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# *The Friends of Czech Historic Buildings, Gardens and Parks*

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## PRAGUE CASTLE 'Our Slav Acropolis'

A lecture by  
**Dr Irena Murray-Žantovská**

Sir Banister Fletcher Director, British Architectural Library, RIBA

4<sup>th</sup> May 2011 at 6.30pm in the  
Royal Institute of British Architects,  
66 Portland Place, London W1B 1AD.  
Tube: Oxford Circus

The lecture takes as its focus Prague Castle at the end of World War I and the efforts of Thomas Garrigue Masaryk, Czechoslovakia's first president, to 'democratise' the vast complex of historic structures that formed it. To this end, Masaryk engaged the help of the Slovenian architect Jože Plečnik (1872-1957) who brilliantly transformed the Castle courtyards and gardens, unified and enhanced manifold spaces and created a unique apartment within the Castle for the President and his family.

The story of the Castle's transformation will unfold against an important body of largely unpublished correspondence between Plečnik and Alice Garrigue Masaryk (1879-1966) who represented her father in his role as patron and served as a conduit between him, the Castle Administration and the architect.

**For further information please contact [events@czechfriends.net](mailto:events@czechfriends.net)**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Name of guest \_\_\_\_\_

**Tickets include wine or soft drinks**

I would like \_\_\_ticket/s at £15 each, total £\_\_\_\_  
and/or to make a donation £\_\_\_\_

Please send payment with an S.A.E. to:

Pamela Dawson, 264 Middle Road, Southampton  
SO19 8PB, making your cheque payable to:

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**Our website is [www.czechfriends.net](http://www.czechfriends.net)**

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