

# Cultural Program at EXPO 2025

April

13., 17., 19.–20. 4. 2025

Ivo Kahánek

MUSIC

18.–20., 25.–27. 4. 2025

Duo Jamník

MUSIC

May

10.–11. 5. 2025

My Homeland / Dennis  
R. Davies & Maki  
Namekawa

CROSS-GENRE ART

16.–18. 5. 2025

MUSIC TALENT  
SHOWCASE: Nora  
Lubbadová

MUSIC

16.–18. 5. 2025

MUSIC TALENT  
SHOWCASE: Matěj  
Asahina Kotal

MUSIC

23.–25. 5. 2025

42+PEOPLE: WHERE

PERFORMING ARTS

June

30. 5.–1. 6. 2025

Anna Vavrková (Band  
Setup) with Animated  
Visuals by Rozalie  
Kolková

MUSIC

6.–8. 6. 2025

Ballet Capriccio + Music  
by Janáček / Nd Brno  
& Brno Philharmonic

PERFORMING ARTS

13.–15. 6. 2025

JAN SMIGMATOR  
& BAND

MUSIC

20.–22., 27.–29. 6. 2025

Bára Zmeková & Duo  
Mikka Mangetsu

MUSIC

July

4.–6. 7. 2025

PUPPETRY WEEKEND  
SHOWCASE / Tiger in  
Distress

PERFORMING ARTS

4.–6. 7. 2025

PUPPETRY WEEKEND  
SHOWCASE / Musaši  
Entertainment Company

PERFORMING ARTS

11.–13. 7. 2025

Nikol Bóková

CROSS-GENRE ART

18. 7. 2025

MUSIC – A Bridge  
Between Nations /  
Martin Vydra & Yoshimi  
Kawamura

MUSIC

19.–21. 7. 2025

Katta

MUSIC

24. 7. 2025

NATIONAL DAY  
PROGRAM: Czech  
Philharmonic & Cirk  
La Putyka Children's  
Choir of Czech Radio  
Aiko

CROSS-GENRE ART

NATIONAL DAY HALL

25.–27. 7. 2025

Czech Philharmonic  
MUSIC

26.–27. 7. 2025

Children's Choir  
of Czech Radio

MUSIC

26.–27. 7. 2025

Aiko

MUSIC

August

2.–3. 8. 2025

Ballet of Tomorrow

CROSS-GENRE ART

8.–10. 8. 2025

Academy of Wonder  
/ Spitfire Company  
& Mime Prague

PERFORMING ARTS

18. 8. 2025

ČÁSLAVSKÁ  
TOKYO 1964

PERFORMING ARTS

SHINING HAT HALL

15.–17., 21.–24. 8. 2025

Chamber Soloists  
of Czech Radio

MUSIC

NATIONAL DAY HALL  
(21. 8.)

29.–31. 8. 2025

VEKTROSKOP

CROSS-GENRE ART

September

5.–7. 9. 2025

Pilsen Philharmonic

MUSIC

SHINING HAT HALL  
(6.–7. 9.)

12.–14. 9. 2025

Threads of Vitality:  
Harmony of Tradition  
and Modernity

CROSS-GENRE ART

19.–21. 9. 2025

Kristina Barta Quartet

MUSIC

26.–28. 9. 2025

Hana Hrachovinová  
& Keiko Hisamoto

MUSIC

October

2.–3. 10. 2025

Hikobae

CROSS-GENRE ART

3.–5. 10. 2025

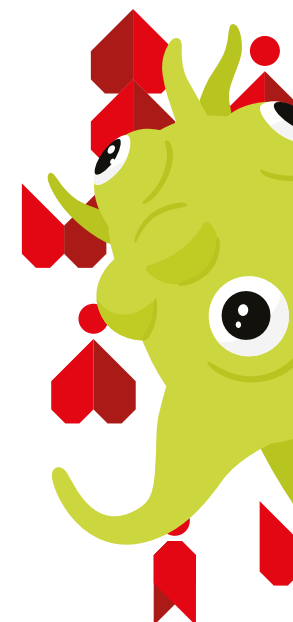
Dusty Scores  
/ Petr Nikl & Co.

