

# David Černý

## Biography

David Černý was born in 1967 in Prague, Czech Republic

Černý burst into the public eye in 1991 when he painted a Soviet tank, that served as a war memorial in central Prague, the color pink. Creating extreme controversy with his work, this international sculptor has been described as “witty, exciting, kinetic, crass and provocative”. Černý is the son of a graphic designer father and a mother who was a restorer of art in the National Gallery of Prague. He learned his trade at the Academy of Applied Art in the country’s capital, studied in Boswil on a grant from the Swiss government, and also in New York City at P.S.I Artists Residence New York before taking part in the Whitney Museum Independent Study Program.

His works are characteristically bold, courageous and reach into sensitive political, historical and social themes, all sprinkled with the unconventional artist’s sarcastic humor. In his hometown of Prague alone, Černý has 14 installations in public spaces that have become major public attractions. In 2001 he created a non-profit cultural art and event center in a former 1920’s glass warehouse in Prague, which he named the “Meet Factory”. Černý calls his factory a “multicultural supermarket”, as it houses a theater, music stage and 16 studios occupied by a total of 30 international artists.

## Education

- 1995-1996 Whitney Museum Independent Study Program, New York, USA
- 1994-1995 P.S.I. artists residence, New York, USA
- 1991 Sculptor’s residency grant Swiss government in Boswil, Switzerland
- 1988-1994 Academy of Applied Arts, Prof. Kurt Gebauer, Prague

## Selected Solo Exhibitions

- 2016 "legs" rio de janeiro, Olympic house Czech republic  
Black Hole DSC gallery prague

- 2014 DSC gallery, Prague
- 2013 Mucsarnok, Budapest
- DSC gallery, Prague
- Kuchling Gallery, Berlin
- "Fuck You Mr President" Prague, Vltava river
- 2012 "London Booster", London Olympic games
- 2010 Mona Lisa gallery Olomouc
- Gallery Arsenal, Poznan
- 2009 DSC gallery prague
- "Entropa", European commity, Bruxels
- 2007 "Man hanging out" Chicago, USA
- 2002 "Cirkus Cerny", MAMA gallery / Netherlands Architecture Institute / TENT / Politiegalerie /
- "Political Pop", chromosome Berlin, Germany
- Galerie V kapli, Bruntal, Czech Republic
- 2000 NYU, Prague
- 1999 Czech Embassy London, Great Britain
- 1993 "Artificial", Spalova Gallery, Prague
- 1992 "Fertility", Rubin Club, Center of Performing Arts, with Marketa Bankova, Prague
- 1993 "Draft", Andy Warhol Museum of Modern Art, Medzilaborce, Slovakia
- "Smallness" State Gallery, Znojmo, Czech Republic
- 1990 "Exhibition for The Meanest Instincts", Club Delta, with Tomas Pospiszyl, Prague

## Selected Group Exhibitions

- 2020 "Art in Oisterwik", Holland
- 2019 "Sculpture by the sea" Sydney, Australia
- 2018 "Shenzen biennale", China

- 2016 "NordArt" Regensburg, Germany  
"Observations: A Digital Life" New York, USA
- 2015 "Open Air" Orebro, Sweden
- 2014 "Sculpture by the sea" Sydney, Australia  
"Signal festival" Prague  
"Light festival" Amsterdam, The Netherlands
- 2013 "Twente Biennale", Hengelo, The Netherlands  
"Art Masters", San Moritz, Swiss
- 2012 "Biele Noci" Kosice, Slovakia
- 2011 "Twente Biennale", Hengelo, The Netherlands  
"Inspiracje", Szczecin, Poland  
"ArtBoom", Krakow, Poland  
"Cenzurovano" Zlin, CR  
"Mapy" GMB, Bratislava,  
"Groteska", NOD, Praha  
MojA, Praha  
"Nord Art", Rensbourg, Germany
- 2010 "Twente Biennale" Amsterdam  
"AntiBeeld", Arti et Amicitiae, Amsterdam  
"Homo Erotica" National Museum Warsaw  
"Colours" Dresden motorhalle  
"Art Pricze" DOX Prague  
"Dekadence now" Umprum, Prague  
Danubiana, Bratislava
- 2009 Chalupecky Prize, Seoul, Korea  
Monument ghmp, Pragu  
"Po Sametu" U zlateho Prstenu, Prague

