

Karen von Kunes

University of Toronto

Department of Slavic & East European Languages & Cultures

Current Affiliations

Yale University Jonathan Edward College Fellow

Harvard University Davis Center for Russian and Eurasian Studies

Member of Salve Regina Circle of Scholars

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

University of Toronto (2024-2025)

Assistant Professor in Slavic Studies, focusing on Cultural Studies: Czech Language, Czech and Slovak Literature, Czech and Slovak Film, Department of Slavic & East European Languages & Cultures.

Yale University (1995-2023)

Ph.D. Senior Lector I in Czech Studies. Cross teaching with Comparative Literature and Film & Media Studies. Taught courses in Czech Literature and Culture, Film, Comparative Literature, Film New Wave, Absurd Theatre, Central European Culture at the background of history and culture, Czech Language.

Yale-NUS Singapore (Summer 2015)

Visiting Lecturer. Was invited to teach at the newly established Yale-NUS university in Singapore. Taught a course “Human Spirit in the Great Contemporary Novel” with a focus on existentialism in four works by Russian, Czech, Chinese and Singaporean authors.

Yale Summer Session in Prague (2003-2020)

Program Chair and Director of Abroad Program “In Kafka’s Spirit: Prague Film and Fiction.” Taught literature and culture (Kafka, Havel, Hrabal, Kundera, Lustig, Nezval), film (Forman, Menzel, Chytilová, Svěrák, Hřebejk, Švankmajer, Zelenka), screenwriting vs. fiction writing, and European history (Holocaust, political upheavals in Eastern Europe). Creative Screenwriting and hands-on workshop: students made short films based on their screenplays with a focus on cultural differences. Supervised Filmmakers & Assistants (Yale graduate students). Cultural visits in Czech and Slovak Republics, selected countries of former Austria-Hungary (Austria, Hungary, Slovenia, Italy) and Germany.

Harvard University (1984-1994), Summer School and Extension (1984-1995)

Lecturer. Established curriculum in Czech studies and overviewed its section in the Slavic Department. Taught Literature and Czech and Russian languages at Harvard College, also in the Summer School and Harvard Extension.

Boston University (Spring 1985)

Visiting Assistant Professor in Slavic and European Literature, teaching one course: Czech, Russian and East European literature (short-term, part-time appointment)

Tufts University (1983-84)

Assistant Professor in Slavic Languages and Literatures: Russian language and culture (one-year contract)

University of Texas at Austin (1981-82)

Czech Program Chair, Assistant Professor in Czech and Cultural Studies (one-year position)

Boston College (1980-81)

Assistant Professor in Slavic Studies: Slavic Folklore, Slavic Culture and Russian Language, (one-year replacement position)

EDUCATION

DEGREES	MBA diploma, Graduate School of Business Administration, University of Texas-Austin, 1982 Ph.D. Slavic Languages and Literatures (Philology), McGill University, 1980 B.A. <i>summa cum laude</i> , First Class Honor in Russian, University Scholar, McGill University, 1974 B.Sc. two-year program at the Université de Montréal (Science de l'éducation, and German), 1972
ADDITIONAL EDUCATION	Charles University, Prague (Sabbatical): Researching Cultural Idioms, 1992-93 Université de Montréal Postdoctoral Project L'assimilation des immigrants au Canada francophone, 1979-80 Library of Congress: Research for Ph.D. Dissertation, Fall 1978 Moscow University: Research for Ph.D. Dissertation, Spring 1978 University of Oxford: Visiting Ph.D. Candidate, Spring 1977 Georgetown University: Visiting Ph.D. Student in Languages and Linguistics, 1975-76
COURSES TAUGHT AT YALE (includes directed study)	- Milan Kundera: The Czech Novelist & French Thinker (all his novels studied) - Milos Forman and His Films (all his films studied) - Absurdism in Central European Drama: Václav Havel, Tom Stoppard, Eugène Ionesco - Czech New Wave in cinema against the background of Italian Neo-realism and French <i>cinéma vérité</i> - Dissident movement and the Plastic People of the Universe - Understanding Milan Kundera's notion of Central Europe: Czech, Slovak, Polish cultures, migrations - Fiction Writing: Principles of Story and Novel Writing based on Milan Kundera's <i>The Art of Novel</i> - Novel in Screenplay and on the Screen: Study of four European novel adaptations to the Screen - The Voice from Twentieth Century Prague: Prominent Features in Czechoslovak Intellectual History - Czech Language all levels: L1-L4, and higher levels as Directed Reading
YSS in PRAGUE (2003-2019)	Established, directed and taught the Yale Summer Session in Prague "In Kafka's Spirit: Prague Film and Fiction": Czech Language, Film, Literature, Culture, Political Upheavals within History of Central Europe, the Hungarian Uprising, the 1968 Prague Spring, Poland's Solidarity movement, the Velvet Revolution and the 1993 split of Czechoslovakia. Readings by Kafka, Havel, Hrabal, Lustig, Kundera. Analyzing films by Forman, Menzel, Svěrák, Hřebejk, Ján Kadár, Polanski. Focus on cultural diversity among Slavic people through films, museum visits, and cultural diversity expressed by students through their screenwriting or story writing and making short films with the assistance of well-known Czech film directors. Ukrainian and Vietnamese immigration and their assimilation within Czech educational establishment and cultural tendencies.
YALE-NUS (Singapore 2015)	Taught "Human Spirit in the Great Contemporary Novel" with a focus on existentialism in representative works by Alexander Solzhenitsyn, Milan Kundera, Goh Poh Seng and Wang Xiaobo (comparative analysis).
PREVIOUSLY TAUGHT (1980-1995)	East European Cultures from Austro-Hungary, focusing on Czech and Slovak cultural history to the Present Russian Language (first and second years) and Literature (Dostoevsky, Tolstoy, Pasternak, Solzhenitsyn) Czech & Slovak Culture: history, 20 th century Holocaust, Post Velvet migration (European and Vietnamese) The 1920s art trends: Avant-Garde Surrealism and Poetism (Nezval, Teige, Toyen, Seifert, Breton, Éluard) Creative Writing (introducing to short story and novel writing & Screenwriting) East European Literature, Film (narratology and aesthetics) and Art (painting, music, etc.) Czech Language and Russian Language (Beginning, Intermediate and Advanced)
ACADEMIC AWARDS & GRANTS	Nominated for the Yale FAS Senate to represent Language & Culture Teaching Faculty, 2021, 2022 and 2023 Nominated for ASEEES 2020 USC Book Prize for <i>Milan Kundera's Fiction</i> , 2020 Nominated for prestigious Jiri Theiner Prize for endeavors to dissemination of Czech literature abroad, 2020 Research Grants from the Council on European Studies and Yale Center for Teaching and Learning, 2013-23 Conference Yale Travel Grant for FAS Faculty, 2018, 2020, 2013, and Griswold Grant 2023 Publisher's prize for the Most Global and Pertinent Issues Novel <i>Among the Sinners</i> , 2014 Included in <i>The Best 300 Professors</i> by The Princeton Review, Random House, 2012 CLS Research Grant: "Heritage Speakers of Czech: Identifying Problems and Finding Solutions," May 2011

IIG Grant to work on templates project "A Czech Cultural Journey," June 2007
 CLS Travel and Professional Development Fund, Summer 2002
 The Moore Fund to research Milan Kundera: *In Search of Milan Kundera*, 1998-99, 2022-23
 The A. Whitney Griswold Faculty Research Grant to complete *240 Ways of Looking at Czech*, 1997-98
 The Ivy Leagues Consortium for Language Teaching and Learning Grant, 1989-92, and 1995-96
 IREX Short-Term Research Grant to complete *72 Discussions of the Czech Language*, 1995
 ACLS Grant to offer Czech in Harvard Summer School, and to establish student scholarship, 1991-93
 IREX Grant to research Czech idioms, Sabbatical at Charles University, 1992-93
 Fulbright Scholar, Czechoslovakia, 1992-93 (declined to accept IREX scholar status)
Who's Who in the East, included in the 1992-95 editions of *Marquis Who's Who*
The World Who's Who of Women, included in the 1993-95 Editions
Who's Who in American Education, included in the Fourth 1993 Edition
 Harvard Innovation in Teaching Grant, 1985-86
 University of Texas Best Teacher Honor, 1981-82
 Québec Postdoctoral Summer Fellowship, 1981
 Québec Doctoral Fellowship, 1974-80 (research at Oxford, Fall 1977-78)
 Canada Council Research Grant for research at Moscow State University, 1978
 J. W. McConnell Memorial Fellowship, 1976-77
 Canada Council Doctoral Fellowship, 1975-78
 McGill University Summer Research Fellowship, 1975
 McGill University Scholar, 1974, and Gladys Murray Scholar, 1973-74

PUBLICATIONS

Additional information: <https://www.jstor.org/action/doBasicSearch?Query=Karen+von+Kunes&so=rel>

I. BOOKS

von Kunes, Karen, ed. (2025) *Milan Kundera Known and Unknown: Multidimensional Analysis of Selected Works*. New York, London, Oxford: Bloomsbury Academic: Literary Division. 277 pages. In addition, being the book editor, Karen von Kunes contributed to Introduction: Milan Kundera's Multidimensionality and Interdisciplinarity (1-6), The Rhizome Unifying Milan Kundera's French Novels: Migration, Identity, Multilingualism (167-76), and co-authored Theater of Absurd in Milan Kundera's Two Plays (247-53). Available at: <https://www.bloomsbury.com/ca/milan-kundera-known-and-unknown-9798765109458/>

Naughton, James and **von Kunes, Karen (2021) *Czech: An Essential Grammar*.** Second edition. London and New York: Routledge. With Introduction to Czech, including its Standard and non-standard usage and the Historical development. 354 pages (hard cover edition, paperback 332 pages). <https://www.routledge.com/Czech-An-Essential-Grammar/Naughton-vonKunes/p/book/>

von Kunes, Karen (2019) *Milan Kundera's Fiction: A Critical Approach to Existential Betrayals*. Lanham, Boulder, New York, London: Lexington Books, 224 pages (hard cover edition, paperback 207 pages). In his evaluation for publishing the manuscript, an anonymous professor stated: "I have taught Kundera for over 30 years, and I must say I am very impressed by this work. It is by far the clearest and the most profound reading of Kundera I read." https://books.google.ca/books/about/Milan_Kundera_s_Fiction.html?id=a-mUDwAAQBAJ&redir_esc=y
 Available at: <https://www.amazon.ca/Milan-Kunderas-Fiction-Existential-Betrays/dp/1498510809> Reviews in *The Slavic and East European Journal*, *Britské listy*, *Slavic Review* and other professional journals.