CROSS-GENRE ART

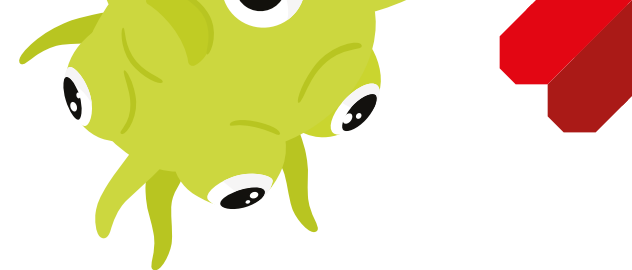
10. 10. 2025

BONIFANTES Boys Choir

MUSIC



# Cultural Program at EXPO 2025



April

MUSIC

Ivo Kahánek

A piano performance by one of the most renowned pianists of his generation. Japan is a country where Czech music and Czech musicians hold a special position and respect. The connection between our otherwise very different cultures through the music of Czech composers enables dialogue and understanding where conventional forms of communication fall short. We believe that it is important to maintain and develop this connection.

MUSIC

Duo Jamník

A musical performance featuring a repertoire for solo violoncello and string duo, tailored to the specific program and circumstances. The artists are violoncellist Tomáš Jamník, an internationally recognized performer and winner of the Prague Spring competition, and the string duo Jamník–Jamníková.

May

CROSS-GENRE ART

My Homeland/ Dennis R. Davies  
& Maki Namekawa

Four-hand piano performance by Dennis Russell Davies and Maki Namekawa. Just as Smetana in his music and descriptions evokes memories of long-gone times, revives myths, and idealizes history from the perspective of his era, these AI-based visualizations represent another iterative loop of continuous transformation and interpretation of our history and cultural identities. In the piano version, many passages particularly take on a nostalgic, fragile character, as the confident national pride of the 19th century gives way to uncertainty about where we stand and how we wish to define ourselves as a society and individuals in the present day.

MUSIC

MUSIC TALENT SHOWCASE:  
Nora Lubbadová

Weekend of Young Talents / Promising 15-year-old pianist Nora Lubbadová will perform as part of the cultural program of the Czech National Pavilion at EXPO 2025, both solo and together with clarinetist Matěj Asahina Kotal.

MUSIC

MUSIC TALENT SHOWCASE:  
Matěj Asahina Kotal

Weekend of Young Talents / Clarinetist Matěj Asahina Kotal will perform as part of the cultural program of the Czech National Pavilion at EXPO 2025, both solo and together with pianist Nora Lubbadová.

PERFORMING ARTS

42+PEOPLE: WHERE

The project 42+PEOPLE: WHERE brings together two distinct yet complementary creative forces of the dance scene: the 420PEOPLE company and its 42+PEOPLE concept, which aims to explore the dynamics and contrasts between different stages of human life and experiences. Through movement and dance, this unique project connects themes of chaos, change, and the search for meaning in the modern world.

# Cultural Program at EXPO 2025

June

## MUSIC

**Anna Vavrková (Band Setup)**  
with Animated Visuals by Rozálie Kolková

A series of short live concerts featuring the repertoire of Anna Vavrková, with a lineup of keyboards, guitar, bass guitar, percussion/drums/drum pad, in a multi-member band. The performances will include projections of illustrations and animations by visual artist Rozálie Kolková, projected over the PERFORMING ARTSists. These animations will be created specifically for the performances and will form a cohesive audiovisual piece.

## PERFORMING ARTS

**Ballet Capriccio + Music by Janáček/ Nd Brno & Brno Philharmonic**

Two choreographies set to the music of Leoš Janáček. The first is Capriccio for piano left hand and wind ensemble, and the second is a cycle of piano pieces Po zarostlém chodníčku. Both works will be performed by Czech piano virtuoso Ivo Kahánek, with members of the Brno Philharmonic joining for Capriccio. The choreographies will be created by Japanese dancer and choreographer Megumi Nakamura and the artistic director of the ballet of the National Theatre Brno and choreographer Mário Radačovský. Their joint project directly reflects Czech-Japanese collaboration, facilitates the exchange of experiences, and bridges the two cultural worlds.

