleželová, Alexandr Putík and Jiřina Šedinová; translation by Margit Herrmannová; photographs by Dana Cabanová. Prague, The Jewish Museum in Prague, 1994. 101 pp.

GOLEM KRÁČÍ ŽIDOVSKÝM MĚSTEM / THE GOLEM WALKS THROUGH THE JEWISH TOWN

Text by Jiřina Šedinová, Eva Kosáková; photographs by Dana Cabanová. Prague, The Jewish Museum in Prague, 1994. 74 pp., English supplement – 24 pp.

#### ŽIDOVSKÉ TRADICE A ZVYKY

Text by Jana Doleželová, Alexandr Putík and Jiřina Šedinová; photographs by Dana Cabanová. Prague, The Jewish Museum in Prague, 1995. 101 pp.

NO HE VISTO MARIPOSAS POR AQUÍ – DIBUJOS Y POEMAS DE LOS NIÑOS DE TEREZÍN

Edited by Anita Franková, Hana Povolná; translation by Migdalia Plicková. 1st edition. Prague, The Jewish Museum in Prague, 1996. 90 pp.

CHILDREN OF THE HOLOCAUST – DRAWINGS FROM THE TEREZIN CONCENTRATION CAMP

New Zealand Tour 1996-1997: information and media guide. Prague, The Jewish Museum in Prague, 1997. 58 pp.

THE HEBREW INSCRIPTION ON THE CRUCIFIX AT CHARLES BRIDGE IN PRAGUE – THE CASE OF ELIAS BACKOFFEN AND BERL TABOR IN THE APPELATION COURT

Text by Alexandr Putík. Prague, The Jewish Museum in Prague, 1997.

ŽIDÉ. DĚJINY A KULTURA

Text by Leo Pavlát et al. Prague, The Jewish Museum in Prague, 1997. 144 pp.

O CHLAPCI, KTERÝ SE NESTAL ČÍSLEM

Text by Bedřich Fritta and Ivan Klíma.

Prague, The Jewish Museum in Prague, 1998. 55 pp.

THE JEWISH MUSEUM IN PRAGUE – REPORT ON I. LEVIN'S "THE LAST CHAPTER OF THE HOLOCAUST?"

Commentary Leo Pavlát. Prague, The Jewish Museum in Prague, 1998. 61 pp.

JEWISH CUSTOMS AND TRADITIONS: FESTIVALS, THE SYNAGOGUE AND THE COURSE OF LIFE – exhibition guide

Text by Alexandr Putík, Eva Kosáková and Dana Cabanová; translation by Joy Moss Kohoutová and Stephen Hattersley; photographs by Dana Cabanová. Prague, The Jewish Museum in Prague, 1998. 87 pp.

#### HILSNEROVA AFÉRA A ČESKÁ SPOLEČNOST 1899-1999

Collection of lectures from a conference at Charles University, Prague, on 24–26 November 1999. Compiled by Miloš Pojar. Prague, The Jewish Museum in Prague, 1999. 223 pp.

HISTORY OF THE JEWS IN BOHEMIA AND MORAVIA: FROM EMANCIPATION TO THE PRESENT: THE SPANISH SYNAGOGUE – exhibition guide

Text by Anita Franková et al. Prague, The Jewish Museum in Prague, 1999. 79 pp.

EINEN SCHMETTERLING HABE ICH HIER NICHT GESEHEN — KINDERZEICH-NUNGEN UND GEDICHTE AUS TEREZÍN

Edited by Anita Franková and Hana Povolná; translation by Margit Herrmannová and Otto Kalina. 3rd edition. Prague, The Jewish Museum in Prague, 1999. 90 pp.

#### ŽIDOVŠTÍ AUTOŘI V LITERATURÁCH EVROPSKÝCH ZEMÍ

Collection of lectures from the series at the Education and Culture Centre of the Jewish Museum in Prague, from January 1998 to February 1999. Edited by Jiří Franěk and Miloš Pojar. Prague, The Jewish Museum in Prague, 1999. 157 pp.

#### ČESKOŽIDOVŠTÍ SPISOVATELÉ V LITERATUŘE 20. STOLETÍ

Collection of lectures from the series at the Education and Culture Centre of the Jewish Museum in Prague, from September 1999 to June 2000. Prague, The Jewish Museum in Prague, 2000. 119 pp.

DĚJINY ŽIDŮ V ČECHÁCH A NA MORAVĚ – educational multimedia CD-ROM for high school students. Prague, The Jewish Museum in Prague, 2000.

#### PRACOVNÍ SEŠIT PRO ŽÁKY A UČITELE

Exercise books for pupils and teachers visiting the Education and Culture Centre. Illustrations by Hana Pavlátová. Prague, The Jewish Museum in Prague, 2000. 12 pp.



#### THIS IS NOT AND FAIRY TALE - IT'S REAL!

Pictures by Bedřich Fritta, text by Ivan Klíma, translation by Stephen Hattersley. 1st edition. Prague, The Jewish Museum in Prague, 2000. 106 pp.

### I HAVE NOT SEEN A BUTTERFLY AROUND HERE – CHILDREN'S DRAWINGS AND POEMS FROM TEREZÍN

Edited by Anita Franková, Hana Povolná; translation by Joy Kadečková and Jeanne Němcová. 1st edition. Prague, The Jewish Museum in Prague, 2000. 90 pp.

### NO HE VISTO MARIPOSAS POR AQUÍ – DIBUJOS Y POEMAS DE LOS NIÑOS DE TEREZÍN

Edited by Anita Franková, Hana Povolná; translation by Migdalia Plicková. 2nd edition. Prague, The Jewish Museum in Prague, 2000. 90 pp.

#### JAMIM MIKEDEM: STARÉ ŽIDOVSKÉ POHLEDNICE / PERIOD JEWISH PO-STCARDS

Text by Bedřich Nosek; translation by Stephen Hattersley. Prague, The Jewish Museum in Prague, 2000. 43 pp.

#### PRAŽSKÉ SYNAGOGY / PRAGUE SYNAGOGUES / PRAGER SYNAGOGEN

Arno Pařík; photographs by Dana Cabanová and Petr Kliment; English translation by Stephen Hattersley; German translation and Peter Zieschang. Prague, The Jewish Museum in Prague, 2000 (2nd ed. 2003). 120 pp.

### LES SYNAGOGUES DE PRAGUE / SINAGOGAS PRAGUENSES / SINAGOGHE DI PRAGA

Text by Arno Pařík; photographs by Dana Cabanová and Petr Kliment; French translations by Aude Brunel, Spanish translations by Daniel Gája, Italian translations by Dagmar de Blasio Denčíková. Prague, The Jewish Museum in Prague, 2000. 120 pp.

### HISTOIRE DES JUIFS EN BOHEME ET MORAVIE: DES LUMIERES AND NOS JOURS

Exhibition guide. Text by Anita Franková et al.; translation by Aude Brunel; photographs by Dana Cabanová and Petr Kliment. Prague, The Jewish Museum in Prague, 2001. 80 pp.

