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6th Annual International Folk Festival of Lake County Saturday, April 25, 2009 - 2:00-6:00 p.m.

Lakeland Performing Arts Center - Emcee - Cecilia Dolgan

Cleveland area home to the largest community of Slovenians outside of Europe



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is now linked to many of the popular social
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Wachovia Securities
Mr. Phillip Irvatin
1300 North Point Tower
100 Lakeside Avenue
Cleveland, OH 44114

USA



Vesele velikonočne praznike

Naj skrivnost velikonočnega veselja plemeniti
Vas in Vaše delo.

V imenu Katoliškega inštituta Vam želimo
blagoslovljene velikonočne praznike.

Anton Jamnik

dr. Anton Jamnik

mag. Andrej Naglič *mag. Naglič*

A PREDNOSTNO
Priority

**A beautiful Easter greeting
from Bishop Anton Jamnik
& Andrej Najlič of
Ljubljana, Slovenia**

**SLOVENIAN-AMERICAN HERITAGE FOUNDATION
SLOVENSKO AMERIŠKI KULTURNI SVET**

2009 LECTURE SERIES

SLOVENIAN MISSIONARIES

Dr. Zvone Žigon, Consul General of the Republic of Slovenia

7:00 PM – Tuesday, April 21, 2009

**Slovenian Society Home (Lower Hall),
20713 Recher Avenue, Euclid, Ohio**

The Slovenian-American Heritage Foundation invites all to attend the third talk in our 2009 Lecture Series. The Foundation is extremely pleased that **Dr. Zvone Žigon** will discuss Slovenian missionaries, their work and personal challenges. The program, which is free and open to the public, will take place on Tuesday, April 21st at 7:00 PM in the Lower Hall of the Slovenian Society Home, 20713 Recher Avenue in Euclid. A coffee and strudel social will follow the lecture.

In his lecture, which will include a slide and video presentation, Dr. Žigon will discuss his decade long correspondence, interviews and visits with Slovenian missionaries in places including Botswana, Chile, Egypt and the Canadian Nunavut (Eskimo) territory. Today, nearly one hundred Slovenian lay and clerical missionaries are scattered all over the world. In his latest book, published just before his departure to Cleveland, Dr. Žigon describes modern Slovenian missionaries and their personal challenges living between two cultures: the one they come from and are supposed to transfer its main cultural-religious message (Slovenian, Christian), and the one they live in and try to build bridges with (African, Indian, South American, Eskimo...).

Dr. Zvone Žigon was named the Consul General of the Republic of Slovenia in Cleveland in June of 2005. Prior to this appointment, Dr. Žigon was a consular to the Slovenian government in the Office for Slovenians Abroad at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. In this position he was responsible for matters concerning Slovenians in all countries and continents with the exception of the countries bordering Slovenia. From 1990 to 2005, Dr. Žigon was the manager of the prestigious mixed chamber choir *Ave* and in 2000 was the manager of the world-famous *Slovenski oktet* male vocal group during its 50th anniversary year. Dr. Žigon attended the University of Ljubljana's Faculty for Social Sciences where he graduated in 1993 and later completed his Master and Doctorate degrees. His academic focus has been on the question of double ethnic identity in emigration and he is the author of four books on this subject.

Dr. Žigon's book *Ljudje odprtih src - Slovenski misijonarji o sebi* (The People of Open Hearts - Slovenian Missionaries about Themselves) will be available for purchase at the lecture.

**Cleveland Slovenian Business and Professionals Association
(CSBPA)
ANNUAL RECEPTION**

Thursday, April 23, 2009
WKYC-TV3 Studios
1333 Lakeside Ave. - Heart of Cleveland

Reception and Networking:
6pm to 7pm - Wines of Slovenia

Hosted by:
Consulate General of the Republic of Slovenia in Cleveland
Kollander World Travel
Slovenia Tourist Office - USA

Program: 7pm to 8pm Slovenian Americans in the Media

Master of Ceremonies: Dick Russ, WKYC TV3 Studios

- Sylvia Pisorn, CSBPA Progress reports
- Michael D. Polensek, Cleveland City Councilman, Cleveland-Ljubljana Connection
- Dr. Zvone Žigon, Consul General of the Republic of Slovenia
 - Question & Answer session
 - Tour of the WKYC TV3 Studios

Cost: \$10 at door Wine and Cheese Reception

RSVP to Denise Klemencic by April 16 via e-mail:
denise.klemencic@ubs.com, or telephone: (216) 736-3659.