## MUSIC

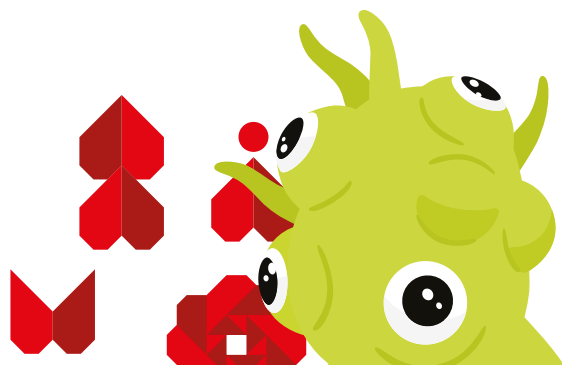
**JAN SMIGMATOR & BAND**

Jan Smigmator on the 21st-century music scene follows in the footsteps of swing legends such as singers Frank Sinatra, Bobby Darin, Mel Tormé, Nat King Cole, and Tony Bennett. Currently, he frequently performs with the accompaniment of a band composed of top musicians from the Czech jazz scene.

## MUSIC

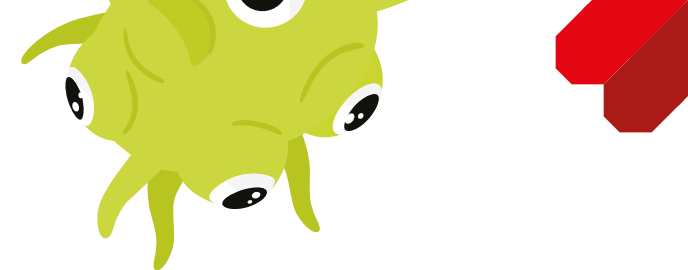
**Bára Zmeková & Duo Mikka Mangetsu**

Bára Zmeková's project focuses on presenting the contemporary Czech music scene through her own compositions in collaboration with the Japanese duo Mikka Mangetsu. Bára Zmeková is an open and experienced artist who, through her approach, fosters collaboration with artists from different cultures. She began this international dialogue in 2019, when she and the Mikka Mangetsu duo performed a series of concerts across Czechia.



# Cultural Program at EXPO 2025

July



## PERFORMING ARTS

### PUPPETRY WEEKEND SHOWCASE / Tiger in Distress

A theatrical presentation highlighting an important but often overlooked figure in 20th-century cultural history.

## PERFORMING ARTS

### PUPPETRY WEEKEND SHOWCAS / Musaši Entertainment Company

A puppetry showcase featuring three productions: Entomologious, Essay on Light, and Fabula Sylvestris.

## CROSS-GENRE ART

### Nikol Bóková

The premiere of a new music-visual concept of contemporary jazz music.

## MUSIC

### Music – A Bridge Between Nations / Martin Vydra & Yoshimi Kawamura

A concert featuring the most beautiful songs by Central European composers from the Classical and Romantic periods, performed by baritone Martin Vydra and pianist Yoshimi Kawamura.

## MUSIC

### Katta

Especially for the EXPO 2025 in Osaka Katta arranged a music set in which she combines a pieces from her project „Piano Songs“ together with a pipe organ sounds recorded in the church of the Holy Saviour in Prague where she is based.

## CROSS-GENRE ART

### NATIONAL DAY PROGRAM: Czech Philharmonic & Cirk La Putyka

A performance blending the Czech Philharmonic's string section and Cirk La Putyka, framed by the thematic axis of Chaos. Circle. Family. Roots. Tradition. Movement. Virtuosity.

## MUSIC

### NATIONAL DAY PROGRAM: Czech Radio Children's Choir

The aim of the performance by the Czech Radio Children's Choir (DPS ČRo) is to showcase the quality of music education in Czechia and to continue the tradition of Czech choral groups visiting Japan.

## MUSIC

### NATIONAL DAY PROGRAM: Aiko

A concert by singer Aiko with a live band featuring two additional musicians – guitarist David and drummer Kat (Spain). The concept is based on a European tour, incorporating programmed light tubes and a pre-designed soundscape tailored to each song.

# Cultural Program at EXPO 2025

August 

CROSS-GENRE ART

Ballet of Tomorrow

A fusion of traditional art and modern technology, inspired by the folklore of both Czechia and Japan. The project symbolizes the harmony between nature, technology, past, and future.

PERFORMING ARTS

Academy of Wonder / Spitfire Company & Mime Prague

The Academy of Wonder is composed of three non-verbal performances by two theater groups. The Spitfire Company will showcase the art of head masks used in the performance Antiwords, which became a global hit, selling out venues from New York to Beijing and Seoul. Another masterpiece by Spitfire Company is the family performance Vivat Messi, based on street dance and freestyle football techniques. The second theater group is Mime Prague, with its main representative Radim Vizváry, one of the artists with the most delicate and precise technique in pantomime. Together, they form a team that has received several international awards and performed at top-class festivals around the world.