### I HAVE NOT SEEN A BUTTERFLY AROUND HERE – CHILDREN`S DRAWINGS AND POEMS FROM TEREZÍN

Edited by Anita Franková, Hana Povolná; translation by Joy Kadečková, Jeanne Němcová and Edith Pargeretová. 8th edition. Prague, The Jewish Museum in Prague, 2001. 90 pp.

### ICI JE N'AI PAS VU DE PAPILLON — DESSINS ET POEMES DES ENFANTS DE TEREZIN

Edited by Anita Franková, Hana Povolná; translation by Aude Brunel. 1st edition. Prague, The Jewish Museum in Prague, 2001. 90 pp.

PRAŽSKÉ SYNAGOGY / PRAGUE SYNAGOGUES / PRAGER SYNAGOGEN / LES SYNAGOGUES DE PRAGUE / SINAGOGAS PRAGUENSES / SINAGOGHE DI PRAGA

Text by Arno Pařík; photographs by Dana Cabanová and Petr Kliment. Prague, The Jewish Museum in Prague. 2001. Multimedia CD-ROM

### COUTUMES ET TRADITIONS JUIVES: LES FETES, LA SYNAGOGUE ET LE COURS DE LA VIE

Exhibition guide. Text by Alexandr Putík and Eva Kosáková; photographs by Dana Cabanová; translation by Aude Brunel; illustrations by Hana Pavlátová. Prague, The Jewish Museum in Prague, 2001. 80 pp.

QUI NON HO VISTO FARFALLE – DISEGNI E POESIE DEI BAMBINI DI TEREZÍN Translation by Dagmar Denčíková and Antonio de Blasio; preface by Jiří Weil. 1st edition. Prague, The Jewish Museum in Prague, 2001. 90 pp.

#### ROBERT GUTTMANN – MALÍŘ A TURISTA Z PRAHY

Text by Arno Pařík. Prague, The Jewish Museum in Prague, 2001. 48 pp.

#### ROBERT GUTTMANN - PAINTER AND TRAVELLER FROM PRAGUE

Text by Arno Pařík, translation by Stephen Hattersley. Prague, The Jewish Museum in Prague, 2001. 48 pp.

#### ŽIDÉ. DĚJINY A KULTURA

Text by Leo Pavlát et al. 2nd edition. Prague, The Jewish Museum in Prague, 2001. 143 pp.

#### EINEN SCHMETTERLING HABE ICH HIER NICHT GESEHEN – KINDERZEICH-NUNGEN UND GEDICHTE AUS TEREZÍN

Edited by Anita Franková, Hana Povolná; translation by Margit Herrmannová and Otto Kalina. 4th edition. Prague, The Jewish Museum in Prague, 2001. 90 pp.

#### STÍN ŠOA NAD EVROPOU

Collection of lectures from the series at Education and Culture Centre of the Jewish Museum in Prague, from January 2000 to December 2001. Prague, The Jewish Museum in Prague, 2001. 315 pp.

#### ADOLF KOHN – MALÍŘ PRAŽSKÉHO GHETTA

Text by Arno Pařík. Prague, The Jewish Museum in Prague, 2002. 48 pp.

#### ADOLF KOHN - PAINTER OF THE PRAGUE GHETTO

Text by Arno Pařík; translation by Stephen Hattersley. Prague, The Jewish Museum in Prague, 2002. 48 pp.

#### BATEJ-HA-KNESET BE-PRAG / PRAŽSKIJE SINAGOGI / PARAHA NO ŠINA-GÓGI /

Text by Arno Pařík; photographs by Dana Cabanová and Petr Kliment; translations by Natal'ja Bolkova, Ziv Semadar and Akiko Maršálková. Prague, The Jewish Museum in Prague, 2002. 117 pp.



NOEMOVA ARCHA – POMOZTE ZACHRÁNIT ZVÍŘÁTKA PŘED POTOPOU Jewish Museum in Prague; illustrations by Hana Pavlátová. 1st edition. Prague, The Jewish Museum in Prague, 2002. 12 pp.

#### ŽIDOVSKÁ PRAHA

Text by Arno Pařík; photographs by Dana Cabanová and Petr Kliment. Prague, The Jewish Museum in Prague, 2002. 56 pp.

#### JEWISH PRAGUE

Text by Arno Pařík; photographs by Dana Cabanová and Petr Kliment; translation by Stephen Hattersley. Prague, The Jewish Museum in Prague, 2002 (2nd and 3rd ed. 2003). 56 pp.

#### DAS JÜDISCHE PRAG

Text by Arno Pařík; photographs by Dana Cabanová and Petr Kliment; translation by Peter Zieschang. Prague, The Jewish Museum in Prague, 2002 (2nd ed. 2003). 56 pp.

#### PRAGUE JUIVE

Text by Arno Pařík; photographs by Dana Cabanová and Petr Kliment; translation by Aude Brunel. Prague, The Jewish Museum in Prague, 2002 (2nd ed. 2003). 56 pp.

#### LA PRAGA JUDÍA

Text by Arno Pařík; photographs by Dana Cabanová and Petr Kliment; translation by Daniel Gája. Prague, The Jewish Museum in Prague, 2002 (2nd ed. 2003). 56 pp.

#### PRAGA EBRAICA

Text by Arno Pařík; photographs by Dana Cabanová and Petr Kliment; translation by Dagmar Denčíková and Antonio De Blasio. Prague, The Jewish Museum in Prague, 2002 (2nd ed. 2003). 56 pp.

HISTORY OF THE JEWS IN BOHEMIA AND MORAVIA: FROM THE FIRST SET-TLEMENTS UNTIL EMANCIPATION: THE MAISEL SYNAGOGUE – Exhibition guide. Text by Alexandr Putík and Olga Sixtová; translation by Stephen Hattersley; photographs by Dana Cabanová and Petr Kliment. Prague, The Jewish Museum in Prague, 2002. 107 pp.

#### BOSKOVICKÁ SYNAGOGA - průvodce

Text by Olga Sixtová, Daniel Polakovič and Arno Pařík; photographs by Dana Cabanová and Petr Kliment. Prague, The Jewish Museum in Prague: Museum Boskovicka, 2002. 63 pp.

#### BOSKOVICE SYNAGOGUE - Guide

Text by Olga Sixtová, Daniel Polakovič and Arno Pařík; photographs by Dana Cabanová and Petr Kliment; translation by Stephen Hattersley. Prague, The Jewish Museum in Prague: Boskovice Museum, 2002. 63 pp.

#### AMERICKÁ ŽIDOVSKÁ LITERATURA

Collection of lectures by Hana Ulmanová from the series at the Education and Culture Centre of the Jewish Museum in Prague, from October 2001 to June 2002. Prague, The Jewish Museum in Prague, 2002. 88 pp.

#### ARJE. TVŮJ PRŮVODCE ŽIDOVSKÝM MĚSTEM I.

Jewish Museum in Prague; illustrations by Hana Pavlátová. Prague, The Jewish Museum in Prague, 2003.16 pp.

