



REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

NEWSLETTER

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Kozmus Takes Silver in Hammer

Slovenian field star Primož Kozmus took the silver in men's hammer throw at the London Olympics with a throw of 79.36m on Sunday, August 5. The silver completes the full medal set for Slovenia, which now has four medals in London.

Overcoming a below-par season, Kozmus once again confirmed he was a competitor who thrives in big competitions, as he bettered his pre-Olympic season best by two meters to send Slovenian track and field fans into raptures.

While unable to surpass the 80m mark, which would



Primož Kozmus with his silver medal at the Summer Olympics.

have allowed him to have a shot at winner Krisztian Pars of Hungary, the Olympic champion from Beijing was never in danger of missing out on the podium. Third place went to Koji Murofushi of Japan with a throw of 78.71 meters.

Kozmus's silver increases Slovenia's medal tally in London to four: one gold, one silver, and two bronze. Bagging his second piece of Olympic hardware, the

32-year-old confirmed his status as Slovenia's most successful track and field athlete of all time. In addition to his Olympic medals, Kozmus also has three medals (one of each class) from World Championships. The London silver is Kozmus's second medal since coming out of retirement in late 2010, after winning the bronze at the World Championship in Daegu last year.

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The Empire State Building in Color of Slovenian Flag

Ever since July 26, the Empire State Building has been shining with Olympic spirit – each of its top four sides has been lit with the colors of each of 66 competing countries, honoring the celebration of 2012 Summer Games in London, in a sequence based on the number of athletes attending from each country. The same selection process was used in August 2008 when the Empire State Building first split its colored lights for an Olympic lighting.

On the eve of August 1, the Empire State Building was lit from sunset to midnight to salute Slovenia on its west side, Cuba on its north side, Ukraine on its south side, and Spain on its east side. The lights will continue through the end of the games on Aug. 24. The first day's lights honored the U.S. and the host country -the U.K. - and the last day will honor the U.S. achievements.



TOURISM

Summer Festivals in Slovenia

Summer Imago Sloveniae (Thursday, June 14. – Friday, August 31, various venues, cities, and towns)

The Summer Imago Sloveniae festival focuses on classical music, but also does not neglect the tradition of jazz and ethno music. The events will take place in 19 cities and towns in Slovenia, with most of the activities being held in Ljubljana. We will be hearing international and domestic artists, such as Anke Helfrich, Bratko Bibič & The Madleys, Mia Žnidarič, Ariel Cubria Trio, Andrejka Možina Autumn Celso, Vlado Batista duo, Akademik Band, Pedro Ribeiro Rodrigues, Four Bones Quartet, 4Syrinx, Sinkro, Music Orba, Audi Tescarollo, Vasilij Meljnikov & Milko Lazar, Trio GUD, Trio Amarilis, Trio Infinitum, Katja Meljnikov, and Jure Cerkovnik.

Ljubljana Festival

The Ljubljana Festival, with its long history and tradition



Festival 1953
Ljubljana

www.ljubljanafestival.si

of presenting premier artistic events, contributes significantly to the cultural life of Ljubljana. Each summer, its wide and varied program of concert, opera and ballet events features a fine selection of renowned artists, including the world's most prestigious names in music and performing arts.

This year's version features some of the most renowned classical orchestras in the world, like the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra, St.

Petersburg Philharmonic Orchestra, Perugia Chamber Orchestra, Badke Quartet, Smolny Cathedral Chamber Choir, Orchestra of the Mariinsky Theater of St Petersburg, and many other domestic and foreign classical music ensembles.

Summer in Slovenj Gradec (Friday, June 22; Friday August 31; various venues in Slovenj Gradec)

The Summer in Slovenj Gradec festival always treats

us with various events, from theater, street performances and, most of all, great music. This year, the festival gives a little bit of everything in terms of music, from classical, ethno, folk, rock, avant-garde, and much more. Some of the biggest names include: Gwen Hughes, Stefan Milenković, Duo Arparlando, Ferrini–Šiškovič–Contini, Djabe, Korai Öröm, Aleš Rendla sextet, Anja Bukovec, Oto Pestner, Bratko Bibič & The Madleys, and Vlado Kreslin.

Mini Summer (Sunday June 24 – Sunday, September 2; various venues in Ljubljana)

Mini Summer is an international puppet and children’s theatre festival held on Sundays throughout the summer. Serving as a point of convergence for different languages, puppet technologies, and approaches to the art of puppetry, it is intended not only for children, but also for those feeling an affinity with puppetry and art for children. The festival has received widespread critical acclaim at home and has been gaining more and more recognition abroad.

