

Brno

history of the city



1905 Náměstí Svobody / Liberty square

Brno is the capital of a historic land in Central Europe - Moravia, with its ancient settlement taking advantage of a geographical location connecting the south of Europe with the north of the continent.

People have been passing through here from the Adriatic to the Baltic Sea since antiquity. In the course of the first millennium B.C. and the first millennium A.D., Celts were replaced by Germanic tribes, which in turn ultimately gave way to the Slavs. In the 9th and 10th centuries the Slavs founded a state in this territory, which is now part of the Czech Republic.

Present-day Brno began to develop below a princely castle bearing the same name in the 11th and 12th centuries as a concentration of craftsmen's and merchants' settlements. In the 13th century the existing merchants' settlements grouped together, fortified themselves and the King of Bohemia awarded them town privileges in 1243. German, Romanic and Jewish merchants also lived in Brno alongside the Slavs. In the mid-14th century, 1,000 of the town's 5,000 inhabitants were Jewish and one of the four town districts inside the walls belonged to Jews. After the Jews were forced to leave Brno in 1454, they established themselves in the nearby townships.

It was only the 1849 Constitution that guaranteed equal rights for all citizens and a new, large Jewish community grew up quickly in Brno. Jewish entrepreneurs built a modern textile industry in Brno and greatly contributed to the rapid development of the town.

Entering the 19th century as a town with less than 20 thousand inhabitants, still delimited by the town walls that had been staked out in the 13th century, in the early 20th century the extended city and its close surroundings were home to a staggering 300 thousand people! The national structure was also changing rapidly. From a population originating in a variety of places in Central Europe (a significant community of Italian craftsmen made Brno their home in the last quarter of the 16th century), Brno became a city with a strong German element in the course of the 18th and 19th centuries. On the other hand, the mainly Czech population from the surrounding areas was moving in for work in factories during the second half of the 19th century. As a result of the high technology standard of its textile and machine industry, from the mid-19th century Brno was regarded as the heart of Austro-Hungarian economic potential.



1908 Radnická ulice / Old town hall street



1910 Moravské náměstí / Moravian place



1910 Jošova třída / Jošt avenue



1645 successful defense of the city against Swedish sieges



1890 Zelný trh / Cabbage market

Brno 1918-1938

the second metropolis of the new state

typo center



1936 Telehor magazine / typo František Kalivoda



1930 Středisko magazine leaflet / typo František Kalivoda



1935 typo Zdeněk Rossmann



1933 typo František Kalivoda



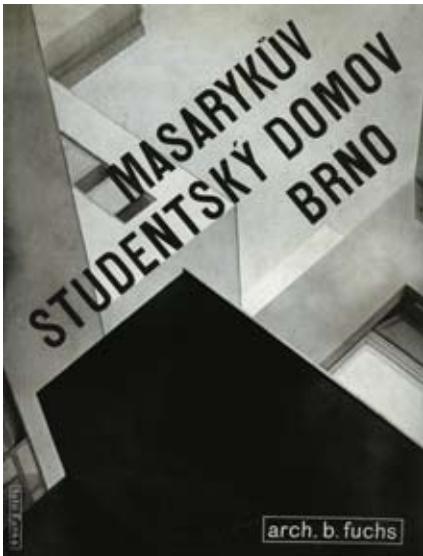
1933 typo Zdeněk Rossmann



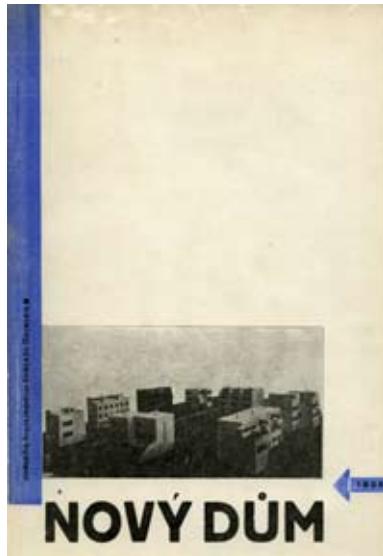
1929 typo Zdeněk Rossmann



1932 měsíc magazine cover



1930 typo Emanuel Hrbek



1928 typo Zdeněk Rossmann

President T. G. Masaryk sought to decentralise state administration - by founding a university and locating the seat of the Supreme Court and international trade fairs in Brno, he initiated the rapid growth of the second important metropolis in the new state with a rich political, economic and cultural life of Europe-wide impact. It was also a message to young architects who - after receiving training in Prague and Vienna - anchored themselves in the city and, through their avant-garde activities, made it "the most important centre of modern architecture" in interwar Czechoslovakia. Brno also significantly contributed to the international debate through the cycle of lectures "Towards a New Architecture" in the winter of 1924-25, involving Oud, Gropius, Le Corbusier, Ozenfant and Adolf Loos; lectures by Theo van Doesburg and Mart Stam, Hannes Meyer; the publicity given to Bauhaus in the Pásmo magazine, Fronta almanac and Index magazine; the exhibition of the works of Moholy-Nagy and the CIAM conference in the East European countries.

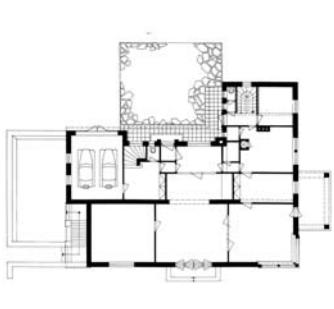
brno / the city of **bauhaus** spirit

Ernst Wiesner

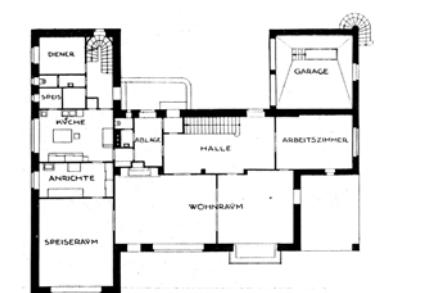
a prominent architect of the Jewish community



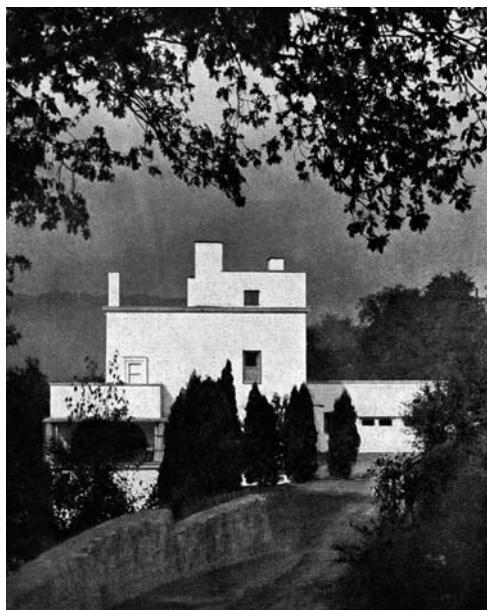
1928 - 29 Villa Neumark



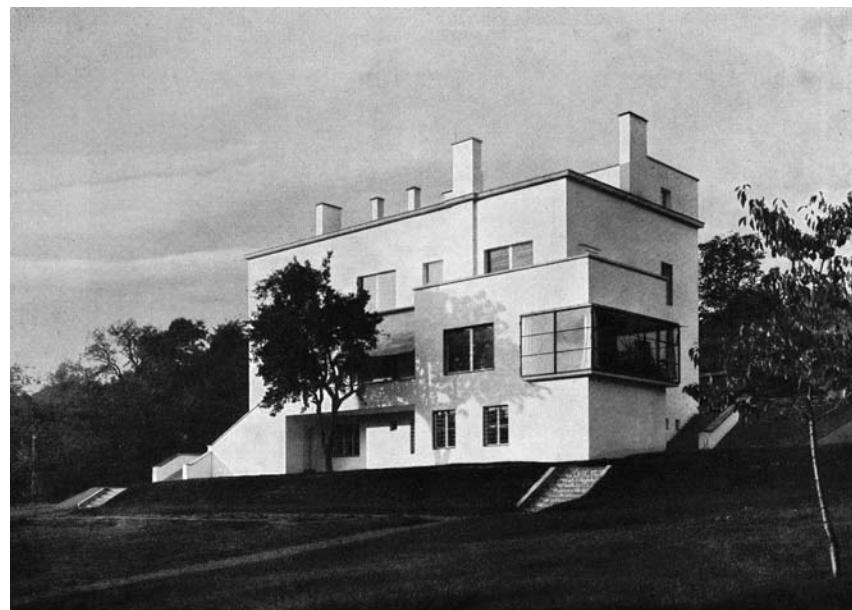
1925 - 26 Villa Stein



1928 - 30 Villa Haas



1924 - 26 Villa Münz



Ernst Wiesner (1890-1971), a graduate from the elite class led by Friedrich Ohmann at the Vienna Academy and an admirer of Adolf Loos, set up his own atelier in Brno after World War I and, through his work, originally developed the spirit of modern traditionalism. In March 1939 Wiesner managed to emigrate to England where he became a close co-worker of the exile government and later taught at architecture schools in Oxford and Liverpool. In 1969 he was granted a degree honoris causa by Masaryk University in Brno. He built a number of villas situated on a sloped terrain in the Pisárky district of Brno. These stand as proof of his authentic talent.