#### ARJE. TVŮJ PRŮVODCE ŽIDOVSKÝM MĚSTEM II.

Jewish Museum in Prague; illustrations by Hana Pavlátová. Prague, The Jewish Museum in Prague, 2003. 16 pp.

### GOLEM V NÁBOŽENSTVÍ, VĚDĚ A UMĚNÍ / GOLEM EN LA RELIGION, LA CIENCIA Y EL ARTE

Collection of lectures from a seminar held on 9 October 2002 at the Education and Culture Centre of the Jewish of the Museum in Prague. Compiled by Miloš Pojar; translation into Spanish by Kateřina Kráčmarová. Prague, The Jewish Museum in Prague, 2003. 272 pp.

#### HANIN KUFŘÍK

Text by Karen Levine; translation from the English by Dana Makovičková. Prague: Portál: Jewish Museum in Prague, 2003. 117 pp.

IN DEFIANCE OF FATE: Fritz Weiss: Arrangements for the Emil Ludvík Orchestra. Unique recordings from 1940–41. Audio CD.

Prague, The Jewish Museum in Prague, 2003.

### PRAŽSKÉ ŽIDOVSKÉ HŘBITOVY / PRAGUE JEWISH CEMETERIES / PRAGER JÜDISCHE FRIEDHÖFE

Text by Arno Pařík et al. English translation by Stephen Hattersley, German translation by Peter Zieschang. Photographs by Dana Cabanová and Petr Kliment. Prague, The Jewish Museum in Prague, 2003. 152 pp.

### TEXTILES FROM BOHEMIAN AND MORAVIAN SYNAGOGUES FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF THE JEWISH MUSEUM IN PRAGUE

Text by Ludmila Kybalová, Eva Kosáková and Alexandr Putík; with essays by Zlata Černá et al.; translation by Derek Paton; photographs by Dana Cabanová, Petr Kliment and Jiří Tatranský. Prague, The Jewish Museum in Prague, 2003. 376 pp.

## SYNAGOGÁLNÍ TEXTILIE / SYNAGOGUE TEXTILES / TEXTILES DE SYNAGOGUE / SYNAGOGUELE TEXTILESN / PARAMENTI SINAGOGALI [multimedia CD-ROM]

Text by DanaVeselská et al.; translation of Hebrew texts by Iveta Vondrášková and Michaela Scheibová; French translation by Aude Brunel; Italian translation by Dagmar De Blasio Denčíková; English translation by Stephen Hattersley; German translation by Magda Veselská. Prague, The Jewish Museum in Prague, 2003.



ALEŠ VESELÝ: MOUNTAIN OF MOUNTAINS – DESERT PROJECTS

Text by Michaela Hájková; English translation by Howard Sidenberg; Hebrew translation by Daniel Ziss; photographs by Dana Cabanová and Petr Kliment, Jiří Tatranský. Prague, The Jewish Museum in Prague, 2003. 124 pp.

K SLÁVĚ A OZDOBĚ – VHS

Directed by Irena Pavlásková; written by a collective team at the Museum. Prague, The Jewish Museum in Prague, 2003. VHS/PAL

FOR DIGNITY AND ADORNMENT - VHS

Directed by Irena Pavlásková; written by a collective team at the Museum; translation by Stephen Hattersley. Prague, The Jewish Museum in Prague, 2003. VHS/PAL

ŽIDOVSKÁ MENŠINA V ČESKOSLOVENSKU VE DVACÁTÝCH LETECH Collection of lectures from the series at the Education and Culture Centre of the Jewish Museum in Prague, from October 2002 to June 2003. Compiled by Blanka Soukupová and Marie Zahradníková. Prague, The Jewish Museum in Prague, 2003. 132 pp.

MY HEART IS A JAZZ BAND – A Jewish musician's rare recordings: Dol Dauber and His Orchestras, 1927-1938. Audio CD. Prague, The Jewish Museum in Prague, 2004.

EMIL ORLIK – PODOBIZNY PŘÁTEL A SOUČASNÍKŮ

Text by Arno Pařík. Prague, The Jewish Museum in Prague, 2004. 96 pp.

EMIL ORLIK – PORTRAITS OF FRIENDS AND CONTEMPORARIES
Text by Arno Pařík; translation by Stephen Hattersley. Prague, The Jewish Museum in Prague, 2004. 96 pp.

MODERNIZACE, IDENTITA, STEREOTYP, KONFLIKT – SPOLEČNOST PO HIL-SNERIÁDĚ

Text by Blanka Soukupová and Peter Salner. Prague, Faculty of Humanities, Charles University: The Jewish Museum in Prague, 2004. 99 pp. (Ethnic Studies; Book 1)

KRAJKY ZE SBÍREK ŽIDOVSKÉHO MUZEA V PRAZE / LACES FROM THE COL-LECTIONS OF THE JEWISH MUSEUM IN PRAGUE

Text by Dana Veselská; illustrations by Štěpánka Dejmalová et al.; photographs by Dana Cabanová and Jiří Tatranský; translation by Stephen Hattersley. Prague, The Jewish Museum in Prague, 2004. 115 pp.

EINEN SCHMETTERLING HABE ICH HIER NICHT GESEHEN — KINDERZEICH-NUNGEN UND GEDICHTE AUS TEREZÍN

Edited by Anita Franková, Hana Povolná; translation by Margit Herrmannová and Otto Kalina. 5th edition. Prague, The Jewish Museum in Prague, 2004. 90 pp.

I HAVE NOT SEEN A BUTTERFLY AROUND HERE – CHILDREN'S DRAWINGS AND POEMS FROM TEREZÍN

Edited by Anita Franková, Hana Povolná; translation by Joy Kadečková, Jeanne Němcová and Edith Pargeretová. 9th edition. Prague, The Jewish Museum in Prague, 2004. 90 pp.

ICI JE N'AI PAS VU DE PAPILLON – DESSINS ET POEMES DES ENFANTS DE TEREZIN

Edited by Anita Franková, Hana Povolná; translation by Aude Brunel. 2nd edition. Prague, The Jewish Museum in Prague, 2004. 90 pp.

NO HE VISTO MARIPOSAS POR AQUÍ – DIBUJOS Y POEMAS DE LOS NIÑOS DE TEREZÍN

Edited by Anita Franková, Hana Povolná; translation by Migdalia Plicková. 2nd edition. Prague, The Jewish Museum in Prague, 2004. 90 pp.

QUI NON HO VISTO FARFALLE – DISEGNI E POESIE DEI BAMBINI DI TEREZIN Translation by Dagmar Denčíková and Antonio de Blasio; preface by Jiří Weil. 1st edition. Prague, The Jewish Museum in Prague, 2004. 90 pp.

KONCERT ZE ŠPANĚLSKÉ SYNAGOGY / CONCERT FROM THE SPANISH SYNAGOGUE

Audio CD. Prague, The Jewish Museum in Prague, 2004.

