Ambassador Dr. Cerar Visits Kansas City

Ambassador Dr. Božo Cerar on April 14 visited the National World War I Museum in Kansas City, for a screening of the internationally acclaimed Slovenian-Austrian film The Woods Are Still Green. The film, which premiered in 2014 and was written and directed by Marko Naberšnik, tells an enthralling story about a group of Austria-Hungarian artillery soldiers located in the mountains on the Isonzo front (Soška fronta) opposing Italy during World War I and their experiences in coping with the nightmares of war.

In the morning of April 15, the ambassador visited the University of Kansas and met with the Director of the School of Languages, Literatures & Cultures, Prof. Marc L. Greenberg and his wife Marta Pirnat–Greenberg. The University of Kansas is the only U.S. university to offer Slovene language and linguistics as part of its degree curriculum. While visiting KU, the ambassador presented a talk entitled “The International Court: From Nuremberg to Kampala and Beyond”, in which he examined the origins, proceedings and enforcement of international criminal law, spanning the time from the post-WWII era to the present. Following the lecture, the ambassador met with the Dean of the KU School of Business, Dr. Neeli Bendapudi, who hosted a private luncheon for him with select students and faculty.

Ambassador Dr. Cerar met with Kansas University School of Business students.
The ambassador’s program also included meetings with the Kansas City, KS, Mayor Mark Holland and the Kansas City, MO, Mayor Sly James, a trip to the U.S Army Command and General Staff College, where Slovenian army members attend advanced study programs. He also held a briefing on the Slovenian foreign policy priorities and economic outlook for the Editorial Board of the Kansas City Star. Ambassador Dr. Cerar also visited the Slovenian room at the Strawberry Hill Museum & Cultural Center and, on Thursday, April 16, the Holy Family church, founded by Slovenian immigrants more than 100 years ago. The ambassador’s visit was arranged and hosted by Ms. Barbara Koval Nelson, Honorary Consul for Slovenia in the Midwest.

Ambassador Dr. Cerar giving address at the WWI museum.

Honorary Consul Ms. Barbara Nelson, Prof. Marta Pirk Greenberg and Prof. Marc Greenberg. (Photo credit: Christian Beer – KU School of Languages, Literatures & Cultures)

FOREIGN POLICY

Ambassador Attends Sovereign Challenge Conference

The U.S. Special Operations Command (USSOCOM) organized at New York University in New York from April 7 to 10 the XIII Sovereign Challenge Conference, entitled Transnational Flows in Turbulent Times. The program focused mainly on the threat of terrorism and radicalization and, in this regard, particularly to the issue of foreign fighters and returned foreign fighters. The program also encouraged discussion on how to prevent extremism and ensure enhancement of security within the global environment.

The program was

Ambassador Dr. Cerar (right) and Colonel Ivan Mikuž (left) with General Joseph L. Votel, Commander of the U.S. Special Operations Command.
developed for foreign defense and diplomatic communities. Seminar speakers included, among others, NYC Police Commissioner, William Bratton; Washington Post journalist David Ignatius; Professor of Security Studies at the University of Massachusetts Mia Bloom; Head of INTERPOL’s Maritime Security unit, Pierre St. Hilaire. Ambassador Dr. Cerar and Defense Attaché Colonel Ivan Mikuž joined the event, built upon debates of security issues and actively participated in the discussions.

BUSINESS

Annual Meeting of Slovenian Economic Attachés

Foreign Minister Karl Erjavec opened on Tuesday, April 7 a two-day consultation of Slovenian economic attachés, at which he stressed that economic diplomacy remains a priority of Slovenia’s foreign policy. He outlined that economic counselors have an important role both in attracting foreign investors to Slovenia and helping Slovenian businesses enter foreign markets. He also noted that Slovenia would further endeavor to stay an export-oriented economy. In his remarks, the minister also pointed to the upcoming Expo 2015 in Milan, Italy, calling on Slovenian companies to seize the opportunity of the event also by inviting foreign partners to invest in Slovenia.