1924 - 26 Villa Münz



1934 Villa Weigl

Ernst Wiesner

public buildings and crematorium

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1935 - 37 Moravian Life Insurance Company building



1925 - 27 Café Esplanade



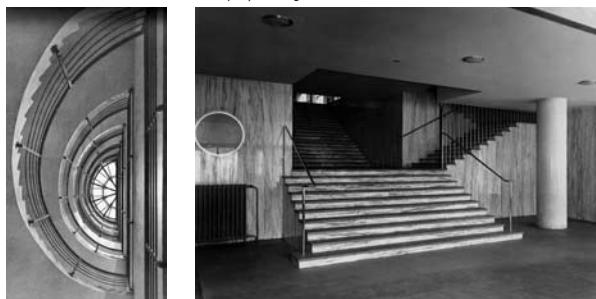
1925 - 27 Café Esplanade



1936 Morava Palace



1921 - 22 Moravian Life Insurance Company building



1936 Morava Palace

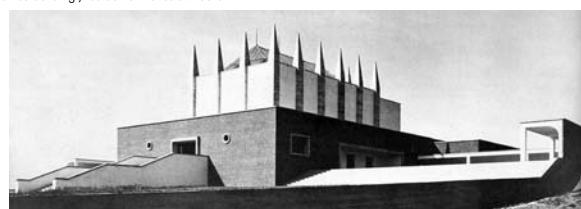
1926 - 29 Moravian Bank office building / co-author Bohuslav Fuchs



1926 - 29 Moravian Bank office building / co-author Bohuslav Fuchs



1925 - 30 Crematorium



In the 1920s and 1930s, **Ernst Wiesner** adorned Brno with several public buildings that mirrored his path from modern classicism to a metropolitan approach inspired by Italian rationalism. Among them the building of the Moravian Bank stands out, designed together with Bohuslav Fuchs and showing the indisputable creative contribution of these two leading representatives of the community of Jewish and Czech architects. Wiesner's work culminated in the crematorium, following a narrower competition involving the architects Pavel Janák and Vladimír Škára. The floor plan was inspired by the design of the Vienna crematorium by Clemens Holzmeister; however, through his individualistic interpretation of a Mesopotamian ziggurat, Wiesner created a new, powerful dominant feature of the southern foreland of the city in a laconic artistic expression.

Bohuslav Fuchs

a leading architect of the Czech community

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1928 - 30 Masaryk student dormitories



1928 - 30 Masaryk student dormitories



1928 - 30 Masaryk student dormitories



1930 Eliska Machová's home



1932 University library competition proposal



1924 - 25 Café Zeman



1929 - 31 swimming pool



1929 - 31 swimming pool



1927 public baths

Bohuslav Fuchs (1895 - 1972) came to Brno at the invitation of city architect Jindřich Kumpošt in March 1923 and he soon became a leading personage in both land-planning and architecture. The artist, called "the man of deeds" by poet Jakub Deml, formed the shape of the city in the role of city architect (1925 - 1929), the author of many contest-winning land-use designs and many public buildings for the city (schools, dormitories and baths) and for private clients. After the war, as professor at the school of architecture (1945 - 1959), Wiesner influenced the education of the next generation of architects. It was only at the end of his life, at the time of the Prague Spring, that Wiesner was awarded the Herder Prize in Vienna and the title National Artist at home.

