**CZECH TELEVISION PRESENTS** A BIOGRAPHIC DOCUMENTARY Václay Ha LIVING IN FREEDOM Život podle Václava Havla Česká televize

## Václav Havel – Living in Freedom (Život podle Václava Havla)

A biographic documentary, telling the life story of Václav Havel, Czech writer, playwright, one of the first spokesmen of Charter 77, leading figure of the political changes in November 1989, last President of Czechoslovakia and first President of the Czech Republic.

The ambition of the film makers has not been to map out history through an account of Havel's life, but to draw his film portrait, with the story narrated by Václav Havel himself.

By means of shots and photographs, they offer the viewer a look into Havel's eventful life, all its stages and the roles he played in them – from childhood, compulsory military service and the beginnings of his theatre career to the Chartist and presidential periods.

The (female) director grasped the theme in an unusual way. Parallel to the narrative line, of essential importance is her personal commentary and the fact that no Havel's surviving contemporaries and no historians speak in the film. Václav Havel – Living in Freedom was has been made also with the intention to address younger viewers.

The documentary was co-produced by Czech Television, ARTE, Algeria Productions, Negative and Václav Havel Library, with the support of the French Centre national du cinema and the Czech State Cinematography Fund.

## Videotape HDTV, 71', English subtitles, © 2014

Directed by: Andrea Sedláčková Screenplay by: Andrea Sedláčková Director of Photography: David Cysař

Editor: Boris Machytka Sound: Ivan Horák Music: Quentin Sirjacq