The first-day program of the meeting included also a debate on internationalization, investment opportunities, current economic situation, and development and guidelines for economic diplomacy. On the second day, the economic attachés took a trip to the city of Nova Gorica to meet the representatives of Slovenian businesses in western Slovenia. The meeting was also attended by Mr. Gorazd Renčelj, economic counselor at the Washington Embassy of Slovenia, who participated in various workshops and held meetings with representatives of local businesses.
Minister of Finance, Dr. Dušan Mramor, Visits Washington for the World Bank & IMF Spring Meeting

Slovenian Finance Minister, Dr. Dušan Mramor, and the Governor of the Slovenian central bank - Banka Slovenije, Dr. Boštjan Jazbec, paid a visit last week to Washington, D.C. to attend the annual spring meeting of the World Bank Group and the International Monetary Fund.

Speaking to Slovenian reporters on the margins of the meeting on Saturday, the Finance Minister said that representatives of the two financial organizations expressed surprise over Slovenia’s ability to put its economy back on track of late. “Slovenia is now among the countries with healthy growth, falling unemployment and resurgent job creation, which reinforces the belief that it is capable of implementing change,” he said. However, he highlighted that the praise also came with recommendations that the country must press ahead with structural reforms and efforts to consolidate its public finance.

At the beginning of his visit to the U.S., on April 12 and 13, Finance Minister Dr. Dušan Mramor accompanied by Mrs. Irena Sodin, State Secretary, Mr. Marjan Divjak, Director General and Mr. Gonzalo Caprirolo, Chief Economist at the Slovenian Ministry of Finance, also made a visit to the Bay Area. He met with Slovenian business community in San Francisco, visited Stanford University and attended a reception hosted by Honorary Consul Tom Brandi. Finance Minister also made a trip to New York for a visit to several major banks which hold Slovenian bonds. He also traveled to Boston to deliver a lecture at Harvard about Slovenia’s transition to post crisis period at the university’s Center for European Studies.
Miss SNPJ, Nicole Vehar, Represents Slovenia at the Cherry Blossom Festival

Miss SNPJ Nicole Vehar, during the weekend of April 10-12, represented the Embassy of Slovenia in the Cherry Blossom Princess Program. This was the second year of the SNPJ–Embassy of Slovenia participation in the program, with a Miss SNPJ as the embassy’s representative at the biggest festival in Washington.

Nicole was chosen as the 59th Miss SNPJ during the Slovenefest, Slovene National Benefit Society’s three-day cultural festival held each year at the SNPJ Recreation Center in Enon Valley in Pennsylvania. Ms. Vehar has been a member of SNPJ’s Lodge 138 in Strabane, PA, since she was 5. She is now 19 and attending Ohio State University where she studies biomedical engineering. In addition to a scholarship award, the honor of the SNPJ pageant enabled her to travel to the capital (she flew to D.C. straight from her school obligations in Columbus, OH!) and participate in the National Cherry Blossom Princess Program.

The Cherry Blossom Princess Program was established in 1948. State and territory societies, as well as foreign embassies, like the Embassy of Slovenia, select young women between the ages of 19 and 24 to participate in the program. A few of the highlight activities Nicole participated in included the Official Cherry Blossom Grand Ball, and the Cherry Blossom Parade – the grand finale of the three-week-long Cherry Blossom Festival, when Nicole and all the other Cherry Blossom Princesses rode in a parade down Constitution Avenue in Washington.

The Saturday parade was attended by several thousand people.
Mapping Slovene Contemporary Art Exchange

Božidar Zrinski, Curator at the International Center for Graphic Arts, Ljubljana:

Today’s international society, in which we live and which surrounds us all the time, is characterized by constant information, good and bad, useful and useless. Some informational landscape has always been present, and artists have been aware of it since Pop Art, or even earlier. Many have tried to find their position in this completely fragmented and information-rich environment. Some have leaned somewhat onto tradition and their surroundings. Many younger artists in Slovenia, however, no longer associate with an artistic tradition but try to transfer the daily information surplus into their work. I’d dare say that they’re very good, not lacking cultural broadness.

Marta Stemberger, Slovene Translation Wizardess at Arinna, Inc, NYC:

Eva, layers and shadows are the theme of your current installation “This space is a box”, on view through July 27 at the Austrian Cultural Forum in New York. And your February installation at Bergdorf Goodman had laces as collages with layers, shadows.

Eva Petrič, Slovene Multi-Disciplinary Artist, Ljubljana, Vienna, NYC:

Our way of life is marked by many beginnings and endings, new beginnings. People are constantly undertaking new ideas, new projects. This certainly affects contemporary artworks. And mine as well: they can all be seen as collages.