Bohuslav Fuchs

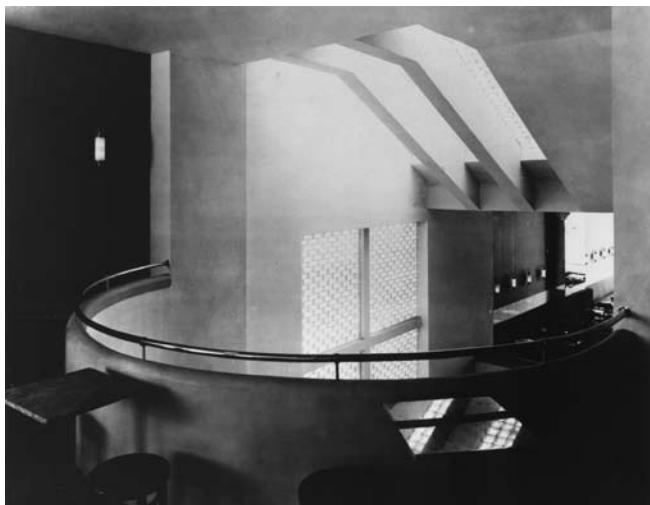
hotel Avion



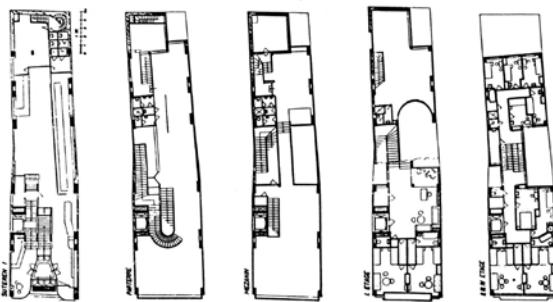
1926 - 27 Hotel Avion



1926 - 27 Hotel Avion



1926 - 27 Hotel Avion



1926 - 27 Hotel Avion



1927 - 28 architect's own house



1927 - 28 architect's own house

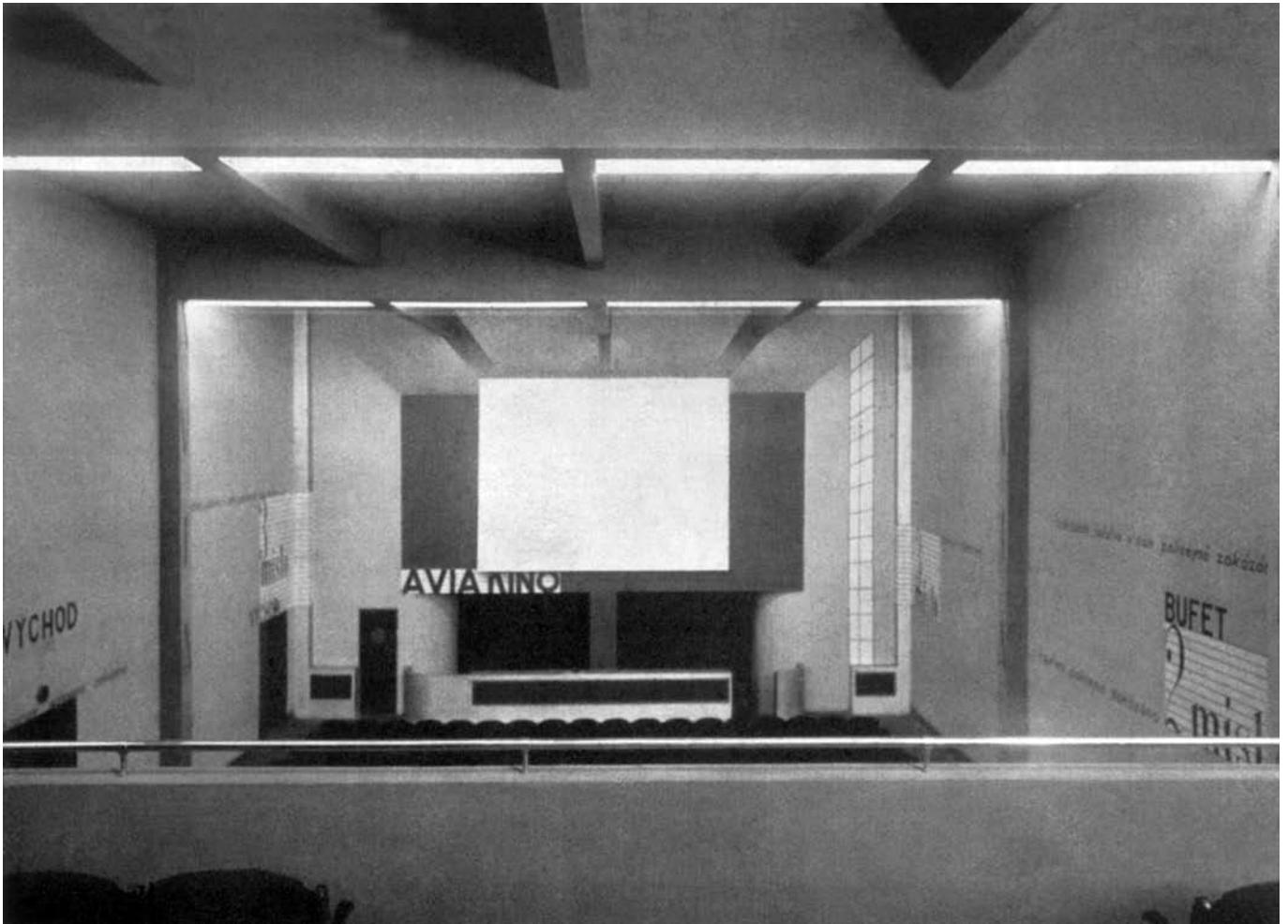


1926 - 27 Hotel Avion

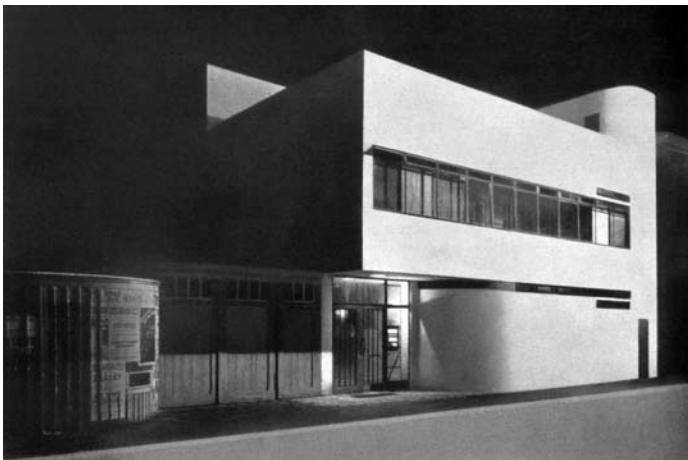
One of the most interesting creations of the architect, in which he interpreted Loos' long-existing idea of "arrangement of interior space" (Raumplan), was the hotel on a narrow (8.35 m) and deep (34 m) plot of land in the centre of the city. On this site, **Bohuslav Fuchs** created a grand-scale continual social area - a café with a look-through from galleries across all floors to the very entrance, ingeniously lit through walls of glass blocks and an illusive effect of mirror surfaces. In his own home he reflected Le Corbusier's idea of a two-floor residential space with a peripheral gallery (library) and spiral staircase.

Josef Kranz

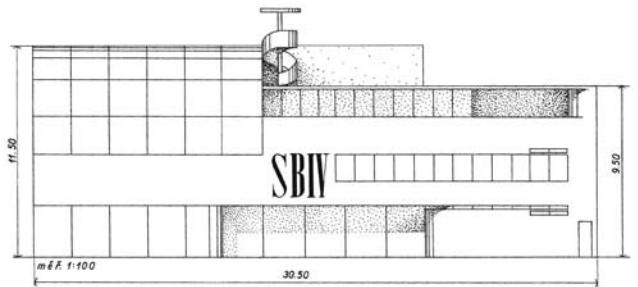
a talent from the Czech School of Architecture in Brno



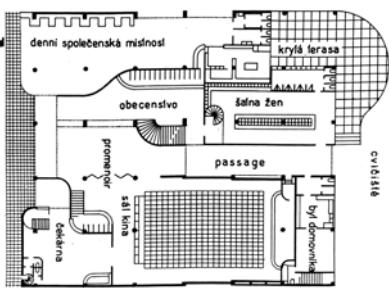
1927 - 29 Avia Cinema



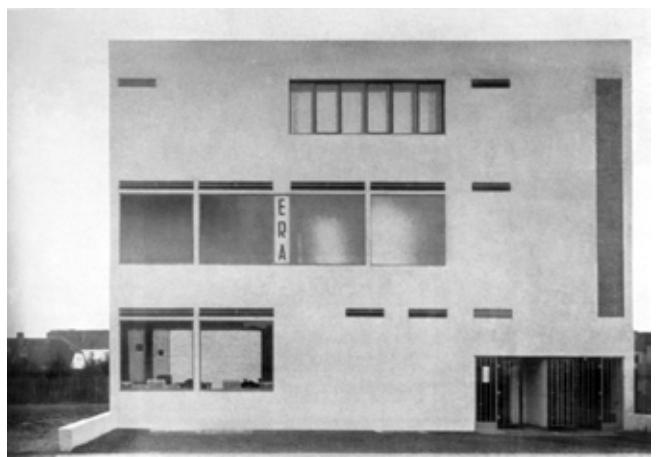
1927 - 29 Avia Cinema



1927 Avia Cinema / first design



1927 - 29 Avia Cinema



1927 - 29 Café Era



1930 - 31 villa Slavik



1927 - 29 Café Era

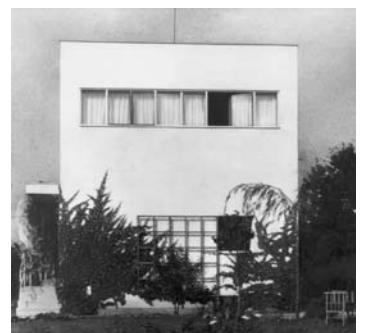


1927 - 29 Café Era

Josef Kranz (Brno 1901 - Znojmo 1968) was the first graduate from the newly founded Czech School of Architecture in Brno who attracted attention. Equipped with experience gained in working with Professor Jiří Kroha and Bohuslav Fuchs and inspired by the painter Josef Šíma, he developed a subtle poetic and emotional architectonic expression already in his first public buildings – the café ERA and the AVIA cinema. In addition to this, he built several charming villas and, after the war, a telecommunications centre. After visiting the Villa Tugendhat, Philip Johnson included the café ERA in the first International Style exhibition at the Museum of Modern Art in New York in 1932.



1935 - 36 family house



1933 - 35 architect's own house

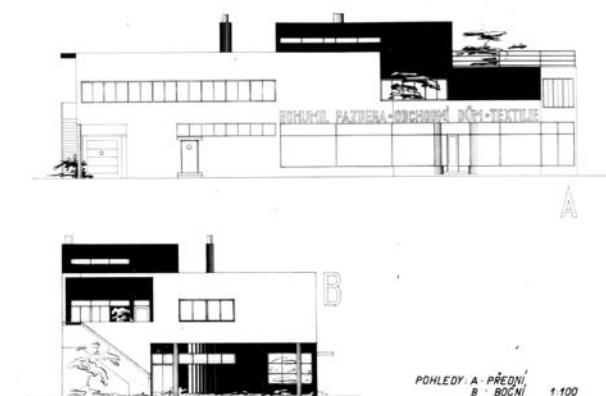
Bedřich Rozehnal

a talent from the Czech School of Architecture in Brno



1930 - 31 Pazdera private house with a shop

NÁVRH DOMU S PROVOZOVNOU P. BOHUMILA PAZDERY V TUŘANECH NA PARC.ČÍS. 77,78,79.



1930 - 31 Pazdera private house with a shop



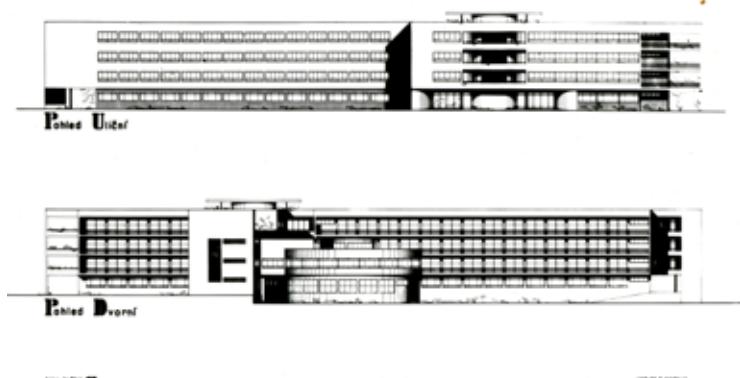
1931 - 35 House of Comfort - oncology hospital



1947 - 53 children's hospital in Brno

Bedřich Rozehnal (Střebětín 1902 - Brno 1984) was the first graduate from the Czech School of Architecture in Brno who also became a professor at this school in 1945. After building the first specialised institution for radiation therapy in Brno in the first half of the 1930s, he concentrated on hospitals and built most of the modern hospitals in Moravia in the period 1935-1953, imprinting in them the signs of Corbusian architecture. Through his work he was building a bridge spanning the interwar and post-war modernism, which made him (before he was persecuted by the communist regime in the 1950s) the most influential teacher of the post-war era. The children's hospital in Brno was among the few examples of architecture from the communist part of Europe that received publicity in the West.

