



REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

NEWSLETTER

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4Saxess at the Embassy of Slovenia

In cooperation with Things To Do, Inc.- The Young Professionals Cultural Society, an organization that aims to help young professionals that work and study in Washington, DC, to immerse into different world cultures through diverse cultural experiences and thus promotes international understanding, The Embassy of Slovenia, on January 24, organized a Slovenian cultural evening that featured Slovenian food, wine, art, a



4Saxess Quartet: Lev Pupis - soprano saxophone, Primož Fleischman - tenor saxophone, Dejan Prešiček - baritone saxophone, Oskar Laznik - alto saxophone, performing at the Embassy of Slovenia.

short film on Slovenia and a musical performance by the Slovenian saxophone quartet 4Saxess.

After opening remarks by Mr. Greg Bland, CEO of Things To Do, more than 80 guests were welcomed by the Ambassador of Slovenia to the

United States Roman Kirn, as he presented members of the 4Saxess ensemble: Primož Fleischman, Oskar Laznik, Lev Pupis and Dejan Prešiček, all internationally renowned musicians and graduates of music academies in Ljubljana, Zagreb, Vienna and Frankfurt.



The ensemble 4Saxess was founded in 2000, when its members were doing their post-graduate saxophone studies in Paris. They united their rich experience and individual talents and created the unique sound of a saxophone quartet. The members of the quartet are frequent guests at international music festivals and have performed as soloists with reputable conductors and worked with several renowned musicians.

The concert at the embassy featured music by Slovenian and American composers as well as some arrangements of Slovenian and regional traditional and folk music by composers J. Gregorc, I. Leitinger and V. Pupis, and was the first one on the quartet's



The event that featured Slovenian food, wine, art and music was attended by more than 80 guests.

short tour on the U.S. East Coast, during which they will also perform in New York, NY, Hartford, CT and Salisbury, MD. The tour was coordinated

and sponsored by the Embassy of Slovenia, with support by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sports.

INAUGURATION

Ambassador Kim Attends Inauguration of President Obama

On Monday, January 21, Ambassador and Mrs. Kim attended the 57th inauguration of the President of the United States as he took his oath of office administered by the Chief Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court, John G. Roberts, Jr., in presence of the diplomatic corps and nearly a million spectators.

Ambassador and Mrs. Kim also attended, together with other guests, the inaugural parade. In the evening, the senior members of the diplomatic corps were invited to attend the official inaugural ball and reception in the Washington Convention Center, and the following day, Tuesday, January



22, the ambassador of Slovenia joined the diplomatic corps as they attended the presidential

inaugural prayer service in the Washington National Cathedral.

The CC for Advanced Systems of Efficient Use of Electrical Energy (CC SURE)

Competence Center for Advanced Systems of Efficient Use of Electrical Energy (CC SURE) is another research-development center in Slovenia co-financed by the Republic of Slovenia, the Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sports, and the European Union (E.U.) – the European Regional Development Fund as a part of its operative plan to promote regional development potentials between 2007 and 2013.

CC SURE is based on the consortium of 16 Slovenian project partners of which 12 are industrial (companies Bartec Varnost, BSH Hišni aparati, ELES, Gorenje, Hidria Rotomatika, INEA, Kolektor Group, Mertel, Petrol, Sipronika, SmartCom and Domel) and 4 research organizations (Faculties of Electrical Engineering and

Mechanical Engineering in Ljubljana and Maribor, Teces).

Main focus of the CC SURE is the efficient use of electrical energy, which includes smartgrids; integrated solutions for transmission and distribution power network based on the concepts of decentralized production and integration of alternative energy sources; energy storage and power optimization; new and innovative technology development; products and services for the production and sharing of renewable energy sources.

CC SURE's main objective is to build the concepts of an active network, which will be based on new technologies and will be tested within the Slovenian electricity transmission network. A detailed evaluation of the new

concepts in real situations will enable industrial partners to test the developed solutions and produce a final specification.

The competence center has carried out several demonstration projects on active distribution network solutions, i.e., systemic energy efficiency, a virtual power plant, an upgrade of the existing system of the distribution network management and the automated control of household consumption, providing solutions for unhindered linking of dispersed sources and for general energy efficiency by taking account of the production, transmission and end users.