### Awards for the Jewish Museum in Prague

**2001** Dr. Bernard Heller Prize (Hebrew Union College – Jewish Institute of Religion, USA)

 ${\bf 2003}$  Participation in the final of the European Museum of the Year competition in  ${\bf 2003}$ 

**2004** Main prize in the Gloria Musaealis competition for museums in the Czech Republic – in the category Museum Publications of 2003 for the book "Textiles from Bohemian and Moravian Synagogues" (competition organised by the Czech Ministry of Culture and the Czech Association of Museums and Galleries)

**2004** Main prize in the Most Beautiful Czech Book of the Year competition for 2003 – in the specialist and scientific literature category for the book "Textiles from Bohemian and Moravian Synagogues" (competition organised by the Czech Ministry of Culture and the Museum of Czech Literature)



### Education and Culture Centre of the Jewish Museum in Prague

#### **Education and Culture Centre of the Jewish Museum in Prague**

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Director: Dr. Miloš Pojar



#### Lectures:

- The earliest history of the Jews until 135 CE, expulsion and Diaspora (from 1997)
- History of the Jews in Bohemia and Moravia from the 10th century to the present (from 1997)
- The Jewish year (from 1997)
- A history of anti-Semitism, persecution, the Shoah, racism and xenophobia (from 1997)
- Persecution of Bohemian and Moravian Jews during the Second World War (from 1997)
- Prominent Jewish literary figures in the context of Czech culture (from 2002)
- Present-day Israel (from 2002)
- The Jewish religion, culture, traditions and art (from 1997)

#### Workshops - interactive art and drama based educational programmes

- Jewish Customs and Traditions (Pesach, Sabbath, Hanukkah, Purim from 2000):
- Researchers in the Field of Judaism(from 2001)
- The Hebrew Alphabet (from 2001)
- Noah's Ark (from 2002)
- Art in Extreme Situations
- Arve. Your Guide to the Jewish Town (2003):
- The Ghetto that Disappeared (from 2003);
- The Holocaust in Documents (from 2003);
- Reflections Culprits, Rescuers and The Others (from 2003).
- Hana's Suitcase (from 2003)

#### Proiects:

- Retraining courses for tour guides to be licensed by the Museum (from 1998)
- CD-ROM History of the Jews in Bohemia and Moravia (1999/2000)
- Workshop, an interactive art and drama project (from 2000)
- Neighbours Who Disappeared (from 1999)



- The Boy Who didn't Become a Number in association with the Department of Primary Education, Faculty of Education, Charles University, Prague (in 2000)
- Mutual Awareness and Tolerance project, intended for future 1st-5th grade teachers, in association with the Faculty of Education, Charles University, Prague (in 2001)
- Travelling exhibitions "Anne Frank Legacy for the Present" and "A Children's Story – Children's Drawings from the Terezín Ghetto". Held in association with the Anne Frank House in Amsterdam (from 2002)
- Sunday Workshop selected programmes for children accompanied by adults, and also for schools (from 2003)

#### Museum project: NEIGHBOURS WHO DISAPPEARED

The Neighbours Who Disappeared project of the Museum's Education and Culture Centre has been running since 1999. Its objective is to make today's young generation (especially school-children aged 12-18) aware of the fate of those who disappeared from their neighbourhoods during the Second World War. The Education and Culture Centre provides the basic text for the project, along with a questionnaire, and organises educational programmes and meetings with Holocaust survivors, as well as suggesting topics that may be explored. The students themselves gather information garnered from school and district archives, interviews, documents (photographs and letters, etc.) and, in particular, from personal meetings with Holocaust survivors and witnesses, and then write up a literary-documentary report. As of the summer of 2004, the project has involved the participation of more than one hundred individuals and groups from elementary and high schools.

The Museum's Education and Culture Centre published a volume of contributions on the project for teachers (www.zmizeli-sousede.cz), and a television documentary film was made about the project in 2001. The documents and personal testimonies of about thirty of the project participants, each differing in approach, method and locality, were put together in twelve panels for a travelling exhibition. Since its opening in June 2002 in the Upper House of the Czech Parliament, the Neighbours Who Disappeared exhibition has been on display in more than twenty towns across the Czech Republic. The exhibition has become a re-



gular part of "The Holocaust in Education", a Terezín-based international seminar for teachers, as an example of self-educational methods and motivational work.

Financial support for the project has been provided by the Czech Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport, the Czech Ministry of Culture, Prague City Hall, Prague 1 and Prague 6 local authorities, The Endowment Fund for Holocaust Victims, the Jewish Museum in Prague Foundation, the International Visegrad Fund and Ringier ČR, a.s.

The partners of the project are the civic associations Ukrývané dítě (Hidden Child) and The Jewish Museum in Prague–Neighbours Who Disappeared Project.

Contact: Marie Zahradníková marie.zahr@jewishmuseum.cz Tel.: 222 325 172

### Events at the Education and Culture Centre, 1997–2004

Year	Lectures	Concerts	Openings	Evenings with authors	Literary evenings	Film showings	Talks and discussions	Book presentations
1997	28	7			1	14	4	5
1998	53	13	3		1	14	7	5
1999	62	19	5			14		1
2000	65	13	3		2	13		6
2001	71	13	4	5		7		3
2002	56	17	4	6		8	1	4
2003	54	5	4	4		5		3
2004	45	8	3	1	1	2	1	3
celkem	434	95	26	16	5	77	13	30

A total of 807 projects were held at the Education and Culture Centre in 1997–2004. The monthly average is 8.5 projects; the annual average is 100 projects



### Prominent visits to the Jewish Museum in Prague, 1994–2004

#### 1994

Václav Havel, President of the Czech Republic Josef Lux, Czech Deputy Prime Minister Pavel Tigrid, Czech Minister of Culture Avner Azulay, Executive Director of The Rich Foundation

#### 1995

Mario Soares, President of Portugal
Luigi Scalfaro, President of Italy
Ehud Olmert, Mayor of Jerusalem
Amnon Rubinstein, Israeli Minister of Education, Culture and Sport
Yossi Sarid, Israeli Minister of Environment
Matthias Wissmann, German Minister of Transport

#### 1996

Reuma Weizman, the wife of the Israeli President Ezer Weizman Elie Wiesel, Nobel Laureate for Peace
Ambassadors of ten East Asian states to the Czech Republic Hillary Clinton, First Lady of the United States of America Eeva Ahtisaari, the wife of the President of Finland Václav Havel, President of the Czech Republic

#### 1997

Ronald S. Lauder, representative of a number of major international Jewish organisations and founder of the Ronald S. Lauder Foundation

Queen Sonja, the wife of King Harald V of Norway

Madelaine Albright, US Secretary of State

Flavio Cotti, Swedish Minister of Foreign Affairs

Jonathan Sacks, Chief Rabbi of Great Britain

Jicchak Levy, Israeli Minister of Transport

Menachem Porush, President of Agudat Yisrael

Israel Meir Lau, Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi of Israel

#### 1998

Pierre Moscovici, French Minister for European Affairs Tzachi Hanegbi, Israeli Minister of Justice with entourage Efraim Kishon, Israeli writer