von Kunes, Karen (2011) *Czech Practical Dictionary: Czech English/English Czech*. New York: Hippocrene Books, Inc. 492 pages. Includes Introduction and Basics of Czech Grammar (vii-xxiii) and some 42,000 entries, each providing gender and morphological data. <https://www.mcnallyrobinson.com/9780781811071/karen-von-kunes/czech-english-english-czech-practical-dictionary>

von Kunes, Karen (1999) *Beyond the Imaginable: 240 Ways of Looking at Czech*. A cultural approach to learning Czech. Praha: Práh Publishers (enlarged edition of *72 Discussions of the Czech Language*). Available at: <https://www.trhknih.cz/kniha/3f8jkkrb>

von Kunes, Karen (1998) Editor-in-Chief and Author of the English edition *Barron's Travel Wise Czech*. New York: Barron's Educational. 280 pages. https://www.amazon.com/Barrons-Travelwise-Czech-English/dp/0764103849#detailBullets_feature_div

von Kunes, Karen (1995) *72 Discussions of the Czech Language*. A cultural approach to learning Czech. Praha: Práh. <https://kniobot.sk/g/267359> <https://kniobot.sk/g/267359/b/11139297>

von Kunes, Karen (1992) Author of adaptation and English translation of Jiří Voskovec and Jan Werich's play, *Svět za mřížemi*. In Laurence Senelick, ed. *Cabaret Performance*, Vol. II: Europe 1920-1940 Sketches, Songs, Monologues, Memoirs. Baltimore: The John Hopkins University Press, PAJ Books (PAJ's modernist performance series, archived). <https://archive.org/details/cabaretperforman00laur/page/n307/mode/2up>

II. A NOVEL

von Kunes, Karen (2013) *Among the Sinners*. 306-page novel dealing with diaspora in the age of globalization. Framed by Giovanni Boccaccio's *The Decameron*, the novel reflects Milan Kundera's existential approach to novel writing. Práh Publishers: International Edition, 2013. Publisher's 2014 prize for the Most Global and Pertinent Novel Issues Novel <http://whatawritersreading.blogspot.com/2015/06/k-david-jackson.html> <https://kniobot.sk/g/610624/b/2532241>

III. BOOK CHAPTERS

von Kunes, Karen (2025) "Responsibility vs. Greed for Power Karel Čapek's *The White Plague* in a Cultural Context," in Andrew Drozd, ed. *Modern Czech Literature: Writing in Times of Political Trauma*. Wilmington, Delaware: Vernon Press, pp. 1-9. <https://vernonpress.com/book/2098>

von Kunes, Karen (2009) "Translator, an Uneasy Rider: *Jacques and His Master*," in Craig Cravens, Masako U. Fidler, Susan C. Kresin, eds. *Between Texts, Languages, and Cultures: A Festschrift for Michael Henry Heim*. Bloomington, Indiana: Slavica, 2009. <https://slavica.indiana.edu/between-texts-languages-and-cultures/>

von Kunes, Karen (1999) "The Art of Buffoonery: The Czech Joke à la Commedia dell'arte Style in Kundera's French Novel *Slowness*," in Peter Petro, ed. *Critical Essays on Milan Kundera*. New York: G.K. Hall & Co. https://archive.org/details/criticalessayson0000unse_k8p8

von Kunes, Karen (1988) "Annotated Bibliography on Czech and Slovak Literary Theory for the years 1984-1985." *New Literary History: International Bibliography of Literary Theory and Interpretation*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press. <https://archive.org/details/newliteraryhisto0000cohe>

von Kunes, Karen (1988) Director and co-author of "Selected Bibliography on Czech and Slovak Literary Theory for 1986" for *New Literary History: International Bibliography of Literary Theory and Interpretation* (continuation of the previous 1988 publication). <https://archive.org/details/newliteraryhisto0000cohe>

IV. FOREWORD TO BOOKS

von Kunes, Karen (2020) Foreword to Vítězslav Nezval's poetry volume *Farewell and a Handkerchief*, translated from the Czech *Sbohem a šáteček* by Roman Koskovski. Silver Spring, MD: Plamen Press. <https://www.amazon.ca/Farewell-Handkerchief-Poems-V%C3%ADt%C4%Bzslav-Nezval/dp/099607225X>

von Kunes, Karen (1995) Foreword to Martin Vopěnka's novel in the English translation, *Ballad of Descent*. Evanston, Ill: Northwestern University Press. <https://libris.kb.se/bib/5721176>

V. ENCYCLOPEDIA ARTICLE

Orsak, Mary and **von Kunes, Karen (2021)** and "Václav Havel: The Vaněk's Plays Audience, Vernisáž (Unveiling), Protest" in *The Literary Encyclopedia: Exploring literature, history and culture*. Volume 1.8.1: Czech and Slovak Writing and Culture, August 2021. <https://www.litencyc.com/php/sworks.php?rec=true&UID=40572>

VI. JOURNAL ARTICLES

von Kunes, Karen (2025) "Challenges and Pitfalls in Bohemistika in North America." A solicited article that was submitted for publication in *Sborník esejů* by Ústav pro českou literaturu Akademie Věd České Republiky.

von Kunes, Karen (2020) "Záměna kulturního a lingvistického negativizmu v pozitivismus v učebnicích češtiny," (Transforming Cultural and Linguistic Negativism into Positivism in Textbooks of Czech), *Nová čeština doma a ve světě*, October 2020. <https://ncds.ff.cuni.cz/cs/magazin/2020-1/>

von Kunes, Karen (2019) "Proč američtí studenti vůbec češtinu studují" (Why American students study Czech). *Britské Listy*, August 23, 2019. Continuation of the piece on Czech textbooks in *Britské Listy* published August 20, 2019. Within three weeks read by 5,000 readers. [Karen von Kunes blisty.cz](https://karenvonkunesblisty.cz)

von Kunes, Karen (2019) "Proč učebnice češtiny více děsí než těší americké studenty" (Why textbooks of Czech frighten more than comfort American students). *Britské Listy*, August 20, 2019. Continuation of the piece on Czech textbooks in *Britské Listy* published July 29, 2019. Within three weeks this piece was read by over 7,000 readers. [Karen von Kunes blisty.cz](https://karenvonkunesblisty.cz)

von Kunes, Karen (2019) "Jak učebnice češtiny děsí americké studenty" (How textbooks of Czech frighten American students). *Britské Listy*, July 29, 2019. Partial reprint of my review of Cvejnová's Czech textbook. It was one of the most read contributions in *Britské Listy* within the first day of its publishing; within six weeks it had 15,000 readers. [Karen von Kunes blisty.cz](https://karenvonkunesblisty.cz)

von Kunes, Karen (2018, December) "A Case Study of Eight Heritage Speakers of Czech: Identity and Cultural Problems." *Britské Listy*, December 2018. See: <https://blisty.cz/authors/3587-karen-von-kunes>

von Kunes, Karen (2018, February) "Czech Literature and David Zabranský," Česká literatura a David Zábanský (English condensed version translated by Jan Čulík). *Britské Listy*. <https://blisty.cz/authors/3587-karen-von-kunes>

von Kunes, Karen (2011) "Czech Language Enrollments & Materials." Consortium for Language Teaching & Learning (archived web).

von Kunes, Karen (2008) "Globalization in Czech." *International Association of Teachers of Czech, IATC*, No. 29, Spring, 2008. <http://wredhor.pair.com/signatur/iatc/pdf/08spr.pdf>

von Kunes, Karen (1997) "An Intentional Literary Device: The Czech Unbearable Lightness in Kundera's French Being." *Kosmas: Czechoslovak and Central European Journal*. Vol. 12, No. 2 (hard copy). <https://kosmas.svu2000.org/>

von Kunes, Karen (1991, Spring) "The National Paradox: Czech Literature and the Gentle Revolution." *World Literature Today*, Vol. 65, No. 2, pp. 237-240. <https://www.jstor.org/stable/40147109?origin=crossref&seq=1>

von Kunes, Karen (1989) "A Reflection on The Burden of Being in Havel's *Largo Desolato*." *Czech, Slovak, and Central European Studies*, Vol. 8, No. 1/2, Summer/Winter <https://slavic.yale.edu/people/karen-von-kunes>

von Kunes, Karen (1988) "A Voice of Conscience in Ivan Klíma's Play, *The Minister and the Angel*." *Kosmas: Czechoslovak and Central European Journal*, Spring 1988. <https://slavic.yale.edu/people/karen-von-kunes>

von Kunes, Karen (1988) "The Unifying Role of Devětsil: Vítězslav Nezval and Jaroslav Seifert." *Fait Accompli, Literary Journal at the University of Alberta*, Vol. I, No. 3, 1988 (hard copy). <https://slavic.yale.edu/people/karen-von-kunes>

von Kunes, Karen (1980, August) "Critical Analysis of Javor's Collection of Poetry: Kritický pohled na Javorovy *Křipěje*." *Nový Domov* (hard copy). <https://slavic.yale.edu/people/karen-von-kunes>

von Kunes, Karen (1977) "The Cultural Influx of English Words into Czech" (Kulturní pronikání anglických slov do češtiny). *Proměny*, 4 (hard copy). <https://slavic.yale.edu/people/karen-von-kunes>

VII. REPRINTS, REFLECTIONS, SPEECH WRITING, BROADCAST TRANSLATIONS

von Kunes, Karen (2007) "Too kind in ushering MIT dean out." *The Boston Globe*, May 2, 2007.

