

Issue Plan of Czech Postage Stamps 2021



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Tradition of Czech Stamp Design

Václav Zapadlík
(1943–2018)

Face value: B

Date of issue: 20.01.2021

Designer: Zdeněk Netopil

This year's products in the Tradition of Czech Stamp Design series are inspired by Václav Zapadlík's work. The stamp designed by Zdeněk Netopil portrays Václav Zapadlík and one of his artworks dedicated to vintage cars. The first day cover, stamp coupons and the cancellation mark further develop the same motifs.

Václav Zapadlík (23 September 1943, Prague – 21 August 2018, Prague) was a Czech painter and illustrator specialised in a realistic depiction of vintage cars, mostly those from the 1950s. He grew up in a family of car lovers



and even as a child he helped his father who run a garage. This deepened his interest in car technology and technical details. He excelled in the accurate portrayal of every technical detail. His illustrations of vintage cars are not only technical perfect – they are also poetic thanks to certain effects used by Zapadlík, such as reflections of light on chrome bodies. No other illustrator in the world could compete with him in this area. He started publishing his car drawings in the *Automobil* and *Svět motorů* magazines in the 1970s. In the 1990s, the whole world started taking notice of his art. Several foreign museums, mostly in the United States, display permanent expositions of his artwork. He also cooperated with the Blackhawk Museum, a prestigious car museum in Danville, California, which is considered as the largest vintage car museum in the world. He also designed several working car bodies emulating those of old 1930s cars. Václav Zapadlík's artwork inspired vintage car collectors and designers locally as well as internationally. In 2012, he started designing Czech postage stamps featuring car drawings, like so many other ones created by him during his life.

TRADICE ČESKÉ ZNÁMKOVÉ TVORBY

VÁCLAV
ZAPADLÍK
(1943-2018)

V roce 2021 připomíná Česká pošta v rámci emise Tradice české známkové tvorby malíře a ilustrátora Václava Zapadlíka (1943-2018).

Václav Zapadlík se narodil 23. září 1943 v Praze. Vyrůstal v automobilové rodině a od mládí pomáhal v otcově autoservisu. To ovlivnilo jeho zájem o automobilovou techniku a technické detaily. Svými kresbami přispíval do motostřických časopisů. Specializoval se na realistické ztvárnění historických automobilů, zejména z padesátých let 20. století.

Jeho dílům jsou věnovány stále expozice v několika zahraničních muzeích. Obrazy Václava Zapadlíka inspirovaly sběratelé a modeláře historických vozidel u nás i v zahraničí. V roce 2012 se stal autorem českých poštovních známek s automobilovou tematikou. Václav Zapadlík zemřel 21. srpna 2018 v Praze.



Vydala Česká pošta, s.p., v nákladu 12 000 kusů sešitků.
Obsahuje 8 známek se symbolem B.



Josef Masopust



Josef Masopust (09 February 1931 – 29 June 2015) was a Czechoslovak football player and coach. He was born in Střimice u Mostu in 1931. Before the small village was destroyed due to expanding lignite mining in the 1950s, his family moved to the nearby city of Most where Josef Masopust joined a youth football club shortly after the Second World War. In 1949, aged 18 years, he was signed by Teplice where he made his league-playing debut in the 1950 season. In 1952, he joined the newly formed Czechoslovak Army football club ATK Prague (renamed to ÚDA Prague and later Dukla Prague). He played for the Army club for fifteen years, always as a left-half. Masopust made his international debut in 1954. As a member of the Czechoslovak national team, he played a total of 63 matches

Face value: CZK 19
Date of issue: 09.02.2021
Designer: Petr Minka



and scored 10 goals. He greatly contributed to the third place of the Czechoslovak team at the 1960 UEFA European Football Championship and particularly to the second place at the 1962 FIFA World Cup Final in Chile. Half a year later, he was awarded the Ballon d'Or for the Best European Footballer of the Year. He spent the final years of his active career in Belgium. He was named the Best Czech Football Player of the Past 50 Years by the Czech Football Association. In 2000, he was named the Best Czech Football Player of the Century by both amateurs and experts. In May 2012, a Josef Masopust statue was unveiled nearby the Dukla Prague stadium at Juliska in the Prague 6 district.



Face value: CZK 23
Date of issue: 09.02.2021
Designer: Pavel Sivko



Milotice Chateau



The stamp features a somewhat unusual view of Milotice Chateau as seen from the garden. A front view of the chateau with the eye-catching stone stairs is in the forefront of the stamp. The side pictures capture a part of the garden. The first day cover depicts a side view of the sphinx statue installed on the chateau entrance bridge. The cancellation mark on the first day cover contains a line drawing of the silhouette of another decoration of the bridge - a cup.

Milotice Chateau is a baroque chateau located in Milotice nearby Kyjov in the Hodonín region. It is the best-preserved complex of baroque buildings and garden architecture in the Czech Republic. The chateau was built at

the site of a fortified water tower, hence the moat. The high baroque redevelopment was carried out in two stages by Karel Antonín Serényi. Interestingly, the architects of the first stage remain unknown. The second stage including the newly designed oval honorary court was led by František Benedikt Kličník of Brno. The design of the chateau remained virtually unchanged since the 18th century. The eye-catching garden is one of its highlights. Designed as a French-style baroque garden, it contains a system of orangeries and terraces tastefully connecting the garden with the chateau. The chateau boasts two fountains, one standing in the parterre, built by the last owner of the chateau, Ladislav Seilern, and a Renaissance fountain originally built by Bohuš Morkovský of Zástřizly for Svatibořice Chateau in 1587 and transferred to Milotice Chateau in the 20th century. The garden has an area of 4.5 hectare.