(Guests are encouraged and welcome!)



6th Annual International Folk Festival of Lake County

Slovenia

Saturday, APRIL 25, 2009

2:00-6:00 p.m.

Lakeland Performing Arts Center

Emcee - Cecilia Dolgan

Featuring:

- Mi Smo Mi a capella group
- Kres Dancers
- and many more!
- Dr. Zvone Zigon, Consul General
of the Republic of Slovenia in Cleveland

Displays:

- By the children from St. Mary's and St. Vitus'
Slovenian Schools
- Slovenian Museum and Archives
- Slovenian Genealogy Society
- Slovenian American National Art Guild
- Cleveland-Style Polka Hall of Fame

Discussions:

- Slovenian culture, art and film

Refreshments:

Featuring Slovenian pastries
and sausage sandwiches

Tickets available at the door:

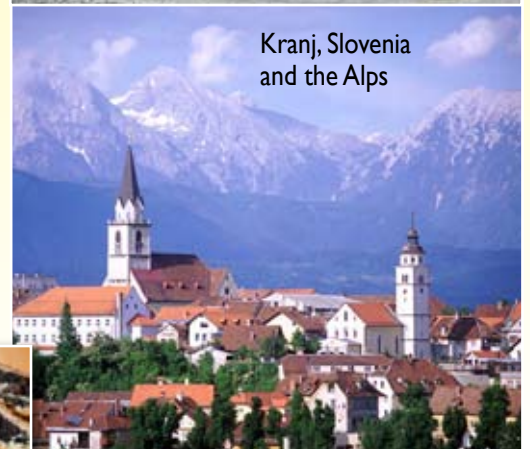
\$4-Adult / \$2-Child

Tickets may be purchased at the box office the day of the event.

Schedule subject to change.



Cleveland is home to
the largest community
of Slovenians outside
of Slovenia.



Kranj, Slovenia
and the Alps



Slovenian Potica

LAKE LAND

COMMUNITY COLLEGE

7700 Clocktower Drive, Kirtland OH

SPONSORED BY:

**WELW, The Slovenian Consulate, The Center for Slovenian Studies,
Slovenian American Heritage Foundation, Lakeland Community College Diversity Committee,
and the Center for International Education**

For more information, call 440-525-7508 or lakelandcc.edu/international

*SLOVENSKA ŠOLA PRI SV. VIDU
ST. VITUS SLOVENIAN LANGUAGE SCHOOL
6019 LAUSCHE AVE.
CLEVELAND, OHIO 44103*

Spoštovani!

Prosim da sledeče objavite. Za uslugo vam najlepša hvala.

Lepo pozdravlja,

Barbara Beyer
440-259-4904
Tajnica Slovenske Šole Pri Sv. Vidu
6. aprila, 2009

Graduacija in Spomladanska Proslava Slovenske Šole pri Sv. Vidu

Slovenska Šola pri Sv. Vidu bo imela svojo graduacijo, v nedeljo, 17. maja, 2009. Letošnji absolventi so: Emily Baznik, Joanna Celestina, Kati Gaser, Samantha Graf in Jože Rudmann. Uspešno so končali tečaj slovenskega jezika. Svoje diplome bodo prejeli po polenajsti maši v cerkvi Svetega Vida. Vsem prisrčne čestitke!

Takoj po polenajsti maši in graduacije, bo Slovenska Šola priredila kratko šolsko akademijo v šolski dvorani. Otroci bodo malo pokazali kaj znajo. Vsi lepo vabljeni.

St. Vitus Slovenian School Graduation and Spring Performance

The St. Vitus Slovenian Language School will be holding its eighth grade graduation on Sunday, May 17, 2009 at the 10:30 mass. The graduates have successfully completed the course of study of the Slovenian language. The following students will be receiving their diplomas: Emily Baznik, Joanna Celestina, Kati Gaser, Samantha Graf and Jože Rudmann. Congratulations to the graduates!

Following the 10:30 graduation mass, St. Vitus Slovenian School children will present a short spring performance, in the St. Martin de Porres Auditorium, showing a little of what they learned throughout the school year. Everyone is welcome!

Berkeley Press Publishes Slovenian Literature

Berkeley, CA----4/9/09

North Atlantic Books, a prominent Berkeley-based independent publisher, is pleased to announce the latest publications of its International Literature series founded in 2006, seven of which have been from Slovenia.

Why so many titles from Slovenia?