#### 1999

Marita Ulvskog, Swedish Minister of Culture

Malcolm Hoenlein, Executive Director of the Conference of Presidents of Major
American Jewish Organizations

Nane Annan, wife of the UN Secretary General Kofi Annan
Göran Persson, Prime Minister of Sweden

Kakuhan Enami, Representative of the Patriarch of the oldest Buddhist school in Japan

#### 2000

David Levy, Israeli Minister of Foreign Affairs Zoltán Rockenbauer, Hungarian Minister of the National and Cultural Heritage Lennart Meri, President of the Republic of Estonia Jicchak Navon, President of the State of Israel in 1978-1983 Queen Paola and King Albert III of Belgium

#### 2001

Pierre Moscovici, French Minister for European Affairs Jorge Sampaio, President of Portugal

#### 2002

Laura Bush, First Lady of the United States of America with her daughter Jenny Günther Verheugen, EU enlargement commissioner

Serge Cwajgenbaum, Secretary General of the of the European Jewish Congress

Rabbi Aba Dunner, President of the Conference of European Rabbis Rabbi Michael Melchior, Deputy Foreign Minister of the State of Israel Their Royal Highnesses, the Grand Duke Henri and Grand Duchess Marie Teresa of Luxembourg

Madelaine Albright, former US Secretary of State Václav Havel, President of the Czech Republic Rabbi Mordecai Eliahu, former Sephardic Chief Rabbi of Israel

#### 2003

Tom Lantos, US senator Roman Polanski, film director Amos Oz, Israeli writer Yehiel Leket, President of the Jewish National Fund (Keren Kayemeth Lejisrael) Deborah Lipstadt, American historian on the Holocaust

#### 2004

Silvan Shalom, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister of the State of Israel Néstor Kirchner, President of Argentina



# Members of the administrative and supervisory boards of the Jewish Museum in Prague, 1994–2004

#### First term of office, 1994-1999

#### **Administrative Board:**

Efraim Karol Sidon, Federation of Jewish Communities, 1994–1999 Jiří Daníček, Federation of Jewish Communities, 1994–1999 Eva Lorencová, Jewish Community in Prague, 1994–1999 Zeno Dostál, Jewish Community in Prague, 1994–1996 Petr Kosák, Jewish Community in Prague, 1996–1998 Magdalena Šimková, Czech Ministry of Culture, 1994–1999

#### **Supervisory Board:**

Samuel Guttmann, Federation of Jewish Communities, 1994–1998 Miroslav Konečný, Jewish Community in Prague, 1994–1999 Jakub Karfík, Czech Ministry of Culture, 1994–1996 Milan Plaček, Czech Ministry of Culture, 1997–1999 Veronika Braunová. Federation of Jewish Communities, 1999

#### Second term of office 1999 - 2004

#### **Administrative Board:**

Eva Lorencová, Jewish Community in Prague, 1999–2004 Jan Munk, Federation of Jewish Communities, 1999–2004 Tommy Karas, Jewish Community in Prague, 1999–2004 Jiří Daníček, Federation of Jewish Communities, 1999–2004 Magdalena Šimková, Czech Ministry of Culture, 1999–2004

#### **Supervisory Board:**

Veronika Braunová, Federation of Jewish Communities, 1999–2004 Miroslav Konečný, Jewish Community in Prague, 1999–2004 Milan Plaček, Czech Ministry of Culture, 1999–2001 Božena Korčáková, Czech Ministry of Culture, 2001–2004

## The major sponsors of the Jewish Museum in Prague

#### Abroad

The Ronald S. Lauder Foundation The American Joint Distribution Committee The Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture FX LIBRIS S.A. The Rich Foundation The Project Judaica Foundation World ORT Union The L. A. Pincus Fund for Jewish Education The United States Holocaust Memorial Council The Rothschild Foundation American Friends of the Czech Republic The Javne Fund Freie und Hansestadt Hamburg The World Monuments Fund Hanadiv Charitable Foundation The Rosalinde and Arthur Gilbert Foundation

### Czech Republic Czech Ministry of Culture

Prague City Hall
Česká nezávislá televizní společnost s.r.o.
(Czech Independent Television Company)
ČPP s.p. o.z. Transgas
Komerční banka, a.s
Nadační fond NOVA (NOVA Endowment Fund)
Tabák, a.s., Kutná Hora
Česko-německý fond budoucnosti (Czech-German Future Fund)
Nadační fond obětem holocaustu (Endowment Fund for Holocaust Victims)
PHARE – Czech Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport



### What people have written about the Museum

VACLAY HAVEL

Velice si vazim prace
prajsketho Židorvieho muzea
a rispezli, hrezih oco satho
v posledinich letech prod
vedenim lea Tavlata. Vrim,
jal umrlio vzvacrzich liosti
3 erzirz o tombo umzen vi
a vzhledava ho. De odro,
ze tobo umzenm uz deset
let patri tomu, komu
jedine vatrit ma, totiz
zolejši židorvie komunite.

Vaclas Havel

I highly regard the work of the Jewish Museum in Prague and the success that it has achieved in the past years under the supervision of Leo Pavlát. I know how many important guests from abroad know about this museum and come to see it. It is right that for the past ten years this museum has belonged to whom it should belong, the local Jewish community.

Václav Havel, President of Czechoslovakia and the Czech Republic, 1990–2003



For me, the activities of the Jewish Museum in Prague in the last ten years have been connected with the repair and reconstruction of a number of cultural monuments, in particular Prague synagogues and the Old Jewish Cemetery, which have then been put to public use. In this period it has become the most visited museum in the Czech Republic and it has founded the Education and Culture Centre. All this is known about the Jewish Museum in Prague. What is less known is that, in the last ten years, it has also improved the quality of care of its collection of 16th-20th century Judaica, artworks and Jewish literature, for which new depositories and restoration workshops have been set up.

When talking about any institution, one cannot forget that specific people are behind its activities. In the almost hundred-year history of the Jewish Museum in Prague, there have been a large number of such people. Of these, one should mention at least the association members who founded the Museum in 1906 and, above all, the self-sacrificing museum workers who, despite their lives being in danger everyday and being under the constant eye of Nazi officials, managed to record a wealth of valuable documents at a time when thousands of their fellow-citizens were preparing for the last journey. Nor can I neglect to mention the present-day Museum staff and those at the helm of the Museum, headed by Dr. Leo Pavlát who not only successfully guides the museum, but also, in his official capacity and personally, is significantly contributing to an education for tolerance and against racism and xenophobia.

I wish the Jewish Museum in Prague much success in the years to come.