BRNO - ZEMSKÁ PORODNICE - MĚR: 1:200



1937 provincial maternity hospital design



1932 city of Brno official building competition



1931 - 35 House of Comfort interior



1947 - 53 children's hospital in Brno entrance hall



1947 - 53 children's hospital in Brno

Jewish architects of Brno

Alfred Neumann, Zikmund Kerekes, Zoltán Egri

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Zikmund Kerekes / 1932 villa Baas



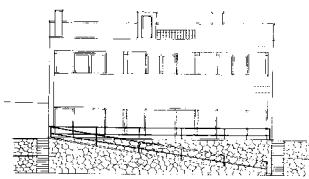
Zoltán Egri / 1937 shop window Freund



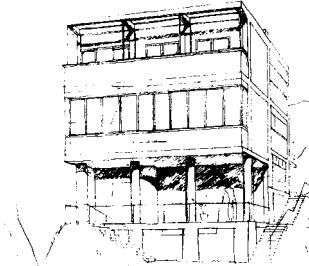
Zoltán Egri / 1937 shop window Freund



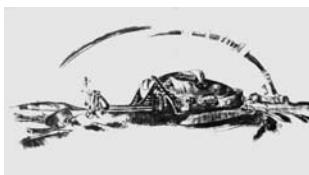
Zikmund Kerekes / 1932 apartment house



Alfred Neumann / 1933 design of a vila in Brno



Alfred Neumann / 1937 design of a vila in Brno



Alfred Neumann / 1925 school of P. Behrens drawing



Alfred Neumann / 1924 Brno Exhibition centre



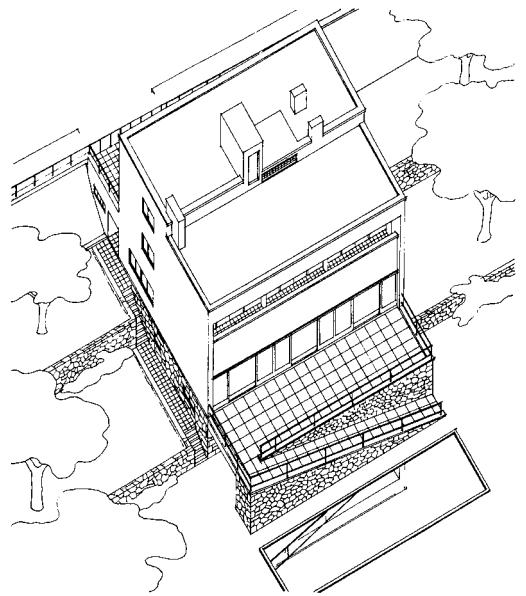
Alfred Neumann / 1940 identity card



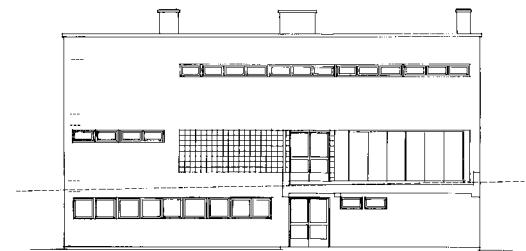
Alfred Neumann / 1945 essenkarte from Terezin



Alfred Neumann / 1945 drawing from Terezin



Alfred Neumann / 1933 design of a vila in Brno



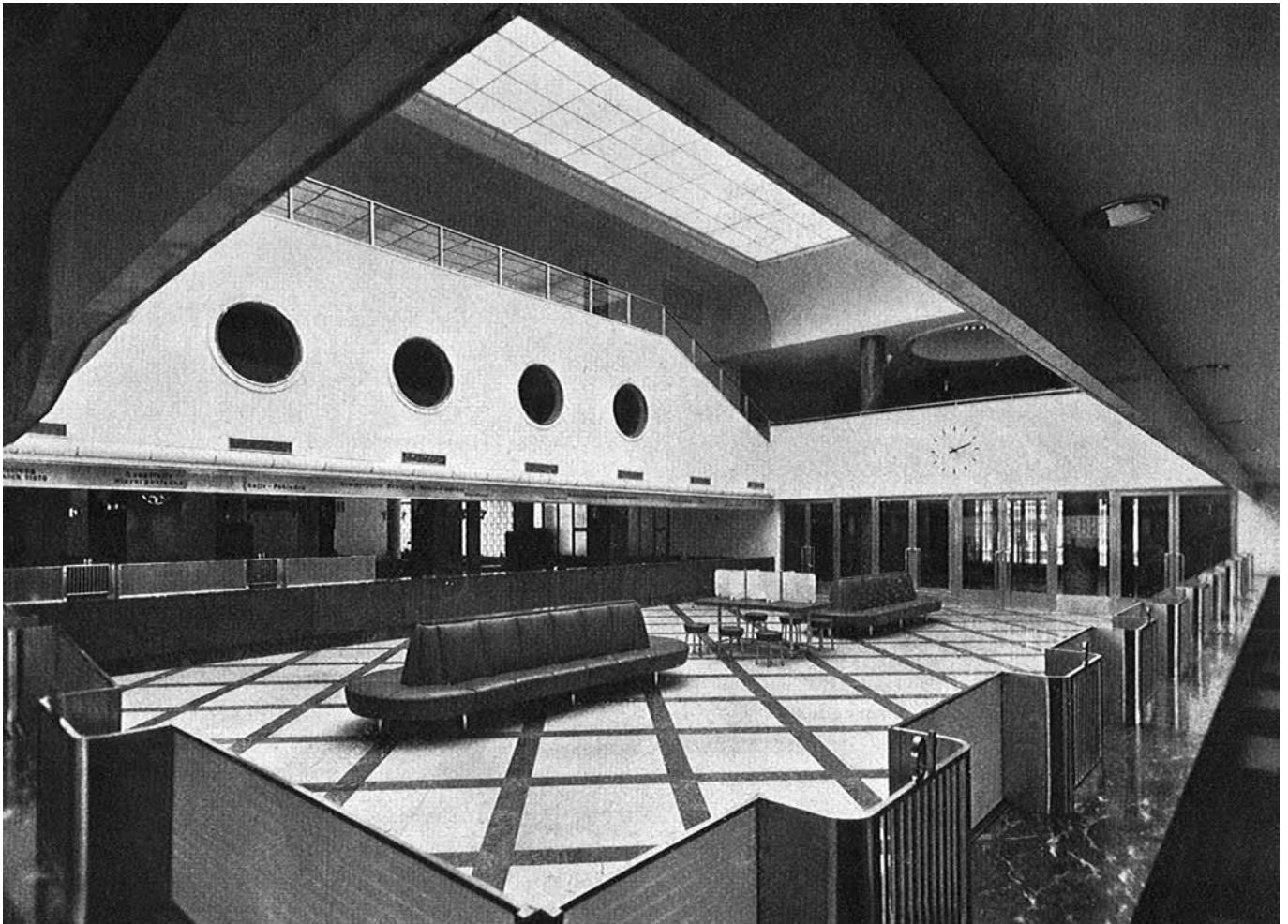
Alfred Neumann (Vienna 1900 - Quebec City 1968) studied at the civil engineering college and the German Technical University in Brno before transferring to the elite class led by Peter Behrens at the academy in Vienna. From there he went to Auguste Perret's "atelier du bois" in Paris and later to Berlin, Algiers and Cape Town before he returned to Brno in the second half of the 1930s. After the war, during which he was transported to and survived in Terezin, he became co-author of the Czechoslovak presentation at the 6th congress of CIAM in Bridgewater in 1947 and subsequently - together with Bohuslav Fuchs and Emanuel Hruška - the exhibition of regional planning of Moravia in 1948. In 1949 he resettled in Israel, became the dean of the Technion in Haifa and dean in Quebec City in the 1960s. In Paris in 1955 he published a study on proportions, *L'humanisation de l'espace*.