<https://www.newspapers.com/results/?keyword=Karen+von+Kunes%2C+Too+kind+in+ushering+MIT+dean+out&publication-ids=9077>

von Kunes, Karen (2007-09) Reprint of articles from *240 Ways Looking at Czech* in *Manitoba Cultural Journal*, 2007-09 (hard copy) and [Scholarly articles for Manitoba Cultural Journal, 2007](#)

von Kunes, Karen (2005) Wrote the solicited speech for the White House for President Bush to deliver during his visit of Slovakia, February 2005 (hard copy).

von Kunes, Karen (1999) "Response to the Literature Papers." *Brown Slavic Contributions*, Vol. XI: Modern Czech Studies, 1999. <https://eric.ed.gov/?id=ED450583>

von Kunes, Karen (1995) "Havel Preaches Responsibility in Harvard Yard." *The Prague Post*, Vol. 5, June 7-13, 1995 (hard copy)

von Kunes, Karen (1993-97) Short contributions to the Czech Language in the *Czech Language News*, Nos. 1-7, 1995-97. <http://wredhor.pair.com/signatur/iatc/pdf/95spr.pdf> and <http://wredhor.pair.com/signatur/iatc/pdf/97fall.pdf>

von Kunes, Karen (1997) "Political Correctness in Czech." *Czech Language News*, No. 8, Spring, 1997, p. 4. <http://wredhor.pair.com/signatur/iatc/pdf/97fall.pdf>

von Kunes, Karen (1993) "Čeština Hot Topic na amerických univerzitách." *Čeština doma a ve světě*, Vol. 1, No. 2, Fall, 1993. <https://ucjtk.ff.cuni.cz/veda-a-vyzkum/publikace/cestina-doma-a-ve-svete/>

von Kunes, Karen (1993) "Knowing Czech Words and Concepts." *Minnesota Czechoslovak Center Report*, Vol. 2, No. 4, 1993 (hard copy).

von Kunes, Karen (1993) "Insight into Czech." *Minnesota Czechoslovak Center Report*, Vol. 2, No. 3, 1993 (hard copy).

von Kunes, Karen (1993) "The Beast of Czech Negativity." *The Prague Post*, Vol. 3, No. 28, 1993 (hard copy, also could be located in <https://www.thepraguepost.cz/>)

von Kunes, Karen (1992) "Learning to Speak Czech Doesn't Have to Be Difficult." *The Prague Post*, Vol. 2, No. 42 (hard copy, also could be located in <https://www.thepraguepost.cz/>)

von Kunes, Karen (1992) "Ještě jednou k diplomům" (Once more on Czech degrees). *Československý týdeník*, 3, No. 2, 1992 (hard copy).

von Kunes, Karen (1991) "Na Harvardu jsme poslední" (At Harvard we are the last). *Československý týdeník*, 2, No. 15, August 1, 1991 (hard copy).

von Kunes, Karen (1990) "Supplementary Materials for Heim's *Contemporary Czech*." *Penn Language News*, No. 2, Fall, 1990 <https://www.jstor.org/stable/i40160389>

von Kunes, Karen (1988) Translated Slovak folk tale *Svatohor: Long Ago & Far Away*. WGBH Educational Television Broadcasting series, 1988 (not digitized).

von Kunes, Karen (1977) As a graduate student at McGill, responded to an article in *McGill Daily* on issues of French at the English-speaking University, promoting benefits of French and English bilingualism among English Canadians and newcomers to Francophone Canada. *McGill Daily*, Vol. 67, No. 009: September 21, 1977, p. 4. <https://archive.org/details/McGillLibrary-mcgill-daily-v67-n009-september-21-1977-12272/page/n3/mode/2up>

VIII. JOURNALISM

von Kunes, Karen (1993-2000) As weekly columnist for *The Prague Post*, beginning with Vol. 3, No. 34, 1993 published circa 500 short contributions to Czech language and culture. <https://www.thepraguepost.cz/>

IX. BOOK REVIEWS: most to be found in <https://www.jstor.org> search

von Kunes, Karen (2019) Jitka Cvejnová's *Czech for Foreigners: Český, prosím* by Karolinum Press, 2018. *The Czech Language News*, Summer 2019, pp. 7-9 <http://wredhor.pair.com/signatur/iadc/pdf/19spr.pdf>

von Kunes, Karen (2004) Sándor Márai, *Embers*, the Yale Review of Books, Spring, 2004. <https://yalereviewofbooks.com/profs-picks/>

von Kunes, Karen (1999) Marketa Goetz-Stankiewicz, ed. *Critical Essays on Václav Havel*. New York: G.K. Hall & Co. *World Literature Today*, 2001. <https://www.jstor.org>

von Kunes, Karen (2000) CD-ROM *Talk Now! Learn Czech*. Calico Software collaboration project. www.eurotalk.co.uk

von Kunes, Karen (2000) Pavel Kohout, *The Widow Killer*. St. Martin's Press, 1998. *World Literature Today*, Spring, 2000. <https://www.jstor.org>

von Kunes, Karen (1999) Milan Kundera, *L'identité*. Gallimard, 1997. *World Literature Today*, Winter, 1999. <https://www.jstor.org>

von Kunes, Karen (1998) Miroslav Holub, *Shedding Life: Disease, Politics, and Other Human Conditions*. Milkweed, 1997. *World Literature Today*, Autumn, 1998. <https://www.jstor.org> **von Kunes, Karen (1998)** *Daylight in Nightclub Inferno: Czech Fiction from the Post-Kundera Generation*. Catbird Press, 1997. *World Literature Today*, Spring, 1998. <https://www.jstor.org>

von Kunes, Karen (1995) Milan Kundera, *Les Testaments trahis*. Gallimard, 1993. *World Literature Today*, Winter, 1995. <https://www.jstor.org> and <https://www.enotes.com/topics/milan-kundera/criticism/kundera-milan-vol-115/criticism/karen-von-kunes-review-date-winter-1995>

von Kunes, Karen (1994) Martin Vopěnka, *Balada o sestupu*. Rozmluvy, 1992. *World Literature Today*, Winter, 1994. <https://www.jstor.org>

von Kunes, Karen (1994) Ivan Klíma, *Judge on Trial*. Translated by A.G. Brain. Alfred A. Knopf, 1993. *World Literature Today*, Autumn, 1994. <https://www.jstor.org>

von Kunes, Karen (1993) Vladimír Páral, *The Four Sonyas*. Translated by William Harkins. Catbird Press, 1993. *World Literature Today*, Summer, 1993. <https://www.jstor.org>

von Kunes, Karen (1992) Iva Pekárková, *Truck Stop Rainbows: A Road Novel*. Translated by David Powelstock. New York, Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 1992. *World Literature Today*, Spring, 1993. <https://www.jstor.org>

von Kunes, Karen (1993) Peter Hruby, *Daydreams and Nightmares: Czech Communist and Ex-Communist Literature, 1917-1987*. East European Monographs, 1990. Distributed by Columbia University Press. Canadian-American Slavic Studies. Vol. 27, Nos. 1-4, 1993. <https://brill.com/search?q=Karen+von+Kunes&source=%2Fjournals%2Fcass%2Fcass-overview.xml>

von Kunes, Karen (1991) *The Boundries of Twilight. Czecho-Slovak Writing from the New World*. Edited by C.J. Hribal. New Rivers Press, 1991. *Československý týdeník*. 3, No. 4, 1992 (hard copy).

von Kunes, Karen (1992) Josef Škvorecký. *Hlas z Ameriky*, Sixty-Eight Publishers, 1990. *World Literature Today*. Autumn 1992. <https://www.jstor.org>

von Kunes, Karen (1991) Eda Kriseová. *Václav Havel, Autobiography*. Atlantis, 1991. *Československý týdeník*, 2, No. 22, 1991 (hard copy).

von Kunes, Karen (1990) Pavel Kohout, *Hodina tance a lásky*, Index, 1989. *World Literature Today*. Summer 1990. <https://www.jstor.org>

von Kunes, Karen (1989) Eva Kantůrková, *Člověk v závěsu*. Index, 1988. *World Literature Today*. Autumn 1989. <https://www.jstor.org>

von Kunes, Karen (1989) Arnošt Lustig, *Indecent Dreams*. Northwestern University Press, 1988. *World Literature Today*. Spring 1989. <https://www.jstor.org>

von Kunes, Karen (1989) Iva Procházková, *Výprava na zlatou rybičku*. Sixty-Eight Publishers, 1988. *World Literature Today*. Spring 1989. <https://www.jstor.org>

von Kunes, Karen (1988) Ladislav Klíma, *Les souffrances du Prince Sternenhoch*. La Diférence, 1986. *World Literature Today*. Winter 1988. <https://www.jstor.org>

von Kunes, Karen (1987) Bohumil Hrabal, *La chevelure sacrifiée*, Gallimard, 1987. *World Literature Today*. Fall 1988. <https://www.jstor.org>

von Kunes, Karen (1987) Lenka Procházková, *Oční kapky*. Sixty-Eight Publishers, 1987. *World Literature Today*. Fall 1988. <https://www.jstor.org>

von Kunes, Karen (1987) Arnošt Lustig *Diamonds of the Night*. Northwestern University Press, 1986. *World Literature Today*. Spring 1987. <https://www.jstor.org>

von Kunes, Karen (1986) Jan Pelc, *...a bude hůř*. Index, 1985. *World Literature Today*. Winter 1986. <https://www.jstor.org>

von Kunes, Karen (1986) Martin Šimečka, *Žabí rok*. Index, 1985. *World Literature Today*. Winter 1986. <https://www.jstor.org>

X. FILM SCRIPT and SHORT STORIES

von Kunes, Karen (2012) Full-length screenplay *Leaving Far Behind*, with positive endorsement by Milos Forman, it was sent to Prague filmmakers for a feature film, 2012. Deposited in Prague's Film Academy.

von Kunes, Karen (1998) "The Unbearable Weight: A Parody on the Current State of Erotic Affairs." A story in *Yale International Forum*, Vol. 1, No. 1, Fall 1998 (hard copy non-digitized)

von Kunes, Karen (1998) "Just a Coincidence." *Kosmas: Czechoslovak and Central European Journal*. Vol. 13, No. 1, 1998 (hard copy. The <https://kosmas.svu2000.org> starts with the year 2000).

von Kunes, Karen (1994) "The Unforgettable Christmas," a short story about a teenager in immigration. *AIM Magazine*, 1994 (hard copy, non-digitized).

von Kunes, Karen (1993) "The Dinner Invitation," a short story about a Russian Jew in the United States. Deals with cultural insecurities, alienation and communication problems. Published in English and the Polish translation. *Language Bridges*. Vol. 5, No. 3, 1993 (hard copy, non-digitized).

