



Udruženje građana češkog porijekla
Spolek občanů českého původu

česká beseda

Sarajevo

INFORMATOR No. 1/2011. from 1 January 2011 to 30 June 2011

Dear members!

Leona Sabolek, Vice-president for Culture, followed all events in the first half of the year related to the work of our Association and cooperation with the Embassy of the Czech Republic to BiH. She prepared the entire edition of this Informator, and the news summary has been published also on our web page, with the photos of all events. The page is regularly updated by Igor Sivjak.

Noteworthy is that this year the *Česká Beseda Sarajevo* marks the fifteenth anniversary of its Renewal Assembly held on 28 September 1996, on the St. Vaclav's Day, the patron of all Czechs.

Vaša Jovanka Manžalović-Šalaka

Holiday Get-together

Every year the *Česká Beseda Sarajevo* organizes Christmas and New Year's party. It is traditionally scheduled shortly before or after the holidays to gather as many members as possible, and to present some interesting program. The St. Anthony's Franciscan Monastery in Bistrič generously provides the space for the occasion for years now.

On 8 January 2011 the gathering started with extremely interesting lecture of our member Jadranka Šuster who was in Daruvar on 17 and 18 July 2010, during the *Dožínky* harvest festival. *Dožínky* is the biggest festival of Czech ethnic minority in Croatia. It takes place very second year in Daruvar – the seat of the Czech Association in the Republic of Croatia. All 28 chapters of *Česka Beseda* from Croatia take part in the program, and there are also guests from Czekia, both as performers and as audience. The main event is a parade through the city center where Czech minority presents its harvest-related tradition, accompanied with songs, dances and culinary delights. Some already forgotten customs in the homeland Czechia can be seen there, which have a great cultural and historical value. On the other hand,

Dožínky has become a major tourist attraction of Daruvar area and beyond.

The members of our *Beseda* enjoyed in beautiful slides and presentation of Jadranka Šuster. There is a possibility for us to join them at the next harvest festival and that our representatives take part in the 2012 *Dožínky* in Daruvar.

The lecture was followed by the less formal part of the gathering with food and drinks. As usual the raffle was organized, too, and the get-together, as ever, was pleasant, accompanied with discreet Czech music.

Leona Sabolek

Documentary Film *Awake Puppets*

After a short interruption, the work on the documentary film *Awake Puppets* resumed to mark a hundred year anniversary of puppetry in Sarajevo and the contribution of Czech puppeteers. The teachers Bohumil Chlebovský, Ludvík Jaroš and Vojta Režný used to direct very popular puppets shows in Czech language. Those were the beginnings of the Puppet Theatre of Adolf Dolfi Pomezni, who is still remembered by elderly Sarajevans. Since 1977 the Puppet and Pionir Theatre has been known as the Youth Theatre. Unfortunately the initial design of the *Česka Beseda* project had to be modified because of the death of Ante Hrkač, a great actor, puppeteer and animator of the Youth Theatre, who played a significant role in the original version.

New takes were filmed on 19 and 20 of March 2011 in the St. Antony's Franciscan Monastery in Bistrič. The main star this time was a small puppet theatre which a teacher Vojta Režný handed over to the Stuchlý family in 1941. The puppets made with utmost precision and beautifully decorated curtains for various plays were marvelous. Beautiful old puppets and the narrator Kašpárek were given life by

a young puppeteer Jasminka Požek-Božuta. Igor Sivjakov, Senka Paunović, Ivan and Zvezdana Stuchlý, Jovanka Manžalović-Šalaka and Leona Sabolek also took part in the making of the film. The filming resumed with financial support of the City of Sarajevo.

Leona Sabolek

RTVFBiH Documentary Program

The documentary program of the Federal Television continued filming the series about the ethnic minorities in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Then Czechs' turn came.

On 24 March 2010, a journalist of the Federal Television, Dragica Orlando, and a director Himzo Mihaljević with a crew of a documentary film made a sequence of series in the premises of St. Antony's Franciscan Monastery in Bistrik. It included the work of Česka Beseda Sarajevo through the statements of Jovanka Manžalović Šalaka, Tomislav Krzyk, Leona Sabolek and appropriate documents. Tomislav Krzyk took the crew of the documentary program section to the St. Mihovil's cemetery to film the grave of Karlo Pařík and to light a candle.

