**The World of Jaroslav Hašek**

an international conference at the Harriman Institute of Columbia University

on the 100th anniversary of the author’s death and of the first publication

of Parts Two and Three of *The Good Soldier Švejk*

This conference will draw together leading scholars from various disciplines to reflect on the life, work, and ongoing relevance of the great Czech author, Jaroslav Hašek (1883-1923). Best known for the unfinished long comic narrative, *The Adventures of the Good Soldier Švejk in the Great War* (*Osudy dobrého vojáka Švejka za světové války*, 1921-1923), Hašek was many things at many moments: dilettante, humorist, satirist, journalist, hoaxer, bohemian, anarchist politician, Bolshevik commandant, and turncoat. His legacy remains unclear. While a household name in the Czech Republic, a key influence on later international fiction (especially on war novels such as *Catch 22*), and a crucial voice for articulating the role of stupidity in the modern world, for most scholars Hašek appears as a marginal figure on the world stage. He does not fit into familiar currents. Taking place on the 100th anniversary of the publication of the final part of *Švejk*, as well as of the author’s death, the conference will venture new answers to persistent questions about Hašek’s legacy: How has Hašek been received differently across the world? What was his relation to global modernism? What does Hašek have to offer to literary theory or philosophy? To what extent does the world we live in today resemble the one to which Hašek gave such a devastating representation?

**The World of Jaroslav Hašek**

an international conference at the Harriman Institute of Columbia University on the 100th

provisional program, revised version

Day 1: Friday, April 21, 2023

9:45-12:00

Session 1: Narrative Structure of *Švejk*

**Bohumil Fořt**, Institute for Czech Literature, Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic Strategy and Effect: Narrative and Semantic Techniques in Hašek’s *The Good Soldier Švejk*

**Peter Steiner**, University of Pennsylvania

Josef Švejk: The Man of Many Turns

**Daniel Pratt**, McGill University

Against History: Hašek and the Problem of Historiography

12:00-1:30

Lunch

Session 2: Biographical and local context

**Jomar Hønsi**

Researching Jaroslav Hašek and His Writings in Archives and Libraries

**Richard Změlík**, Univerzita Palackého

Prague Topography in *The Good Soldier Švejk* from the Point of View of Literary Cartography

3:00-3:30

Coffee break

3:30-5:00

Session 3: Hašek, Švejk and Animals

**Jindřich Toman**, University of Michigan

Photomontage as Visual Mystification: Jaroslav Hašek and *The World of Animals*

**Václav Paris**, The City University of New York

Hašek’s Hybrids

5:30-7:00

Keynote speech and discussion

**Jean-Michel Rabaté**, University of Pennsylvania

The “Stupid Joke” from Anthropology to Satire: Kant, Freud, Hašek, Badiou

Day 2: Saturday, April 22, 2023

10:30-12:00

Session 4: Hašek, Švejk as Seen by Authors of Prose Fiction

**Sergey Soloukh**

*Nothing Will Happen to Anyone*: The Romance/Novel of Jaroslav Hašek and Jarmila Mayerová

**Anna Förster**, Universität Erfurt

Beyond Philology: Literary Contributions to Hašek Studies

12:00-1:30

Lunch

1:30-3:00

Session 5: Versions of Švejk to the East

**Mark Lipovetsky**, Columbia University

Švejk Among Soviet Tricksters

**Charles Sabatos**, Yeditepe University

The Destinies of *Aslan Asker Şvayk* in Turkish Translation

3:00-3:30

Coffee break

3:30-5:00

Session 6: Unexpected Parallels

**Erica Weitzman**, Northwestern University

Švejk/Antigone

**František A. Podhajský**

Realism in a Modernist Key: Švejk and Company