Common Czech-Hungarian-
-Polish-Slovak Stamp

The Visegrád Group (V4)

Face value: E
Date of issue: 15.02.2021
Designer:
Agnieszka Sobczyńska



The idea of a symbolically designed postage stamp defines the 30th anniversary of close political, economic and social relationships between the four members of the Visegrád Group, also known as the V4: Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, and Slovakia. The expressed number "30" directly referring to the anniversary of the formation of the V4 smoothly transitions into a system of block houses, following each other in one direction. They symbolise the independent countries forming a community of nations whose close cooperation determines the unity of goals and a common direction of further development.



The sheet arrangement of nine stamps combines the colours of the national flags of the Visegrád Group members, with the eye-catching red colour serving as the common denominator of the national colours of all the four members.

Czech Post has joined this common issue in support of the Central European cooperation represented by this theme. The cooperation is also supported at the diplomatic level through the personal involvement of the Polish and Czech Ambassadors, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of the Interior.

The graphic design of the common postage stamp was prepared by the Polish graphic artist and stamp designer Agnieszka Sobczyńska, who has been cooperating with Polish Post for many years. The Visegrád Four (V4) is a regional grouping of four Central European countries: the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, and Slovakia, established in 1991 by signing a declaration by the member states on close cooperation towards European integration.

Face value: B, B
Date of issue: 24.03.2021
Designer: Filip Heyduk



The artwork features the first football match between local Prague rivals Sparta and Slavia, also known as the Prague derby. The sheet of two se-tenant stamps symbolically portrays a football, with each stamp showing one half of the ball in the traditional colours of the two clubs, and the entire ball containing a symbolic image of the hands of cheering fans during a derby match. The tricolour and the star in the margin refer to Sparta and Slavia, respectively. The first day cover's motif is a scarf with both clubs' names. The line drawing of the first day cover cancellation mark contains a vintage ball and texts referring to the first derby match.



The first Sparta-Slavia derby match



The Prague derby, or Derby of the Prague S, has been the major event in the history of Czech football since the first premier league match between the teams, played on a pitch at Prague's Císařská louka on 29 March 1896. The two clubs remained rivals ever since. The first controversy came right after the match because of Sparta's cancelled victory. At that time, referee Josef Rössler-Ořovský was allegedly the only person in the Czech lands to own the original English rules. During the match, the referee confirmed Sparta's goal. However, the then valid and agreed rules required the approval of the goal by both captains after the final whistle. The captains disagreed, the goal was called off, and the game finished 0-0. The two clubs turned their backs on each other and became rivals.

Technical Monuments Negrelli Viaduct



The artwork is based on a period view of Negrelli Viaduct. The stamp depicts a part of Negrelli Viaduct with a train. The first day cover portrays Alois Negrelli, a leading Austrian transportation engineer and railway pioneer. The first day cover cancellation mark contains a line drawing of Negrelli's signature.

Negrelli Viaduct (also known as Karlín Viaduct, originally generally referred to as the State-Owned Railway Company Viaduct) was built as a section of the Dresden branch of the Northern State-Owned Railway Company's Line connecting Olomouc, Prague, and Dresden. The intended project manager was Jan Perner who helped design the line to Dresden and probably designed also the current shape of Negrelli Viaduct, but he had an accident and died. He was replaced by Alois Negrelli. The contractors were the leading industrial companies Klein

Face value: B
Date of issue: 24.03.2021
Designer: Milan Bauer



Bros and Vojtěch Lanna. The construction costs amounted to one million and a half Austro-Hungarian guildens. The river over which the bridge was built was not yet regulated. The building material was brought by ships from Kamýk nad Vltavou and processed locally. The granite was mined in the Schwarzenberg mine, which was later flooded when Orlik Dam was built. Up to 3,000 workers of various nationalities worked at the site. It was the first construction project where steam lifting machines were used to a larger extent. It was a globally unique project as wood was the standard material used to build similar type of bridges. The construction began in spring 1846 and finished in 1849. The commissioning took place on 1 June 1950. The viaduct is the first Prague railway bridge over the Vltava river, and currently the second oldest preserved Prague bridge spanning the Vltava river. Until 1910, it was the longest European bridge, and it continues to be the longest railway bridge in Central Europe.



Negrelliho viadukt byl postaven jako součást dráždanské větve projektu Severní slátní dráhy Olomouc–Praha–Dráždany.

Při stavbě byly poprvé ve větší míře použity parní zvedací stroje. Ve světovém měřítku šlo o ojedinělou stavbu. Jinde ve světě se v té době ještě stavěly obdobné mosty ze dřeva. Most byl budován v letech 1846–1849 a uveden do provozu v roce 1850.

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Vydáno v nákladu 13 000 kusů sešitků.



NEGRELLIHO VIADUKT

OBSAHUJE 8 KUSŮ ZNAMEN SE SYMBOLEM B



Works of Art on Postage Stamps Bohumil Zemánek



The stamp and first day cover depict Bohumil Zemánek's works of art.