- Center for Contemporary Art - Plovdiv  
 Pecsgallery, Hungary  
 Irokez Gallery, Budapest  
 "Katowice biennial" Poland
- 2008 Interferencia Barcelona Madrid
- 2006 "Project 2006 Beaufort", Oostende, Belgium  
 "Shadows of Humor", Wroclaw BWA Gallery, Poland  
 "Waste of Humor" Cieszyn, Poland
- 2005 "Prague Biennale" Prague  
 "Pink", Tokyo nat. univ. of art, Tokyo  
 "Living Together", Odapark Venray, Holland  
 "happy materials" NTM, Prague  
 "Beautyfreeshop", Prague
- 2003 "SURVEY '03", Futura Gallery, Prague  
 "Aus Liebe", Galerie der Stadt Remscheid, Remscheid, Germany
- 2002 "Politikum", Prague Castle, Pragu  
 "Between Dresden and Prague", Italian Embassy, Prague
- 2001 "to flow to", chromosome Berlin, Germany  
 "A Sense of Wellbeing", Karlovy Vary, Czech Republic
- 2000 "Czech History", SKODA Pavillion, Autostadt  
 Volkswagen, Wolfsburg, Germany  
 "Maso / Meet", Chalupeckého Prize, National Gallery, Prague  
 "Bohemian Birds", Kunsthalle Dresden, Germany  
 "The End of the World", National Gallery, Prague
- 1999-2000 "After the Wall. Art and Culture in post-Communist Europe"  
 Moderna Museet, Stockholm, Sweden;  
 Ludwig Museum Budapest – Museum of

- Contemporary Art, Hungary
- Hamburger Bahnhof, Berlin, Germany
- 1999 99 CZ, Prague
- 1998 Atelier of all Sculpturing, Prague
- “Nad Možnosti” City Gallery, Brno, Czech Republic
- 1997 Jiri Svestka Gallery, Prague
- SCCA Kyjev, Ukraine
- Joslyn Memorial Art Museum, Omaha, Nebraska, USA
- Veletržní palác, Art in public space, Prague
- Czech Cultural Center, Berlin, Germany
- 1996 Whitney Museum Independent Study Program, New York, USA
- Institute of Contemporary Art, Philadelphia, USA
- Technische Sammlung Dresden, Dresden, Germany
- “Object: Video”, Landesgalerie Linz, Austria
- “Beyond Belief” Allen Memorial Arts Museum, Oberlin, USA
- Institute of Contemporary Art, Philadelphia, USA
- 1995 “Orbis Fictus”, New Media in Contemporary Arts,
- National Gallery, Prague
- “Artcircolo 95”, Castle Melnik by Prague
- P.S.1 94-95 Studio artists, The clocktower, New York, USA
- “Beyond Belief”, Museum of Contemporary Arts, Chicago, USA
- 1994 600 SIAF, Seoul International Art Festival, Seoul, Korea
- The 22nd Sao Paulo International Biennial Sao Paulo, Brasil
- “Impermanent Places, Seven Installations from Prague”
- The World Financial Center, New York, USA
- “You Must Remember This”, Ronald Feldman
- Fine Arts, New York, USA

