

The background features a series of overlapping, concentric circles and curved lines in black and grey, some solid and some dashed, creating a dynamic, architectural feel. A large, solid red rectangular area is centered on the page, containing the main text.

The Owners (2019)

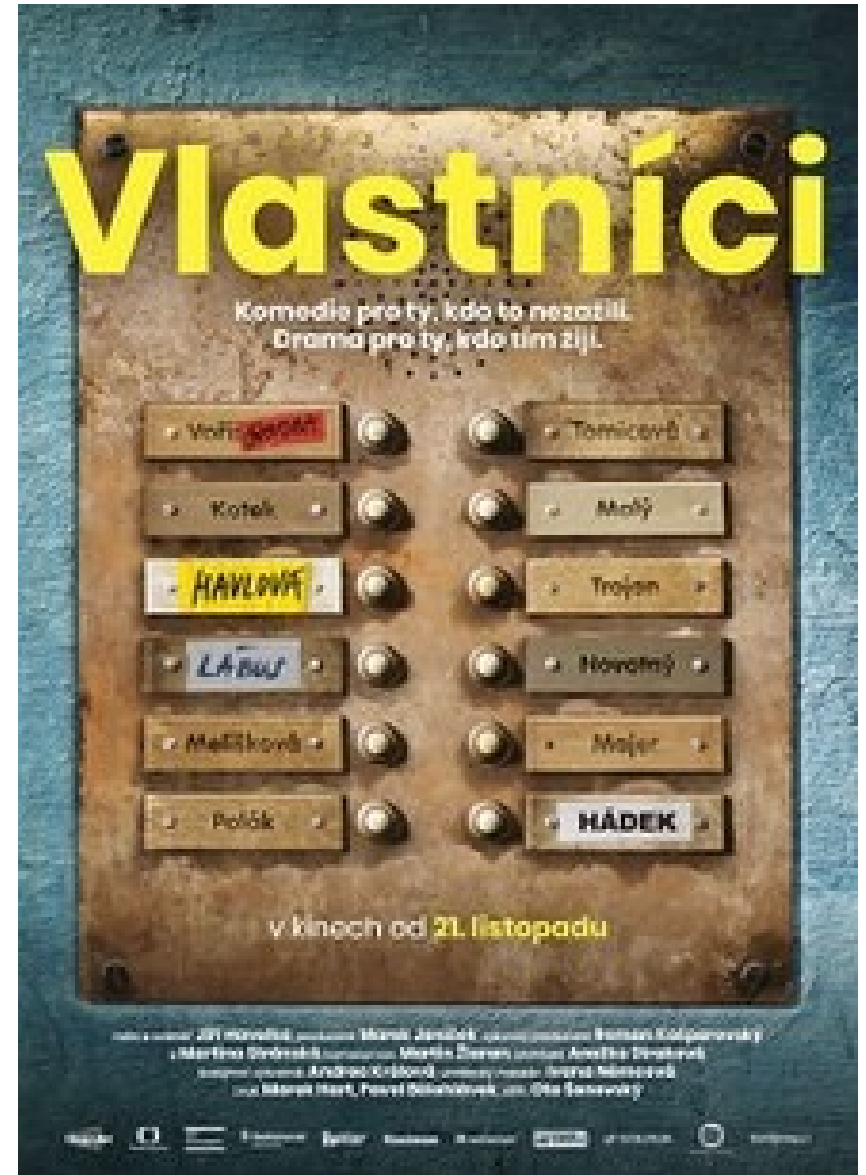
Directed by Jiří Havelka

Insights into contemporary Czech society

Presentation by Leah Reilly

The Owners 2019

- > Directed by Jiří Havelka
- > Released 19 November 2019
- > Advertised as a comedy/drama
- > Depicts a meeting between owners of units within an apartment building
 - > simple concept, bigger meaning



Wider Context out with Owners (2019)

- Czechoslovakia under Communist regime until November 1989
- Czech Republic and Slovakia from 1993
- Communism as a beneficial means of governance?

Reflection of Czech Society

- Metaphor based
- Democracy – each person/couple represents a factor within the Czech democracy today
- Legislative nonsense = failing to make important changes

Mr & Mrs. Zahradková

- > Chair of the committee
- > Secretary
- > Activists
- > Bribery?



Society representations

- Ms. Horváthová = Idiocy
- Mr. Kubát = Nostalgic communist
- Mrs. Procházková = selfishness
- Mr. Nitranský and New tenants = Xenophobia
- Mr. Svec = Pensioners
- Mr. Sokol = Intellectuals

- > Sons of deceased tenant
- > Opportunists

- > Focuses on legislative issues and following the rules
- > Debilitates real change?



Conclusions -
Failings of a
modern day
democracy?



References -

Jiří Havelka, *Vlastníci* (Owners), (2019).

Czech Film Review, *Owners (Vlastníci) – Jiří Havelka (2019)*.

Available at - <https://czechfilmreview.com/2020/07/24/owners-vlastnici-jiri-havelka-2019/>

Dominika Švecová and Jan Čulík, (2019). *Owners: Horror about what the Czech Republic is like today.*

Jan Čulík, *Current Czech Opinion of the pre-1989 and post 1989 Regimes: Disillusionment with Politics, Regardless of Party Political Allegiances.*

Former Czech PM Petr Pithart: *1968 was the only time when I believed that the world might be better.*

Available at - <https://youtu.be/eP7b0Jhzlnk>