Zikmund Kerekes (Budapest 1897 - Haifa ?) graduated from the German Technical University in Brno, and received internship training at the offices of Jindřich Kumpošt and Ernst Wiesner. Kerekes together with Heinrich Blum built a residential block with social apartments in Merhautova Street and later, already independently, a number of residential buildings and two villas. Before the onset of Nazism, he allegedly fled via Hungary to Palestine and worked there under the name of Hiram Asher.

Zoltán Egri (Eger, Hungary 1894-?) and Felix Steiner (Brno 1899-?) graduated from the German Technical University in Brno and designed a number of elegant commercial premises in the interwar period. All traces of them were lost at the time of the German occupation.

Jewish architects of Brno

Heinrich Blum, Norbert Troller and Endré Steiner



Heinrich Blum / 1936 - 38 First Moravian Savings Bank / office and apartment building (together with Josef Polášek and Otakar Oplátek)



Heinrich Blum / 1936 - 38 First Moravian Savings Bank



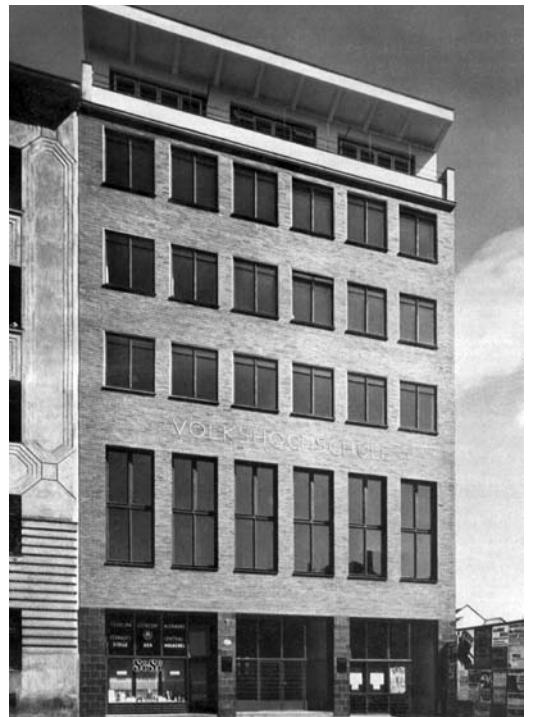
Heinrich Blum - Zikmund Kerekes / 1932 apartment block



Norbert Troller / 1947 Vichr department store



Endré Steiner / 1936 apartment house



Heinrich Blum / 1931 school building



Heinrich Blum / 1932 villa Wittal

Heinrich Blum (Soběšice 1894 - Lublin 1942) was one of the prominent Brno architects of the interwar period. He graduated from the German Technical University in Brno, occupied himself with the development of the trade fair centre and Kraví hora, took part in the competition for Hotel Stiasny and was member of the working committee for the 1933 Building Industry and Housing Exhibition. He designed and built a number of villas, residential buildings, the Masaryk Folk School, and his work culminated in the First Moravian Savings Bank (together with Josef Polášek and Otakar Oplátek), which was completed at the beginning of the Nazi occupation and Blum's co-authorship could not be mentioned. He perished in a concentration camp.

Norbert Troller (Brno 1896 - New York 1984) graduated from the German Technical University in Brno and designed a number of commercial public interiors in interwar Brno. After surviving the Holocaust in Auschwitz, he returned home via Krakow and built the Vichr department store (1947). Then he emigrated to New York and built a number of synagogues and Jewish centres across the United States.

Endré Steiner (Dunaszerdahely 1908 - Atlanta 2008) graduated from the German Technical University in Brno and, after working with the office of Ernst Wiesner, set up his own atelier in 1934 and built a number of luxurious homes for the middle class in Brno. At the same time he worked as an editor at FORUM, an architecture magazine in Bratislava. In 1939 he managed to escape to Slovakia where he helped in the so-called Workgroup against Deportations and Genocide of the Jews. In 1948 he emigrated to Cuba and worked for a US design office; at that time he designed villas for the President and Foreign Minister of Cuba. In 1950 Steiner left for the USA and settled in Atlanta where he designed projects and taught at the university. In 2004 he was granted a degree honoris causa by Masaryk University in Brno.

Otto Eisler

home and garden



1932 apartment house



1930 architect's own house / garden façade



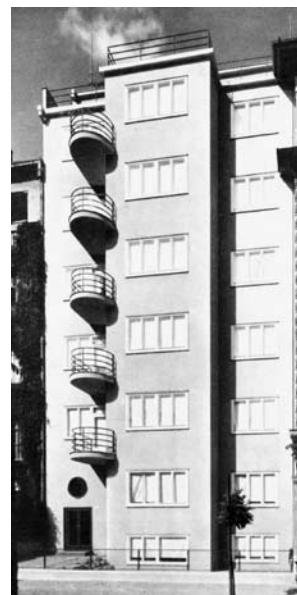
1936 apartment house



1934 Hartmann / tailor's shop window



1929 apartment house



1935 apartment house



1934 Jewish house of prayer

The work of **Otto Eisler** (Bystřice nad Pernštejnem 1893 - Brno 1968) was tied to the building and timbering activities of his brothers Arthur, Moritz and Hugo. Eislers' enterprises implemented, amongst other things, many construction projects designed by Ernst Wiesner, the AVION Hotel by Bohuslav Fuchs and the Villa Tugendhat. Thanks to this background, he mostly designed buildings that were subsequently implemented by the family firms. Otto Eisler graduated from the German Technical University in Brno but practiced his profession also in Vienna, where he met Heinrich Tessenow and Adolf Loos, and in Weimar where he most likely worked as an assistant at the office of Walter Gropius. Eisler's architecture is characterised by an unpretentious elegance achieved through very few means of expression. Examples include the harmonically balanced symmetrical fronts of the residential buildings in Údolní Street and Kamenný mlýn. In contrast, his own house which he shared with his brother Moritz, illustrates a play between symmetry on the bedroom floor and asymmetry of the large windows in the residential room opening into the charming garden scenery which he also designed. He designed gardens for some of the villas by Ernst Wiesner and gardens for the hospitals designed by Bedřich Rozehnal. Eisler survived incarceration at Špilberk in Brno, a labour camp in Norway, and imprisonment in Wrocław, Auschwitz and Buchenwald. After 1948, rather than entering the state architectonic office Stavoprojekt, he preferred work in the botanical garden and contributed to the building of Brno ZOO. His major international contacts contributed to the publicity of his projects – he was presented inter alia at the first International Style exhibition at the Museum of Modern Art in New York in 1932.

Ludwig Mies van der Rohe

villa Tugendhat

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1930 main space



macassar wall / dining area



onyx wall / seating area



onyx wall



working area



main entrance / stairway to the main space



Tugendhat chair



February 1931 Mies van der Rohe in the villa Tugendhat

The built-in furniture was made by Jan Vanek's Standardní bytová společnost (Standard Apartment Company). The house was confiscated by the Gestapo during World War II and is thought to have served for the designers of the military production of Messerschmitt; it was devastated by Soviet cavalry in the spring of 1945. Later it served as a school of rhythm and a home for handicapped children. The first restoration took place in the years 1980-1985, following which the house was used as the Mayor's representative premises. In the summer of 1992, Prime Ministers Václav Klaus and Vladimír Mečiar agreed on the division of Czechoslovakia into two independent states at the Villa Tugendhat. In 1994 the Villa was transferred under the administration of Brno City Museum which opened it to the public. A general restoration under international supervision was held in the years 2010-2012 and the Villa was reopened to the public on February 29, 2012. The Villa Tugendhat was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2002.