- “Young Artist from Prague”, Duesseldorf -  
Kunstmuseum, Germany
- 1993 “Europe without Walls”, City Galleries  
Manchester, Great Britain
- 1992 “Edge 92”, Madrid - London, International  
Biennial of Visual and Performance Art, Spain
- 1991 Light Festival of avant-garde Art under the former  
Stalin monument, Prague  
Sargfabrik, International Exhibition of Young  
Artists, Vienna, Austria
- 1990 “Czech Alternative”, Galerie ULUV, Prague  
Old Town Yards, open-air exhibition of  
Contemporary Art, Prague
- 1989 “Smile, Joke and Grim”, Palace of Culture,  
State Gallery, Prague  
“November 89”, Manes, State Gallery, Prague  
The Neostunners, Prague - underground exhibition of Art group

## TV and Movies

- 1987 “Bridge”, Prague “Vychovatel ke strachu”, Dir P. Marek - Animation
- 1986 “Sounds”, Ostrava, Czech Republic"
- 1997 “Buttoners (Knoflíkáji)”, dir. Petr Zelenka - actor and stage designer
- 1998 “Prague stories”, dir A.Benki - actor and stage designer  
“Touch of picture”, FAMU, architect
- 2002-2004 ARTOZA, Czech TV , monthly magazine about contemporary art, screenplay  
and theme
- 2004 Zkamenělý dítě, Music video LUCIE band

2012 Karel Vas, dokument, narrator

## Theater - Stage Design

1987-1990 Stage design for Theatre Rubin Praha, Prague

1999 Dir. David Czesaný, Drama Studio Ústí n.  
Labem, Czech Republic

2001 George Tabori - Vídenský řízek, Dir.Jirí  
Pokorný, Theatre On the Balustrade

2014 Vaclav Havel, Theatre Na zbradli, Prague

## Selected Collections

SKODA Pavillion, Autostadt Volkswagen, Wolfsburg, Germany

Museum of Modern Art, San Diego, USA

German Embassy, Prague, Czech Republic

Gallery of Modern Art Olomouc

Museum Checkpoint Charlie, Berlin, Germany

Military museum, Lesany, Czech Republic

Private collections in Austria, Czech Republic, Germany, USA, Greece,  
GB, France etc..

## Grants and Awards

2000 Chalupecky Prize, National prize for young artist,Czech Republic

1996 Pollock Krasner Foundation Grant, USA

1990 Special Prize in the Biennale of Kortrijk, Belgium

## Permanent Installations

- Since 2020 "Lynch" Los Angeles, USA  
"Falcons", Doha, Qatar  
"Beetle", Prague, Czech Rep  
"Quo Vadis" Berlin, Germany
- Since 2018 "Horspowers", Prague, Czech Rep
- Since 2017 "Thief" Museum of modern art Olomouc
- Since 2016 "Head", Royal Caribbean  
"Trifoot", Prague
- Since 2015 "Thinker", San Moritz, Switzerland
- Since 2014 "Three Babies", Private Collection, Australia  
"K", Prague Czech republic
- Since 2011 "Crychloids", Miura design hotel, Celadna, Czech Republic
- Since 2010 "Golem", Poznan, Poland
- Since 2008 "Embryo" theatre Na zbradli, Prague
- Since 2006 "Metalmorphosis" fountain, Charlotte, USA,
- Since 2005 "Bus Stop-Still-Life" Liberec, Czech Republic
- Since 2004 "Three Babies" Middelkerke, Belgium "Streams" Hergetova Cihelna, Prague, Czech Republic
- 2004 Winner of II WW memorial for Prague, not realized because of political statement of author
- Since 2003 "Sochy / Brownnosers" Futura Gallery, Prague, Czech Republic
- Since 2001 "10 Dkg Tanku / A Hundred Grams of Tank", Lázně Bohdaneč, Czech Republic  
"Mimina / Babies", TV tower, Prague, Czech Republic
- Since 2000 "Czech native scene", autostadt Wolfsburg, Germany
- Since 1999 "Saint Wenceslav", Lucerna Passage, Prague, Czech Republic



Since 1994 “Pink Tank”, Vojenske Museum (Military Technical Museum), Lesany, Czech Republic

Since 1990 “Quo Vadis”, German embassy Prague, Czech Republic