Some sequences were filmed at the daughter's of Jan Beran, and the Federal Television plans to add some reports to the show about the Czechs from Banja Luka and Mačino Brdo, the only Czech village in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Leona Sabolek

Graceful and Helpless

On 1 June 2011 an exhibition of 38 photos of Michael Míček entitled "Graceful and Helpless 2003-2009" was formally opened in the Sarajevo Vijećnica (Town Hall) organized by the Embassy of the Czech Republic and under the auspices of the Mayor of Sarajevo Alija Behmen.

The exhibition was based on the Czech Television series *Graceful Cities* by the author Radovan Lipus and David Vávra, which directs public attention to the endangered buildings in Czechia and the need for their restoration. Those are the 19th and 20th century buildings of a great value which are deteriorating or being inadequately changed. Among them are the Palm Garden of the Hotel Grand and the Town Hall from Hradec Králové by the founder of the Czech modern architecture Jan Kotěra who is an architect who designed the *Slavija* Bank building in Sarajevo. The exhibition has already been presented in the world's biggest cities such as Vienna, New York, Budapest, Stockholm, Rome, Tokyo, Bratislava and Dresden. In our country after Sarajevo it will be presented in Bihać, Tuzla, Zenica, Gračanica, Banja Luka, Prijedor and Mostar.

Mayor of Sarajevo, Mr. Alija Behmen, has supported the presentation of exhibition in Vijećnica which itself is one of the endangered gems of architecture and the work of Czech architects. It has recently marked 115 years, and its interior renovation starts in December.

Vijećnica is the symbol of the exhibition which was constructed according to the design of Karlo Pařík, Aleksandar Vitek and Ćiril M. Iveković. It was the seat of the City Administration from 20 April 1896 to 1949 when the National and University Library of BiH was moved in it. In the latest war it was ruthlessly shelled and burned down over the night of 25/26 August 1992.

The exhibition was opened by Ambassador of the Czech Republic, Mr. Tomáš Szunyog, who stated that Vijećnica was no more helpless because it was fortunate to be renovated. Nowadays the modern architecture buildings are more endangered than all castles or renaissance buildings and they have to be saved.

Mr. Tomáš Hendrych from the Graceful Cities Association of Citizens which was the author of the project also spoke about the exhibition. The Association informs, educates and directs attention to the needed reconstructions and it has already managed to save a half of endangered architectural gems. Short texts and verses with photographs were written by Radovan Lipus and David Vávra who continued following the work of Czech architects abroad. This is how the series *Graceful Traces* came into being, whose three parts were dedicated to the work of Karlo Pařík and other Czech architects in Sarajevo and Bosnia and Herzegovina. It will be presented on 27 June 2011 at the Meeting Point Cinema.

Leona Sabolek

Graceful Traces

On 27 June 2011 three parts of the series *Gracious Traces* by the Czech Television had their first run at the Meeting Point Cinema in Sarajevo. The showing of the series was organized by the Embassy of the Czech Republic and under the auspices of the Mayor of Sarajevo, Mr. Alija Behmen.

The *Graceful Traces* follow up the series of *Graceful Cities* by Radovan Lipus and David Vávra, as well as the exhibition of photographs by Michael Míček *Graceful and Helpless*, presented in the Sarajevo Town Hall *Vijećnica*. The authors follow the work of the Czech architects in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina and beyond. The sequels were showed about Karlo Pařík and his followers: Karl Pánek, František Blažek, Aleksandar Vitek, Josef Pospíšil and Jan Kotěra. Apart from their competence the director and screenwriter Radovan Lipus and screenwriter, guide and architect David Vávra also

demonstrated good knowledge of mentality of our people, and combined it all in interesting short films, full of recognizable Czech spirit.