I’m working with photography, but for me the photos are like letters that I assemble into images. I enjoy it most when working with installations where people themselves can move, where there are layers, shadows, artistic, cultural works.

The more we develop, the more we become aware of what exists around us, but also inside us. On the one side, we are more individualistic, we have a stronger I. At the same time, we must exist in a larger structure, in a collage. Lace is a good example. On a micro level, it represents a pattern, how we’re structured: our vascular and nerve systems. On the macro level, we have stars. Lace is such a universal pattern, which I think will be seen more and more.

MS: While we have our own Idrija laces in Slovenia, laces appear in almost all cultures around the world in various ways.

EP: Yes, to me they are an artistic form. I think art is always a reflection of something real in a more abstract way, and can stand in for many things. A lace is one line, a thread that connects point A with point B, creates a relation.

MS: That’s how it’s made. There are bobbins, pins, thread interweaving. It’s like many people creating a pattern together.

EP: I was invited to a large conference of European Geosciences Union “Voyage through Scales” in Vienna, April 12-17, 2015, precisely because of my theme. The scientists, who are researching the Earth’s interior and the Cosmos,
wanted my project with laces “IN between UNIVERSES—art intervention” to represent patterns that somehow condense the information of how we and our environment are made. It’s a very interactive collaboration: the installation will change during the conference, based on the scientists’ influences and answers.

I find this as another proof that lace—what it represents, how it’s made—is not a negligible thing.

**MS:** Božo, you are involved with the well-recognized International Biennial of Graphic Arts in Ljubljana. Through your work, you get in contact with American artists who then come to exhibit in Slovenia. You don’t necessarily work to place Slovene artists in the U.S.

**BZ:** Yes, but you never know how it will turn out. The communication may be very one-sided, but can also develop into a two-sided one. Yet, it’s still much easier to bring a foreign artist to Slovenia than it is to “export” a quality Slovene artist. Mainly because it’s hard to find a partner on the other side. Slovene institutions—museums, galleries—act as a partner if someone wants to bring in an artist, and also make an effort to get some known foreign artist to visit.

But when it comes to the Slovene culture “export”, it very much depends on the connections that an individual or a gallery has in a foreign country. If these are on a high and well-known level, then the realization is a little easier. Yet, all these acquaintances that we have, that I have personally, don’t mean that it’s easier to bring our culture abroad. There’re requirements, mainly of financial nature, when Slovene artists or managers work overseas. The response is often: ‘You can come, we’ll give you space, but you need to get together everything else, money, travel.’ Whoever organizes any exhibition abroad and would like to get additional funds, has to turn to a Slovene cultural institution. So, at the end, everything goes to the Ministry of Culture where the selection is made. Requests are many, and it’s difficult to assess which artwork is of the highest importance. Each exposure of a Slovene artist across our borders counts.

The responses we get from the professional public in New York are very positive. Sometimes one is surprised that a person knows the Ljubljana International Biennial of Graphic Arts, and even has its catalogues. Yet, it’s difficult to make the breakthrough, so that our artists would have a direct benefit from these positive reactions.

**MS:** It seems that it also depends on choices the curators are making. What is involved in a curator’s work?

**BZ:** In a way, a curator’s work happens on three levels. At one level, one needs to constantly follow—with some personal sensibility—what is happening, trying to find what will emerge, or what is currently on the surface, that may be interesting to present. Or, one might be interested in a very specific problem, tries to develop a concept, and answers with artists and their work. The third approach is to constantly follow the artistic production and try to identify some critical points that appear in many artists’ work, and show that at an exhibition.

**Irena Silić,** Art Manager for Slovene Association Tretaroka, Ljubljana:

It’s about the creation of a new space where the artists can present themselves.

**BZ:** Yes, that’s it. I think that there aren’t enough initiatives such as the Biennial of Independent Illustration.

**MS:** Irena, Biennial of Independent Illustration is a “creative platform supporting direct authorship, horizontal selection and no censorship of work, established in Ljubljana Slovenia in 2007”, says on your website. You came to New York through the association Tretaroka, including Saša Kerkoš, Barbara Poček, Piera Ravnikar, who were in Brooklyn residence this January.