"My husband and I spent time with Slovenian writers in the fall of 2006," said Lindy Hough, Co-Publisher with Richard Grossinger of North Atlantic Books. "We realized how important it is for writers to be published abroad and the power of international understanding. It allowed us to embrace more the cross-cultural aspect of our publishing mission."

North Atlantic's Slovene titles began in 2006 with the classic *Alamut*, by Vladimir Bartol. Written on the eve of WWII, and a best-seller in Europe, medieval Persian warlord who inspires fanaticism for his own political gain.

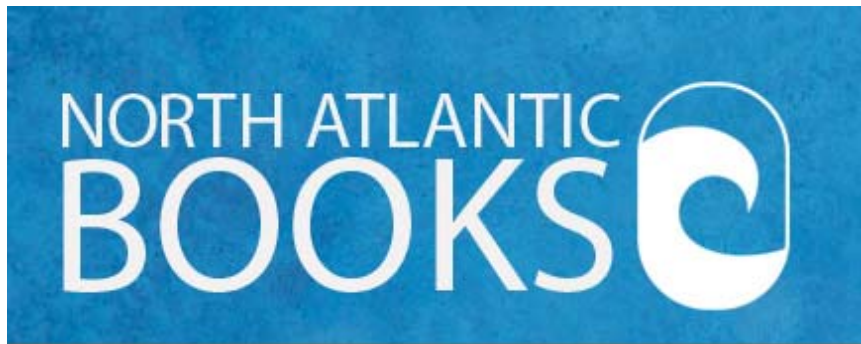
In March, North Atlantic published the contemporary memoir *Forbidden Bread*, by Erica Johnson Debeljak, a witty, touching romance about a New Yorker who falls in love with a Slovenian poet and migrates to Slovenia, where they raise a family. It has already garnered a *Publisher's Weekly* and *Kirkus* review. *The Feline Plague*, by leading Slovenian novelist Maja Novak (translated by Maja Visenjak-Limon) was also released in March. A powerful fable about the misuse of power, it follows four working women in mid-90's Ljubljana, when the rush to capitalism grew alongside lingering communist mores and expectations.

Other Slovenian titles the press has issued are: *Angels*

Beneath the Surface, A Selection of Contemporary Slovene Fiction, Edited by Mitja Čander with Tom Priestly, and *Guarding Hanna*, a novel by the popular novelist Miha Mazzini, translated by Maja Visenjak-Limon.

Any of these titles may be ordered in the U.S., Canada, or internationally from North Atlantic Books, www.northatlanticbooks.com or Random House, customerservice@randomhouse.com.

For information on North Atlantic Books' International Literature Program contact Lindy Hough, ldh@northatlanticbooks.com.



For information about the International Literature Program, contact
Lindy Hough, Publisher and Executive Editor
(510) 549-4270 x 12
ldh@northatlanticbooks.com

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www.bluesnakebooks.com

Blogs:
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<http://www.northatlanticbooks.com>

Hello,

I am a coin collector, specializing in Slovenian coins, medals, paper money, and tokens. By chance, I was in Ljubljana (my first of many visits) in the week in which independence was declared, and formed a great affection for the country and its people. When a few years later I started collecting coins, it seemed to me that specializing in Slovenian coins and related items was a natural choice.



Recently, I have become aware that at least two Slovenian organizations in America (one in Chicago and one in Chisholm, Minnesota) have at one time or another issued tokens for local use ("good for 5 cents", etc., presumably only for use at functions of the organization, perhaps at the bar).

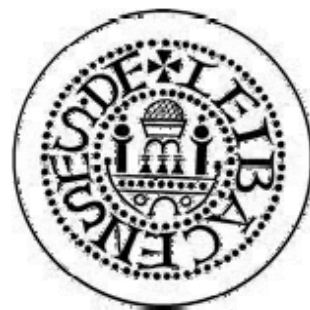
I would love to have more information about such tokens, and so I thought I'd ask whether the Fairport Slovenian Club has ever issued any such tokens, or wooden nickels, or any medals or pins, or anything similar. Any information you might be able to supply, or any sources of information you might be able to point me towards, would be very much appreciated.

And, of course, although information is my primary objective, needless to say I'd love to collect examples, as well, and if you happened to be able to point me towards any opportunity to do so, I'd be delighted by that, as well.

In any case, I wish the Fairport Slovenian Club and all it's members well.

