

The original idea for "Havel's Place" came from the Czech Ambassador Petr Gandalovič. He invited Bořek Šípek, an architect and designer, to create a piece of art to celebrate President Václav Havel's democratic views.

Šípek designed two metal garden chairs and a table and placed them around a Linden Tree, the national tree of the Czech Republic. His idea was to create a gathering place in a public space to promote dialogue, discussion and freedom of speech.

On September 27, 2014 the sixth Havel's Place was unveiled on the Campus of the Venice International University, on the island of San Servolo.

Ambassador Umberto Vattani, President of the Venice International University, Petr Burianek, Czech Ambassador to Italy, Giorgio Boatto, Honorary Consul of the Czech Republic, Professor Agar Brugiavini, Dean of the Venice International University, and Bořek Šípek, the artist who created the piece, took part in the presentation of the sculpture.



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