PERFORMING ARTS

ČÁSLAVSKÁ TOKYO 1964

The theatre production Čáslavská Tokyo 1964 is a Czech-Japanese co-production by Theatre Alfa Plzeň and PUK Theatre Tokyo. Marking the 60th anniversary, the production takes as its central theme the performance of Czech gymnast Věra Čáslavská at the 1964 Tokyo Olympic Games.

MUSIC

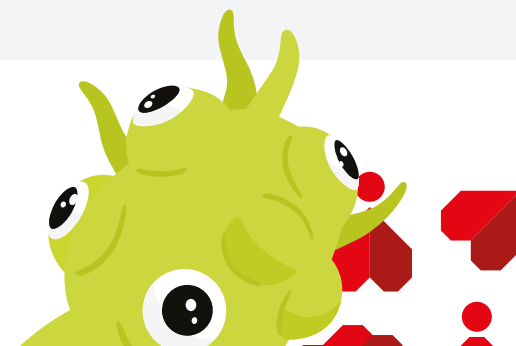
Chamber Soloists of Czech Radio

A concert performance by soloists of Czech Radio.

CROSS-GENRE ART

VEKTROSKOP

VEKTROSKOP is an audiovisual performance featuring not only musicians but also industrial robots. The project's aim is to showcase new forms of artistic expression using contemporary technologies and to represent Czechia with inspiring content at the world exhibition.



# Cultural Program at EXPO 2025

September

MUSIC

Pilsen Philharmonic

The program creates an intriguing connection between Czech and Japanese culture. Akira Ifukube was one of Japan's greatest modern composers and played a key role in introducing Japanese musical culture to the Western world. Today, the Philharmonic is led by conductor Chuhei Iwasaki.

CROSS-GENRE ART

Threads of Vitality: Harmony  
of Tradition and Modernity

The project is a unique, curated performance in which Japanese and Czech artists will perform live simultaneously in Japan and Czechia. The concert will connect the Czech National Pavilion at EXPO 2025 in Osaka with the Janáček Academy of PERFORMING ARTS in Brno. Thanks to a special Czech technology, musicians in both cities will be able to perform in real-time synchronization, as if they were on the same stage. The performers come from Czechia and Japan and are affiliated with the Janáček Academy. The musical program will introduce visitors of EXPO 2025 to Czech musical traditions through the lens of modern technology. The project was developed in collaboration between the Janáček Academy of PERFORMING ARTS and its technological partners – CESNET Association and DISK Systems.

MUSIC

Kristina Barta Quartet

A concert based on the fourth music album by pianist and composer Kristina Barta. The album, set to be released in 2025 by an international label, will feature a total of 9 tracks. The inspiration for the album came from the Czech landscape as well as landscapes historically or currently connected to Czechia. In addition to the landscapes, the themes of peace, freedom, and community are explored.

MUSIC

Hana Hrachovinová & Keiko  
Hisamoto

A music program that is undoubtedly Czech, yet also resonates with Japanese culture and has the potential to speak to the Japanese soul. The selected pieces will not only emotionally delight and aesthetically elevate the audience, but also present a distinctive Czech repertoire that we can be rightfully proud of and which has long been admired in Japan.



# Cultural Program at EXPO 2025

October

CROSS-GENRE ART

Hikobae

A collection of comic pieces straddling the genres of sociological comics and comics with significant poetic value. This multimedia project follows the comic book logi (2021), which has been featured in several exhibitions in Japan and Czechia.

CROSS-GENRE ART

Dusty Scores / Petr Nikl & Co.

A music and visual interactive performance, framed by a dance of moving drawing objects that leave a large-scale trace image on the ground.

MUSIC

BONIFANTES Boys Choir

For EXPO 2025, the composition PANTA RHEI / ALL FLOWS was created by Jan Jirásek, holder of Czech Lion Awards and composer of film music (Bouquet, Bathory, An Ambiguous Report About the End of the World). The piece, written for boys' choir, violin, piano, and percussion, is based on texts from Japanese and Christian liturgy, enriched with fragments from the works of Heraclitus, Jan Amos Comenius, and St. Bernard of Clairvaux. By combining Japanese, Czech, Latin, and Greek, a space is created for unexpected questions and connections. The musical segments are composed as responses to various life situations, resulting in a work that reflects the fluidity of the world and the depth of human experience.