Ludwig Mies van der Rohe

villa Tugendhat



1930 south façade



garden stairway



south façade



main entrance door



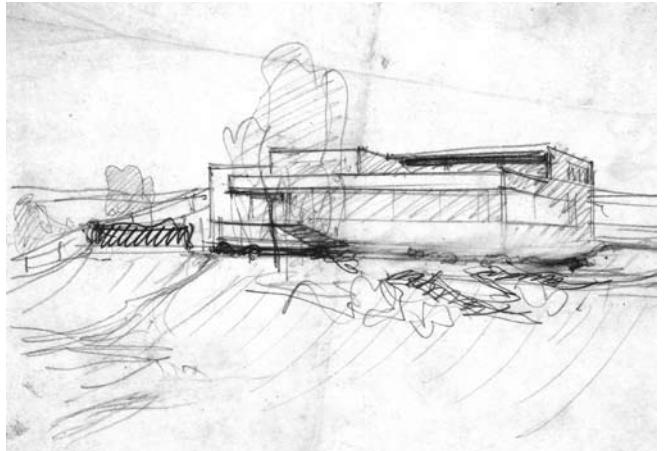
street façade



terrace



entrance area



1929 Mies van der Rohe: study drawing

villa Tugendhat 1929 - 30 Next to the German Pavilion in Barcelona, the Villa Tugendhat is the most important work by Mies van der Rohe during his "Berlin" period. The Villa was built for textile industrialists and art lovers Fritz and Margaret Tugendhat. The house, situated on sloping terrain, is a steel-framed building with cross-shaped pillars. The upper ground floor incorporates the private bedrooms of the family divided into a section for the parents and one for the children and an entrance foyer with a staircase leading to the lower residential floor. The social floor includes a residential lounge with kitchen and technical premises. The residential spaces of the lounge are optically divided by an onyx wall which reflected a nude sculpture by Wilhelm Lehmbruck, while the dining section ends with a semicircular wall of macassar ebony. The house is connected with the garden via a large-scale open staircase. The house is equipped with the most up-to-date technology of the time - hot air heating and cooling, two large electrically retracted windows and a photocell at the entrance.

Ernst Wiesner

villa Stiassni

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1931 south façade



1931 gardener's house



1931 sala terrena



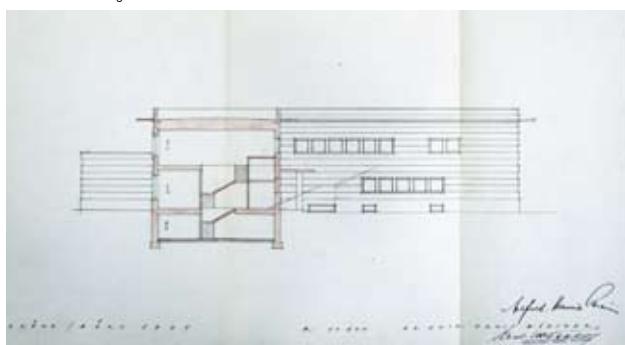
1931 south façade



1931 view from the garden



1931 room of Susanne Stiassni

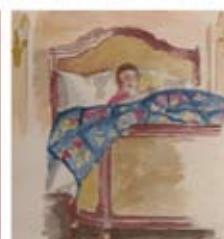


1929 project

Villa Stiassni The largest and most luxurious villa by Ernst Wiesner, built on the slopes of the Brno West End in a beautiful park garden for Jewish textile industrialist Alfred Stiassni and his wife Hermine. While the exterior is designed in the spirit of moderate modern traditionalism, the interiors were completed in conservative historicising style by Viennese architect Franz Willfert. President Edvard Beneš stayed here shortly after the war before his return to Prague; later, until the Velvet Revolution, the Villa served as the government's residence for accommodating prominent guests, and after the revolution for prominent visitors to the Brno international fairs.



1919 Alfred Stiassni



1919 Hermine Stiassni

1936 original watercolors depicting the charm of a private life by Hermine Stiassni

villa Stiassni and COPA

Centre for the Restoration of 20th Century Architectural Heritage

typo atelier



On July 1, 2009, the premises of the Villa Stiassni were transferred into the ownership of the National Heritage Institute and it has been proposed that the buildings and garden could be completely restored and extended with a new lecture building that would accommodate up to 100 people, as well as that a Centre for the Restoration of 20th Century Architectural Heritage or COPA could be set up as a methodological centre for the research and documentation of interwar functionalist architecture for Brno, the Czech Republic and other countries.

The context is very favourable for the Centre – a large number of buildings of Brno functionalism – residential villas and the unique complex of the Brno Trade Fair Centre, are situated in its close vicinity.

The city of Brno with its six universities and higher-education institutions, about 80 thousand students, the Masaryk University Campus, CEITEC Technology Institute, FNUSA-ICRC International Clinical Research Centre liaising with the US Mayo Clinic, and many other science and research activities and cultural policies and concepts, provides an excellent background for the Centre for the Restoration of 20th Century Architectural Heritage.

The Centre for the Restoration of 20th Century Architectural Heritage will commence its operation on January 1, 2014. The premises will serve for study and scientific purposes, prepare teaching and consultancy programmes and methodologies for the restoration of modern architectural heritage with a focus on buildings and gardens; specialised colloquiums will be organised in the new lecture building. Another task of the Centre will be to build a database of original structural, artisan and industrial products that will be prioritised over visual replicas. Thus, a European-level worksite will gradually emerge, unique in its methodological, teaching and practice-oriented activities. The exhibition can be seen as one of the first prominent events presenting Brno architecture of the early 20th century and the COPA Centre which aspires to orient its work, as did Bauhaus, on an avant-garde approach to the teaching and presentation of architecture, design and art. The exhibition also presents the basic fund of the COPA Centre which will give rise to the initial themes and instigations for methodologies and teaching programmes.

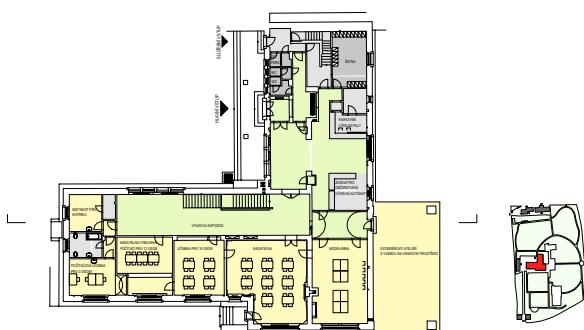
The Centre for the Restoration of 20th Century Architectural Heritage will actively co-operate with the professional chambers of architects, engineers and technicians in the construction industry, higher-education institutions and specialised institutions, the state administration in the area of heritage conservation and with foreign partners.

Professor Vladimír Šlapeta, Dean Emeritus of the Faculty of Architecture of the Brno University of Technology, lent his unique private library with about 8 thousand volumes relating to domestic and foreign 20th century architecture for the teaching and research purposes of the Centre for the Restoration of 20th Century Architectural Heritage.

Established in 1919 as part of the Czech Technical University, the Faculty of Architecture of the Brno University of Technology is a partner of the Centre for the Restoration of 20th Century Architectural Heritage.

The Brno University of Technology was established in 1899; the German Technical University existed in Brno from 1873.

The Faculty of Architecture has a long tradition with excellent interwar professors Emil Králík, Jiří Kroha and Jaroslav Syříš, followed by Bohuslav Fuchs, Bedřich Rozehnal and Jaromír Krejcar after World War II, their disciple and co-worker Ivan Ruller after the Velvet Revolution in 1989. Their work is followed up by today's generation led by Professor Šlapeta and Professor Pelčák. Today the faculty, seated in the building where world famous composer Leoš Janáček (1854-1928) once taught, has 600 students and 90 doctoral students.



LEGENDA:
 VSTUPNÍ PRÍSTAVBY VÝCHOZÍ EPISODA
 EDUKAČNÍ ČINNOST
 ZÁEMÍ/WC
 CHODBY
 PRÍZEMÍ
 Centrum obnovy památek architektury 20. století
 Národní metodické centrum - vila Stiassni - koncepční studie využití

Jiří Kroha

the initiator of a new theory and sociology of housing



1936 villa Patočka



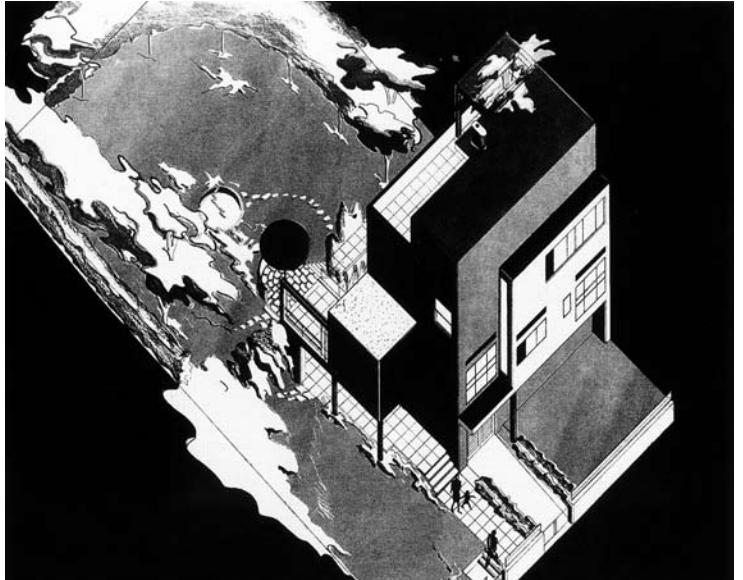
1936 villa Patočka



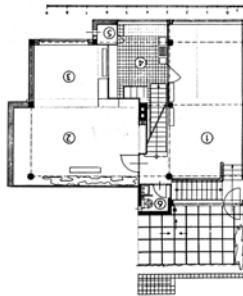
1928 - 29 architect's own house / street façade