ARTish (May – September, Gornji trg square, Ljubljana)

The ARTish festival, held in Ljubljana every last Saturday of the month, features a selling exhibition of original works by Slovenian creators. From May to September, it takes place in the old city center’s Gornji trg square. ARTish is a series of events where artists not only show their works, but also present their methods and ideas. The festival program also includes free creative workshops



Library under Trees.

for adults and children, theater performances, music concerts, charity projects, such as exchange of used clothes, and various fundraising events.

Film under the Stars (through August 18, Ljubljana Castle, Ljubljana)

The open-air cinema, set up in the courtyard of Ljubljana Castle as part of Ljubljana’s summer festival events, features screenings of the most acclaimed films of the last cinema season. The films are screened in their original languages with Slovenian subtitles.

Library under Trees (through September 2; various venues in Ljubljana)

Library under the Treetops (Knjižnica pod krošnjami) is a project aimed at adding variety to the range of Ljubljana’s leisure activities. It offers visitors an opportunity to borrow books, comic books, magazines and newspapers in different languages free of charge. “The

world’s only 100% natural library” operates through six branch libraries, making it possible for visitors to enjoy reading, leafing through and enjoying books in the following tree-shaded locations: Tivoli park, Trnovski pristan embankment, Tabor park, Ljubljana Castle, Petkovškovo embankment and Breg embankment.

Music Evenings in the Pavilion on the Kongresni trg square (Wednesday, July 4 – Wednesday, August 22, Kongresni trg square, Ljubljana)

Intended for a wider public, this series of summer concerts, taking place in the Pavilion on the Kongresni trg square on Wednesdays, features Slovene artists spanning a variety of musical styles including, among others, classical music, jazz, and a number of crossover styles. Some of the artists to be featured are Wolfram Huschke, Steve Klink Trio, Nuška Drašček, Duo Igmarr Jenner & Borut Mori, and Katrinas.



Days of Poetry and Wine.

Jazz on Gornji Trg (through August 24, Gornji trg square, Ljubljana)

The Jazz on Gornji Trg series of free open-air jazz concerts features various jazz ensembles from Slovenia and abroad. The concert series is held on Friday evenings in Ljubljana's Gornji trg square as part of the Summer in Ljubljana Old Town festival. The roster boasts plenty of domestic and international talent, for example, Northern California Jazz Choir, Ariel Cubria Trio and, Vlado Batista.

Trnifest (through September 2; KUD France Prešeren, Ljubljana)

The Trnifest, an international summer festival founded in 1991, offers a wide and varied program of events featuring Slovenian and international artists in the fields of music, theatre, dance, film, fine art, visual art and photography. At the end of August, the Trnifest festival will be rounded off by the international street festival under the title of Emona Promenade

(Emonska promenada), which traditionally consists of various street performances, creative workshops and a string of other events intended for people of all ages.

Nights in Ljubljana Old Town (30 Aug - 1 Sep, old city centre, Ljubljana)

Nights in Ljubljana Old Town, a mini festival closing the Summer in Ljubljana Old Town festival and symbolically concluding Ljubljana's summer event season, traditionally feature outdoor concerts accompanied by a diverse mixture of other cultural and entertainment events taking place in the streets and squares of the old part of the city center. This year, the staple of the festival, held for the 24th year running, will be the accordion. A series of concerts will present the role of this musical instrument both in contemporary musical creativity and the traditional music of Slovenia and other countries of the world.

Festival Seviq Brežice 2012 (June 22 – September 1, Brežice, various venues and towns in Slovenia)

The most beautiful early music concerts, performed at Slovenia's cultural heritage sites, are presenting first-class artists from all around the world. Only the most distinguished artists, who perform an exquisite program of the highest quality, are invited to be part of the concerts. Uncovering both the European and the world's musical legacy through different elements of the program, the festival devotes special attention to the performance of the music which was created on Slovenian grounds. Each year, the program of concerts presents the musical heritage from the Middle Ages to the beginning of the 20th century. Music at the concerts is performed on authentic instruments and in an authentic way.

Days of Poetry and Wine (August 21 - 25, various venues, Ptuj)

In sixteen years, the Days of Poetry and Wine festival brought to Slovenia over 400 poets from all over the world. In 2010, it found its domicile in Ptuj, where it continues the tradition of great evening readings and concerts and meetings with poets, translators, musicians, actors, storytellers, performers and other lovers of poetry, wine and warm summer evenings under the stars. This year, twenty guest poets, who will bring their verse in their native languages, will also bring twenty new bilingual booklets of poetry, which will replace this year's festival collection.