X. CZECH LANGUAGE TEACHING AIDS

von Kunes, Karen (2020) *Czech 3ears*, an interactive language and culture learning digital tool via Google Docs for students' practice Czech and access cultural concepts by clicking on highlighted words and ideas which can be dragged/dropped to reach additional information. Linc Jepson 74ze Engineering, March 2020 (continuous). <https://3ears.com/media/3231>

Ryan Newton; Bárta, Luděk; **von Kunes, Karen (1993)** *Kids for Kids* - výuková a zábavná četba pro děti: *My Best Czech Friend*. Praha: Práh, 1993. <https://kniobot.sk/g/261980/b/8095185>

von Kunes, Karen (1992) *Fast & Easy Czech*, The 60-minute Survival Program. New York, Crown Publishers Inc., 1992. <https://www.amazon.com/Fast-Czech-Living-Language-Audio/dp/0517587483>

**COMPLETED
MANUSCRIPTS**
Used for teaching

Czech Crystal Clear, preliminary draft completed. In the process of being updated, enlarged and prepared for publication. Based on journalistic and literary readings and dialogues. Tested in CZECH L1 and L2.

Prague Film and Fiction in Kafka's Spirit, and Journey across Austria-Hungary (2017). A basic manual designed for Yale Summer Session in Prague with introduction to Czech, Austrian, German and Hungarian cultures.

Project "A Czech Cultural Journey: Major Events" (2007), used in L2 and L3.

100 Selected Czech Cultural Idioms (2010) for Intermediate and Advanced Learners (used in L1-L4).

Czech Step by Step (2005). A textbook for first- and second-year students of Czech, based on language proficiency methodology, and providing a complete course in standard literary Czech.

Check Your Czech: Intermediate and Advanced Czech (1995). Based on communicative approach through dialogues. Was used as a textbook at Yale, Emory University, Connecticut College, and other universities.

Contemporary Czech Practice (1988). Five-volume manuscript: Grammar Exercises, Grammar Readings, Dialogues/Story Adaptation, Selected Readings, Video Series and Proficiency Skills. Was used at Harvard, Yale, Brown, UCLA, Indiana University, University of Texas-Austin, George Washington, and Emory.

Laughable Dialogues, used in teaching of Czech L1, L2 and L3. Designed to develop fluency by focusing on everyday topics and vocabulary.

Involved in developing digital testing for students in Czech, similar to <https://czechlanguageclub.co.uk/czech-grammar-quiz-to-be/>

**Ph.D.
DISSERTATION**

"The Lexical Impact of Italian upon the Standard Russian Language from Peter the Great until the Present." Comparative analysis of Italian linguistic and cultural influences on Russian and Russian culture and history (also influences on French, Czech, Slovak and Polish when valid). Completed to fulfill requirements for a Ph.D. degree at McGill University, 1980. Supervised by Professors J.G. Nicholson and V.I. Grebenshikov. To complete the dissertation, research was conducted at the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C., and at the Moskovsky Gosudarstvenny Universitet imeni M.V. Lomonosova, both supported by the Canada Council.

PANELS ORGANIZING AND CONFERENCES PRESENTATIONS (2014-present)

RECENT

Presenting a contribution "Expressing Gender vs. Transgender in Czech" (Non-binary identities have existed for centuries; however, it is the nomenclature that is relatively new, such as the Czech phonetic adaptation enbi+ from English NBi+, due to a larger social acceptance). Presented in the Panel: Teaching the Less Commonly Taught Slavic and East European Languages at the AATSEEL, February 2025 (on Zoom).

Presenting a contribution "Interactive Language Learning: The 3ears Video App" in the Panel: Teaching the Less Commonly Taught Slavic and East European Languages at the AATSEEL Convention in Philadelphia, February 2022.

Organized a panel Karel Čapek's Vision and his Impact on the World: Interdisciplinary Approach. Presenting my paper with a focus on terminology "The Pandemic Prevails: Responsibility vs. Power in Karel Čapek's Play *The White Plague*" at the ASEES conference in New Orleans, December 2021 (on Zoom).

Invited to present a paper "The Unifying Forces in Milan Kundera's French Novels: Migration, Identity, Multilingualism" in the Milan Kundera panel at the ICCEES Congress in Montreal, August 2021 (on Zoom).

Invited to present a paper “Deleuzian Rhizomatic Approach in Milan Kundera’s Four French Novels: Reterritorialization and Its Consequences” at the 10th International Symposium Bohemistika, Charles University, August 2021 (on Zoom).

Organized a panel Betrayal, Anxiety and Rebellion in Milan Kundera and in Contemporary Czech Literature at the ASEES conference in Washington, D.C. Presented a paper “Penumbra of Depersonalization in Milan Kundera’s *Ludvik* and Wang Xiaobo’s Character Wang Er,” Washington, D.C., November 2020 (on Zoom).

Organized and chaired a CLS presentation: invited doc. Ivana Bozděchová, PhDr. CSc. from Institute of Language and Theory of Communication at the Prague Charles University Faculty of Arts to give a talk on Language Learning in Prague, February 2020.

Organizer of Panel, “Milan Kundera Revisited: His Works in Czech and French” and presenting a paper “Milan Kundera’s *The Festival of Insignificance*: Binary Opposition of Significance and Insignificance” at the AATSEEL Convention in San Diego, February 2020.

Poster Panel participant and a presenter of “How to Deal Positively with Cultural Negativism in Czech Language Textbooks” at the AATSEEL Convention in San Diego, February 2020.

Chairing a Panel, “The Poetics and Reception of the Czech Forged Manuscripts,” at the AATSEEL Convention in San Diego, February 2020.

Organizer of Panel “From the New Wave to Current Czech and Slovak Films,” and presenting my paper, “Milos Forman’s Non-Scripted Approach Culminating into Sophisticated Screenplays” at the AATSEEL Convention in New Orleans, February 2019.

Poster Panel participant and a presenter of “The Old and the New: The Use of Anglicisms as an Effective Way to Learning Czech” at the AATSEEL Convention in New Orleans, February 2019.

Co-organizer and Discussant of Panel “Prague Spring on Screen IV: Cinematic Refractions of the Prague Spring.” ASSEES Convention in Boston, December 2018.

Co-organized Panel “Prague Spring on Screen II,” and presented a paper “The Soviet Invasion Depicted in the Novel and the Film: Milan Kundera’s and Philip Kaufman’s *The Unbearable Lightness of Being*” at the ASSEES Convention in Boston, December 2018.

Organizer and Chair of two Panels “Global Effects on Czech Literature and Culture I,” and “Global Effects on Czech Literature and Culture II” at the AATSEEL Convention in Washington, D.C., February 2018.

Presented a paper “The Borders in Milan Kundera’s *Ignorance*: Nostalgia in Odysseus Sense, Socratic Ignorance, or a Case of Mental Amnesia?” AATSEEL Convention in Washington, D.C., February 2018.

Co-organizer of the Yale MacMillan Center Conference “Rocking Regimes” in former Communist countries, and the Speaker on the Prague underground rock band, “The Plastic People of the Universe,” February 2018.

Presented a paper “Milan Kundera and Wang Xiaobo: Sexuality as an Expression of Rebellion Against Oppressive Authority” at the AATSEEL Convention in San Francisco, February 2017.

Presented a Project “Learning Czech Simple Way: Genre Pedagogy in View of Complex Morphology” in Poster Panel at the AATSEEL Convention in San Francisco, February 2017.

Presented a paper “Milan Kundera, the Master of Hybrid Narration: A Comparative Study of Narrative Styles in Bohumil Hrabal, Alexander Solzhenitsyn, Wang Xiaobo, and Goh Poh Seng,” at the NeMLA Conference in Hartford, March 2016.

Presented a paper “Caught in the Whirl of Migration: Paris in Kundera’s *Ignorance* and in von Kunes’s *Among the Sinners*” at the NeMLA Conference in Hartford, RI, March 2016.

Presented a paper “An Inquiry into Steven Pinker’s Theory on Submission and Conformity to Societal Norms: Its Interpretation in Milan Kundera’s *The Joke* and Goh Poh Seng’s *If We Dream Too Long*” (supported by the Yale Council on European Studies and CLS grants) at HERA Conference in San Francisco, April 2015.

Chaired Panel “Interdisciplinary Issues of Identity: Conformity, Diversity, Misogyny,” and presented a paper, “The Rebellion of Human Spirit over the Imposition of Conformity in Milan Kundera’s *The Book of Laughter and Forgetting* and Milos Forman’s *One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest*” (supported by the Yale Council on European Studies grant) at HERA Conference in Washington, D.C., February 2014.

EARLIER PANELS & PRESENTATIONS

Chairing a panel “Czech Literature in Transition,” and presenting a paper “In Search for Identity: Milan Kundera and His Personae.” AATSEEL, San Francisco, 1998.

“The Art of Buffoonery: The Czech Joke à la Commedia dell’arte Style in Kundera’s *Slowness*.” Paper read at the AAASS convention in Seattle, 1997 (edited version published in *Critical Essays on Milan Kundera*, ed. Peter Petro. New York: G.K. Hall & Co., 1999).

Organized and chaired panel From Prisoner to President: Václav Havel and Czech Literature. Read “The Other side of Coexistence: Havel—a Politician and a Playwright,” AATSEEL, Chicago, 1990.

Organized & chaired Panel “Central European Literatures: East or West,” AATSEEL, San Francisco, 1987.

“The Victim of Absurdity in the Writings of Ivan Klíma.” Presented at AATSEEL meeting in New York City, 1986.