Bohumil Zemánek (10 October 1942, Brno – 12 August 1996, Prague) was a Czech sculptor and restorer. He was born as the second son of the three children of professional soldier Bohumír Zemánek and his wife Anna, who later became famous as a Czech Art Brut artist. Bohumil Zemánek studied sculpting with Professor Karel Hladík and Associate Professor Jiří Bradáček at the Academy of Fine Arts in Prague in 1964–1970. The artistic expression formed during that period was maintained by Zemánek until the end of his life.

His figures sculpted of fired and often glazed ceramic clay are endowed with a distinctive, raw humour. Some are critically sarcastic, others conciliatory. The sculptor used them

Face value: 30 CZK

Date of issue: 24.03.2021

Designer: Zbyněk Kočvar



for a self-ironical depiction of the human body with its plump laziness, animal indulgence, and blissful physical existence.

He frequently used water as a motif symbolising freedom, nature, and the bliss of physical existence. He did so in wet draperies glued to the plump bodies of women, in sculptural groups of water game players (Water Polo made together with Jiří Sopek in 1970; Swimming Pool, 1968; Bathtub made together with Karel Zavadil in 1967) as well as in a series of figures called The Sea (1981–1985). Although the wet draperies provocatively reveal intimate details, the gestures and facial expression are usually so infantile that they preclude provocative eroticism. Zemánek loved this kind of paradox, which helped him bridge the genre nature of his sculptures and groups of sculptures towards humorous but more general metaphors about human destiny. Bohumil Zemánek also made several large public works of art, such as the fountain in Prague's Folimanka Park. He was a member of the Mánes association of artists.



FDC

EUROPA

National endangered wild animals – wildcat



The common topic of the 2021 EUROPA series issued by the participating countries is “National endangered wild animals”. The species chosen by the Czech Republic is the wildcat. The designers decided to portray not only one but a couple of wildcats on the stamp, with only the head of one of the two cats being captured.

The first day cover refers to the stamp drawing by depicting a female wildcat with kittens, accompanied by the Latin name of the species.

The first day cancellation mark contains a line drawing of the head of a wildcat.

The wildcat is one of Czech rarest mammals. The difference between the wildcat and the

Face value: E

Date of issue: 21.04.2021

Designers:

Jaromír and Libuše Knotek



domestic cat is readily apparent: the wild species is larger, mostly due to the longer and thicker hair. The fur colour is typically grey-brown to grey-yellow with distinct stripes on the back, legs, and tail. The shape, length, and the way the wild and the domestic species hold the tail also differ. The wildcat has a larger head, clearly smaller ears, and long sensitive whiskers.

In the Czech Republic, the wildcat usually lives in deciduous or mixed forests in low-lying mountainous or hilly areas.



Face value: CZK 23
Date of issue: 21.04.2021
Designer: Adolf Absolon



The stamp depicts a front view of the Dívčí kameny rock formation together with the surrounding gravel fields and mountain pines. The first day cover shows a front view of the Pytlácké kameny rocks without the surrounding landscape. The cancellation mark on the first day cover contains a line drawing of gentian (*Gentiana asclepiadea*), one of the protected plant species growing in the Giant Mountains.

These unique rock formations can be found at the top of Czech border mountains at altitudes higher than 1,000 above sea level. They were



FDC

Unique rock formations Dívčí kameny



formed during ice ages when local glaciers covered the border mountains for a certain period of time, during which bare rocks were formed by frost and strong winds carrying small rocks and gravel.

Dívčí kameny is a rock formation in the main Giant Mountains range. Legend has it that it was named Dívčí kameny (Girl's Rock in English) after a shepherd girl died nearby. This very popular tourist attraction is easy to access from the direction of the Špindlerova bouda chalet. The Pytlácké kameny formation portrayed by the first day cover lies on the top of the middle Jizerské Mountains range. It was named after the famous local poacher Hennrich who was shot dead near the formation in 1813. The gentian subspecies used by the designer for the cancellation mark is a medium-high, blue-flow-ering mountain herb. It is currently protected by law both locally and in the neighbouring countries.

Personalities

Gustav Brom

Face value: CZK 27
Date of issue: 19.05.2021
Designer: Michal Novák



Gustav Brom (born Gustav Frkal on 22 May 1921 in Velké Leváre – 25 September 1995, Brno) was a famous Czech jazz musician, big band leader, composer, and singer. Although his original plan was to be a building engineer and architect like his mother's brother, he became a Czech jazz legend. He had a difficult childhood and youth. In 1939, at the age of eighteen, he was arrested by the Gestapo and narrowly escaped the concentration camp. Soon after his release, he assumed the pseudonym Brom, which he first used as an artist and later officially adopted as his surname. Without losing any time, he formed a big band in June 1940 and turned it into one of the top big bands of the time. The band played not only swing and jazz but also many mainstream songs. From 1961, Brom and his band played for the then State Theatre in Brno and the Czechoslovak Radio and

Television. They made almost 150 long-play records and about 600 singles containing local as well as foreign songs. Gustav Brom also recorded several dance songs. Gustav Brom was a natural-born jazz musician. A true professional endowed with a great personal charm, Brom successfully led his big bang for 53 years and became the longest-acting band leader in Europe. Brom's originality, perseverance, and unique talent made him one of the greatest Czech musicians of all time. He died on 25 September 1995 in Brno.



FDC

Face value: Z
Date of issue: 19.05.2021
Designer: Adam Kašpar



The entire issue is dedicated to the 50th anniversary of the Ramsar Convention. The motifs are centred on wetlands and wetland wildlife species, such as the black stork in its natural habitat portrayed on the stamp.

