



The Czech Embassy in Copenhagen in cooperation with Studenterhus Aarhus on the occasion of the 45th anniversary of the self-immolation of Jan Palach, cordially invite you to the film

Burning Bush

by Agnieszka Holland

**Thursday 9 October 2014 at 7 p.m.
Studenterhus Aarhus
Nordre Ringgade 3, 8000 Aarhus**

The movie will be introduced by the Czech ambassador Jiří Brodský and associate professor from the University of Aarhus Peter Bugge.

Based on actual events and characters, this drama focuses on the self-sacrifice of the student, Jan Palach, who set himself on fire in a protest against the Soviet occupation of Czechoslovakia in 1969. Young lawyer Dagmar Burešová led the legal fight brought by his family against the communist politician who slandered Palach's name and his sacrifice for freedom. The movie also shows reactions among students and the activities of the secret police StB who tried to erase Palach's legacy from the national awareness. This story of the actions of a student and the bravery of a lawyer is, at its heart, a story of basic human values such as truth, honor, justice and courage. Their fight for freedom and moral principles, in a time of censorship and oppression, eventually led to the unification of an oppressed nation, a struggle which defeated the totalitarian regime twenty years later. The 20th anniversary of Palach's death in 1969 inspired a new generation of students to start protests that led to the eventual fall of communism in Czechoslovakia, alongside the fall of the Iron Curtain in Europe. The Palach family's lawyer, Dagmar Burešová, who spent her early career defending persecuted opposition leaders, became the first Minister of Justice in a free Czechoslovakia.

CZ, PL / 2013 / 206 min. / Czech with English subtitles.
Free entrance.