**IS:** We’re a small group of creative individuals, organizing various art events through a non-governmental organization, Tretaroka. We’re about art and design. We’re linking art with socially engaged projects to change some established ways of curating and artistic practice. We want to build a biennial platform as a global umbrella to create wider social projects in connection with art, and make a social input in local communities. We’re underground, where there are no institutions, only associations. We’re financed by the Ministry of Culture and some
smaller organizations. Here in the U.S., we have been exploring NGOs that work with themes that are of interest to us.

We have been working in the Bronx where nothing is happening, yet, things are moving in the background. Our main idea is to map the artists who are not yet recognized on the mass art market that exists in New York; they may not have yet had a chance to be recognized. It’s about mapping of the Bronx artists who are located and active in the Bronx, and through their work engage the local community to overcome certain issues that still prevail in the Bronx. The project consists of an openly shared online map. Here in the U.S., we have presented our work—from Slovene Biennial of Independent Illustration to Design Biotope to LIMITED EDIT111ONS to Independent Platform—at various levels, and the feedback was very positive. People in New York find it great because it’s creative and it moves boundaries, breaks production stereotypes.

**MS:** Tretaroka is actively looking for presenters and venues.

**IS:** I’m trying to find ways for the Biennial exhibition to travel to other locations in the U.S.

**MS:** Slovenian institutions invite foreign artists and curators. But who invites Slovene artists, or even curators? It seems they are mainly left to their own devices and initiatives. Tretaroka is one example of ingenuity and persistence. Eva Petrič is another. Her installations graced the coveted Bergdorf Goodman widows twice in two years. How? Sheer persistence.

The cultural and artistic exchange is crucial. Different ideas need to be shared to enable new layers to emerge, to facilitate creation of new patterns that may inspire new ideas, offer fresh solutions. Art is essential for human development. As Matthew Fox wrote: Artists “make life come alive for...all of us.”

Visit [www.arinnainc.net/en/blog](http://www.arinnainc.net/en/blog) to read the full article: more about curator’s work, and the importance of New York for contemporary art. You’re invited to share your thoughts and impressions.

Marta Stemberger, M.A., is a native Slovene who’s been living and translating in New York City since 1992.

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**E.U. Open House -- Volunteers Needed**

On **May 9, 2015,** diplomatic representations of Member States of the E.U. and the E.U. Delegation to the United States in Washington will celebrate Europe Day by organizing the eight annual E.U. Open House day. The embassies of all 28 member countries and the E.U. Delegation will open their doors from **10 a.m. to 4 p.m.** showcasing their art, culture, and food, and introducing the European Union to the public.

Last year, over 4000 people visited the Slovenian embassy, and this year even more visitors are expected. Since the event has gained extreme popularity and success, we are looking for volunteers to help us welcome the guests and to direct visitors to the embassy at the nearby bus stop. To register and for more information, please, contact [nuska.zakrajsek@gov.si](mailto:nuska.zakrajsek@gov.si).

**Please sign up by April 24, 2014.** Orientation and training session for first-time volunteers will be held at the Embassy of Slovenia on Thursday, May 7 at 5:30 p.m. (before the evening event with the International Club of DC).
ANNOUNCEMENT

8th Intl. Language Summer Camps for Children

The 8th International Language Summer Camps for Children in Slovenia will take place in July and August 2015. Children will learn to live in unspoiled nature together with their peers and farm animals, discover the environment and the way of life on a farm, get to know the Slovenian countryside traditions, practice speaking foreign languages (German, Spanish, Russian, Italian) and improve everyday communication in the Slovene language.

Camp programs are made for children aged 5 to 15. All workshops will be held in the English and Slovenian languages; other languages can also be available (German, Spanish, Russian, Italian). The camps are based in the following Slovenian localities: Prevorje in the Kozjansko region Solčava in the Logarska dolina Rogla in the Pohorje plateau

The dates and detailed programs can be found at: http://www.kozjanski-raj.si/en-US/When

ANNOUNCEMENT

19th Youthcamp for Teenagers of Slovenian Origin from Abroad

Slovenian World Congress is organizing the 19th Youthcamp for Teenagers of Slovenian Origin from Abroad, to take place from July 25 to August 1 in ČŠOD RAK facility, close to the town of Cerknica.

