

International premiere
in Main competition
at 33rd Moscow
International
Film Festival



LEAVING

The End of a Man. The End of an Era. The End of Love
Directed by Václav Havel

"In the film 'Leaving' there is so much personal, and often ludicrous, but harsh, truth about the author, about his nearest and dearest, about the people around him, and about politics as such, that the playful childishness of the film perfectly balances its depth."

Miloš Forman

MOVIE VERSION OF VACLAV HAVEL'S SUCCESSFUL STAGE PLAY "LEAVING" TRANSLATED AND PERFORMED IN 9 LANGUAGES, INCLUDING USA, UK AND FRANCE.

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CENTRUM ROZVOJE ČESKÁ SKALICE

 Česká televize

LEAVING ODCHÁZENÍ

A bitter sweet comedy follows a womanizing former political leader who is stepped down from his position after years of service to his unnamed country. With just two last days left to enjoy his extravagant government villa before he is finally evicted, his situation gradually goes from bad to worse. The film is not just about the leaving of one politician from his office, but more generally about the phenomenon of change itself: every second something done and something irretrievably goes. We do not know from where everything emerges and know even less to where it disappears. This is in fact a classic theme of dramas: the end. The end of a man. The end of an era. The end of a community. The end of love.

35 mm, Dolby Digital 5.1, videotape HDTV, 90', m/e track, English subtitles, © 2011

19th Czech Lion 2011 for Best Script and Best Editing

Directed by Václav Havel

Story and Screenplay by Václav Havel

Producer/Executive Producer Jaroslav Bouček

Director of Photography Jan Malíř

Editor Jiří Brožek

Music Michal Pavlíček

Art Designer Ondřej Nekvasil

Costume Designer Zuzana Ježková

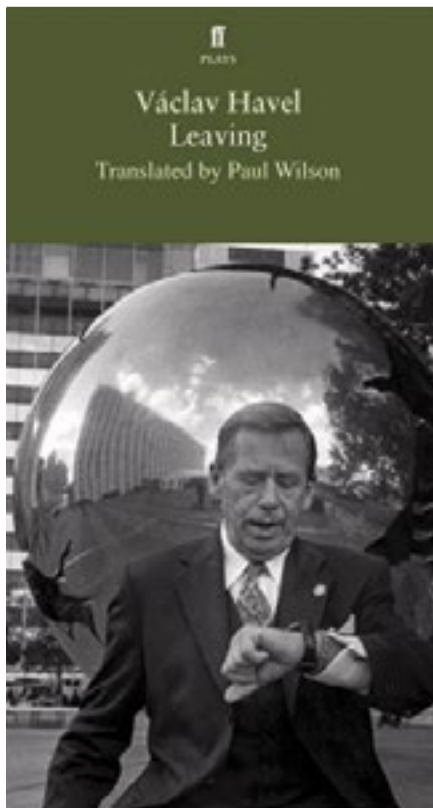
Co-Producers Czech Television, Michaela & Zdeněk Bakala, BONTONFILM, Centrum rozvoje Česká Skalice

Starring Josef Abrahám, Dagmar Havlová Veškrnová, Barbara Seidlová, Tatiana Vilhelmová, Oldřich Kaiser, Vlasta Chramostová, Jan Budař, Eva Holubová, Jaroslav Dušek, Jiří Lábus, Jiří Bartoška, Marian Labuda, Miroslav Krobot, Pavel Landovský and others.

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Václav Havel

Writer and playwright, one of the first spokesmen for Charter 77, leader of political changes in November 1989, the last president of Czechoslovakia and the first president of the Czech Republic (1989–2003).

Václav Havel was without a doubt the most versatile and most significant person on the Czech cultural and political scenes in the last half century.

In addition to plays and scripts that he co-authored, one short radio play Guardian Angel and one television play Butterfly on the Antenna, playwright Václav HAVEL is the author of the following plays: The Garden Party 1963, The Memorandum 1965, The Increased Difficulty of Concentration 1968, Conspirators 1971, The Beggar's Opera 1972, Audience 1975, Unveiling 1975, Mountain Hotel 1976, Protest 1978, Mistake 1983, Largo desolato 1984, Temptation 1985, Redevelopment 1987, and Tomorrow 1988.

He wrote the first version of the play Leaving in the summer of 1989, before the changes that occurred in November, which placed him in the highest office of the Czech state for a long time. The final version of the play came into being in 2007. Leaving is his first play in forty years at which he could be present for its preparation and (so-called world) premiere. The play was performed in USA (Wilma Theatre), UK (Orange Tree Theatre Richmond), Denmark (Odense City Theatre), Sweden (Stockholm City Theatre), Germany (Theater Aachen), Poland (Teatr Ateneum Warsaw), Croatia (Komedijska).

The film Leaving was also his first directorial film effort. Václav Havel received many national awards, international awards and honorary doctorates for his literary works, for his opinions, and for his lifelong efforts on the observance of human rights.