“The Search for Truth in Klíma’s *The Minister and the Angel* and Bulgakov’s *Master and Margarita*.” Read at the Czechoslovak Society of Arts and Sciences meeting in Boston, 1986.

“Poetism, a Uniquely Czech Avant-garde Movement.” Presented at the Annual Conference of the New England Slavic Association in Boston, 1986.

“One Day in the Life of the Czech ‘Ivan Denisovich’ in the Works of Jiří Mucha and Karel Pecka.” Presented at AATSEEL meeting in Chicago, 1985.

“Morphological Categories of Gallicisms in Russian.” Read at the CAS meeting in Ottawa, 1982.

“Les immigrants d’origine slave dans la province du Québec: Recherches empiriques basées sur une étude de 100 familles slaves arrivées au Québec entre 1968-78.” Read at the CAS convention, Halifax, 1981.

“The Italian Lexical Influence on Russian in the Context of Cultural Relations between Italy and Russia.” Paper read at the AATSEEL meeting in Houston, 1980 (based on the Ph.D. dissertation).

INVITATIONS TO PRESENT LECTURES and CHAIRING PANELS

Invited to present a lecture on highlights of Milos Forman’s American Films at the Academy of Social Pedagogy and Theology, Prague, March 21, 2023.

Invited to present a lecture on reception of Czech language and literature abroad at the School of Slavonic Studies Symposium of Faculty of Philosophy at Charles University, August 2021 (on Zoom).

Invited to Chair and Discuss a Panel on Contemporary Literature: Charles Sabatos's *An East of One's Own: Contemporary Transnational Writing by Slovak Women*, and Marcin Lukasz Filipowicz's *Representation of Adoption in Contemporary Czech prose*. The Twentieth Annual Czech and Slovak Studies Workshop held at the University of Pittsburgh on March 18-21, 2021 (on Zoom).

Invited to teach a Master class in Czech Language and to present a lecture, "Milan Kundera's Impact on Literary Scene and Social Sciences," University of Nebraska, April 2017.

Invited to present a lecture "Leoš Janáček and Milan Kundera: A Confluence of Czech Music and Literature" at a Special Piano Recital by Wei-Yi Yang, Berkeley College Master's House, Yale University, April 2013.

Invited to deliver a lecture on the significance of the First Czechoslovak President, T.G. Masaryk, Boston's Masaryk Club, March 2007.

Invited to discuss "The Impact of Literature on Film: Milos Forman's Untraditional Subjects in Filmmaking," The Film Academy FAMU, Prague, 2007.

Invited to present "The Boundaries in Milan Kundera's and Milos Forman's Works: The Political and Philosophical versus the Universal," European Emigrés-Writers and National Boundaries in the 20th Century held at Yale, 2002.

Invited to present "Teaching Czech Around the Globe: Use of Methodology and Technology in the Classroom" at the 21st SVU World Congress, Pilsen, 2002.

Invited to join the American Comparative Literature Association to present "Female Characters in Milan Kundera and Milos Forman's Works," Yale University, 2000.

Invited to speak about the literary scene in the Czech Republic at the Seminar "Arts in Transition: Literature and Visual Art in Russia, Central and East Europe since 1989." Rutgers University, October 20-21, 1997.

Invited to present a lecture "Rivalry Reconsidered: The Czech Joke and Unbearable Lightness in Kundera's French Novel *Slowness*." Columbia University, Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures, 1997.

Invited to recite my poems at forums at Harvard-Radcliffe Bunting Institute Colloquium, 1996-2000.

Invited to deliver a Lecture on Differences in Czech and American Educational Systems, Univerzita Karlova, Filozofická Fakulta. March 1993.

Invited as a Guest speaker at the Prague radio talk-show *Host do domu*. Discussed Czech and American Cultural Differences, Spring 1993.

Invited to give a lecture "Vaclav Havel's Role in Literature and Politics" at the University of Nebraska. Offered a tenure-track position to join the Department in 1988.

**REVIEWER
EVALUATOR**

Reviewer for Columbia University Press (review of a manuscript "Worlds Apart"), Spring 2023
 Adviser on Czech concepts for Janet Malcolm's *Still Pictures* (a former *The New Yorker* journalist). Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2023
 Reviewer for *Comparative Literature Studies*, an Academic Journal by Penn State University Press, Fall 2021
 Reviewer for the *Slavic and East European Journal* (SEEJ), Fall 2021
 Reviewer for the *Czech Science Foundation* in the Czech Republic supporting all areas of research, Fall 2021
 Reviewer for *Slavic Review*, Interdisciplinary Quarterly published by Cambridge University Press, Fall 2020

**COMMITTEES
(selected)**

- Nominated for the Yale FAS Senate (2021-23)
- Contributing Editor Plamen Press, Washington, D.C., Spring 2020-21

- Invited to join the Charles University Project KREAS that concerns the excellence of teaching, 2017-18
- Member of Search Committee in Linguistics Position at West Bohemia University in Plzen, 2015-present.
- Selection Committee Member for the Best Fiction Story at Jonathan Edwards College, 2005-present
- Member of the Yale's Jonathan Edwards College Selection Senior Essay Prize Committee, 2005-present
- Member of the Yale's Jonathan Edwards College Selection Committee for the Bates Grants, 1997-2013
- Member of the ACLS Selection Committee for Ph.D. East European Language Training Grants, 1997-2002
- Jonathan Edwards College Fellow, Yale University, 1996-present
- External Member of the Ph.D. Committee (Czech Literature) Rutgers University, 1997-99
- Member of the Yale Ph.D. Comprehensive Examinations Committee (Czech Literature), 1996-2015
- Yale Committee Member for Master Theses: Adviser and Reader
- External Member of the Doctoral (PhDr. degree) Committee in Linguistics, Charles University, 1992-93

**ADVISER & READER
of PH.D. & MASTER
THESES**

- Extensive student advising: Yale College Adviser (1995-2023), U of Toronto Student Adviser (2024-25)
- Reader of ten doctoral dissertations and several master theses in Slavic literature and culture (1995-23)
- Advising Slavic Department First-year Ph.D. student on Czech Avant-garde research, Fall 2019
- Language Examiner for an M.A. applicant in European Studies at the University of Leipzig, 2019
- Wesleyan University External Examiner for Czech, Spring 2018
- Advising Slavic Department Ph.D. Candidate on her research interest in Bohumil Hrabal's works, 2016-18
- Member of Jonathan Edwards College Senior Essay Prize Committee: reading and submitting detailed evaluations of Senior Essays in Humanities, Social Sciences, and Creative Writing, Yale, 2012-present
- Adviser to an undergraduate student's writing project-fiction "Wilbur in the Wind, Spring 2017
- Senior Essay Adviser to Mengshi Zhang's thesis on Modernism in French and Czech Poetry, 2015-16
- Faculty Adviser to *The Yale Historical Review* on Prague Spring's Cultural Liberalism, Spring 2012
- Examiner for the European Studies Council USDE summer FLAS grants to study Czech, 2012-present
- Adviser to Ariel Borensztein's award winning Senior Essay "A Space Beyond Jokes" on Milan Kundera and Philip Roth, 2012
- Adviser to Alexandria Lefkowitz's Senior Essay "Milan Kundera: Nostalgia, Displacement and the Quest for Collective," Comparative Literature Department at Yale, 2009
- Adviser to Beth Pavlicek's Senior Essay written in Czech on "Czech Educational System," 2006
- Adviser to Joseph Slaughter's Senior Essay "The Poetry of Prose: Slang in Crime Fiction," 2004
- External Reader for the ACTR/ACCELS Research Scholar Program, 2000-2004
- External Dissertation Adviser to a Ph.D. candidate on Kundera & Gombrowicz, Rutgers U., 1997-98
- Academic Adviser to Carley Hydusik's M.A. thesis "The Reception of Anglicism in Czech Language and Culture," REES, Yale University, 1997
- External Reader for *The European Studies Journal*, 1997-2000
- Freshmen and Sophomore Faculty and College Adviser for Jonathan Edwards and other Yale Colleges, such as Silliman, Morse, Davenport). Advised over 100 students between 1997-present
- Academic Adviser to Dwayne Linville's M.A. thesis on East European and Czech History, REES, Yale University, 1996-97
- Senior Essay Adviser to additional students in Literature, Humanities and Film, 2001-present
- Trinity College Tutor and External Examiner for Czech, 1996-99, 2003-04
- Member of The National Council of Organizations of Less Commonly Taught Languages, 1997
- Supervised graduate teaching fellows in courses: Milan Kundera, Prague Film and Fiction, 1995-present
- Member of the Editorial Board of the *Czech Language News*, 1994-2005
- Vice President of the North American Association of Teachers of Czech, 1994-99
- Initiated and established the North American Association of Teachers of Czech, 1994
- Weekly Columnist on Czech Language and Culture for *The Prague Post*, 1993-2000
- Member of Search Committee for Hiring Czech Language Assistants, Harvard University, 1988-94

**SERVICE AND
PROFESSIONAL
ACTIVITIES**

Evaluator (peer review) of "The Anxiety of Insufficiency: Female Masochism in Milan Kundera's Fiction." for *Slavic and East European Journal*, December 2021.

Evaluator (peer review) of "Metabiography, or the Evasive Character of Real Life: from Modernism to Post-truth" for *Comparative Literature Studies*, November 2021.

Evaluator (peer review) of the manuscript “Básník Milan Kundera” (The Poet Milan Kundera) for *Czech Science Foundation*, August 2021.

Evaluator (peer review) of “The Fundamentals of Milan Kundera’s Poetics” article for *Slavic Review*, November 2020.

Participated in a virtual debate with the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Tomáš Petříček, about the status of Czech citizens living abroad, November 2020.

Participated in various Faculty Programs and Initiatives sessions at the Yale Poorvu Center in the CLS discussions on teaching and learning, 2019-present

Participated in 2019 Consortium Workshop Project-Based Language Teaching and Learning at Yale University, October 2019.

Participated in The New England Regional Association for Language Learning Technology Workshop. Hands on/Hand off: Play, Programming & the Role of Language Resource Centers, Connecticut College, March 2019.