For more information about CC SURE, please visit <http://www.sipronika.si/reference-en/projects-en/kc-sure> or www.sure.si (in Slovene).

ANNOUNCEMENT

Consular Hours in New York City

The consular officer at the Embassy of the Republic of Slovenia in Washington, DC, will be holding consular hours and providing consular services (authentications, certifications, passport applications, etc.) in New York City on **Friday, February 1, 2013**, at the premises of the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Slovenia to the United Nations, located at 600 Third Avenue,

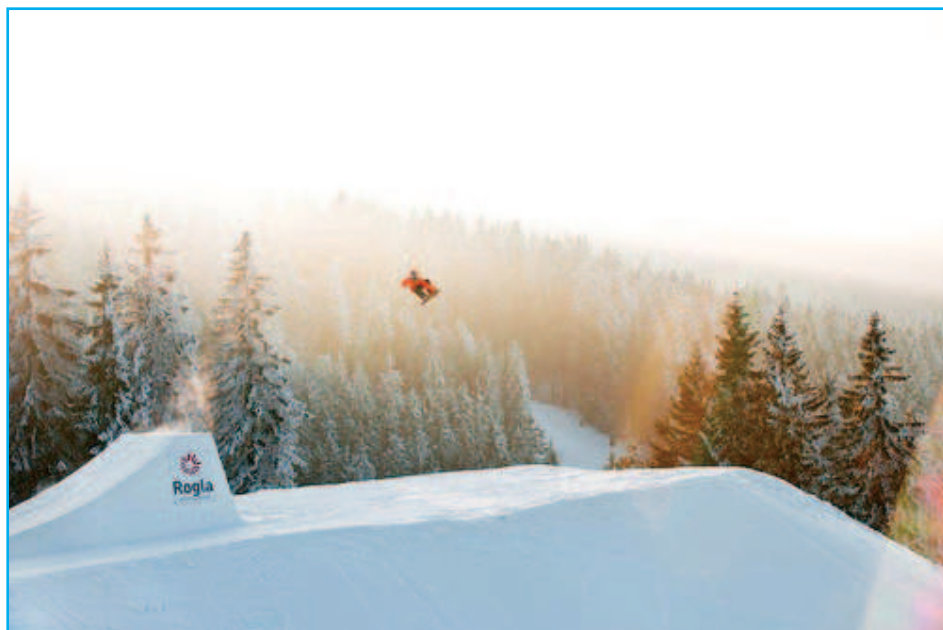
24th Floor, New York, N.Y. 10016. However, visa and residence permit applications can only be submitted in Washington, DC.

To schedule an appointment on February 1, please send an e-mail to the Embassy of Slovenia at vwa@gov.si. Please, list your full name, contact information and consular service requested. The embassy will set the time of your

appointment and give you further information on the documentation you need to bring. You may also visit the embassy website <http://washington.embassy.si/> (Consular Affairs, Visas) for required documents for most consular services.

Due to security reasons, persons without an appointment will not be able to enter the premises of the mission.

Ski Resorts in Slovenia, Part 3



Rogla fun park.

Rogla

The Rogla Olympic and skiing center turns into a real white paradise during winter and offers 220 acres of land covered with both natural and artificial snow. For those who would like to become skilled, the beginners' or advanced courses are offered by the Rogla Intersport – Unitur School of Snow Sports, which also has received for several years in a row the "golden snowflake" as the best skiing school in Slovenia.

Beside more than 8 miles of ski runs, one can also enjoy the Fun Park Rogla, which consists of a "half pipe" in the upper part, and fifteen »slope-style elements«, where free-style snowboarders and skiers can perform their own elements, in the middle or even the lower part. Some ski jumps,

formed by the natural contours of the ground, -- referred to as »kickers« -- are in the lower part and two »big air« ski jumps are located directly before the finish line. A special adventure is night skiing on the lit ski slopes Košuta and Jasa.

There are several hotels, cottages and apartments that will meet the needs of a skier, but also anyone who would only like to relax at the diverse wellness and spa facilities on Rogla or in the nearby Terme Zreče.