Trnfest.

Festival Maribor (September 5 – 15, various venues in Maribor)

The festival offers a unique line-up that can't be found anywhere else, as the in-house production features concert programs and musical ensembles hand-picked by festival organizers. Acclaimed musicians from all over the world and members of exceptional Slovenian and foreign orchestras are individually chosen to form various chamber and orchestral ensembles as well as the core of the Festival Maribor Orchestra in accord with the program prepared by the artistic director. The boldly selected repertoire encompasses both literature for chamber orchestra as well as outstanding symphonic and vocal-instrumental works.

Radovljica (August 4 – 19, various venues in Radovljica and Velesovo)

This year, the Radovljica Festival celebrates its 30th anniversary. The program includes ten international

concerts in Radovljica and Velesovo between August 4 and 19, 2012, as well as whole-day workshops for singers and pianists. The program spans 1000 years of musical history and ranges from medieval and traditional chant, troubadour songs, medieval and renaissance polyphony, baroque vocal and instrumental music, classic sonatas for keyboard and violin, romantic Lieder, to 20th-century music and modern improvisation. Renowned guests include the British vocal quartet Orlando

Ensemble, Slovenian clarinetist Mate Bekavac, organist Edoardo Bellotti, master improviser Rudolf Lutz, versatile tenor John Potter, and jazz saxophonist John Surman.

The Tartini Festival (August 18 – September 8, various venues on the Slovenian coast)

The Tartini Festival is an international music festival, dedicated to the Piran-born maestro Giuseppe Tartini (1692 – 1770). This year, we are celebrating the 320th anniversary of Giuseppe Tartini's birth. After the ensemble's great success at the 10th version, the festival will again host the Ensemble 1756 from Salzburg. The talented young Spanish violinist Roberto Gonzalez will perform as the soloist at the opening concert, playing the renowned Vivaldi's The Four Seasons, and works by Tartini. As an added feature of this year's opening concert, the violinist will perform on an original violin played by Tartini. The Tartini Festival will be taking place on the Slovenian coast, in the cities of Piran, Izola, and Koper.



Radovljica festival.

Slovenia Unique in Wine Diversity, Boasts High Quality Wines

Slovenian wines are on par with top quality wines from around the world, and the diversity in wine sorts is unique to the country, Mojmir Wondra of the Biotechnical Faculty in Ljubljana believes. A recent national wine tasting and quality assessment in Gornja Radgona saw Slovenian wines score top results.

"We've witnessed an above-average quality of samples and there were hardly any eliminations," Wondra, who chaired the oenology commission, told the press after the event, which took place between July 23 and 25, 2012. Slovenia also boasts an extraordinary diversity of wines due to its favorable geographic features and climate as well as the use of state-of-the-art technology.

"Slovenians can produce any wine in the world. Today, it would be hard to tell Australian rose from our own," Wondra said, adding that Slovenia also produced top quality sparkling wines. Some 610 wines by 200 producers, mostly from Slovenia but also from Austria, Croatia, Italy, Macedonia, Slovakia, Serbia, and Spain, were assessed in Gornja Radgona in July. As many as 296 silver, 112 golden and 34 big golden medals were conferred. Ten wines were declared champions.

The Štajersko and Prekmurje regions in the northeast, in particular, have very diverse wines, because they



Jeruzalem - Ormož Vineyards.

have "extraordinary conditions for developing different aromas" due to large differences in daily and night temperatures. The western Primorsko region, on the other hand, is known for its "richness of extracts", while the southeastern region of Dolenjsko is "somewhere in between", according to Wondra.

Since there are so many different sorts of wine in Slovenia, it is difficult to speak of flagship wines here. This indeed poses a bit of a problem when it comes to selling a particular sort of wine, but it is what Slovenia is unique in, Wondra believes. Winegrowers are nowadays mostly focusing on growing a single wine sort and are trying to promote their brand.

While wines made from a specific sort of grapes typically carry the name of the grape, those made of several sorts of grapes usually carry the name of the wine-growing region, the town, or the wine cellar.

Wondra said last year's harvest was of particularly high quality because of favorable weather conditions. The outlook for this year's harvest is also very good at the moment.

In recent years, organic wines are also becoming increasingly popular in Slovenia. This year's wine assessment in Gornja Radgona showed that organic wines also achieve very high quality. Such wines contain no added sulphur and typically have a strong scent of dry fruit, more intense color and higher alcohol content than other wines.

