



Muzeum  
města  
Prahy

## THE CITY AS A SPECTRE Jaroslav Foglar and His Prague Inspirations

Date: 3. 9. 2021 – 4. 9. 2022

Place: House at the Golden Ring



It is needless to introduce Jaroslav Foglar to Czech readers. He was born in Prague on 6 July 1908 and died also in Prague on 23 January 1999. Except for a short episode in his childhood, he lived in Prague all his life. Foglar embarked on his writing career in the 1920s and gained great popularity in the late 1930s and early 1940s when *Rychlé šípy* (The Rapid Arrows) boys' club comic was first released. The popularity of his stories for teenagers grew quickly. The adventures of The Rapid Arrows and *Hoši od Bobří řeky* (Boys from the Beaver River) seeped into the consciousness of the Czech youth and some of the author's terms and phrases caught on. For a long time, Foglar worked as an editor of the children's magazines *Mladý hlasatel*, *Junák* and *Vpřed* (Young Broadcaster, Boy Scout, Forward). He was a prominent official of the Scout movement. Under his Scout nickname *Jestřáb* (Hawk), he originally was the head of the Boy Scout group *Pražská Dvojka* (Prague Two).

The 'Foglar Phenomenon' has been accompanying several generations of readers, and Foglar's books and their heroes have become nearly a cult for many of them. Commemorating the author's birth anniversary, the Prague City Museum organised two exhibitions in 1997 and 2007 that were focused on Foglar's oeuvre and his work with young people. The current exhibition project accentuates the motifs of the world of teenage boys penetrating into the fascinating world of the CITY in the streets of which their stories and adventures take place. Except for short episodes in his early childhood, Jaroslav Foglar lived and worked in Prague, eagerly taking in the atmosphere of the places where he lived, worked, and met with his group members, and later transforming it into mysterious places in his novels. The exhibition accentuates the city inspirations and motifs of Foglar's work in the context of then Prague.

Foglar elevated the seemingly ordinary city coulisses into a labyrinth imbued with mystique and secrets, interconnecting many time layers, living their own lives, fascinating, and tempting for exploration. Such images of the CITY open up to the reader in many of the author's novels, but it is the most substantial in the most famous *Stínadla* (Shades) trilogy that motivated all generations of readers to explore the starting points for the book's motifs and locations. Foglar book lovers of all ages are the principal target group of the exhibition; however, even the youngest ones shall get an experience from Foglar's mystic city.



Muzeum  
města  
Prahy

The historical part of the exhibition with a special illusive scenography is installed in the House at the Golden Ring cellars while the aboveground section is a gallery of paintings with Prague motifs commemorating the unrepeatabe atmosphere of Prague in the first half of the 20th century. The works of prominent as well as half-forgotten painters (e.g. J. Šetelík, J. Minařík, and T.H. Rašín as well as Zdenka Braunerová and Kamil Lhoták) present the Prague atmosphere at the time of the author's birth, childhood, and teenage years, but also the places that may later have inspired Jaroslav Foglar to write his novels and stories about Stínadla (Shades, a fictitious city quarter), specific locations as well as places with a mysterious history or those veiled in all kinds of legends. The picture gallery shows the Prague that inspired the unforgettable author of popular stories for children and teenagers.

**Muzeum města Prahy**

[www.muzeumprahy.cz](http://www.muzeumprahy.cz)



Muzeum  
města  
Prahy

## Exhibition Collage in the Villa Rothmayer Garden – WORLD ARCHITECTURE

Date: 4. 8. 2022 – 30. 9. 2022

Place: Villa Rothmayer Garden



### Theme: WORLD ARCHITECTURE

We announce the first open call for the Collages in the Villa Rothmayer Garden on WORLD ARCHITECTURE. The open call is addressed to collagists – professionals and amateurs – from all over the world. The submitted works will be displayed in the garden of Villa Rothmayer from 4 August to 2 September 2022. The exhibition will be accompanied with a public programme, for example guided tours or exclusive collage workshops. This year's theme pays tribute to the Czech architect Otto Rothmayer and the Slovenian architect Jože Plečnik. Having worked for the Office of the Czechoslovak President during the 1920s and 1930s, the two architects significantly contributed to the current appearance of Prague Castle.

Allow yourself to be inspired by the world's architecture, make an A4 size collage, and send it to us by 25 July 2022. For further details please go on our website.

In the last 'zero year', over 70 artworks arrived literally from the four corners of the world. Join the challenge and submit your collage this year. We look forward to seeing in the garden the world's unique structures with elements of your imagination.

The collages will not be returned or sold. Your works will be published only in relation with the open call and the exhibition. The collages on display will be laminated to prevent weather damage, and if need be, we will place the works on a covered terrace. Format: A4 size (larger collages or collage objects can be submitted in person in Prague upon appointment). The collage objects can be three-dimensional; if so, please do not paste them on any foundation to have them properly displayed in the garden.

The exhibition will be accompanied by public programmes such as garden guided tours and workshops.

**Muzeum města Prahy**

[www.muzeumprahy.cz](http://www.muzeumprahy.cz)