

“L'SCHONNOH HABBO! NACH DEM SCHÖNEN
MARIENBAD ...“

ON THE AMBIVALENCE OF A MODERN SANCTUARY

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From the end of the 19th century up to the 1930s the Bohemian resorts Carlsbad, Marienbad and Franzensbad were known as places of Europe-wide Jewish encounters. Paradoxically – despite their location in the heart of the Czech-German conflict and a vivid anti-Semitism – these places offered every summer a stage for Jewish experiences, which were limited to the exceptional moment of the stay. Regarding the specific sociability of spas as cultural, medical and tourist gathering places, this article understands the Bohemian resorts as ambivalent shelters for diverse modern Jewish cultures.