About 100 million liters of wine are produced in Slovenia annually, while statistics show that average annual consumption per inhabitant stands at 38.6 liters.

Slovenia has three wine-growing-regions and 14 wine-growing districts, boasting a total of around 15,000 hectares of vineyards with grape output of 130,000 tones.

Collection of Slovenian Folk Tales Published in English

This week, a collection of three Slovenian folk tales has been published in English to bring the capital Ljubljana, Lake Bled and the mountains around Lake Bohinj closer to tourists and foreign nationals. The collection "A Taste of Slovenian Tales" was selected and edited by Anja Premk, translated by Jana Renee Wilcoxon, and illustrated by Mojca Fo.

The book features the stories "Jason Slays the Dragon of Ljubljana", which is a Slovenian folklore version of the ancient Greek myth; "How Lake Bled Came to Be", telling the story of how mountain fairies filled the once fertile valley with water; and "In the Land of the Goldenhorn", the Slovenian chamois of legend.

Dragon bridge in Ljubljana.



CALL FOR ENTRIES

Scholarships for Slovenians Abroad

In the Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia of July 27, 2012, the Slovene Human Resources Development and Scholarship Fund published a Public call for applications for allocating scholarships for undergraduate study in the Republic of Slovenia for Slovenians living abroad in the academic year 2012/2013. At the 23rd regular session, the Government of the Republic of Slovenia gave its agreement to the conditions and the amount

of the scholarship for Slovenians living abroad. The amount of funds available for scholarships in this public notice for the academic year 2012/2013 is 500.000 EUR. The amount of the basic scholarship for the academic year 2012/2013 is 150 EUR per month or 1.800 EUR for the entire academic year. 150 scholarships will likely be granted on the basis of this call for applications.

The deadline for applications is September 20, 2012, for

those applying for the first time, and September 28, 2012, for those who had already applied previously. More on the conditions of the call for applications, together with the application form can be found on the web page of the Slovene Human Resources Development and Scholarship Fund at: <http://www.sklad-kadri.si/si/razpisi-in-objave/naslovnica/razpis/n/stipendije-za-slovence-v-zamejstvu-in-slovence-po-svetu-za-studijsko-letu-20122013-140-jr/>

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

Full-time Position at the Consulate General in Cleveland

The Consulate General of the Republic of Slovenia in Cleveland seeks an experienced and motivated individual for the full-time position of Executive/Consular Assistant.

The Consulate General of the Republic of Slovenia in

Cleveland is the sole diplomatic foreign mission in the State of Ohio. It has jurisdiction over 10 states: Colorado, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin.

The successful candidate

will demonstrate energy, motivation, and vision required to accomplish and expand the mission of the Consulate General of the Republic of Slovenia, possess significant personal enthusiasm for customer service, convey a strong commitment

to public outreach and mission visibility, and possess an understanding of the culture of foreign missions.

Qualifications:

The ideal candidate will be:
Experienced as an executive level assistant or business/government professional;
Extremely organized, self-motivated, and able to independently create systems and processes to support projects;
Able to manage resources cost-effectively;
Able to manage physical resources and logistical functions of a foreign diplomatic mission in compliance with the standards of the Ministry of the Republic of Slovenia, and the United States Department of State;
An articulate, professional communicator, both oral and written;
Able to independently produce impeccable, publishable written material including press releases, diplomatic notes, and business letters;

Absolutely discrete in managing sensitive information;
An intuitive listener and bridge builder who can maintain relationships;
Comfortable in a role that has a significant amount of responsibility, high degree of variability and multi-tasking;
Able to interact comfortably and effectively with individuals at various levels within the foreign missions community, and state and local governments, to establish liaison, provide service, organize meetings, coordinate activities, and support projects;
Possess knowledge of diplomatic and other government protocol procedures; able to recognize the necessity for, acquire, and apply protocol procedures to a variety of situations and written responsibilities;
Eager and quick to independently research/acquire new skills as needed.

Requirements:

College Degree and 3-5 years complex office/administrative or program/project management

experience;
Excellent technology, computer (PC), software (Power Point, Word, Excel) skills;
Demonstrable excellent English language writing/editing skills;
A professional appearance, demeanor, and attitude;
Integrity, discretion, team spirit, and adaptability;
A committed sense of customer service;
Background in event and meeting planning/coordinating is a plus;
Strong preference will be given to applicants possessing Slovene language skills.