1931 University of Technology proposal



1928 - 29 architect's own house

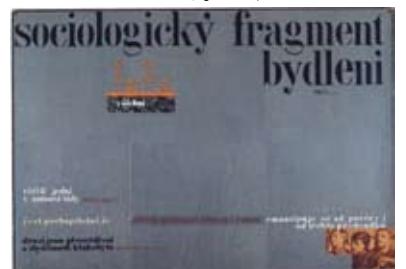


1928 - 29 architect's own house / floorplan



1928 - 29 architect's own house / garden façade

Jiří Kroha (1893-1974) brought the methods of scientific analysis into the teaching of architecture and especially housing; he used these to examine in detail the biological, psychological and social aspects of human life. These studies culminated in the exhibition "Sociological Fragment of Housing" installed in 1933 in Brno and a year later in Prague, and later still in the "economic fragment" and "humanistic fragment" of housing in which he used his analyses to seek new forms of social housing. He built a villa for himself in the city in the interwar period, with residual reminiscences of his "early cubo-futurist days", and a villa for leather trader Josef Patočka, which is charmingly situated against a southern slope above the Pisárky valley.



1932 - 33 "Sociological Fragment of Housing"

Trade Fair Centre 1928

New House exhibition



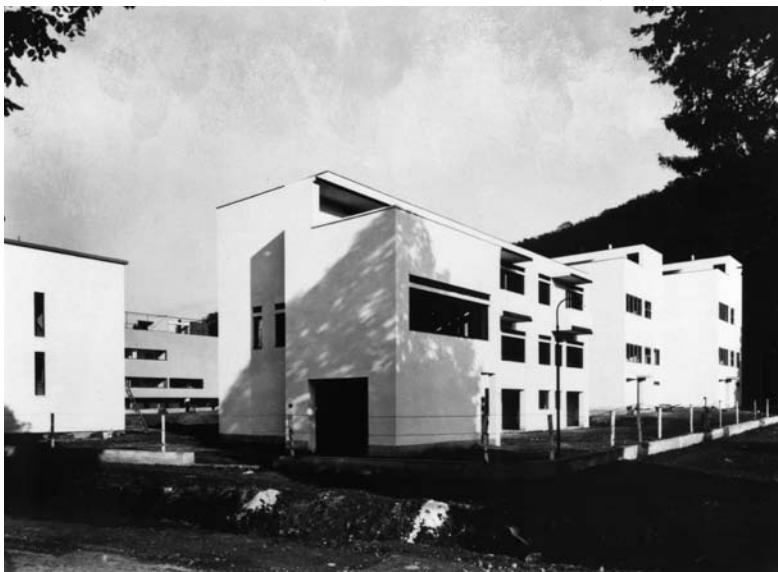
Exhibition of Contemporary Culture general view



Jaroslav Valenta / Jaroslav Kalous Palace of industry and trade



Bohuslav Fuchs City of Brno pavilion

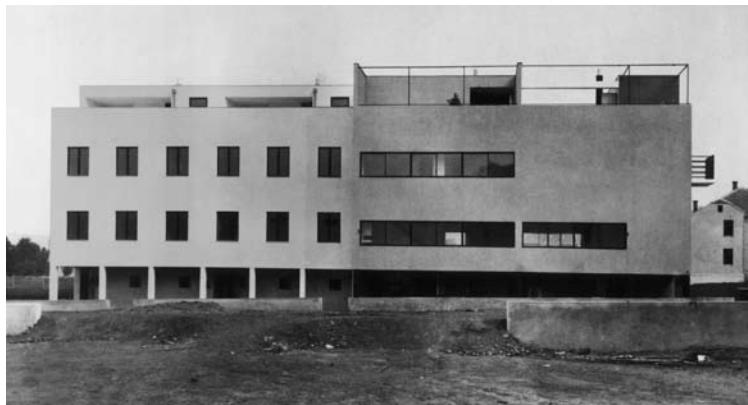


New House exhibition general view



New House exhibition three houses designed by Bohuslav Fuchs

The winning design in a competition participated in by 31 architects was that by Josef Kalous from Prague who proposed a centrally situated pavilion of industry and trade with a parabolic frame, while Emil Králík was the author of the final land-use plan. Two main axes open up from the circular segment of the entrance building. The pavilions of the city of Brno, the land of Moravia and the city of Prague were located along one of them and the pavilions of the Academy of Arts, the School of Applied Arts and the exhibition theatre along the other and the latter axis ended with the exhibition tower by Bohumír F.A. Čermák, a detail of which was used by Bruno Taut on the frontispiece of the book "Die neue Baukunst in Europa und Amerika" or "The New Art of Building in Europe and America" (1929). The large-scale premises were opened by the Exhibition of Contemporary Culture in May 1928 and became the greatest manifestation of constructivism of the 1920s in Czechoslovakia. Together with the Exhibition of Contemporary Culture opening the trade fair centre, the Czechoslovak Werkbund (Work Union) organised the "New House" exhibition below the Wilson Forest, presenting 16 private houses by 9 architects, which drew inspiration from Die Wohnung exhibition in Stuttgart.



New House exhibition houses designed by J. Višek, M. Putna and H.Foljýn

Jan Višek

a pure functionalist



1931 - 35 Šilhan's obstetric sanatorium



1931 - 35 Šilhan's obstetric sanatorium



1931 - 35 Šilhan's obstetric sanatorium



1931 - 35 Šilhan's obstetric sanatorium



1938 Kolbaba Café

Jan Višek (1890 - 1966) was an architect of pure, logical and genuine functionalism. His architectonic concepts built on the rational, constructive and operational nature of the tasks involved. His work during the interwar period in Brno gradually matured from several unpretentious and yet large-scale residential buildings to the Hus Congregation of the Czechoslovak Church and Šilhan's obstetric sanatorium which he built in two stages (1931 - 32 and 1934 - 35). The flat for the family of the sanatorium owner is proof of Višek's ingenious approach to layout and space and an original reflection of Loos' Raumplan. After winning the two-round competition for the National Theatre in 1936 - 37, Višek dedicated all his energy to its implementation which finally took place in spite of major compromises due to the difficulties of the post-war period.



1928 - 29 Hus Congregation of the Czechoslovak Church



Integrated Operational Programme

we are bringing monuments back to life

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The villa Tugendhat

The main objective of the project is to develop and modernise the Study and Documentation Centre at the Villa Tugendhat, the task of which will be to gather documents on the building, its architect and the building owners and to make them accessible to the professional public. The Centre will also concentrate on a study of the broader historic context with emphasis on Brno's architecture from the early 20th century to the present day and the work of the architect Ludwig Mies van der Rohe.

Amount of subsidy: **EUR 6,054,323**

The objective of the programme consists in the restoration and use of heritage buildings and sites listed among UNESCO World Heritage Sites and candidates for such listing or buildings and sites kept in the Central List of Cultural Heritage in the Czech Republic. It also supports projects aimed at the restoration and use of thematic cultural heritage sites, revival and bringing heritage back into the life of society.

The Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic is the Intermediate Body for the Integrated Operational Programme.

Approx. EUR 270,945,250 is allocated for this purpose under the Integrated Operational Programme. The European Union contributes 85% of this amount and 15% is allocated from the budget of the Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic.



Centre for the Restoration of 20th Century Architectural Heritage

The objective of the project is to form a National Methodological Centre for the Restoration of 20th Century Architectural Heritage concentrating on the period from the 1920s to the 1940s and an overall restoration of the premises of the Villa Stiassni, which is a prominent monument of 20th century modernist architecture with significance for Brno and the entire Czech Republic.

Amount of subsidy: **EUR 6,951,259**



National Theatre and Dance Centre

The main objective of the project is to build a centre with nationwide activities which will provide technology resources and consultancy aid to creative artists in the areas of modern theatre and dance and their modern approach to historic performances in the process of dissemination of the products of these creative efforts and related services in the area of lifelong learning. The project aims at supplementing infrastructure for cultural services with a higher added value using the existing premises of Valtice State Chateau.