External Reader of Glasgow University manuscript “In Search of Shared Expression: Karel Čapek’s Travel Writing and Imaginative Geography of Europe” for submission to Toronto U. press, 2018.

External Reader and Evaluator of a creative writing manuscript titled “A Russian Jew,” written by a Boston College Professor, November 2018.

Associate Scholar at the Harvard Davis Center for Russian and Eurasian Studies, 2015-present.

Negotiated and secured an internship with a scholarship in robotics for a Yale student at CEITEC, a Central European Institute of Technology in Brno, Spring 2017.

Member of the Executive Board of Yale Club in Prague, elected 2014-present.

Faculty Affiliate with the Council for European Studies (CES) at Yale MacMillan Center, 2013-present.

External Evaluator (and blurb writer) of Jana Rehak’s *Czech Political Prisoners*, Lexington Books, New York, January 2013.

Supervised translation of Martin Vopěnka’s novel *Spící město* from the Czech to the English version, *The Sleeping City* by Jared Dworken, 2013.

Advised Walton Wilson, Associate Chair of the Department of Acting at Yale School of Drama, and leading actors in Czech pronunciation, phrasing, intonation, and diction for the final production of the 2012-2013 Rep season: *In A Year With 13 Moons*, adapted and directed by Robert Woodruff, Spring 2013.

Negotiated and secured three internships with scholarships in nanotechnology for Yale students at CEITEC, a newly established Central European Institute of Technology in Brno. Spring 2013.

Participated in “The New Europe Conference” as one of its commentators, Yale, April 2012.

Acted in 2012 Yale Class Day Video Cameo: playing a role of a professor concerned about students’ safety when a disaster is about to struck Yale, Spring 2012.

Advised Yale School of Drama graduate students on Contemporary Czech Theater and its bibliography, Spring 2012.

Worked as a movie extra in Gary Griffin’s feature film *Listopad* (November), based on the director’s first-hand experiences during the Velvet Revolution of 1989, Summer 2011.

Invited by Yale Film Center to introduce Jan Švankmajer’s film *Alice*, and Ján Kadár’s film *The Shop on Main Street*, 2009-2011.

Attended Yale College Faculty meetings, and FAS Senate meetings, 2009-2023.

Recorded voice for a concentration camp Terezín documentary, "Art Behind Walls," 2009.

Czech Language Examiner, Trinity College, 2006.

Actively participates in Instructional Innovation Workshops at the Center for Language Study, 2005-present.

Designed and chaired Yale Summer Session (YSS) Abroad Program in Prague and developed its curriculum, including the language, film, hands-on creative film workshop, screenwriting, fiction writing, literature, culture, politics and history instruction, as well as the cultural travels across the Czech Republic and former Austria-Hungary: Vienna, Budapest and Piran, and including Dresden and Berlin in Germany, and Northern Italy. Managed program finances, directs, led and taught the program, hired filmmakers, guest-speakers and teaching assistants, 2003-2019.

Vice President of the North American Association of Teachers of Czech, 1995-97. Proposed and with assistance of Dr. Michael Lenker from the University of Pennsylvania participated in establishing the Association (NAATC), 1995. Later the Association was renamed International Association of Teachers of Czech. In 1997-99 became the Features Editor and contributed with articles in the 1995 and subsequent issues.

Organized and invited participants to Czech Tables, prepared students to participate in yearly Talent Slams, and promoted Czech studies at the Academic Fair and yearly Yale Bulldogs Days, 1995-2023.

Participated in colloquium on Czech Language Methodology, AAASS, Washington, D.C., 1995.

Affiliated with the Harvard Minda de Gunzburg Center for European Studies (CES), 1994-96. Co-chaired seminars on Literature and Politics with the writer Helen Epstein, 1994-95.

Organized and chaired the Czech Language International Seminar. Supported by the Ivy Leagues Consortium for Language Teaching and Learning. Invited 25 teachers of Czech from the United States, Canada and Europe to participate in the seminar at University of Pennsylvania, 1994.

Consultant to the Applied Linguistics Second-year Czech Project. Georgetown University, Washington, D.C., Fall 1993-95.

Established a travel grant for two-month visiting fellowship at Harvard Children Hospital for Czech medical specialists at Motol Hospital in Prague, 1993.

Applied for university and government grants to establish summer program in Czech at Harvard, 1991-94.

Advised Harvard students on publishing in Czech journals. Edited students' contributions by Douglas Herbert and Jeremy Bransten who published their literary and political contributions in *Československý týdeník* (1/16, 1992), 1990-94.

Administered placement exams in Czech for Harvard Freshman Dean's Office, 1988-94.

Reviewer of Czech Language Report conducted by the National Foreign Language Resource Center at Georgetown University and the Center for Applied Linguistics, Washington, D.C., Fall 1992.

Advised George Washington University and Georgetown University/Center for Applied Linguistics in Washington, D.C., on hiring procedures in Czech, 1992.

Presented a seminar lecture on Czech Language and Culture for the Harvard-Radcliffe Orchestra, 1992.

Served as an Interpreter for Czech government visitors, Harvard Center for European Studies (CES), 1992

Conducted a Czech Language Tutorial by correspondence for a Law School student at the University of Chicago, 1991-92.

Conducted an interview with Miroslav Holub, a Czech poet visiting Harvard, 1991.

Coordinator for Teaching English Language and Literature in Czechoslovakia. Initiated positions at Charles University, Prague Language Institute, the Prague Pedagogical Institute and other organizations. About ten students/teachers from USA participated in the 1990-91 program.

Reviewed résumés and advised Harvard students interested in working in Czechoslovakia, 1989-1994.

Participated in workshops on Cultural Literacy for Students of Russian. Organized and chaired by Slavic Department at Harvard University, 1989-93.

Translated an interview with Václav Havel conducted in Prague in November 1989 for the World Monitor Television Broadcasting, Fall 1989.

Administered Czech language tests for students at Wellesley College, Tufts University, Springfield College and MIT to fulfill language requirements, 1988-92.

Harvard Russian Research Center Faculty Fellow, 1987-95

Conducted survey on Czech language teaching materials to determine and cover shortcomings in available pedagogical sources. The project carried out under the auspices of the Ivy League-Stanford-Chicago-MIT Consortium for Language Teaching and Learning, Fall 1987.

Participated in Educational Testing Service training sessions in Princeton. Wrote items for ETS Language Instructional Program, December 1987.

Participated in Faculty Teaching Seminar on Team-Teaching and Teacher Training sponsored by the Harvard-Danforth Center for Teaching and Learning, Spring 1987.

Supervised tape recording and recorded Readings and Dialogues/Story Adaptation, and for Selected Readings, 1991. Recorded texts and exercises on tapes accompanying Michael Heim's textbook *Contemporary Czech*, 1987.

Completed exercises and supervised tape recording of Jan Holub's *Czech for Beginners*, 1986.

Served as Judge at Local and Regional Russian Olympiads for High School Students at Buckingham Browne&Nichols Upper School, 1988 and at Phillips Academy in Andover, 1986.

Hired & supervised Czech language drill instructors at Harvard College, Harvard Summer School, 1984-94.

Advised students on graduate programs in Czech at American universities, and on summer programs at American colleges and Czechoslovak universities, 1985-present.

Organized, arranged, and promoted study trips to Charles University in Czechoslovakia and to the Soviet Union for Boston College, University of Texas-Austin and Harvard: 1981-82, 1985, 1988-1989, 1991-94.

Organized and lead Boston College Summer Educational Trip to Moscow-Leningrad-Tbilisi, 1981.

Has written hundreds of letters of recommendation on behalf of students at Yale, Harvard, University of Texas at Austin, Tufts University, Boston University, and Boston College, 1981-present.

INTERVIEWS

University of Toronto Podcast, CIUT 89.5 FM, recording a "masterclass" episode on Czech and Slovak New Wave Films, released and distributed on April 18, 2025: https://linktr.ee/nameless_light

Interview with CTK Eliska Naegele about 2025 Presidential elections and Trump influence on Central Europe. Will be published with other contributors' opinions in Prague. Interview conducted Jan. 15, 2025. <https://www.ceskenoviny.cz/zpravy/2620994>

Zoom interview with a Czech British TV anchor on May 31, 2021, on the topic of Joe Biden's presidency and the remembrance of Black Wall Street massacre in Tulsa, Oklahoma, that took place 100 years ago.
<https://blisty.cz/art/104088-rozhovor-britskych-listu-397-amerika-ma-strach-rikat-vtipy.html>

Video interview for Czech TV, conducted on November 4, 2020, about the climate during the US presidential elections: <https://blisty.cz/art/101708-rozhovor-britskych-listu-332-amerika-zesilela.html>

Interviewed by CTK Eliska Naegle about the division of American society before the 2020 Presidential elections. Published with other contributors' opinions in <https://www.ceskenoviny.cz/zpravy/americka-spolecnost-je-rozdelena-shoduji-se-cesti-krajane/1952756>

Three video interviews were conducted for Czech TV stations on these topics, June-July 2018:

- My book, *Milan Kundera's Fiction: A Critical Approach to Existential Betrayals*: <https://youtu.be/pfAMzjybMNM>
- My novel *Among the Sinners*: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a3EYC-3kDgk>
- Teaching Czech language and literature at Yale and in the US: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5R2pC4rENdQ>

Two-hour interview with *The Washington Post*'s reporter, Harrison Smith, on Milan Kundera's literary accomplishments in preparation for future Kundera's obituary in *The Washington Post*, March 2018.

Interviewed by The *Yale Daily News* about my teaching experience at Yale-NUS, Fall 2017.

Interviewed by Cecilia Mazanec from NPR on the cultural significance and history the Czech Easter Bread, called *mazanec*, April 2017.

Interviewed by Rozhlas.cz on how Czechs living in the US view the President Donald Trump, January 2017.

Interviewed by Slovak television on James Ragan's poetry, Prague American Center Reading, July 2012.

Interviewed by Alan Levy, a foreign correspondent for *International Herald Tribune*, and the Editor-in-Chief for *The Prague Post* on my life trajectory. Published in *The Prague Post*, 1999.