Hvala,

Mark A. Brown,
Vice President, East Syracuse Coin Club
Member, Numizmatično Drustvo Slovenije



From: szalar@dfamilk.com [mailto:szalar@dfamilk.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 15, 2009 10:47 AM
To: Mark A Brown
Subject: Re: Slovenian Club

Hello Mark,

I hope you and your family had a Happy Easter ? I want to apologize for taking so long to get back to you on your Slovenian Club request. With my business travels and Easter holiday plans I failed to find the time. I would like to thank you for visiting our club website. With respect to your inquiry regarding tokens, the club at one time had "drink chips" or tokens that would be issued to a member upon another member purchasing them a drink while visiting our clubhouse facility. This chip was about the size of a quarter and was light blue in color and was the size of a quarter. On one side the engraved words "American Slovenian Club" could be found. On the other side the words "

Fairport Harbor , Ohio " was engraved. Ironically there was never any indication of a dollar value to this chip. I guess it was assumed the bar maid knew what drink was bought or what drink the member drank if they redeemed this chip at a later date. At this time the club no longer utilizes this chips and does not have an inventory on them. However, they surface from time to time as club members find them in old clothing they are discarding from their closets !

As far as examples of Slovenian nostalgia there is a host of Cleveland area Slovenians who could point you in different directions given that this area of northeast Ohio seeing that the Slovene population is very concentrated in comparison to other parts of the country. In fact so concentrated that we have several fraternal Slovenian insurance organizations such as AMLA and SNPJ catering to the needs of the community. I will copy numerous Slovenian people on this e-mail that could perhaps help you in your quest to learn more. I might also add there is a Slovenian Museum being constructed inside the Slovenian National Home located on St. Clair Ave. in Cleveland . Although not yet complete, it will be a must stop for you in the future. Let me not forget to mention the Cleveland Style Polka Hall of Fame. A great place to see polka history, present and the future. It would be a great weekend getaway seeing that you are not that far away.

Take care and please keep in touch. If you are ever in the area please stop by The American Slovenian Club in Fairport Harbor . We have had visitors from all over the U.S. as a result of our website. We are a friendly group and would love to hear about your Slovenian coin collection and efforts to collect. Starting April 20th the Fairport Public Library will be displaying items from the American Slovenian Club. I am uncertain of the display content but do know that it will involve a traditional Slovenian costume and an accordion that was used by a professional famous Polka musician. It should be a good small display and will run through June 1st. We do have Slovenian ball caps and T-shirt items for sale at the club. And if you like Balina Ball (Boccie ball) we have a 24 team league that is top notch !! Hope to see you in the Cleveland area soon !

Steve Zalar Manager Hauling Operations

Dairy Farmers of America Mideast Region 1035 Medina Road Suite 300 Medina , Ohio 44256

Toll Free: 1-800-837-6776 ext. 7874 Direct Phone: 330-670-7874



Letters

Mr. Hrvatin,

I do hope you still remember us, (Cyril and Maria Mejac). We immensely enjoyed your e-mails, which you sent us periodically; news from Cleveland and other important news. We do hope you are well and that at some occasion we will meet again at some function of the Slovenian Embassy. We hope you will keep us on your mailing list and are really looking forward to hearing from you.
All the best,

Cyril and Maria Mejac

"Maria Mejac" cmjtmejac@lycos.com

Sunday, April 19, 2009 8:17 PM

On **Sat, 4/11/09**, **tonypeskar@juno.com** <**tonypeskar@juno.com**> wrote:

From: tonypeskar@juno.com <tonypeskar@juno.com>

Subject: Easter Sunday Service at Saint Lawrence Church

Date: Saturday, April 11, 2009, 4:37 AM

Hi:

It is with great pleasure and pride that I convey to you that Father Lou Papes will celebrate Easter Sunday mass at Saint Lawrence Church. Lou is a class of '53 graduate of Saint Lawrence. Preceding the 10:00 AM mass will be a short choral concert starting at 9:40 AM

Come to Saint Lawrence this Sunday to celebrate Easter. We cannot be certain that we will have another opportunity to have an Easter Sunday service at Saint Lawrence since Bishop Lennon has announced that he plans to close Saint Lawrence.

Hope to see you this Sunday.

Best wishes for a most blessed Easter.

Elaine & Tony

Tony,

Any chance you could email some of the photos to me?

Phil

Subject: Re: Easter Sunday Service at Saint Lawrence Church

To: phrvatin@yahoo.com

Date: Tuesday, April 14, 2009, 3:31 PM

Hi Phil:

I took some photos each day, Thursday through Sunday.