The Ramsar Convention is a treaty protecting wetlands that are important primarily as waterfowl habitats. It was signed on 2 February 1971 in Ramsar, Iran. As one of the successor countries to the Czechoslovak Federal Republic, which acceded to the treaty in 1990, the Czech Republic also became a signatory to the treaty. In a joint effort with the other 170 countries, it has been trying to protect and rationally use wetlands and their

The Ramsar Convention on Wetlands



resources. 2,396 wetlands covering a total area of 253,928,799 hectares currently qualify as Ramsar wetlands. It is the responsibility of the member countries to designate at least one wetland on their territory that meets the strict criteria of international significance in terms of ecology, botany, zoology, limnology or hydrology for inclusion in the Ramsar List of Wetlands of International Importance.

The Czech Republic has 14 such areas covering an area of 60,207 hectares. The definition of a wetland under Ramsar is an area with marsh or water, whether artificial or naturally occurring, where the water is either flowing or stagnant, either salty or fresh and can also include marine areas where the depth of water during low tide reaches a minimum of six meters. The body responsible for fulfilling the convention in the Czech Republic is the Ministry of the Environment.



FDC

Czech Design

Bořek Šípek

Face value: E

Date of issue: 09.06.2021

Designer: Pavel Sivko



Illustrative photo, Prague Castle

The stamp, first day cover and cancellation mark are dedicated to the work of the world-renowned architect and designer Bořek Šípek.

Bořek Šípek (14 June 1949, Prague – 13 February 2016, Prague) was a Czech artist, architect, designer, and last but not least, university lecturer. He became particularly famous for his glass works of art and furniture. After his emigration

in 1968, he studied architecture and philosophy in Germany. He was awarded a doctoral degree at the Faculty of Architecture at the Delft University of Technology in the Netherlands. He returned to Prague in 1990 to teach architecture and design at the Academy of Arts, Architecture and Design in Prague. During his term in office as Prague Castle's chief architect in 1992–2002, he contributed to the restoration of the castle interior. He designed many works of art for the then Czech President and personal friend Václav Havel, such as the awnings above the entrances to the Picture Gallery of Prague Castle and castle offices. Except for his predecessor Josip Plečnik, Šípek was the only artist permitted to change the style and form of the castle interior architecture. In 1999, he was appointed Professor of Architecture and Design at the University of Industrial Design in Vienna. From 2005 to 2012, he worked as the Dean of the Faculty of Art and Architecture at the University of Technology in Liberec where he introduced Environmental Design as a completely new field of study. He died on 13 February 2016 after a long illness.

Face values: CZK 26, CZK 27

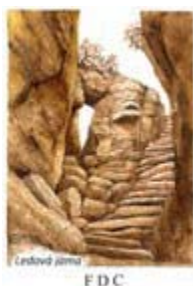
Date of issue: 09.06.2021

Designer: Adolf Absolon

Beauties of Our Country Jezeří Chateau



The background of the miniature sheet of two stamps contains a contemporary colour view of Jezeří Chateau combined with black-and-white views of the neighbouring mines. One stamp portrays the beautiful chateau, the other one an artful view of the Vlčí jámy ravine. One of the two first day covers depicts the torso of an old maple tree planted at the chateau, with a new branch growing from the dry trunk and transforming it into a massive tree as a reference to the successful restoration of the chateau. The other first day cover shows the Ledová jáma pit at the currently closed St. George Mine. The pit used to be up to 50 metres deep according to historical



records. The Ledová jáma or Ice Pit in English owes its name to the layer of ice covering its bottom during summer due to the deep and narrow profile of the pit with minimum air circulation. One first day cancellation mark contains an ornament of the original Renaissance decoration whose fragment was found on the ground floor of the southern wing. The other cancellation mark portrays a scene of the life of the local miners.

The Kyjov Folk Festival



The stamp depicts one of the main highlights of the annual folk festival held in Kyjov, capital of the Moravian Slovakia (Slovácko in Czech) region – the Ride of Kings included on the UNESCO cultural heritage list. The image shows the spectacularly decorated king riding on a horse followed by a dancing couple of members of his retinue in folk costumes. The other motifs in this series also refer to the regional folk traditions.

The Rides of Kings, originating as a summer solstice celebration, have a history spanning at least two centuries. The king is a young boy dressed in a girl's costume, wearing a rose in his mouth and riding a horse. He is accompanied by a large retinue of costumed aids with drawn sabres and scarves carried as banners. They go around the village, begging for money. There are numerous legends associated with