Interviewed three times by *The Yale Daily News* on status of Czech, Yale Summer Session in Prague, and Yale-NUS summer course teaching, 1996-2023.

Interviewed by Tania Pampalone to contribute on American children assimilation in Czechoslovakia, *The Prague Post*, Vol. 2, No. 46, 1992.

Interviewed by Ken Gewertz to contribute on Czechoslovakia for "Reflections on Eastern Europe," *Harvard University Gazette*, March 2, 1990, Vol. LXXXV, No. 2, pp. 9 and 10.

Interviewed by Robert Taylor to contribute on Václav Havel, *Boston Globe*, January 5, 1990, pp. 67/75.

Interviewed by Samuel G. Perry to contribute on Jaroslav Seifert, the Czech Nobel Prize Winner, for the United Press International, October 11, 1984.

CONSULTING

- Consulted about 30 firms, publishing houses and educational institutions on Czech language, culture, and literature, on translating books by Czech authors, and on hiring Czechs, 1990-2023.
- Consulted Anthem Press in London, UK on their prospective future publishing series, April 2017.
- Consulted FAMU on issues of structure in classroom, and incorporation of literature for Film majors, 2005.

- Consulted Microsoft Corporation on politically and historically sensitive Czech terminology, 2002-2003.
- Consulted Houghton Mifflin Software Division on hiring Czech language native speakers, 1993.
- Consulted Fulbright Office in Prague on Czech language teaching methodology, 1993.
- Consulted Farrah, Straus & Giroux on translating Czech Literature, 1992.
- Consulted Catbird Press/Garrigue Books on translating Czech literature, 1992.
- Advised Eastern European Study Group at MIT Sloan School of Management on Czech, 1992.
- Consulted Donald H.C. Libbey Co. on Czechoslovak business issues, 1990-92.
- Consulted NYNEX on Czech language, 1991.
- Consulted Beacon Press on possible acquisition of works by Czech writers for translating/ publishing, 1991.
- Consulted Harvard Graduate School of Business Administration on Glasswork in Czechoslovakia, translated a case, 1991.
- Served as a Consultant to *Journal of Czechoslovak and Central European Studies*, 1991-92.
- Consulted the Bunting Institute, Harvard University. Translated documents and promoted a Bunting Institute Fellow, a writer Miroslava Holubová, from Czechoslovakia, 1990-92.

CURRENT INTERESTS In addition to current research, I am also involved in cognitive science theories applicable to East European and Eurasian literatures and cultures & issues involving immigration and marginalized citizens.

Working on an idea for my second novel with a topic of perception and illusion.

RELATED EXPERIENCE Free-lance Interpreter in English, French, Russian, Czech, and Slovak for United States Department of Justice, 1988-90.

Free-lance translator for the Boston Language Institute, 1985-90.

Academic Adviser at Boston University Metropolitan College. Responsible for all aspects of undergraduate academic advising, credit evaluations and student services program development, 1983-84.

Director of Academic and Career Counseling Project at International Institute of Boston: responsible for administration and fiscal management of four-month project to provide academic and professional counseling to émigrés from Eastern Europe. Assisted in recertification and transfer of skills. Developed curriculum and materials for employment workshops. Trained and supervised employees. Conducted job development activities and placement. Prepared financial reports and written evaluations of the program, 1982-83.

LANGUAGES Native tongue: Czech
 Native fluency: English
 Near native fluency: French, Russian, Slovak
 Working knowledge: German, Italian, Polish, Slovenian, Spanish, Ukrainian

PERSONAL Born in Prague, Czechoslovakia
 Citizenships US, Canadian, Czech

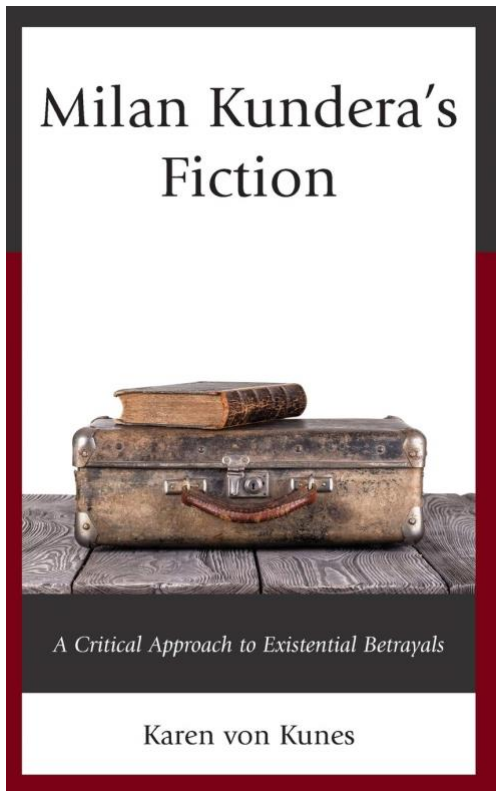
MEMBERSHIP Humanities Education and Research Association (HERA)
 (present & past) North American Association of Teachers of Czech (NAATC)-founding member
 Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies (ASEES)
 American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies (AAASS)
 International Council for Central and East European Studies (ICCEESS)
 American Association of Teachers of Slavic and East European Languages (AATSEEL)
 New England Slavic Association (NESA)
 Canadian Association of Slavists (CAS)
 Czechoslovak Society of Arts and Sciences (SVU)
 International Association of Teachers of Czech (IATC)

April 17, 2025

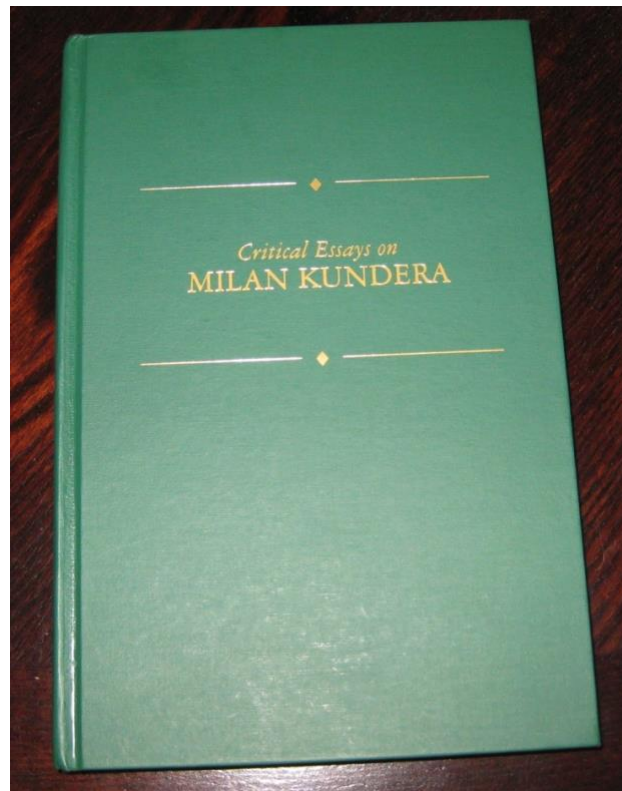
Below are jackets of Karen von Kunes's published books single authored, chapters in multi-authored books, and introductions to books (not in a chronological order):



Karen von Kunes, taken at Yale (2023)



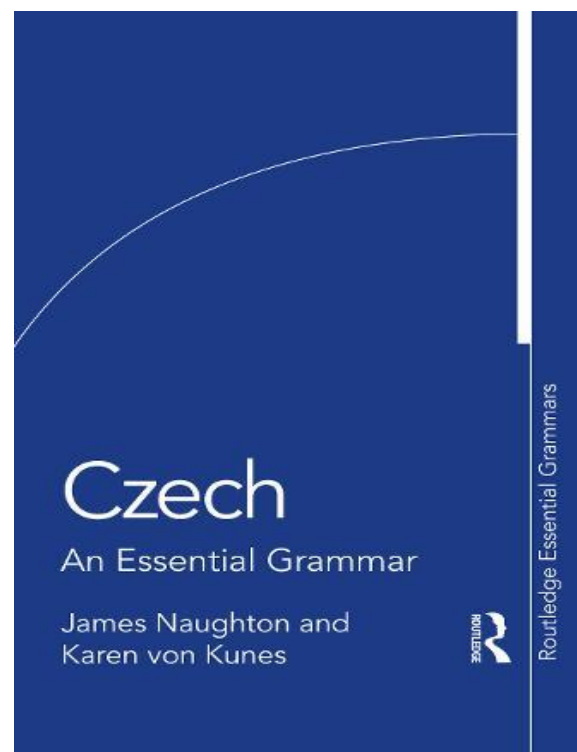
Karen von Kunes: single author (2019)



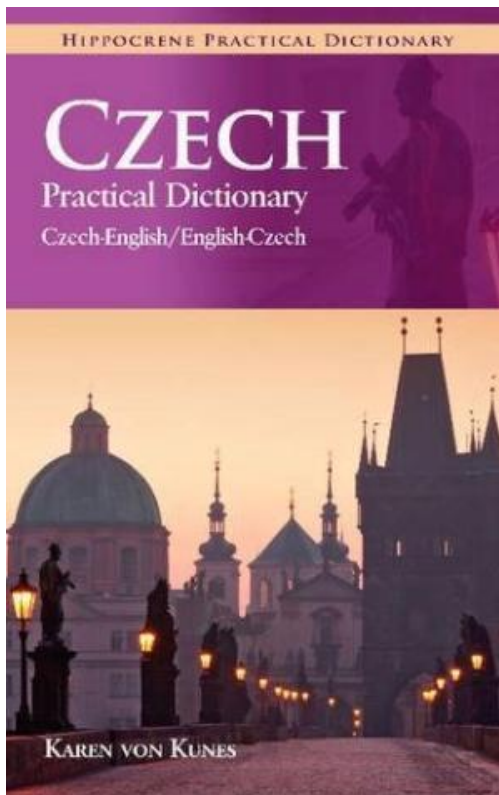
Karen von Kunes (chapter) and other authors (1999)