Pavel Dostál Czech Minister of Culture

During the last ten years, the Jewish Museum in Prague, in the hands of the Jewish Community of Bohemia and Moravia, has achieved a number of indubitable successes. Not only is it the most visited museum in the Czech Republic, not only does it care for Prague's synagogues and cemeteries and its archives and depositories in an exemplany way, not only does it systematically restore its collection items but, above all, it has managed to find a relationship with the public. It has become an extremely lively, communicating, even dialogic museum, which devotes itself to its visitors from the Czech Republic and abroad even more than its collections. I am impressed by the successful efforts the Museum has made to address our children and students

I venture to say that an awareness of the importance of the Jewish community in the Czech Republic and of its cultural and spiritual contribution has perhaps never been so strong, yet so positive, in the history of our country.

I would like to cordially thank those at the head of the Museum and those among its staff who deserve credit for this.

Petr Pithart President of the Senate of the Czech Republic

#### Dear Dr. Pavlát,

In a month, ten years will have elapsed since the implementation of a decision to return the state-run Jewish Museum in Prague to the Jewish Community in the Czech Republic. I consider this step to be an important milestone not only in the care and development of Jewish culture and traditions in our country, but, in partic-

ular, as an important confirmation of the spiritual continuity of the coexistence of Jewish and Christian culture, without which our nations would never have had such important achievements and successes in culture, science and art.

Allow me to take this opportunity to congratulate you on the anniversary of the Jewish Museum in Prague and to praise your personal contribution to its important work which represents an irreplaceable and permanent enrichment of our presence in the future.

JUDr. Pavel Rychetský

President of the Constitutional Court of the Czech Republic

Dear Dr. Pavlát,

The renown of the Jewish Museum recalls in a dignified way the victims of the Shoah and the beauty, variety and magnitude of Jewish culture.

You and your colleagues deserve huge credit for this, due to your hard and honest work, for which you have my admiration and gratitude.

Mgr. Jiří Janeček Director General, Czech Television

At the beginning of the 1990s, the Jewish Museum in Prague (at the time run by the state) embarked on a path as a fully professional cultural institution. The Museum has continued to develop its highly specialised base which is represented both by specialists who are respected here and in the world and activities related to the administration of collections, archive and library as are the restoration workshop and depository facilities.

From the perspective of heritage protection, one should praise the sensitive reconstruction of the Spanish Synagogue and the Museum's adjoining administrative building, as well as the reconstruction and extension of the Smichov Synagogue.

Jan Kněžínek

Director, Department of Heritage Protection, Prague City Hall

Dear Dr. Pavlát:

I commend your work to educate and sustain the memory of the history of the Czech Jewish community.

Through the efforts of you and others at the Jewish Museum in Prague, families such as mine are able to recover the history of what happened to their family members.

Madeleine K. Albright

Dear Leo.

I had not realized that a decade has passed since the Jewish Museum in the Czech Republic was transferred to the Jewish Community in Czech Republic. Congratulations and celebration are certainly in order – not only for what you have achieved during this past decade but also for what it symbolizes in the Jewish world.

I can well remember those strident voices in the early 1990s who insisted that the collection of the Jewish State Museum should be taken out of Prague. They main-



tained that there was not the interest or the expertise or even the people who could properly care for it. They said there was not future for Jews or Judaism or even Jewish objects in Central and Eastern Europe. But the Museum that you administrate and the care and meticulousness which has marked the renovations and restorations under your auspices now surely rival the best that can be found anywhere in the world.

And you should be deservedly proud.

Rabbi Andrew Baker, Director Department of International Jewish Affairs The American Jewish Committee

#### Dear Dr. Pavlát,

I can say, with pleasure and appreciation, that the Jewish Museum in Prague fulfils its function very well. Together with my colleagues at the National Gallery, I view the Museum's work from two perspectives. I cannot find any flaws from a utilitarian perspective, that is in terms of how the cooperation between the National Gallery in Prague and the Jewish Museum works. From a general perspective, when evaluating the function of the Jewish Museum as an institution, I can find only positive things here too. Staff at the National Gallery regard the exhibition activities of the Jewish Museum as professionally undertaken, well-researched and attractive to viewers. The National Gallery in Prague also appreciates how the Jewish Museum, particularly under your supervision, accommodates requests for loans of art works from your collections.

This is why I value our cooperation and believe that the Jewish Museum, under your guidance, will continue its cooperation with us in the years to come.

Prof. Milan Knížák, Dr.A. Director General, National Gallery in Prague

#### Dear Dr. Pavlát.

Throughout my service as Ambassador of Israel to the Czech Republic I have witnessed with admiration the impressive growth and development of the Museum, which, no doubt, is the result of the hard work and efforts, invested by you and your staff in the institution.

I have had the opportunity to visit the Jewish Museum in Prague on several occasions and noted that the organization actively participates in promoting the Jewish culture both in Czech Republic and throughout the world. This constitutes an important contribution to better understanding between our two countries.

Arthur Avnon Ambassador of Israel to the Czech Republic

As an old new institution, the Jewish Museum in Prague has added another ten years to its age. During these ten years, under the guidance of its director, Dr. Leo Pavlát and with the intensive efforts of his team of associates, it has achieved success for which it is deservedly receiving congratulations from both the general public and specialists, among whom I can be counted. After a period of reconstruction and development, which has been completed according to plan, a new period is now beginning which is just as important; I expect that the emphasis will now be

on specialist programmes, which means that the Jewish Museum, as a specialist institution, will open its doors even wider to those interested in research as a treasury of knowledge about the history of Bohemian, Moravian and Silesian Jews. I am convinced that with G-ds help, we will be able to congratulate once again and with the same recognition as today, the Jewish Museum in Prague, its director and his team of associates, for meeting these expectations.

Efraim K. Sidon, Chief Rabbi of the Czech Republic and President of Rabbis in the Czech Republic and Prague

#### Dear Sirs,

the Jewish Museum is the monumental institution, rich in precious exhibits and well managed. Especially under the directorship of Mr. Leo Pavlát the Museum developed importantly. We are in frequent touch with him and the connection is to our greatest satisfaction.

We hope the Museum will continue its important work also in the future.

Nina Faran Director of Beit Theresienstadt

#### Dear Dr. Pavlát.

During the last ten years, the Jewish Museum in Prague has undergone remarkable change, all in a positive sense. It has become an institution of European and world importance. It is undeniable that you have made the main contribution to this change.

In appreciation of your directorship and specialist work, allow me to wish you much success in both areas in the future.

Prof. PhDr. Pavol Mešťan, DrSc. Museum of Jewish Culture, Bratislava

#### Dear Dr. Pavlát.

On the occasion of the forthcoming tenth anniversary of the return of the Jewish Museum in Prague to the Jewish community in the Czech lands, allow me to express my gratitude for the assistance and cooperation you have provided in this period. I value your personal assistance which has significantly contributed to the achievement of desirable results. I also appreciate the role of the Museum and of yourself in coming to terms with such negative aspects of our time, as Holocaust denial, manifestations of modern anti-Semitism and racial intolerance.