Face value: B
Date of issue: 23.06.2021
Designer: Anna Khunová



the Rides of Kings. The most widely accepted one has it that they represent the flight of the Hungarian king Matthias Corvinus after he lost a battle to the Czech king George of Poděbrady. Matthias, dressed as a woman and accompanied by only a small retinue, put a rose in his mouth so that he could not be betrayed by his voice. Having no food or money, they had to beg the villagers for food. The annual Kyjov festival is the major ethnographic and folk festival in the Czech Republic, which attracts thousands of local as well as foreign visitors enjoying the folk traditions, songs and dances. This year's event held in August marks the 100th anniversary of the festival. Dozens of folk song and dance groups from Kyjov and the surrounding region regularly take part in the festival offering historical reenactments, adult as well as children brass and dulcimer ensemble shows, dance parties, fairs, exhibitions, all this culminating with a folk costume parade typically involving over three thousand people including more than two thousand guests from the neighbouring villages. Unlike other traditional folk festivals, the Kyjov

festival is not based on any religious tradition. The first event was organised by the local branch of the Sokol (Falcon) gymnastics movement in 1921 to mark the 50th anniversary of the establishment of the movement. The event, held in the spirit of typical Sokol celebrations, included the Ride of Kings performed by the Sokol branch from the neighbouring Vlčnov and numerous other historical reenactments as an attempt of the Kyjov branch to help preserve and further develop the local folk culture. Although folk customs and costumes were already disappearing from everyday life, Kyjov people treated them as a unique heritage and an important part of national culture. The overall tone and atmosphere of the Kyjov event stimulated the rise of similar regional folk festivals in the Wallachia, Silesia and Haná regions, boosting gradual revival of the old culture in most villages around Kyjov. The annual festival

has continued to motivate local villagers to form folk dance and song groups and dulcimer and brass ensembles that have succeeded in keeping folk traditions alive.

About the designer:

Anna Khunová was born on 18 July 1946 in Prague. She studied book illustration with Professor Zdeněk Sklenář at the Academy of Arts, Architecture and Design in Prague. She mastered drawing and graphic art, with ordinary and bibliophile book illustrations and stamp design being in the centre of her attention. Anna Khunová was awarded many honorary mentions and publisher's prizes for bibliophile art prints. She is a member of the Czech Union of Bibliophiles, the Czech graphic artists association Hollar, and the Children's Book Illustrators Club.



Nico



The stamp contains one of the best-known portraits of Nico in boots and jacket setting out on a journey. The miniature sheet and other products in the series feature black-and-white illustrations from the original book about the small black pussy cat in boots.

Every child in the Czech Republic must have heard about the cat! The younger ones may have seen him first in an animated film on a CD or television, but most children first learnt about him from the book called Mikeš (the name was translated into English as Nico) written and illustrated by Josef Lada in 1935 and 1936. The book, dedicated to Lada's daughters and translated into 39 languages by the Albatros publishers, made generations of children all over the world happy.

Face value: CZK 55
Date of issue: 23.06.2021
Designer: Josef Lada

This image of the country life in the early 20th century was greatly inspired by Lada's childhood spent in the small village called Hrušice. The main character of the book is the local shoemaker's son Joey and his animal friends, mostly Nico, a small black cat who learnt to walk and speak. Nico selflessly taught his other friends, namely Bob the goat and Paddy the pig, to do the same. As soon as Joey's father finished a pair of boots for Nico, he pulled them on and never spoilt the fun. He went to the school and enjoyed numerous funny adventures with his friends. Then he ran away to discover the big wide world! He travelled far and wide with a circus, but you know: East, west, home's best, so he was happy to return home where he found Iggy, the white disarmingly naughty and adorable kitten Granny adopted to feel less sad after the sudden disappearance of Nico. The book mapped Josef Lada's entire childhood. The numerous stories portray the modest life of small-scale farmers and craftsmen. The stories of Joey, Nico and their friends are funny and always have a happy end. That may be the reason why children all over the world are still enchanted by them.

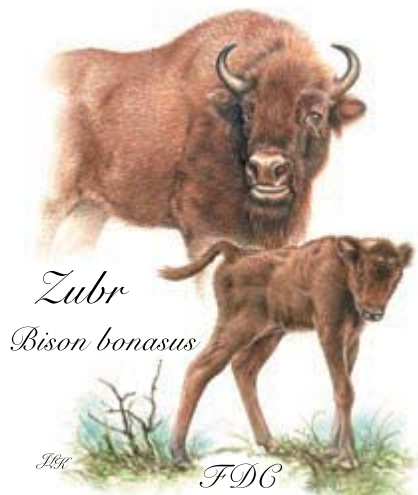
Jaromír and Libuše Knotek

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summer chafers, ground beetles, rove beetles, weevils and dor beetles, survive here. The presence of large herbivores and their droppings is essential for the last named dor beetles. The abundance of butterfly species is similarly remarkable. The special importance of the site for the preservation of the national natural diversity is best illustrated by the fact that some invertebrates do not exist anywhere else in the Czech Republic any longer. The uncrowned king of the local butterflies is the Alcon large blue Rebel (*Phengaris alcon rebeli*) whose only host plant species is the highly endangered *Gentiana cruciata*. The vertebrates include the common toad (*Bufo bufo*) and the green toad (*Bufo viridis*), the agile frog (*Rana dalmatina*), the great crested newt (*Triturus cristatus*) and the common newt (*Lissotriton vulgaris*), the sand lizard (*Lacerta agilis*), the viviparous lizard (*Zootoca vivipara*), the grass snake (*Natrix natrix*), the smooth snake (*Coronella austriaca*), the corn bunting (*Emberiza calandra*) and the ortolan bunting (*Emberiza hortulana*), the barred warbler (*Curruca nisoria*), the European

stonechat (*Saxicola rubicola*) and the whinchat (*Saxicola rubetra*), the Eurasian wryneck (*Jynx torquilla*), the landrail (*Crex crex*), the short-eared owl (*Asio flammeus*), the common quail (*Coturnix coturnix*), the grey partridge (*Perdix perdix*), the hen harrier (*Circus cyaneus*), the common pern (*Pernis apivorus*) and the red-backed shrike (*Lanius collurio*), at least ten bat subspecies, and many others. Most of the above species are endangered, many of them critically. The exotic-looking Eurasian hoopoe (*Upupa epops*) can be seen quite regularly, sometimes even nesting here. The reserve has also turned out to be a kind of large pharmacy offering multiple medicinal herbs, such as the field garlic (*Allium oleraceum*), the sand leek (*Allium scorodoprasum*), the houndstongue (*Cynoglossum officinale*), the meadow clary (*Salvia pratensis*), the crownvetch (*Securigera varia*), the common agrimony (*Agrimonia eupatoria*), echium or St. John's wort. In the Milovice Nature Reserve, time went back to the time of prehistoric hunters and first farmers.







