

My Synagogue is in Prague (Moje synagoga je v Praze)

A portrait of Mark Podwal, American Jewish artist, writer, doctor of medicine and journalist. He owes his fame mainly to his drawings for The New York Times, but is also well known as the author of illustrations of books for both children and adults. His works have been on display in galleries and museums all over the world. During one of his visits, he fell in love with Prague, designed liturgical textiles for the Old New Synagogue, and mounted an exhibition „Jewish Magic in the Work of Mark Podwal“.

videotape, 25'36", English version, © 2012

Directed by Jaroslav Hovorka

Script by Jaroslav Hovorka

Director of Photography František Chmela, Filip Havelka

Producer: Czech Television



Starring: Mark Podwal, Karol Sidon, Leo Pavlát, Arno Pařík

My Lucky Star (Má šťastná hvězda)

The story of a woman who survived the hell of several concentration camps. Zdenka Fantlová recounts her unique life story with its dramatic turns from a happy childhood during pre-war days, deportation to Theresienstadt and the great love she experienced there, then further deportation to Auschwitz, Gross Rosen, Mauthausen, the Death March and Bergen Belsen, where a British soldier saved her life.

videotape, 57', English subtitles, © 2004

Directed by Helena Třeštková

Script by Helena Třeštková

Director of Photography Miroslav Souček, Vlastimil Hamerník

Producers: Czech Television, Helena Třeštková



Hitler, Stalin and I (Hitler, Stalin a já)

Mrs. Heda Margolius-Kovály was born in Prague, in the Jewish family of a co-founder of the famous Koh-i-noor company. In this documentary film, she tells the story of her life, drawing a gripping picture of the 20th century with two devastating totalitarian regimes which swept through Europe and influenced the destinies of its inhabitants.

videotape, 56', English subtitles, © 2001

Directed by Helena Třeštková

Script by Helena Třeštková

Director of Photography Vlastimil Hamerník

Producers: Czech Television, Helena Třeštková



Oh, You Black Bird (Ó, ty černý ptáčku)

This documentary is the most comprehensive television production on an intentionally forgotten holocaust, a protest against every act of terror or racism. During the Second World War, two Nazi concentration camps were built in the Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia with the aim of eliminating the Romany population. In addition to unique archive material, the program features two survivors, one of whom died two months after the film was made. The presentation has a strong emotional impact, augmented by the music: the authentic dirges that Romanies composed in memory of the terrible suffering in the concentration camps. The film also bears shocking witness to the incredible disrespect the Communist regime had for Romanies: a pig farm and a recreation center were built on the sites of the former concentration camps in an attempt to cover up the past.

videotape, 59', English and German subtitles, © 1997

Directed by Břetislav Rychlík

Script by Břetislav Rychlík

Director of Photography Karel Slach

Producer: Czech Television

CZECH TELEVISION PRESENTS



Jewish stories

Colette
The Golet in the Valley
A Girl and a Magician
Lesson in Dance and Love
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Oh, You Black Bird

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 **Česká televize**

Colette

The protagonists of the story, unfolding in the Auschwitz concentration camp, are Colette, a Jewish girl from Belgium, and Czech Jew Vili. Only their secret love helps them to survive the everyday horrors of the camp, where anything that can save life or at least postpone death for a while is an object of trading. It is devoted to all survivors of the holocaust.

videotape HDTV, 119'43", m/e track, English version, © 2013

Directed by Milan Cieslar

Script by Milan Cieslar

Director of Photography Marek Jícha

Producers: Czech Television, Happy Celluloid s.r.o.

Starring: Clemence Thioly, Jiří Mádrl, Eric Bouwer, Andrej Hryc, Zuzana Mauréry, Helena Dvořáková, Ondřej Vetchý, Michal Dlouhý, Miroslav Táborský, David Suhařípa and others



The Golet in the Valley (Golet v údolí)

This 1930's story of a poor Jewish community in far eastern Czechoslovakia is narrated with gentle humor. The villagers, including some highly original and truly human characters, live in common friendship and strictly follow the rules of their religion. The peaceful course of life is interrupted when the mikveh, the purifying bath, is desecrated. Only after such a bath every month may a woman once again share her husband's bed. On top of this, the local teamster, a poor man with a large family, is deceived by a tourist couple and unpleasant consequences follow. In spite of their hardships, optimism tightly links the community in their hope for a brighter future.

videotape HDTV, 90', English subtitles, © 1995

Directed by Zeno Dostál

Script by Jana Dudková, Zeno Dostál

Director of Photography Juraj Šajmovič

Producer: Czech Television

Starring: Ondřej Vetchý, Jan Hartl, Jiří Ornest, Josef Kemr, Lubor Tokoš and others



A Girl and a Magician (Dívka a kouzelník)

An engaging poetic story, taking place at the time of the German occupation of the Czech Lands, about two people of totally different background – a young half-Jewish girl and an itinerant musician – becoming close to each other. During their dramatic and hazardous wandering about the Czech countryside, they both learn to be tolerant, responsible, and to love selflessly, which helps them withstand the horrors which surround them.

videotape HDTV, 94'13", © 2009

Directed by Juraj Herz

Script by Jiří Hanibal

Director of Photography Jiří Macháně

Producer: Czech Television

Starring: Veronika Kubařová, Ivan Trojan, Radek Holub, Barbora Hrzánová, Veronika Gajerová, Jakub Šmíd, Zdeněk Maryška and others



Lesson in Dance and Love (Hodina tance a lásky)

A dramatic story, from the time close before the end of World War II, about lost illusions, experienced by an adolescent German girl who comprehends in a single day the monstrosity of fascism and the perversity in which her parents and people near and dear to her participate.

videotape HDTV, 106', m/e track, English subtitles, © 2003

Directed by Viktor Polesný

Script by Pavel Kohout, Jelena Mašínová, Viktor Polesný

Director of Photography Josef Špelda

Producer: Czech Television

Starring: Ester Geislerová, Boris Rösner, Zdena Studénková, Zlata Adamovská, Lucie Holánková, Roman Zach and others