Kanin

Kanin is the only Slovenian ski resort with ski slopes located more than 6500 feet above sea level and the first international ski center in the region, where Slovenian and Italian trails and ski runs become one. Kanin is a typical Alpine ski center: due to the altitude, the slopes hardly ever freeze, hence offering high quality skiing on exclusively natural powder snow during most of the winter and enabling skiing far into the spring, very often up to the first half of May. This is the winter part of a fairytale in the heart of the Slovenian Alpine region, in the



Kanin.



Vogel.

southeastern part of the Alpine chain, where it comes nearest to the Adriatic Sea. Another special feature of the Kanin ski center is its sunny position and magnificent views far into the heart of the Alps to the east and towards the Gulf of Trieste to the south.

Additionally, Bovec, known for its breathtaking Soča River, is another Alpine center

just beneath Mt. Kanin. Its specific location at the altitude of 1584 feet and the proximity of the Adriatic Sea give it a special appeal and diversity seldom found elsewhere. The configuration of the Bovec Basin is very suitable for cross-country skiing, but one can also enjoy free-ride skiing, snowshoeing, dog sledding, ice climbing or even paragliding.

Vogel

Vogel Ski Resort lies within the protected area of the Triglav National Park above Lake Bohinj. The resort offers skiing on natural snow, stunning panoramic views of the Triglav mountain range and very well maintained ski slopes from December until the end of April. Vogel is a true paradise for skiing, snowboarding, freestyle cross-country skiing, off-trail skiing, free skiing or sledging and so on. Children can improve their skills in the children's park with two Magic Carpet ski lifts, a slope for tobogganing and a carousel that is especially suitable for young first-time skiers, while those who love acrobatic moves can test their talent at Vogel Snow Park or opt for snow rafting or airboarding.

Beside the wide range of winter delights, the resort also offers different entertaining and competitive winter events as well as comfortable accommodations and a delicious cuisine.

TO DO LIST

Concert of the 4 Saxess Saxophone Quartet in NYC

The renowned Slovenian musicians Lev Pupis, Tomislav Žužak, Primož Fleischman, and Dejan Prešiček will play compositions by Slovenian and American composers as well as arrangements based on Slovenian folk songs. On the occasion of the Slovenian Cultural Day, the opening remarks will be given by the Ambassador of Slovenia, Roman Kirn. Admission free.

When: [Sunday, January 27, 2013 at 11:00 a.m.](#)

Where: [St. Cyril Parish at 62 St. Marks Pl. \(East Village\), New York, NY 10003](#)

Beyond by Michael Benson

A spectacular photography exhibition of images from space. Closing February 1, 2013.

When: [Monday through Friday 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM](#)

Where: [Embassy of Slovenia, 2410 California Street, NW, Washington, DC 20008](#)

More information about the work of Michael Benson on: <http://www.kinetikonpictures.com/>

Slovenia Saxophone Quartet 4Saxess in Salisbury, MD

The quartet's four sax players are internationally recognized Slovenian musicians. They perform music of various styles and periods and follow the classical as well as modern music tradition. Presented by World Artists Experiences in partnership with the Embassy of the Republic of Slovenia. Admission free.

When: [January 30, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.](#)

Where: [Holloway Hall, Salisbury University, 1101 Camden St., Salisbury, MD](#)

More information: <http://www.worldartists.org/waehome/index.cfm>; call (410)543-6271 or email jekrell-salgado@salisbury.edu.

Slavic Startups Meet-up

The Slavic Startup House in San Francisco organizes meet-up conversations about the European and U.S. startup scenes, life in Silicon Valley or partnership opportunities. Guest representatives from Telekom Slovenia Incubator as well as Startup School Hekovnik will take part.

When: [Wednesday, January 30, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.](#)

Where: [1597 Howard St., San Francisco](#)

More information: <http://ssh-2.eventbrite.com/#>

Slovenian Designer Sanja Grcić presents Firma in NYC

Firma by Sanja style is described as Street Couture: instinctive, innovative and alternative, with clever detailing and a slight sporty touch. Firma builds new concepts of designing clothes out of a wide range of tailoring and cutting knowledge. Firma by Sanja made its first presentation in RSPOP-up in 2011 and is coming back to NYC with the collection Inside Straight. In the meantime, Sanja opened in Ljubljana her store Koda 386 (international dial code for Slovenia), which was proclaimed by The New York Times Travel as one of the best designers' corners in town: <http://www.nytimes.com/slideshow/2012/11/18/travel/18Ljubljana-6.html>.