The introductory speech was made by Mr. Slavomír Goga, Chargé d'Affaires to the Embassy. During the break the audience had an opportunity to ask the authors Radovan Lipus and David Vavra questions and enjoy Czech beer with them after the screening. The documentary film is highly interesting and it should be seen by the general public in Bosnia and Herzegovina, particularly by the young people.

Leona Sabolek

A Czech by Origin, a Sarajevan by Choice

Every year members of Česka Beseda Sarajevo go to the St. Mihovil's Cemetery to pay respect to the builder of Sarajevo Karlo Pařík, an architect whose designs enriched Sarajevo with buildings for which it is famous today. It is interesting that he constructed buildings of all four monotheistic religions in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Alma Bajić from the Embassy of the Czech Republic to Bosnia and Herzegovina joined the group of members in their traditional laying flowers and lighting candles on 16 June 2011.

Leona Sabolek

Trip to Bijambare

The Česka Beseda Sarajevo made a nice and popular move by organizing a one-day trip. By far we have visited historical places such as Kraljeva Sutjeska, Fojnica and Kreševo. This year we decided to visit a

beautiful Bijambare resort, about forty kilometers from Sarajevo.

On 26 June 2011 in the morning we gathered in front of the Museum, got on a comfortable bus and started to the protected landscape of Bijambare. As the area is protected, we left the bus on the parking place in front of the resort entrance and we had to make an effort and walk for about 2 km to the mountaineers' hut owned by the host Mijo. We found doughnuts and cream on the table there. After a short break we visited the famous Bijambare cave accompanied with a professional guide. Tourists visit the Middle Bijambare Cave which was explored also by Czech speleologists during the time of Austro-Hungarian Monarchy. This well-developed cave has rich cave decorations and it ends with the so-called "*concert hall*". A group of members used its acoustics to sing *Písnička Česka* and other songs accompanied by Ivan Milošević's playing *tambura*. Most of the members climbed to the Upper Bijambare Cave which is closed to public and is yet to be explored. The entrance of the cave offers a magnificent view of the surroundings. The mountaineers' menu was planned for lunch. They could choose between tasty thick bean soup and goulash. Our vice-president Tomo Krzyk prepared a desert. He brought some *tulumbas*. This was followed by a rest, walk along the marked paths, the touring of the Wood City or woods, by one's own choice.

Having spent a pleasant day the cheerful group returned to Sarajevo in the afternoon.

Leona Sabolek

IN MEMORIAM

Dragutin Fuks
Zdenka Haberl
Berislav Hafner

20 January 2011
11 February 2011
18 June 2011.

**Activity Plan
from 1 July to 31 December 2011**

1. Meeting of the Managing Board of the Association ;
2. Informator No.1/2011.;
3. Marking of the 15th anniversary of the Association ;
4. Regular Assembly of the Association;
5. Marking of the National Day of the Czech Republic;
6. Christmas and New Year party;
7. Resumption of work on the documentary film "Awake Puppets";
8. Continuation of work on the monograph "Czechs in Sarajevo";
9. Opening of "Czech Corner", the library of the Association;
10. Rehearsals and get-togethers with "česke lidovke";

***Note:** Any assistance of Association members interested in the implementation of the aforementioned activities is always more than welcome.*

Annex to this issue of INFORMATOR: "Let's sing together - písničky!"

Sarajevo, 1 July 2011

Managing Board of Česka Beseda Sarajevo

Web site statistics of www.ceskabesedasa.ba

January- June 2011.

Total number of views per month										
Month	Daily average				Total per month					
	Hits	Files	Pages	Visits	Sites	KBytes	Visits	Pages	Files	Hits
Jun 2011	322	230	29	13	279	109908	397	870	6917	9689
Maj 2011	235	167	21	11	203	71764	346	651	5191	7287
Apr 2011	262	213	25	13	263	110160	390	758	6408	7870
Mar 2011	612	448	41	13	300	340897	416	1296	13891	18980
Feb 2011	453	306	54	16	313	246096	463	1516	8588	12699
Jan 2011	374	279	38	15	405	178171	471	1182	8660	11596
Total						1056996	2483	6273	49655	68121

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