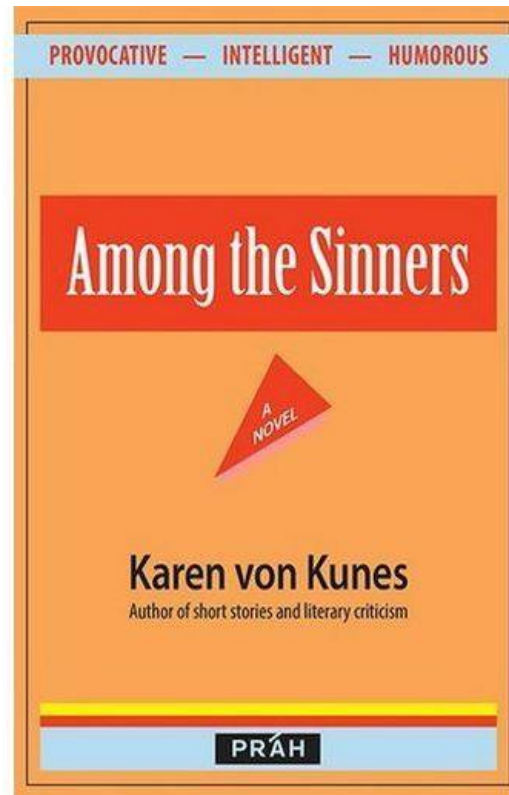
Foreword by Karen von Kunes (2020)



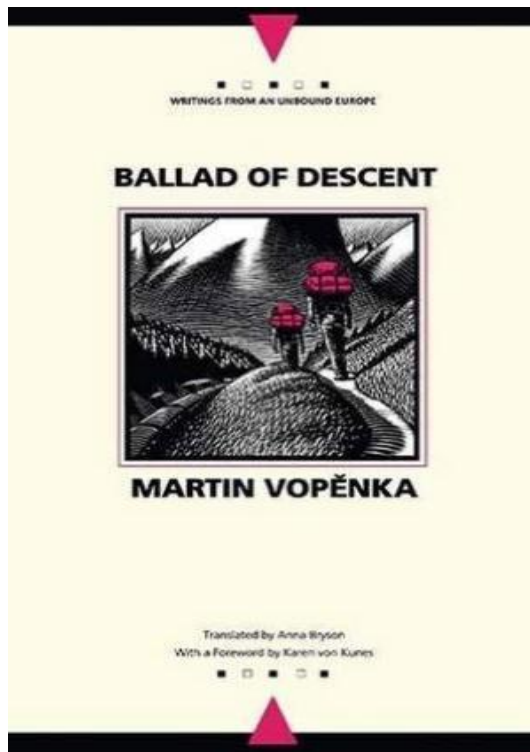
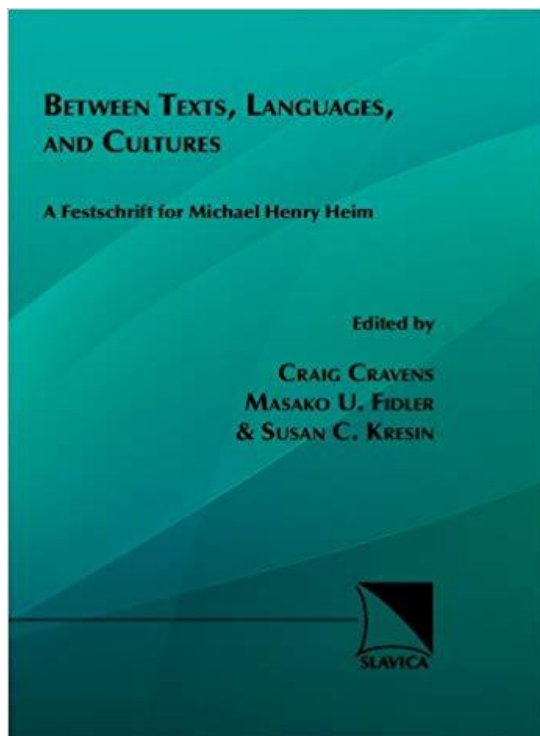
James Naughton and Karen von Kunes
Revised and updated 2nd edition (2021)



Karen von Kunes: single author (2011)

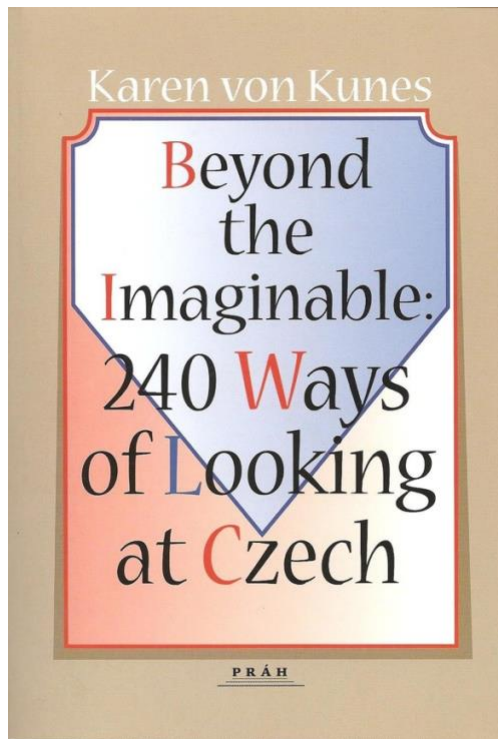


Karen von Kunes: single author (2013)

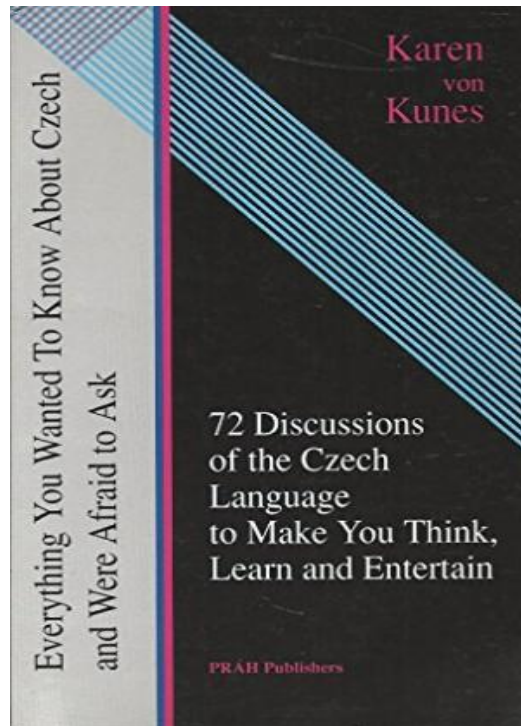


Karen von Kunes and other authors (1992)

Foreword by Karen von Kunes (2013)



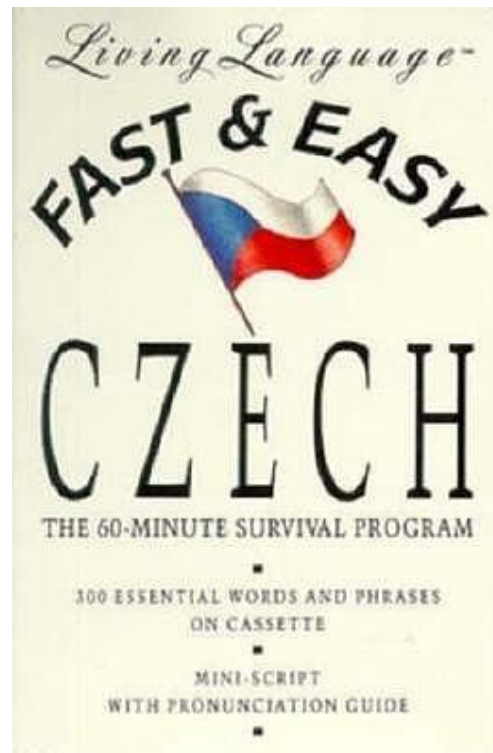
Karen von Kunes: single author (1999)



Karen von Kunes: single author (1995)



Alena Walter and Karen von Kunes (1998)



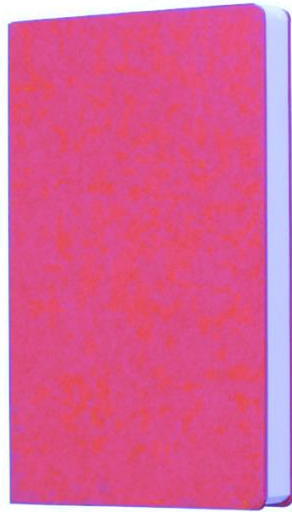
Karen von Kunes: single author (1992)



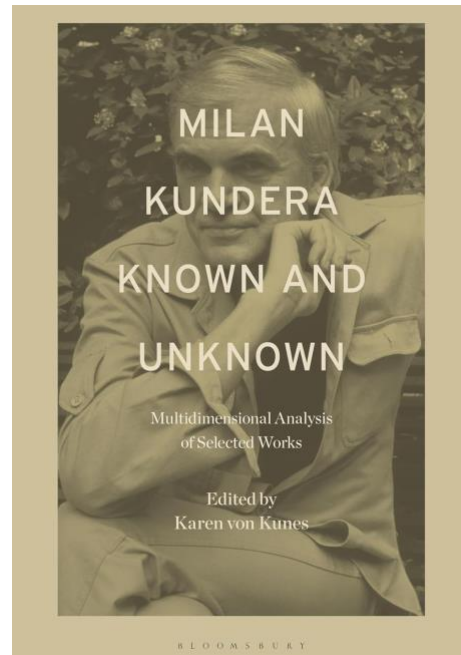
Karen von Kunes: Voskovec and Werich's play translated into English (1992)



Karen von Kunes: Czech and Slovak Literary Theory *New Literary History International Bibliography of Literary Theory and Criticism* (1988)—now archived



Karen von Kunes: *Crystal Clear Czech: Innovative Approach to Learning Czech* (under contract)



Karen von Kunes, ed., *Milan Kundera Known and Unknown: Multidisciplinary Analysis of Selected Works*



Karen von Kunes, *Milos Forman's Films: His Spiritual Vision, Mission and Artistic Execution* (possibly Columbia U., Press 2027)



Karen von Kunes and other authors (2025)