I believe that the prestige of the Jewish Museum has increased in the last decade and I would like to sincerely congratulate you and your co-workers, with the hope that this positive trend will continue to benefit the Museum and the entire Jewish community in our country.

doc.PhDr. Vojtěch Blodig, CSc. Deputy Director, Terezín Memorial



The Conference of European Rabbis is proud to join the celebrations of the 10th anniversary of Jewish Museum in Prague.

I personally still recall the tremendous damage caused by the floods a few years ago. I was deeply impressed by the manner in which the Director of the museum, Mr. Pavlát, was conducting the intricate repair work and the special respect demonstrated when dealing with reapirs in such holy buildings by continuously circulating the buildings wearing kipa. This merely illustrates the whole way in which the Jewish museum has been developed and maintained over the years.

Cllr Rabbi A. M. Dunner Executive Director, Conference of European Rabbis

The Prague Jewish Museum is an international cultural treasure. It is one of the most fascinating sites in Europe and reflects cultural richness that was Jewish life in Bohemia and Moravia. Though it contains a powerful and wrenching tributes to the victims of holocaust, above all, it shows how Jews lived not solely how they died. I was surprised to learn that it is the most visited museum in all of the Czech Republic.

Deborah Lipstadt (Holocaust Historia, USA)

#### Dear Dr. Pavlát.

On the occasion of the Jewish Museum's tenth anniversary under the administration of the Jewish community, I would like to express my admiration for the success that the Museum has achieved under your supervision. It would be hard to find a cultural institution in the Czech Republic that is developing with more dynamism. With regard to the area that is close to me professionally, I appreciate the Museum's activities in the care and maintenance of its collection items and library holdings which constitute a unique and irreplaceable part of our national cultural heritage.

The quality and highly professional standard of its permanent and temporary exhibitions, lectures and other activities, explains why your Museum is among the most visited cultural institutions in the country. Cooperation with your museum has always been a great contribution for us and has often given us quidance.

#### PhDr. Jiří Polišenský

Director, Department for the Protection of Library Holdings, National Library of the Czech Republic

Under the supervision of Dr. Pavlát, the Jewish Museum emerged from the dark days of totalitarianism into 21st century in all aspects of its activities: artistic, scientific, technical, and administrative. Millions of visitors from abroad testify to this. Whenever I need advice or help when studying the past of the Jews of Bohemia and Moravia, I have somewhere to turn and I know that I will be assisted by all the specialists who work at the museum.

It is my museum, the heritage of my ancestors of whom I am proud, which not only preserves the past in an exemplary way, but also addresses the present and builds a bridge to the future.

Ruth Bondy Prague-born Israeli journalist, writer and translator Dear Leo.

With the 1 of October approaching, we congratulate you and your staff with the great achievements of the Židovské Muzeum Praha.

This precious legacy and its premises have been kept and presented in great way with an eve on the future.

We wish you a good luck for the next 10 years and hope that Amsterdam-Prague will indeed be a European Jewish example.

Joel J. Cahen Director Joods Historisch Museum. Amsterdam

Dear Dr. Pavlát.

it is with great pleasure that I have heard that you museum will be celebrating the tenth anniversary of its return to the Jewish Community in Bohemia and Moravia. Since then, the Jewish Museum in Prague, has become, under your inspired guidance, one of the largest, most important and well visited Jewish Museums in Europe. Its systems have been brought up to date with State of the Art technology and all its methods and procedures have been updated too. Rich, innovative and evocative exhibitions have kept in the light of publicity.

But, from all your significant achievements, such as your exemplary collection storage areas, I will choose to mention your timeous and excellent handling of the very serious problems caused by the severe flood Prague experienced in August 2002.

Zanet Battinou, Director The Jewish Museum of Greece

#### Dear Dr. Pavlát

It is 10 years since I attended the ceremony returning the former State Jewish Museum to the Jewish community in Bohemia and Moravia, following which World ORT established its computer laboratory within the Education and Culture Centre. The Centre and Museum have been invaluable in broadening the knowledge of the Czech public, particularly the history of the Jewish people, as well as on anti-Semitism and the Holocaust. The Museum has been instrumental in renewing awareness of the Jewish presence in the Czech Republic.

Dr. Gideon Meyer Deputy Director General WORLD ORT

I am glad that I have this opportunity to congratulate the Jewish Museum on its anniversary. It is always a great pleasure for me to work with this unique cultural institution, especially in the last few years, since Dr. Leo Pavlát has been its director and a whole number of joint events have been held.

I greatly look forward to our next meeting and wish you great health, happiness and strength for the future.

Václav Hudeček, violinist



#### Dear Dr. Pavlát.

I would like to express my admiration for the achievements of the Jewish Museum in Prague over the last decade, since it was returned to the Jewish community in the Czech Republic.

I think that the Jewish Museum in Prague under your guidance is creating symbiosis between Jewish and Czech culture. This symbiotic relationship enriches both cultures and gives the Jewish Museum in Prague a very special place among Jewish museums of Europe.

#### Chava Pressburger

(Israeli painter, member of the Israeli Association of painters and sculptors)

#### Dear Dr. Leo Pavlát,

I am glad of this opportunity to express my admiration and appreciation to the way you carried out heavy and important task of keeper of the "Precious Legacy" of the Jewish communities of Bohemia and Moravia.

Quite a lot has been accomplished during these last ten years. Your outstandingly devoted team with yourself as a leader successfully overcome many difficulties, first and foremost among the during the flood of 2002 which caused enormous damage you managed to overcome this catastrophy, restore the buildings and keep the museum functioning.

Today the Jewish museum of Prague is a focal attraction in the city and modern window to way of Jewish way of life which has been once flourishing in Bohemia and Moravia.

Last but not least worth of mentioning is your steadfast collaboration with the Center for Jewish Art and your ready help whenever needed – for which we are grateful.

Your friend.

Ruth Jacoby The Center for Jewish Art The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

#### Dear Dr. Pavlát.

I would like to express my appreciation of the great improvements that have been made for the preservation and presentation of the Museum's collections. This change has also been reflected in the excellent cooperation between the Jewish Museum and our Society of Christians and Jews, which has enabled us, together, to support the dissemination of knowledge about Jewish culture and to contribute to the dismantling of anti-Semitic and other prejudices.

On a personal note I would like to add another acknowledgement. From my own experience I know that if an organization is to function for a long time, its chairman or director must be the most active. I am sure that without your sophisticated approach and without your personal energy and charisma, the Jewish Museum would not be where it is now, after ten years of its "new" existence.

Mgr. Robert Řehák, Chairman, Society of Christians and Jews

Dear Dr. Pavlát,

Looking at the large range of work carried out by the Jewish Museum in Prague, I believe, along with a number of my colleagues, that its importance is unique. The

Museum's activities in the area of history and tradition, each supported by research, have an unusual social and, I'm not afraid to say, political impact. Many of the people who take part in your projects find out, for the first time, about the ideas, traditions and events connected with the history and present of the Jewish community in our country. In my opinion, these projects cannot be matched, in terms of their scope and impact, by any other institution.