Kája Saudek

Face values: CZK 30, CZK 34

Date of issue: 08.09.2021

The stamp artwork is based on illustrator and painter Kája Saudek's work.

The first day cover and cancellation mark use elements of comics created by this artist.

Kája Saudek, real name Karel Saudek (13 May 1935, Prague – 25 June 2015, Prague) was a Czech painter and comics illustrator. His singular artwork was also used in several films. He also illustrated a number of books and magazines. His brother was famous photographer Jan Saudek. Kája Saudek first became acquainted with American comics as a child. In the 1950s, when he could not study at university for political reasons, he became a technical draftsman and stage designer in the Barrandov film studios, where he gradually learnt to work with typography and film. In 1966, Miloš Macourek used his drawings in the film *Kdo chce zabít Jessii?* (Who Wants to Kill Jessie?). It helped Saudek become better known and his drawings began to be published more widely. The biggest project was likely to be a comic based on a Miloš Macourek's script,

Muriel a andělé (Muriel and Angels). In 1971, he collaborated on the film *Čtyři vraždy stačí, drahoušku* (Four Murders Are Enough, Darling). In the early 1970s, he made a living by drawing series for the magazine *Mladý svět*. In 1979, he established cooperation with the Czech Speleological Society, which enabled him to publish comics in the volume of several thousand copies as material for his own purposes. This helped him publish comics based on scripts written by many well-known authors and scriptwriters in the next decade. In the middle of 1989, he illustrated the instructions for use and cover of the cassette tape for the first officially sold computer game in Czechoslovakia, *Město robotů* (The City of Robots). After lying in a vegetative state in the Motol Hospital since April 2006, he eventually died there on 25 June 2015.



Face value: Z
Date of issue: 08.09.2021
Designer: Jan Jiskra

Expo Dubai 2020

This issue is dedicated to a World Expo. The motifs of the stamp, first day cover, and first day cover cancellation mark are based on the topics of this year's Expo, such as science, technology, and culture in the participating countries.

The Expo Dubai 2021 was initially scheduled to begin in October 2020 as the Expo Dubai 2020. It was postponed by a year because of the coronavirus pandemic and rescheduled to the period between 1 October 2020 and 31 March 2022, but will still be referred to as the World Expo 2020. It will be the first world exhibition held in the MENA & SA region (Middle East, North Africa, and South Asia), and also the first world exhibition hosted by an Arab country. The Expo Dubai 2020 grounds will be located between Dubai and Abu Dhabi on an area of 438 hectares. World Exhibitions, or Expo, are large international exhibitions of the industry and culture of different countries. This year's Czech presentation will be a unique desert oasis project. The scientists from the University Centre for Energy

Efficient Buildings of the Czech Technical University in Prague (CTU UCEEB) have already pre-tested the solar-air-water-earth-resources (SAWER) system used as the technology and exposition core of the pavilion used to produce water from air. Using only solar energy, the system was able to produce the first tens of litres of water from air over night at the Sweihan Desert site in the United Arab Emirates. The CTU UCEEB scientists also connected a mineralisation unit to the system to modify distilled water into potable water. The technology core of the Czech exposition at the Dubai Expo 2020 is a joint effort of the CTU and the Academy of Science of the Czech Republic.

Czech Actors and Actresses

Jiřina Šejbalová and Bohumil Záhorský

Face values: CZK 27, CZK 33

Date of issue: 06.10.2021

Designers:

Jan Maget and Eva Hašková

Jiřina Šejbalová was born on 17 September 1905 in Prague. She was a leading Czech actress. She was a singing and acting child prodigy. The choir director at St. Thomas Church in Prague recommended to her to study singing at conservatory. Her career as an actress started at the avant-garde theatre led by E.F. Burian and J. Frejka. After several minor roles at the National Theatre, she eventually signed a full-time contract there. Jiřina Šejbalová was initially cast mostly as a modern sporty girl although she attracted attention also in other plays, such as *Schovávaná na schodech*, *Vzbouření na vsi*, *Jak se vám líbí*. Later, Jiřina Šejbalová began to work her way up to the main characters in dramatic plays, without completely avoid comedies, such as *Hrátky s čertem* or *Pygmalion*. In the 1950s, she began to play characters of aging women disappointed with their life in plays such as *Srpnová neděle*, *Racek* or *Zkouška ohněm*. Jiřina Šejbalová died on 23 August 1981.