The main purpose of the Youthcamp is to bring Slovenia closer to minds and hearts of youngsters who live abroad. Divided in small groups of 6 teenagers and one group leader–animator, the children of Slovenian ancestry living abroad will discover the beauty of landscapes and various cultural monuments, culture and national identity of Slovenia, and also learn the Slovenian language in a relaxed atmosphere. The organizers and group leaders encourage the use of the Slovenian language among the participants; however, teenagers with no previous knowledge of Slovenian are also most welcome to the camp. Making new friendships with peers who share a common bond and come from all around the globe is an adventure and a great life experience.

Activities include lessons of the Slovenian language (in groups formed according to their knowledge of the language); discovering the natural and ethnological beauty of the vicinity and the town of Cerknica; practical workshops (art, climbing); meeting the modern craftsmen; discussions with guest speakers about youth problems; sports, games, and outdoor camping in tents.

Participation in the camp focuses on young Slovenians from abroad aged from 10 to 15. However, please, send an e-mail to the contact below if the child is over or below this age-span, and the organizers will try to find a suitable solution.

Attendance fee per participant is Eur170 (about $185) and includes full board (breakfast, lunch and dinner), entrance fees, transportation, workshop materials and accommodation in youth hostel. We expect parents, relatives or representatives of the organizations to bring children to the hostel where the camp is taking place.

Please, send the application forms you can find at: http://www.slokongres.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=362:19-tabor-slovenskih-otrok-posvet&catid=108:2015&Itemid=20 by May 20, 2015 to: Slovenska konferenca SSK, Cankarjeva cesta 1/IV, 1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia. For more information, please, contact: luka.klopcic@slokongres.com or see the link above.
The town of Pilštanj lies in the eastern part of Slovenia, in the midst of the Kozjansko region. The settlement used to be an important cultural center, but now it consists only of a few inhabited houses.

The town was established between two steep hills, on one of them stood the Pilštanj castle (Peilenstein in German), first mentioned in 963, and on the other the Drenski grad castle (Hartenstein in German). Both are in ruins today. During Ottoman incursions, Pilštanj was one of the system of hill stations which by means of bonfires signaled the approaching invasions.

In 1072, Pilštanj became the seat of an ancient parish, which today encompasses the parishes of Kozje, Pilštanj, Buče, Zagorje, Dobje, Podreda, Bistrica ob Sotli, Polje ob Sotli, Podčetrtek, Olimje in Žusem. The parish today is part of the Roman Catholic diocese of Celje. The parish seat was in 1801 transferred to Kozje, where a deanery was established.

In the past, Pilštanj was well known for pottery making, stonemasonry, making of dried Cornelian cherries and Cornelian cherry liquor called “drnulovec”. In the 19th century, the main regional trade route was moved to the valley of the Bistrica river, bypassing of Pilštanj and his wife Tuta in the Pilštanj castle, where her parents had at first a feudal and later hereditary estate. She is the only Slovenian female saint. She founded the Benedictine abbey at Gurk (Krka; in Carinthia) and was venerated as a saint already in her lifetime. She is depicted in an al fresco painting and a statue in St. Michael’s church. One also stands below the Pilštanj castle, and a glass one is in the wall of the Safe House in Pilštanj.

The Pagan Woman

An isolated rock formation which has excited imagination for generations, the Pagan Woman lies in a secluded and steep wooded slope on the left bank of the Bistrica river, below the Pilštanj village. The rock seems to remind of a woman with a child on her lap; however, the part representing the child has since broken off. The formation is about 40 feet high and 6.5 feet in width. According to the legend, the woman was petrified after she had cursed the Sun.

St. Emma

According to legend, Emma was born around 973 A.D. as a daughter of Count Engelbert
Cornelian cherry

The Latin name for the Cornelian cherry is Cornus mas, which means as hard as a horn. Cornelian cherry wood is extremely dense and of high quality. It was used in the past by carriage builders and wood turners. Cornelian cherry wood was also used as teeth on wooden rakes, wheel spokes, and thrashing flails. Cornelian cherry is a tree, which can grow up to 20–26 ft. high and has a brownish yellow bark on the trunk and reddish brown on the branches. It blossoms early in the spring (from February to April). The berries are in Slovenia called drnulje (drnule) which, at first, are sour and bitter. In mid-August they turn red and then fully ripened -- fall from the tree. The fruit contains only a single pit.