Amount of subsidy: **EUR 10,382,291**



Centre of Architectural Heritage in Plasy

The objective of the project is to set up a national institution aimed at obtaining and preserving knowledge about historic architecture, particularly by activating two under-utilised authentic historic buildings and monuments in the premises of the Plasy National Cultural Monument. The implementation of the project will rescue a devastated Romanesque-Baroque farmstead and provide a meaningful utilisation for a former brewery with a Baroque mill.

Amount of subsidy: **EUR 15,595,144**



Centre of the Art of Glassmaking at František Glassworks in Sázava

The objective of the project is to build a centre of the contemporary art of glassmaking which will provide creative glass artists from throughout the Czech Republic with the premises and equipment they need to create their works of art and offer inspiration and a source of knowledge about glassmaking techniques and procedures in the form of an exhibition showing the contemporary art of glassmaking.

Amount of subsidy: **EUR 5,293,649**



Revitalisation of the Chateau Hillock in Litomyšl

The idea of the project is to revive the Chateau premises on the "Mount of Olives" that were listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1999. The objective is to fully integrate the valuable site into the organism of the town and region and to use it as a supra-regional centre of culture, education and social life.

Amount of subsidy: **EUR 15,209,248**



Exemplary Restoration of the Teplá Premonstratensian Monastery National Cultural Monument

Exemplary restoration of selected parts of the Teplá monastery and sensitive utilisation of the monument as a modern venue for non-profit culture and educational activities. The future programme content, focusing on active utilisation of the monastery, has the aim of strengthening the relationship of children, youth and the broader public to cultural heritage.

Amount of subsidy: **EUR 18,871,485**



National Centre of Garden Culture in Kroměříž

The project is aimed at creating a national methodological centre for garden culture as part of cultural heritage. The main idea of the project is to promote the agenda of garden culture and man's relationship to nature in general. It will be fulfilled through establishing a professional and educational centre and carrying out an exemplary restoration and subsequent care for the Květná and Podzámecká gardens in Kroměříž.

Amount of subsidy: **EUR 12,973,480**



Kuks - Pomegranate

The project aims at an exemplary restoration and revival of the presently unused and, to a considerable degree, dilapidated parts of the Baroque premises at the Kuks Hospital. The objective of the project is to develop new activities in the restored premises that will be linked to the original utilisation of the hospital and reflect the fact that it is a unique monument of European importance.

Amount of subsidy: **EUR 17,231,090**



Opening and New Utilization of the Vitkovice National Cultural Monument

The objective of the project is to re-activate the key buildings and sets of technology included in the national cultural monument "Hlubina Mine and Vitkovice Ironworks Coke Plant and Blast Furnaces". These will be transformed into an industrial park with a unique technical education potential, including the building of the background required for opening these premises to the public and other utilisations.

Amount of subsidy: **EUR 19,856,910**



Revitalisation of the Monastery Complex in Český Krumlov

The primary objective is to revitalise the complex in order to provide culture and education services to various groups of the general and professional public as an exemplary project of restoration and utilisation of similar important monuments. The secondary objective is to make the historic core of the city more attractive for its inhabitants and the whole city for visitors and investors.

Amount of subsidy: **EUR 12,656,605**



Terezín - Project of Revival of Historic Monuments

The project is aimed at exemplary heritage restoration of endangered buildings. The newly restored premises will be used for a permanent exhibition that will include the history of life of the inhabitants of the fortress town, historic exhibits, documentation of building techniques and fortress architecture. It will also present demonstrations of crafts and elements of military training. Thus, selected premises of the fortress town of Terezín will take on a new function.

Amount of subsidy: **EUR 19,551,166**



Revitalisation of the Jewish Monuments in the Czech Republic

The main objective of the project is to set up a co-ordinated, professionally and methodologically managed permanent presentation of Jewish culture as a unique and thematically coherent set of this specific cultural heritage of the Czech Republic. This network project is to be implemented in Ústí nad Labem, Plzeň, Břežnice, Nová Cerekev, Polná, Boskovice, Mikulov and Křmlov.

Amount of subsidy: **EUR 10,992,528**



Schola Naturalis Project of Revitalisation of Veltrusy Chateau and Centre of the European Landscape Convention

An education centre concentrating on the cultural landscape will be located in one of the largest chateau complexes in the country. University students will be taught here, but the centre will also offer specialised teaching programmes for primary and secondary schools and education activities provided by non-governmental non-profit organisations. Thus, in addition to their existing roles, the chateau and the natural landscape park will be given a completely new utilisation, which will bring young people in particular into the area. The teaching will follow on from the original functions of the premises as a place where the nobility lived and carried out its economic activities.

Amount of subsidy: **EUR 9,104,708**



National Museum of Photography and Tapestry Workshop - Centre of Original Crafts and Unique Technologies

The objective of the project, which will strongly influence the appearance of the centre of the municipal monument reserve in Jindřichův Hradec, is to revive and utilise monuments to provide cultural and educational services to the public. The centre of original crafts and unique technologies will present traditional crafts that are slowly fading into oblivion, including manual weaving of tapestry and unique photographic techniques. At the same time, the exhibits of the Museum of the Jindřichův Hradec Region relating to traditional crafts and photographic techniques will be revived and extended. The main objective is to utilise the restored building of the chateau brewery for the activities of the "House of Tapestries, Cultural Traditions and Crafts, beneficiary society".

Amount of subsidy: **EUR 5,885,217**



Velehrad - Centre of Cultural Dialogue between Western and Eastern Europe

The project is aimed at restoration of the national cultural monument that stands as a reminder of the mission of Saints Cyril and Methodius, the founders of our literature and national culture. The project includes restoration of the existing buildings (the Cyrilka chapel, partial restoration of the basilica, Lapidarium, Baroque rectory, granary and stable), as well as addition of the facilities still missing that are necessary for the development of this significant place.

Amount of subsidy: **EUR 12,961,425**



Chateau Riding Hall Multifunctional Centre in Lednice

The main objective of the project is to carry out an exemplary restoration of the Baroque riding halls at Lednice State Chateau and to use them for building a Cultural and Educational Centre focusing on composed cultural landscapes, which will provide education and public culture services. Thanks to its location in the Lednice and Valtice Area with an extraordinary potential for historical and landscape contexts, the restored complex will provide information and education in the landscape professions, and particularly their mutual linkage, to the general and professional public. The programme content of the multifunctional centre will take advantage of the rich variety of terrain examples in the surrounding landscape.

Amount of subsidy: **EUR 19,162,880**

Integrated Operational Programme

revitalisation of Jewish monuments in the Czech republic



Polná synagogue

Petr Franta architects



Boskovice synagogue



Plzeň synagogue

Revitalisation of Jewish monuments in the Czech republic

The period after 1989 has seen a considerable reinvigoration of Jewish communities in the Czech Republic. Mainly due to the interest of the younger generation, a number of institutions and unions are gradually restoring themselves. As of this date, there are 10 Jewish communities in the territory of the Czech Republic, with approx. 1,515 registered members.

There are three Jewish communities in Moravia - in Brno, Olomouc and Ostrava, with 40 Jewish districts, 45 synagogues and 75 Jewish cemeteries still preserved. The Brno Jewish Community is relatively strong as it provides, amongst other things, for the religious needs of its members, the teaching of religion and Hebrew, exhibitions, lectures and tours and, like the other Jewish communities, cares for the real estate entrusted to it and seeks to restore and engage them in current affairs.

It is worth mentioning that centres of Jewish studies are being set up by a number of universities, e.g. in Olomouc and Prague.

The plan carried out and supported under the Integrated Operational Programme seeks to establish a centrally co-ordinated and methodologically managed network of 10 regional centres of Jewish culture comprising important Jewish monuments or complexes in the towns of Ústětk, Jičín, Brandýs nad Labem, Plzeň, Březnice, Nová Cerekev, Polná, Mikulov and Krnov. Selected Jewish monuments in these towns will be restored and appropriately equipped; exhibitions will be set up under the authority of prominent experts, presenting e.g. Jewish writers, scholars, scientists, industrialists, inventors, Jewish schooling, traditions and customs, architecture, the Hilsner Affair, anti-Semitism and Judaism. The centres will also prepare lectures, workshops, exhibitions and concerts.



Jičín synagogue



Nová Cerekev synagogue



Ústětk synagogue



Březnice synagogue

