

## **68.77.89 Summer Workshop: General Reading/Viewing List**

\* Note that this is merely a list of suggested/recommended background readings and films for the context that we will be discussing in case participants in the workshop would like to dive into some things. A separate reader will be provided to participants with more focused readings for the workshop itself.

### **General on (cultural) history**

Jan Bazant et al (eds), *The Czech Reader: History, Culture, Politics*. Duke University Press, 2010.

Kevin McDermott, *Communist Czechoslovakia, 1945-89: A Political and Social History*. Palgrave, 2015.

Derek Sayer, *Coasts of Bohemia: A Czech History*. Princeton University Press, 1998.

Kimberly Elman Zarecor, *Manufacturing a Socialist Modernity: Housing Czechoslovakia, 1945-1960*. University of Pittsburgh Press, 2011.

### **General on dissidence**

Barbara Day, *The Velvet Philosophers*. Claridge Press, 1999.

Barbara Falk, *The Dilemmas of Dissidence in East-Central Europe: Citizen Intellectuals and Philosopher Kings*. Central European University Press, 2003.

Michael Long (ed), *Making History: Czech Voices of Dissent and the Revolution of 1989*. Rowman & Littlefield, 2005.

Gordon Skilling, *Samizdat and an Independent Society in Central and Eastern Europe*. Ohio State University Press, 1989.

### **1968**

Gordon Skilling, *Czechoslovakia's Interrupted Revolution*. Princeton University Press, 2015.

Kieran Williams, *Prague Spring and Its Aftermath*. Cambridge University Press, 1997.

### **Charter 77**

Jonathan Bolton, *Worlds of Dissent: Charter 77, the Plastic People of the Universe, and Czech Culture under Communism*. Harvard University Press, 2012.

### **1989**

Timothy Garton Ash, *The Magic Lantern: The Revolution of '89 Witnessed in Warsaw, Budapest, Berlin, and Prague*. Random House, 1990.

James Krapfl, *Revolution with a Human Face: Politics, Culture, and Community in Czechoslovakia, 1989-1992*. Cornell University Press, 2013.

Jonathan Larson. *Critical Thinking in Slovakia after Socialism*. BOYE6, 2013.

### **Normalization**

Paulina Bren, *The Greengrocer and His TV: The Culture of Communism after the 1968 Prague Spring*. Cornell University Press, 2010.

Milan Šimečka, *The Restoration of Order: The Normalization of Czechoslovakia*. Verso, 1984.

### **Václav Havel**

David S. Danaher, *Reading Václav Havel*. University of Toronto Press, 2015.

James Pontuso, *Václav Havel: Civic Responsibility in the Postmodern Age*. Rowman & Littlefield, 2004.

Delia Popescu, *Political Action in Václav Havel's Thought: The Politics of Resistance*.  
Lexington Books, 2011.

Kieran Williams, *Václav Havel (Critical Lives)*. Reaktion Books, 2016.

Michael Zantovsky, *Havel: A Life*. Grove Press, 2014.

See also below for internet resources: many of Havel's texts are available for free on his website.

### **Relevant literary and essayistic texts**

Václav Havel, *Open Letters: Selected Writings, 1965-1990*. Knopf, 1991.

Milan Kundera, *The Unbearable Lightness of Being: A Novel*. 1984.

Tom Stoppard, *Rock 'n' Roll*. Faber and Faber, 2006.

### **Film resources**

- "Citizen Havel Goes on Vacation" (dir. Jan Novák, 2006)
- "All My Good Countrymen / All My Compatriots" (dir. Vojtěch Jasný, 1969)
- "Report on the Party and the Guests" (dir. Jan Němec, 1966)
- "Larks on a String" (dir. Jiří Menzel, 1969)
- "Firemen's Ball" (dir. Miloš Forman, 1967)
- "Daisies" (dir. Věra Chytilová, 1966)

### **Internet resources**

Making the History of 1989: <http://chnm.gmu.edu/1989/>

Socialism Realised: <https://www.socialismrealised.eu>

National Czech and Slovak Museum and Library: <http://www.ncsml.org>

Václav Havel's page: <http://www.vaclavhavel.cz>