

## Benjamin Kuras

Benjamin Kuras is a prolific Anglo-Czech writer. Arriving in London in 1968, he served the usual expatriate's term at the BBC World Service, and had his first English play performed on Radio 4 in 1975. This was followed by a further 15 plays performed on radio and in small theatres in the UK, Germany, Switzerland, Italy, Austria, Israel, and the Czech Republic. His greatest success was *Supper of Ashes*, a comedy about the last days of the Italian Renaissance heretic philosopher Giordano Bruno. After a production at the Soho Poly in London, the play was taken by BBC Radio and had a 14-month run in the repertory of the *Eurotheatrer* in Bonn, where it was produced with the assistance of the Italian Institute of Culture and the University of Bonn.

Since 1990, Benjamin started to make return visits to Czechia and took up writing in Czech, with articles for several newspapers and magazines of which there must now be over 1,000 and which he now writes at the rate of 6 a month (regular in MFDnes, Euro and Xantypa), in addition to at least two books a year. He has published 20 books in Czech, of which 3 were first written in English. He also writes an occasional English column for The Prague Post, who label him "a humorist who is taken seriously".

He now divides his time about equally between Prague, London and a few other places. He sticks to regular writing routine wherever he is.

Selected reviews:

### ***Czechs and Balances***

"Makes Czech history look as easy as getting thrown out of a window. Dissects the Czech national character with relish and wit. An informative, highly entertaining perspective on Czech history - a rarity in English." *The Prague Post*

### ***As Golems Go***

"A fine study of the thoughts and writings of the Maharal, presented in a humorous and popular format." *Jonathan Magonet in European Judaism*

### ***Is There Life On Marx***

"A series of short reflections on developments and problems in Czech society after 1989. One is bound to crack a smile sooner or later, the satirical portraits of contemporary politicians are particularly refreshing." *The Prague Post*