Bohumil Záhorský was born on 5 February 1906 in Prague. Bohumil (also known as Bohuš) Záhorský's preferred theatre to film

from the beginning of his studies at Prague's conservatory where he studied drama while playing in Jiří Frejka's avant-garde projects. Contract was with the famous Prague's avant-garde theatre Osvobozené divadlo (known as Liberated Theatre or Prague Free Theatre in English) where the legendary Voskovec and Werich (V+W) performed. Working with V+W essentially influenced Záhorský's further professional career. He was given a role in all their major plays, such as *Golem*, *Rub a líc* or *Těžká Barbora*. Similarly, they gave him an opportunity to play in blockbuster films, such as *Pudr a benzin*, *Hej rup*, or *Svět patří nám*, as well as in minor comedies, such as *Tři vejce do skla*, *Přítelkyně pana ministra*, *Roztomilý člověk* or *Valentin dobrotivý*. Záhorský's further contract as a theatre actor was with the National Theatre, which cast him in plays by world classics such as William Shakespeare or Anton Chekhov. In the after-war period, Záhorský was best known for his roles in *Císařův pekař*, *Pekařův císař*, *Dařbuján a Pandrhola*, *Šíleně smutná princezna*, *Limonádový Joe*, *Léto s kovbojem*, and other films. Bohumil Záhorský died on 22 September 1980.

Works of Art on Postage Stamps František Ronovský

Face value: CZK 33
Date of issue: 20.10.2021

František Ronovský was born into a coffee shop owner's family. As a grammar school student, he became interested in painting. He had his first independent exhibition in Prague in 1957. Together with sculptor František Pacík and others, he co-founded the artist group Etapa two years later. He first tried encaustic (hot wax) painting featuring mostly cafés and female nudes but also calvary and pietà motifs. His further work was influenced by stays abroad, for instance in Paris to which he dedicated some of his paintings.

In 1972, he moved to Hajská, a small community in the south of the country, where he continued working on paintings, including the large series *Mother* created in 1983 after the death of his mother. Ronovský's paintings can be seen in Czech and foreign art galleries. They are independent and unique both in terms of Czech and world art. He always followed his own special way. František Ronovský died at the age of 77 years in his Prague's studio.

Works of Art on Postage Stamps Theodor Pištěk

Face value: CZK 34
Date of issue: 20.10.2021

Theodor Pištěk is a Czech painter, costume and set designer. He won an Oscar for his costumes for Miloš Forman's *Amadeus*.

He was born into a family of famous actors and introduced to the film industry by director František Vlácil who asked him to design costumes and sets for *Údolí včel* and *Markéta Lazarová*. In the 1980s, he worked as a costume designer for Miloš Forman, Pištěk's fellow student and friend, winning an Oscar for *Amadeus* (1984). For his work on Forman's next film, *Valmont* (1989), he won a César Award from the Académie des Arts et Techniques du Cinéma. Their next film, *The People vs. Larry Flynt* (1996), was again a success. Theodor Pištěk designed the new uniforms for the Prague Castle Guard, a painter, and one of the most respected photorealist artists in the world. He initiated the Jindřich Chalupecký Award for young Czech talented artists, becoming one of its founders.

Karel Stýblo and TB control

Face value: CZK 26

Date of issue: 10.11.2021

Designer: Renáta Fučíková

Karel Stýblo was born on 26 November 1921 into a mechanical engineer's family in Vilémov. Known as the 'father of modern TB epidemiology' or the 'father of modern TB control,' Karel Stýblo combined an astonishing knowledge of the epidemiology of tuberculosis (TB) with a wonderfully persistent, enormously hard-working, and modest character. This made him a top world scientist who left the best legacy for Czech pneumology and phthisiology. He was imprisoned at the Mauthausen-Gusen concentration camp in Austria, where he contracted TB. For Stýblo, TB became a job for life. In the 1950s and 1960s, he worked in Prague's research centres, such as the Tuberculosis and Lung Disease Research Institute. His work was deeply influenced by a course of study under Sir John Crofton at the University of Edinburgh, Scotland. In 1966, Stýblo was appointed the scientific director of a new TB control research unit based in the Hague. In the 1970s, he pioneered combined TB therapy used to control TB by the World Bank and promulgated by the World Health Organisation. Called Directly Observed Therapy – Short

Course (DOTS), the TB therapy revolutionised the fight to control TB throughout the world. Stýblo applied this methodology to the national TB control programmes of Tanzania and other African countries. In 1991, the WHO recognised it as an effective global TB control model, which was later used in India, China, and also New York during an episode of TB epidemic. In 1979, Stýblo became the scientific director of the International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease (IUAT). Three years later, he received the Gold Medal award of the Robert Koch Prizes. In 1998, Stýblo was nominated for the Nobel Prize but died suddenly on 13 March 1998 in the Hague before receiving it.

About the designer:

Renáta Fučíková was born on 3 January 1964 into a family of artists living in Prague. A graduate from the Academy of Arts, Architecture and Design in Prague with a major in illustration and applied arts, she won multiple prestigious awards for her lifelong work in children's and adult book illustration. Recently, she also designed several postage stamps.

Face value: CZK 47
Date of issue: 10.11.2021
Designer: Jan Kavan

Personalities Jan Kotěra

This issue marks the 150th anniversary of birth of Jan Kotěra, internationally renowned Czech modern architect.

