

Czech Film Series 2008-2009

Thursday, April 9, Lindley Hall 102 at 7 PM

Jiří Menzel: I Served the King of England

(2006)



If you don't know much about the history of the country and its remnants of regal splendor, after watching *Obsluhoval jsem anglického krále*, this curiously rewarding film according to Bohumil Hrabal's masterpiece, you will know more. A lot more. The politics. The humour. The cultures. The aspirations. The troubled relations with neighbouring empires. And the incredible resilience of its individuals. *I Served the King of England* condenses an epic novel into two hours and squeezes in fancy hotels, bars, brothels, woods, invading armies and more. All are collected in a dizzying montage, as the ambitious yet philosophizing hero reviews the highs and lows of his life oblivious to major historical events surrounding him.

In Czech with English subtitles. 120 mins.

Introduced by Professor Bronislava Volková