Kafka (esque) SEASON

PROGRAMME
29 May – 31 December 2024
STEP INTO THE LABYRINTHINE CORRIDORS OF KAFKA’S IMAGINATION AS WE HONOUR THE CENTENARY OF HIS LEGACY WITH THOUGHT-PROVOKING EVENTS, PERFORMANCES, AND EXHIBITIONS IN LONDON.

Co-organised by
The Castle

Michael Haneke
Austria 1997
123 min, in German with English subtitles

Michael Haneke’s adaptation follows the story of a land surveyor trying to access a castle in a snow-covered Austrian village. As he struggles to navigate the labyrinthine complexities of the village and the impenetrable castle administration, his attempts to gain access become increasingly pointless.

The Trial

Orson Welles
France/Italy/West Germany 1962
118 min, in English

Convicted without ever being informed of his alleged crime, Josef K is subjected to the relentless machinery of bureaucracy, law and legal process. As he navigates the complex layers of the process and encounters mysterious judges, his certainty of innocence begins to fade.

The Tenant

Roman Polanski
France 1976
126 min, in English and French with English subtitles

Trelkovsky, an Eastern European émigré, moves into a typical Parisian apartment block and soon his neighbours begin to eye him with suspicion. When he discovers that the apartment’s previous tenant has jumped out of the window, Trelkovsky becomes paranoid that he may be the next victim.
**EXHIBITION** 19 June - 4 October \ 12 Star Gallery @ Europe House

Co-organised by the European Parliament Liaison Office in the UK, the Goethe-Institut, the Austrian Cultural Forum and the Czech Centre.

2 September - 30 November \ Goethe-Institut London

**Komplett Kafka**

The exhibition *Komplett Kafka* shows excerpts from the biographical comic of Kafka's life and work written and drawn by Nicolas Mahler. The exhibition allows visitors to immerse themselves in Kafka's world on the 100th anniversary of his death.

**EDUCATION** 19 and 26 September, 10 October \ Goethe-Institut London

**Special German Days: Komplett Kafka**

School groups are invited to come to the Goethe-Institut for a whole day of Kafka-themed activities, including an interactive workshop, visit to the exhibition *Komplett Kafka*, quiz and film screening.

**LITERATURE** Tuesday 1 October \ 7:00pm \ Austrian Cultural Forum

**Completely Kafka**

Celebrated Austrian comic artist and illustrator Nicolas Mahler and translator Alexander Booth present *Completely Kafka*, a unique graphic biography full of Mahler’s masterful minimalism and humour, exploring the mysteries surrounding Kafka's work.

**EXHIBITION** November - December \ Public space, Czech Centre & Czech Embassy

**Jaromír 99: The Castle**

Immerse yourself in the world of Franz Kafka’s *The Castle* through an open-air exhibition showcasing the black & white prints of Czech illustrator and musician, Jaromir 99. From the solitary figure of K. to the ethereal presence of the chateau looming in the clouds, the exhibition captures the essence of Kafka's surreal universe.
**DANCE** November \ Czech Centre

**Jan Komárek & Honza Malík:**

*Insectum K.*

A dance for one man, one table, one chair, one light and one sound. A half-naked body and its groping way across the table top, illuminated by a single light bulb, that speaks to us about man’s fragility, transience and the unpredictability of his existence...

Inspired by *The Metamorphosis*.

---

**LITERATURE** November \ 7:00pm \ Czech Centre

**Magdalena Platzová:** *Life After Kafka*

A novel inspired by Felice Bauer, Franz Kafka’s first fiancée, and the story behind *Letters to Felice*. It begins in 1935 as Felice flees with her children from Hitler’s Berlin. Years later, a man claiming to be Kafka’s son approaches Felice’s son in Manhattan and the drama surrounding Kafka’s letters to Felice begins. Platzová uses humour to explore the mysteries surrounding Kafka’s work.

---

**FILM** November \ Goethe-Institut London

**Kafka Goes to the Movies**

*Hanns Zischler*

France/Germany 2002

54 min, with English subtitles

For more than two decades actor Hanns Zischler searched through Kafka’s diaries, letters and archives to explore the author’s ambivalent fascination with cinema. The resulting playful essay film allows us the pleasure of seeing films Kafka saw or may have seen, including the one that moved him to the famous lines: “Went to the movies. Cried.”
Inspired by Kafka: Joseph Kilian & Others

Joseph Kilian
Pavel Juráček, Jan Schmidt
Czechoslovakia 1963
38 min

Double Trial
Zdeněk Kopáč
Czechoslovakia 1962
12 min

Flat
Jan Švankmajer
Czechoslovakia 1968
13 min

Embark on a journey into the surreal and unsettling world of Kafka with Joseph Kilian and other cinematic masterpieces. Witness a young man’s search for Joseph Kilian; appreciate Kafka’s work as an artistic expression portraying a fear of modern civilization; and experience the terror of a man trapped in his Prague flat.
## CALENDER OF EVENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Type</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>29 May</td>
<td>FILM</td>
<td>The Castle</td>
<td>Austrian Cultural Forum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Jun</td>
<td>FILM</td>
<td>The Trial</td>
<td>Ciné Lumière</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 Jun</td>
<td>FILM</td>
<td>The Tenant</td>
<td>Austrian Cultural Forum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 Jun-4 Oct</td>
<td>EXHIBITION</td>
<td>Komplett Kafka</td>
<td>12 Star Gallery @ Europe House</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 Sep</td>
<td>EDUCATION</td>
<td>Special German Days</td>
<td>Goethe-Institut London</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26 Sep</td>
<td></td>
<td>Komplett Kafka</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Oct</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Sep-30 Nov</td>
<td>EXHIBITION</td>
<td>Komplett Kafka</td>
<td>Goethe-Institut London</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Oct</td>
<td>LITERATURE</td>
<td>Completely Kafka by Nicolas Mahler</td>
<td>Austrian Cultural Forum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 Nov</td>
<td>LITERATURE</td>
<td>Magdalena Platzová: Life After Kafka</td>
<td>Czech Centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov</td>
<td>DANCE</td>
<td>Jan Komárek &amp; Honza Malík: VInsectum K.</td>
<td>Czech Centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov</td>
<td>FILM</td>
<td>Kafka Goes Movies</td>
<td>Goethe-Institut London</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov</td>
<td>FILM</td>
<td>Inspired by Kafka</td>
<td>Czech Centre</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## LOCATIONS

### Austrian Cultural Forum
28 Rutland Gate
London
SW7 1PQ
acflondon.org

### Ciné Lumière
17 Queensberry Pl
London
SW7 2DW
institut-francais.org.uk/cinema

### Czech Centre
30 Kensington Palace Gardens
London
SW8 4QY
czechcentre.org.uk

### Goethe-Institut
50 Princes Gate, Exhibition Rd
London
SW7 2PH
goethe.de/london

### 12 Star Gallery @ Europe House
32 Smith Square
London
SW1P 3EU
europarl.org.uk