Jan Kotěra was born on 18 December 1871 in Brno. A graduate from the Pilsen-based civil engineering school, he started working as a building designer in Prague. The owner of the company sent him to the Viennese Academy of Fine Arts to study architecture with Professor Otto Wagner. He and some of his fellow students, such as Adolf Loos, Josip Plečnik, Josef Hoffmann, later became leading architects of the time. In 1897, Kotěra received the prestigious Prix de Rome and a one-year scholarship in Italy. In 1899, he married and set up a studio in Prague. He was appointed a professor at the Academy of Arts, Architecture and Design in Prague, teaching a generation of talented Czech architects including Josef Gočár and Pavel Janák. The first work after his return to Prague was Peterka House on Wenceslas Square. Kotěra designed it in the Viennese Art Nouveau style as the first Art Nouveau building in Prague. The building was given a lukewarm

welcome, so Kotěra went on using it on a limited scale with minor designs, such as Auguste Rodin's pavilion at the Prague exhibition and numerous tombstones. Following his early Art Nouveau works with ornamental, frequently folk decorations, Kotěra began to accentuate purpose and introduced some elements, such as bare brick walls, which became a distinctive feature of Kotěra's work. Examples of this development include Trmal Villa and Suchard Villa in Prague. He went on to design his most famous works, such as the National House in Prostějov and Prague-based Kotěra Villa. He successfully merged art with architecture into a harmonious, high-quality design with a distinct clarity, unique idea and balanced composition. Kotěra's last design, the building of the Law Faculty of Charles University in Prague, remained unfinished. The design was completed by Ladislav Machoň after Kotěra's death. Kotěra was also a proficient interior designer focusing on furniture, wall paper, porcelain and glassware, illustrator and watercolour painter. Each of his sketches including architecture designs can be considered as works of art. Jan Kotěra died in Prague on 17 April 1923.

Saint Ludmila

Face value: CZK 54
Date of issue: 10.11.2021
Designer: Karel Zeman

Saint Ludmila is one of the important predecessors of the first ruling Czech dynasty and the oldest Czech saint, known as a defender of Christian values and famous for her legendary charity. She greatly contributed to the establishment of the Přemyslid rule and the rise of Christianity in the Czech lands, the two cornerstones of modern Czech history.

Ludmila was born around 860 as the daughter of a local prince with a pagan childhood. When still a child, she was married to the first Czech documented Přemyslid prince Bořivoj I, who became the first Christian Duke of Bohemia in 873. She gave birth to several children including Spytihněv and Vratislav, who later became Czech rulers. Bořivoj and Ludmila were converted to Christianity through the efforts of Saint Methodius, which significantly helped support the growing predominance of the Přemyslids in the Czech lands. Ludmila supported Bořivoj in his efforts to convert Bohemia to Christianity. Bořivoj died before his first-born son reached adulthood and Bohemia was taken over by the Great Moravian

prince. Despite expectations, Ludmila refused to live a secluded life as a widow. Instead, she continued her involvement in politics and helped transfer powers back to her sons and secure independence of Bohemia from Great Moravia.

When the first-born son Spytihněv died and was succeeded by his brother Vratislav, Ludmila raised her grandsons Václav (Wenceslas) and Boleslav. When Vratislav I died, Ludmila continued to raise the future duke Wenceslas together with Wenceslas's mother Drahomíra acting as regent.

The controversy eventually led to the murder of Ludmila who was strangled because shedding blood for the faith could make Ludmila a Christian martyr.

When Wenceslas took over control of Bohemia, he moved the remains of his beloved grandmother to St. George's Basilica in Prague. She soon became venerated as a patroness of Bohemia. She was officially canonised in 1144 as the first Slavic saint.

Face value: Z
Date of issue: 30.11.2021

T.G. Masaryk's legacy in Israel

The miniature sheet depicts a mosaic in Kfar Masaryk (Masaryk Village in English), a kibbutz in northern Israel named after the first Czechoslovak President Tomáš Garrigue Masaryk, and T.G. Masaryk's portrait.

Tomáš Garrigue Masaryk was the first head of state to visit mandatory Palestine in 1927. Soon after its establishment in 1918, Czechoslovakia was among the few countries to recognise the Jewish nationality. This was a result of the personal involvement of Czechoslovak President Tomáš Garrigue Masaryk and the attitude of Czech intellectuals who empathised with the Jewish struggle for independence after the successful fight for their own national recognition. After World War II, Czechoslovakia very effectively supported the establishment of the State of Israel. Minister of Foreign Affairs Jan Masaryk used a great deal of diplomacy towards achieving this aim at the United Nations.

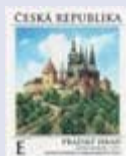
Kfar Masaryk is a kibbutz formed by Jewish immigrants from Czechoslovakia and Lithua-

nia as a fortified Jewish settlement in 1938. In 1940, the kibbutz was moved to its current place and renamed Kfar Masaryk in memory of the first Czechoslovak President Tomáš Garrigue Masaryk. The charter states that the decision to rename the kibbutz after Masaryk was made "as a sign of respect for his personality, his humanism, his struggle for truth, the liberation of nations, and in gratitude for his support of Israel's freedom." Before 1949, Kfar Masaryk had 350 inhabitants and an area of 1,615 dunams (1,615 square kilometres). During a 1988 ceremony to mark the 70th anniversary of establishment of Czechoslovakia, the foundation stone of T.G. Masaryk's Cultural and Documentation Centre was laid in Kfar Masaryk. The local economy is based on farming, industry, tourism, and services. The kibbutz continues to be a collective community.

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1032



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39,-
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1031

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1021



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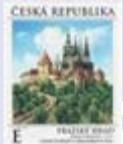
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