

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**THE REHEARSAL FOR TRUTH THEATER FESTIVAL TO PRESENT SPRING WEEKEND:
A SELECTION OF EUROPEAN STAGE READINGS IN NYC, BOHEMIAN NATIONAL HALL, MAY 10-12, 2019.**

**SPRING WEEKEND SOIREE: BOHEMIAN SPIRIT RESTUARANT
THURSDAY, MAY 9 at 7PM**

In spring 2019, the REHEARSAL FOR TRUTH theater festival, honoring Vaclav Havel, will add a weekend of contemporary European stage readings to their yearly program. The Vaclav Havel Library Foundation (VHLF) partners with the Bohemian Benevolent & Literary Association to create a showcase of young European playwrights. The selection process includes choosing Czech, Hungarian, Polish, Romanian and Slovak plays that have been translated into English and reflect on current social and political issues of the region. All of the stage readings and the Romanian production are free to the public with tickets to each of these events are on Eventbrite.

To kick off the proceedings VHLF will be hosting a special pre-festival party: *The Spring Weekend Soiree*. This event is a VIP function that features discussions with directors of the upcoming stage readings, Adrian Alea, Edward Einhorn, Simona Maicanescu, Michael Piatkowski and Zishan Ugurlu, as well as short excerpts from the plays themselves. Guests will also enjoy the vibrant music of Central Europe and traditional Czech food and beer. Ticket prices for this event are \$150 and the proceeds go towards funding some of the festival costs.

TICKETS AVAILABLE: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/spring-weekend-soiree-tickets-59920842854>

ABOUT SPRING WEEKEND

The Rehearsal for Truth theater festival, honoring Vaclav Havel presents Spring Weekend. It is a showcase of emerging Czech, Hungarian, Polish, and Slovak playwrights whose work reflects on current social and political issues. The plays have been translated into English and feature local New York performers and directors who will have the opportunity to try out these works onstage as part of the European Month of Culture. The program will include a full Romanian production as well.

The cultural institutions of these five countries collaborate with VHLF to select the plays as well as arrange trips for some of the chosen playwrights to NYC to participate in the rehearsals, stage reading performances, and discussions with the audience after the shows.

The program is organized by the Vaclav Havel Library Foundation and the Bohemian Benevolent and Literary Association, in collaboration with the Consulate General of the Czech Republic, Consulate General of Slovakia, the Polish Cultural Institute, the Romanian Cultural Institute, and Untitled Theater Company #61.

The program is supported in part by public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council.

All productions for this Spring Weekend are held at the Bohemian National Hall, 321 E. 73rd St., New York, NY, 10021, and have been translated into English. The stage readings and full-length production are free events, and reservations can be made on Eventbrite. After every stage reading and production, there will be talk backs with the artists followed by a small reception hosted by the featured country's cultural institution.

For more information visit: <https://www.vhlf.org/>