Drnulje can be eaten fresh, dried, pickled, or preserved in brine. They can be used to make jam, fruit soup, or home-made liqueur named drnulovec. Yellow Cornelian cherry is typical for the Kozjansko region of Slovenia. A traditional song from Plištanj even praises the Cornelian cherry tree and its medicinal fruit. Also, when visiting Plištanj, to try drnulovec liqueur is a must.

More information is available at the website: www.td-pilstanj.si
INDEPENDENT ILLUSTRATION EXHIBITION OPENING AT NYU

The Independent Biennial, established in Ljubljana, Slovenia in 2007, is a Creative platform that supports direct authorship, horizontal selection and the non-censorship of creative work. In May 2015, as a part of the fifth Biennale of Independent Illustration, a selection of authors will present their artworks throughout the Washington D.C. area and NYU’s lobby. Above all, The Biennale of Independent Illustration is a tribute to all the authors who, despite the difficult conditions in cultural and visual practices, are driven forward always by the passion, curiosity, innovation and independent creative freedom that is the foundation to their creativity and life.

When: Wednesday, May 6 at 5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
Where: New York University Washington, 1307 L Street, NW, Washington, DC 20005

FREE ADMISSION. REGISTRATION REQUIRED:
http://www.nyu.edu/global/global-academic-centers/washington-dc/nyu-washington--dc-events/before----after.html#tripleBox_nyuimage

More information:
http://www.bienaleneodvisneilustracije.com/events/independent-biennial-washington

TASTE SLOVENIA WITH INTERNATIONAL CLUB OF DC: PERFORMANCE BY MARKO HATLAK AND INDEPENDENT ILLUSTRATION EXHIBITION OPENING

The evening begins with a short presentation of Slovenia and the Slovenian culture, geography, trade, and tourism. Afterwards you will enjoy a musical performance by one of the best Slovenian musicians, who will explore baroque, pop, rock, latino and folk music. This evening will showcase the contemporary work of young Slovenian authors within the field of illustration, visual arts and design. The pieces are a selection from the Independent Biennial, one of the premiere cultural events in Ljubljana, the capital of Slovenia. The event is produced by the Tretaroka organization with support of Slovenian Ministry of Culture and Kino Siska. Then you will be invited to a buffet feast of traditional Slovenian delicacies and with Slovenian wine served at the open bar.

When: Thursday, May 7 at 7:00 p.m.
Where: Embassy of the Republic of Slovenia, 2410 California Street, NW, Washington, DC 20008

TO BUY TICKETS SEE: https://www.internationalclubdc.com/
LAIBACH CONCERT- TECHNOPHOBIA

Laibach is a music and cross-media group from Slovenia. The name of the band is the historic German version of the name of Slovenia’s capital, Ljubljana. From the start, Laibach has developed a Gesamtkunstwerk – multi-disciplinary art practice in all fields ranging from popular culture to art (collages, photo-copies, posters, graphics, paintings, videos, installations, concerts and performances).

When: Monday, May 11 at 7:30 p.m.
Where: Black Cat, 1811 14th St. NW, Washington, DC, 20009

TO BUY TICKETS SEE: http://www.blackcatdc.com/shows/laibach.html
http://www.laibach.org/future-events/

More information: http://www.laibach.org/

DIVERSITY of ACCORDIEUN: CONCERT BY MARKO HATLAK

Slovenian accordionist Marko Hatlak explores the versatility of the accordion in a solo concert featuring baroque, contemporary and folk music. Hatlak’s unique, original interpretation of each individual piece, regardless of the style, evokes an emotionally thorough and authentic experience in the audience. At one moment, we witness energetic melodies in the rhythm of the tango, at the next, we travel with Hatlak to the hidden corners of Slovenia. His performance of baroque and contemporary music opens up the immeasurable depths of harmonies of the composing genius J. S. Bach and innovative composition of the present time. Hatlak uses a comical tone to tell stories about the pieces he heard and spices up some of them by singing. He attracts the entire audience to the musical interaction and makes the scene pulsate in lively rhythms.

When: Wednesday, May 13 at 7 p.m.
Where: Avalon Theater, 40 E. Dover St., Easton, MD 21601

FREE EVENT. NO REGISTRATION NEEDED.