When: [January 14-31, M-F at 11 a.m.- 8 p.m., SAT noon - 7 p.m.](#)

Where: [501 Lexington Ave. at the Roger Smith Hotel](#)

More information:

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Firma-Ljubljana-by-Sanja-Grcic/179198485497176>

Resistance of the Earth/Upor Zemlje in NYC

Earth Resistance is a multimedia project that combines several artistic genres from video, 16 mm film, dance to live musical performances. It premiered on December 17, 2012, at the Janez Trdina Cultural Center in Novo mesto in Slovenia as the final ceremony of a partner town of the European Capital of Culture 2012. The theme of the project covers the world of natural disasters like earthquakes, volcano eruptions, hurricanes and tornados. The project Earth Resistance comments worldwide through the language of images, instruments, voice and solo performances on natural catastrophes that occur on our planet. Original music by the Slovenian author Igor Lumpert. Organized in collaboration by the Czech Center New York the Consulate General of Croatia and the Embassy of Slovenia.

When: [February 7, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.](#)

Where: [Czech Center New York at the Bohemian National Hall \(321 E 73rd Street \(between 1st and 2nd Avenues\), New York, NY 10021](#)

More information: <http://new-york.czechcentres.cz/program/event-details/resistance-of-the-earth/>

[Link to St. Joseph's Church in Bethlehem, PA](#)

St. Joseph's Church was founded by a group of Slovenian immigrants who settled in Bethlehem, PA. The first Mass was celebrated in the church, which has a very unique Slovenian character, on September 28, 1917. Follow the festivities and activities of Slovenian community in Bethlehem and like: St. Joseph's Facebook Page at <http://www.facebook.com/StJosephChurchBethlehemPA>

[Slovenian Kurentovanje in Cleveland](#)

The Slovenian National Home, Slovenian Museum and Archives, St. Clair Superior Development Corp. and Sterle's Country House, in partnership with local businesses and institutions, bring a piece of the most popular carnival in Slovenia, Kurentovanje (koo-rent-oh-VAHN-yeh), to St. Clair Avenue. This cultural event, connecting ethnology, culture, arts, and people from all over Europe, has been celebrated in Slovenia for the past 50 years. The central figure of the carnival, the Kurent, is believed to chase away winter and usher in spring with its supernatural powers. The festival in Cleveland will be free to the public. Visitors are encouraged to dress in costume as they partake in the many different foods, wines, beers, music and dances of Slovenia and Eastern Europe. A prize will be awarded for the best homemade Kurent costume.

Procession: Traditional Kurentovanje starts with a parade, which, commencing at 1:00 p.m., will stretch through the neighborhood from St. Vitus's Church on Lausche Ave. to the Slovenian National Home on St. Clair Ave.

Explore: Beginning at 2:00 p.m., visitors can explore the Slovenian National Home as well as many other storefront businesses in the area, which will feature samplings of food, spirits and music.

When: [Saturday, February 23, 2013, from noon to 6 p.m.](#)

More information:

[Michael Fleming of the St. Clair Superior Development Corporation at \(216\)881-0644, ext. 103.](#)

[Celebrating Slovenian Cultural Day in CA](#)

Orange Coast SNPJ Lodge 786 cordially invites you to attend an event celebrating Slovenian Cultural Day. The program will feature the artwork of Dr. Kiar Mesko, a renowned artist in Slovenia for his historical and biographical paintings. Also featured will be NASA physicist Dr. Dusan Petrac, who will talk about the history of Slovenian independence and especially about his work in and the contributions of several American-Slovenes to the space program both as astronauts and as scientists. In addition to the interesting program, the food and wine of Slovenia will be offered. Voluntary donations will be accepted for this event.

When: [Saturday, February 23, 2013, from noon to 5:00 p.m. Program starts at 1:00 p.m.](#)

Where: [Clubhouse 3, Dining Room 2, 23822 Avenida Sevilla, Laguna Woods Village, CA 92637](#)

More information: ajkoci@cox.net