To Apply:

Interested candidates should send letter of interest, resume, and references by mail to:
Consulate General of the Republic of Slovenia
55 Public Square, Suite 945
Cleveland, OH 44113
Other methods of application will not be considered.

Deadline for application is September 1, 2012.

TO DO LIST

Embassy Series: Andrej Goričar, piano

The Embassy Series and the Embassy of Slovenia present the pianist and composer Andrej Goričar, who will accompany a silent classics Sunrise: A Song of Two Humans (director F. W. Murnau, U.S., 1927, 95 min) with his unique music.

When: Wednesday, October 31, 2012 at 7:30 pm

Where: Embassy of Slovenia, 2410 California Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20008

Admission: \$55/buffet reception

Embassy Series: Caroline Calleja, piano

In cooperation with the Embassy of Malta and the Embassy of Slovenia, the Embassy Series presents pianist Caroline Calleja from Malta. Program: Beethoven: "Waldstein;" Chopin: "24 Preludes."

When: Friday, November 2, 2012 at 7:30 PM

Where: Embassy of Slovenia, 2410 California Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20008

More information: www.embassyseries.org

Admission: \$75/including reception. Order online or call (202) 625-2361

Video Installation "Innocence Dissolved" by Nataša Prosenc Stearns

"Innocence Dissolved" by Slovenian artist and filmmaker Nataša Prosenc is a multichannel video installation resembling a child's room with piles of old toys, broken and abandoned, which are tumbling over the furniture, as if engaged in an afterlife dance of forgotten emotions. These old-fashioned toys, once brimming with energy from a child's imagination and warmth of touch, are now discarded as are the imaginative and emotive habits that go along with them.

When: August 11 – August 26, 2012

Where: 607 Nth La Brea, Los Angeles, CA 90036

More information: www.wallspacela.com & www.graphicspaceonline.com

Music Fest 2012

Friends of The Slovenian American Times proudly announce the celebration of the 4th Anniversary of The Slovenian American Times. An afternoon and evening of Slovenian music, featuring numerous bands, choirs, & singing ensembles.

When: Saturday, September 8, 2012, starting at 3:00pm

Where: Slovenska Pristava, Harpersfield, Ohio

More information: <http://clevelandslovenian.com/CLESLO/>

Slovenia - a Photographic Journey 2013

Live life to the fullest and explore the most beautiful and secret places of Slovenia, the hidden gem of Central Europe. From the spectacular rocky limestone peaks to the medieval towns, this ancient country includes castles, vineyards, glistening lakes, and offers amazing photo sessions. Assistance by professional photographer Hank Miller.

For more information and to receive your sign-up forms, please contact

Cosmopolitan Adventure Tours

Tel: 415-924.4627 / 800-569.6228

info@cosmopolitanadventuretours.com or www.cosmopolitanadventuretours.com

Jiri Kočica - Votive Sculptures (Project Gallery)

TProject "Votive Sculptures" derives from a traditional custom, in which votive figures, made of wax or, sometimes, other materials, were placed at the altar in a church as sacred gifts. This custom was preserved in the central European countries up until the 19th century. Jiri Kočica made various kinds of figures, including wax statuettes of families and couples. He used to give them to the visitors of the galleries where he exhibited. This project was some kind of reversed traditional custom and it represented a connection, which has made us more integrated into the community.

When: Ongoing from August 2, 2012

Where: Gallery MC, 549 West 52nd Street, 8th Floor, New York, NY 10019

More information: <http://www2.arnes.si/~jkocic/>

Discover Enchanting Slovenia

Those of you who love to enrich your knowledge or the knowledge of your children and grandchildren, or at one point decide to visit Slovenia, will appreciate this 30-minute DVD. This film by Zoya D. Pinto will introduce you to the most interesting places in Slovenia, which has a long history, great architecture, art, and a breathtaking natural beauty. Order DVDs not only for yourself, your children and grandchildren, but especially for your American friends and thus help promote tourism of our native country.

More information and request for order form: zdpinto@yahoo.com

Clearly filled DVD order form must be sent to: ZD Productions, 51 Village Circle, San Rafael, CA 94903-4242

Promo links available at:

<https://www.dropbox.com/lightbox/home/Public>

http://dl.dropbox.com/u/81839964/Slovenia_DVD_%20promoter1.mov

The next issue of the Slovenian Embassy's Newsletter will be published on Friday, September 7, 2012.

The weekly Embassy Newsletter, produced by the Embassy of Slovenia in Washington, is available on: www.washington.embassy.si.

Send us your comments or request for a subscription on: vwa@gov.si,

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