More information:
http://www.worldartists.org/
www.avalontheatre.com
DIVERSITY of ACCORDIEU: CONCERT BY MARKO HATLAK

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When: Thursday, May 14 at 7 p.m.
Where: Maryland Hall for the Creative Arts, 801 Chase St., Annapolis, MD 21401

FREE EVENT. NO REGISTRATION NEEDED.

More information:
http://www.worldartists.org/
http://www.worldartists.org/documents/Slovenian%20Accordionist%20Flyer%20Annapolis.pdf
www.marylandhall.org/

DAVID VERTACNIK’S EXHIBITION OPENING

David Vertacnik received his M.F.A. from the New York State College of ceramics at Alfred University in Alfred, NY, in 1975 and his Bachelor of Science degree from Indiana State University in 1972. David has taught at the University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS, since 1979. His art has been viewed in numerous solo, two-person, and group exhibitions in the United States and Slovenia. His work is held in public and private collections, including those belonging to Bethel College (Newton, KS), the Overland Park Convention Center (Overland Park, KS), Emprise Bank (Wichita, KS), and the city of Most na Soči, Slovenia where three his sculptures grace it’s picturesque river walk. David employs a wide range of materials in his pieces, including ceramics, cast bronze, industrial and agricultural objects. Many of his sculptures are designed for outdoor sites, created with elements that move freely in space.

When: Friday, May 22 at 7:00 p.m.
Where: Embassy of the Republic of Slovenia, 2410 California Street, NW, Washington, DC 20008

FREE EVENT. RSVP REQUIRED: office.vwa@gov.si

More information: http://www.davidvertacnik.com/
www.washington.embassy.si
DIVERSITY of ACCORDIEU: CONCERT BY MARKO HATLAK

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When: Saturday, May 23 at 6 p.m.
Where: Kennedy Center Millennium Stage, 2700 F St NW, Washington, DC 20566

FREE EVENT. NO REGISTRATION NEEDED.


FILM SCREENING: WHAT ABOUT MOJCA?

The documentary explores the role of women in Slovenian films, observing the reflections of the changing status of women in the society. It touches upon the most iconic female roles in the Slovenian film history, but also on the less known ones, the literal heroines, typical of many partisan films, as well as the set clichés: the suffering mother, the adulteress, the gossiper. Through interviews with actresses, female theorists and artists, while analyzing the most frequent sentences by women in Slovenian movies, the film tries to find out who the typical Slovenian film heroine is.

When: Thursday, May 28 at 7:00 p.m.
Where: Corner Store Arts, 900 South Carolina Avenue, SE, Washington, DC 20003

FREE EVENT. RSVP REQUIRED: office.vwa@gov.si

More information: http://www.cornerstorearts.org/
www.washington.embassy.si
**ARTIST MIK SIMČIČ EXHIBITS AT ARTEXPO NY 2015**

Slovenian painter and sculptor Mik Simčič will showcase his work at the ArtExpo event in New York City, one of the biggest art fairs in the U.S. This year, the Artexpo will host over 400 innovative exhibiting artists, galleries and publishers from across the globe. Simčič’s work will be exhibited at booth #169.

**Show Hours:**
Thursday, April 23 from 12 noon to 7:00 p.m. (trade only)
Friday, April 24 from 12 noon to 7:00 p.m.
Saturday, April 25 from 10:00 a.m to 7:00 p.m.
Sunday, April 26 from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

**Show Address:** Pier 94, 711 12th Ave (55th Street & West Side Highway), New York, NY 10019-5399


**Exhibitor list:** [http://artexponewyork.com/artexpo-new-york/exhibitor-list/](http://artexponewyork.com/artexpo-new-york/exhibitor-list/)

**EVA PETRIČ EXHIBITS in NY - DISPLAY OF THE CENTURIES: FREDERICK KIESLER AND CONTEMPORARY ART**

Frederick Kiesler and Contemporary Art at the Austrian Cultural Forum New York is dedicated to the work and ideas of the Austrian-American architect, designer, artist, and theoretician Frederick Kiesler. One of the participating exhibitors is, Eva Petrič, poet, writer and multimedia artist from Slovenia.