I am also aware of the important changes that have been made for the improvement of the Museum's work. I would like to congratulate you personally for directing and representing this institution so successfully.

Mgr. Zdeňka Jařabová Philosophy Faculty, Palacky University, Olomouc

#### Dear Dr. Pavlát:

We are writing to you in connection with the tenth anniversary of your most important institution and in particular your fine, and highly professional, leadership of the organization.

"American Friends of the Czech Republic" had in recent years the opportunity to collaborate with the Jewish Museum in Prague in a number of areas. The largest projects were the flood relief grants but there were others as well. it was a pleasure to deal with you all and we thank you for it. Keep up the good work!

#### Peter A. Rafaeli

"AFoCR" Treasurer & Hon. Consul General of the CR in Philadelphia

#### Dear Dr. Pavlát,

Your institution carries out unique and praiseworthy work in the preservation of Jewish culture in the Czech Republic. The expert team under your supervision has helped us many times to resolve complex issues relating to Judaism. You also carry out unique work in presenting the history of Jewish culture in our country, and this is to your personal credit.

On behalf of the Jewish Community of Olomouc,

ing. Miloš Dobrý Edita Šťasťná Secretary President

#### Dear Mr. Pavlát:

Since the former State Jewish Museum was returned to the Jewish community, there has been a phenomenal transformation of that body. In every facet of your work — exhibitions, conservation, public education, curatorial activities, attendance, expansion and enhancement of the physical facilities — the Museum has, under your leadership, achieved a level comparable to some of the finest Jewish museums in the West.

Your deep commitment, courage and creativity are largely responsible for what the Museum has become. May you go from strength to strength in years ahead!

Dr. Jerry Hochbaum

Executive Vice President, Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture



Dear Leo.

the return of the Museum to the descendants of its founders ten years ago reflected first of all, I believe, the commitment of the new democratic Czech Republic to the principles of justice.

Secondly it reflected confidence in the capability of Czech Jewish institutions to accept the great challenge of re-organizing, renovating, and revitalizing this historic museum. That confidence, I must say, has been rewarded a hundredfold by the achievements of the Museum and its staff under your leadership these past ten years. I fear to begin to even list them. The accomplishments are so many and so far-reaching I would be afraid to overlook any of them; Let me, however, single out for praise those projects in which the JOINT has played a direct role: the establishment of the now flourishing Educational and Cultural Center; the inventive approach to Holocaust Education, Neighbors Who Have Disappeared, and your heroic efforts to protect the Museum and its treasures before and after the catastrophic floods of August 1992.

What a delight it has been to all the friends of Czech

Jewry – and indeed of the Czech Republic – to see the Museum prosper and grow and take its place among the leading museums of this old continent.

Yechiel Bar-Chaim AJDC Country-Director for the Czech Republic

Prague is among the most famous cities in Europe, and I have heard its antiquity and beauty praised countless times. Few people, however, realize that the historic synagogues, the Old Jewish Cemetery and the other monuments in the care of the Jewish Museum in Prague, are among the most visited sites in Prague. The excellent and completely independent work of the Museum, together with its unique collections, do not serve only the tradition and culture of the once large Jewish minority, but also the renown of Prague as a unique cultural centre of Central Europe. I hope the Museum will continue in its splendid, credit-worthy work.

Ivan Klíma writer

The Jewish Museum in Prague is a first-rate museum which is significantly contributing to the preservation of Jewish monuments in Bohemia and Moravia, and has significantly contributed to the reconstruction of historic Jewish sites that it uses for its activities. Above all, however, it is, in a major way, helping to give the Czech Jewish community a good name. On the tenth anniversary of the Museum's newly independent existence, I would like to cordially thank all its staff and, in particular, its director, Dr. Leo Pavlát. The great results they are achieving are being made possible by their selfless work, which they see not only as employment, but also as a mission.

PhDr. Jan Munk President, Federation of Jewish Communities in the Czech Republic

Dear Leo.

In all my visits and contacts with your institution, I have been greatly impressed by the wide range of activities, the quality of the conservation work and the professionalism of your staff. It is thanks to your personal efforts and those of your colleagues that the Jewish Museum in Prague is one of the most accomplished Jewish museum in Europe.

I am especially grateful for your cooperation with the European Association for Jewish Culture in promoting contemporary arts.

Lena Stanley-Clamp Director, European Association for Jewish Culture

Dear Dr. Pavlát.

I have the honor to write to you in commemoration of 10th. Anniversary of the return of the State Jewish Museum to the Jewish Community in Bohemia and Moravia.

Such momentous event has given enormous impulse to the presence and prestige of the Museum under your most able and effective guidance here in the Czech Republic and world-wide as well. The valuable working-team you have so ably assembled has proven me constantly, professionally and personally, of the excellence and quality of the Museum's work.

It has been my pleasure to work with you and with Dr. Milos Pojar, the Director of the Educational and the Cultural Centre of the Museum on two joint Czech-Jewish-Argentinean projects in Prague and Buenos Aires. May I wish you continuous success not just for the next ten years, but for the next one hundred years as well.

Juan Eduardo Fleming Amabassador of Argentina to the Czech Republic

The Jewish Museum has accomplished a miracle by at once memorializing the Jewish history of Prague while at the same time bringing it alive. The Jewish Museum has achieved worldwide fame as one of the primary cultural institutions of the region. Yet it was not long ago that this precious resource was in shambles. This exemplary and important institution has been transformed in only ten years though the vision and leadership of its director, Dr. Leo Pavlát. Because of the special role of the Prague Jewish Museum as a standardbearer for similar institutions throughout the region, Dr. Pavlát can been seen as an ambassador, carrying the portfolio of many small Eastern European Jewish Communities.

Bonnie Burnham Director World Monument Fund, USA





#### Jewish Museum in Prague

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Tel.: 221 711 511 Fax: 224 819 458

E-mail: office@jewishmuseum.cz http://www.jewishmuseum.cz

#### Reservation Centre of the Jewish Museum in Prague

U Starého hřbitova 3a, 110 00 Praha 1, Tel.: 222 317 191, fax: 222 317 181,

E-mail: rezervacni.centrum@iewishmuseum.cz

Exhibitions are open daily except for Saturdays and Jewish holidays November–March 9 a.m. – 4.30 p.m., April–October 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.

#### **Education and Culture Centre of the Jewish Museum in Prague**

Maiselova 15, 110 00 Praha 1

Tel.: +420 222 325 172, fax: +420 222 371 856

E-mail: education@jewishmuseum.cz http://www.jewishmuseum.cz

- **1. The Old-New Synagogue** (This is not a site managed by the Jewish Museum in Prague)
- 2. The Pinkas Synagogue
- 3. The High Synagogue
- 4. The Maisel Synagogue
- 5. The Klausen Synagogue
- 6. The Spanish Synagogue
- 7. The Old Jewish Cemetery
- 8. The Education and Culture Centre

#### Ten years

The Jewish Museum in Prague 1994-2004

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