**When:** Tuesday, April 1, 2015 – July 27, 2015
**Where:** Austrian Cultural Forum New York, 11 East 52nd Street, New York, NY 10022

**NAVIHANKE SHOW IN BRANSON, MO**

Navihanke, an all-girl polka band, will perform in Branson, MO, from April 9 through May 3. For more information contact: rex@navihankeusa2014.com or see: http://www.silverdollarcity.com/theme-park/attractions/shows-entertainment/Ansambel-Navihanke.aspx

**SLOVENIAN FILMS AT THE SOUTHEAST EUROPEAN FILM FESTIVAL IN LOS ANGELES, CA**

Southeast European Film Festival educates about and promotes cultural diversity of Southeast Europe through its annual presentations of films from this region and year-around screenings and programs. In the 2015 edition of the festival, which will be taking place in Los Angeles, California, from April 30 through May 7, four Slovenian films will be introduced.

**Woods Are Still Green Film Screening**

When: Friday, May 1 at 6:00 p.m.
Venue: LAEMMLE MUSIC HALL, 9036 Wilshire Blvd., Beverly Hills, CA 90211

**Motions To Promised Lands**

When: Friday, May 1 at 7:00 p.m.
Venue: GOETHE-INSTITUT LOS ANGELES, 5750 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 100, Los Angeles, CA 90036

**Koyaa – Flower**

When: Saturday, May 2 at 2:30 p.m.
Venue: LAEMMLE MUSIC HALL, 9036 Wilshire Blvd., Beverly Hills, CA 90211

**Kresnik – Lore of Fire**

When: Sunday, May 3 at 2:30 p.m
Venue: GOETHE-INSTITUT LOS ANGELES, 5750 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 100, Los Angeles, CA 90036

For the full schedule and more information see: http://seefilmla.org/2015-program/
SLOVENIAN 8MM EXPERIMENTS: KARPO GODINA AND DAVORIN MARC

Program: Karpo Godina & Jure Pervanje GAME / DIVJAD (1965, 6 min, 8mm-to-35mm, b&w)
Karpo Godina & Mario Uršić DOG / PES (1965, 8 min, 8mm-to-35mm, b&w)
Karpo Godina A.P. (ANNO PASSATO) (1966, 5 min, 8mm-to-35mm, b&w)
Karpo Godina THE GRATINATED BRAINS OF PUPILIJA FERKEVERK / GRATINIRANI MOZAK
PUPILIJE FERKEVERK (1970, 15 min, 35mm)
Davorin Marc BITE ME. ONCE ALREADY. / UGRIZNI ME. ŽE ENKRAT. (1978/80, 1.5 min, Super 8mm, silent)
Davorin Marc SLAUGHTER AHJOY / EJ KLANJE (1981, 16 min, Super 8mm)
Davorin Marc FEAR IN THE CITY (1181 DAYS LATER OR SMELL OF RATS) / PAURA IN CITTA
(1181 DNI POZNEJE ALI VONJ PO PODGANAH) (1984, 21 min, Super 8mm-to-35mm)
Davorin Marc PIKNIK (25 SECONDS PER FRAME) (2013/14, 11 min, Super 8mm-to-digital, silent)

When: Wednesday, May 20, 2015
Where: Northwest Film Forum, Seattle, WA
More information: http://www.nwfilmforum.org/live/page/calendar/3518

LAIBACH U.S. CONCERT TOUR

Laibach – a Slovenian avant-garde music group associated with industrial, martial and neo-
classical musical styles -- will present a series of concerts and other performances in the
U.S. Laibach was formed in 1980 in Trbovlje, Slovenia, and has since been one of the most
internationally recognized and popular Slovenian music groups. The band represents the music
wing of the Neue Slowenische Kunst (NSK) art collective. The name “Laibach” is the German
name for Slovenia’s capital city, Ljubljana. Their concerts are an overwhelming musical and visual
art experience.
For tickets and more information see: http://www.laibach.org/future-events
Laibach website: http://www.laibach.org/

The schedule of performances:

May 11 – Washington, DC, Black Cat
May 12 - Philadelphia PA, Theater of The Living
May 13 - New York, NY, Irving Plaza
May 17 - Pittsburgh, PA, Rex Theater
May 19 - Indianapolis, IN, Vogue Theater
May 20 - Chicago, IL, Abbey Pub
May 21 - Omaha, NE, Slowdown
May 23 - Englewood, CO, Gothic Theater
May 26 - Seattle, WA, El Corazon
May 28 - Portland, OR, Wonder Ballroom
May 20 - San Francisco, CA, The Fillmore
June 1 - Los Angeles, CA, The Roxy Theater