The services were awesome (did I actually use the word awesome to describe the church service? WOW!!!) I just wish I could get my hands on the various homilies. I will try to.
Lou Papes contributed so much to a very joyous Easter we couldn't get the people out of the church. Eventually someone shut the light off at least 45 minutes after the service ended. It was a wonderful sight to see and participate in.

Take care and keep in touch.

Tony

Hi Phil,

A while ago Diane Brahney asked me to send you notice of new editions of our newsletters. Here's a link to Novi Glas - the newsletter of Slovenian Catholic community in San Francisco.

<http://xiongmaofamily.com/martin/NoviGlas/index.html>

LP
Martin

Martin Junkar martinjunkar@gmail.com

Hello, Phil,

Just wanted to share the cover that Mk has chosen for my book. All looks set for the release next month in SLO.

Hoping all's great with you,

Jacqui Stewart

Jacqueline W Stewart jwidmarstewart@gmail.com

Finding **Slovenia**

A Guide to Old Europe's New Country



By Jacqueline WIDMAR STEWART



WWII-era mass grave found in Slovenia

March 05, 2009

Article from: Agence France-Presse

A MASS grave in Slovenia believed to hold up to 300 victims killed after World War II by the former communist regime has been discovered in the country's east.

“We've found the mummified remains of between 200 and 300 people,” Marko Strovs, head of the government's military graves department, told journalists.

He added the victims appeared to be “killed with gas” since there were no visible signs of wounds from firearms.

Investigators and historians on Tuesday removed concrete walls built after World War II to close off the Huda Jama cave near Lasko, some 90 km east of the capital Ljubljana. They then discovered the remains.

The investigation of the Huda Jama cave started last August as part of a long-running probe of more than 500 suspected mass graves throughout Slovenia.

They are believed to contain the remains of pro-Nazi collaborators who sought to escape from the former Yugoslavia's communist regime in 1945. Slovenia was part of Yugoslavia before becoming independent in 1991.

The identities of the victims in Huda Jama remain unclear.

However, accounts from local residents indicate they were pro-Nazi collaborators from Slovenia or Croatia, according to the head of the Slovenian Research Center for National Reconciliation, Andreja Valic.

“Current information, based on oral testimony, indicate that the slain people could have been Slovenian or Croatian citizens,” Valic told Slovenian news agency STA.

State prosecutor Barbara Brezigar also visited the site and described seeing the remains as “horrible.”

“It is one of the most shocking things you could see in your life,” Brezigar told journalists.

She said any investigation into the crimes will be difficult since most of those responsible are likely dead.

Judicial forensic Joze Balazic, who took part in the excavation of the mass grave, said at the entrance piles of military shoes were found.

“It seems that they (the victims) had to undress and take down their shoes before they were killed. We did not see any small-size or children's shoes,” Balazic told reporters suggesting most of the victims were soldiers.

Most of the bodies were found in a 15m long and 2.5m wide underground passage situated some 400m from the entrance to the cave.

He added that there are another two passages in the cave where more bodies could be found but that these will only be investigated in a month's time, after the first one discovered on Tuesday is documented and a way through is opened.

Strovs explained the good condition in which the remains were found was due to the fact that the cave had been sealed with several walls of concrete separated by layers of barren soil.

“At the end, we came to a long passage that was all in white. Soon we understood the white mass were the bodies that had been all covered with lime,” added Strovs, the head of the government's military graves department, of the gruesome discovery.

In July 2007, Slovenian authorities began exhuming a mass grave in the Tezno forest, northeastern Slovenia, where another 15,000 victims slain after World War II by the former communist regime are believed buried.

Source: <http://www.theaustralian.news.com.au/story/0,25197,25141765-2703,00.html>

Slovenia to kill 70 bears to keep number steady

09 Apr 2009 15:44:00 GMT Source: Reuters

LJUBLJANA, April 9 (Reuters) - Slovenia will let hunters kill 70 brown bears this year to limit the damage they do to crops and livestock, the environment ministry said on Thursday.

Slovenia has between 430 and 490 brown bears, among the highest number for any country in Europe, while the number of wolves is estimated at 70 to 100, the latest research says.

Almost all the bears live in dense woods in the south, in an area smaller than the French island of Corsica, making the density of brown bears higher than anywhere else in Europe.

Last year the ministry approved a cull of 75 brown bears of the *Ursus arctos* species, which once inhabited the entire European continent but have been reduced to a few thousand, mainly in eastern Europe and Scandinavia. Environmentalists estimate the number of bears in Europe at around 15,000.

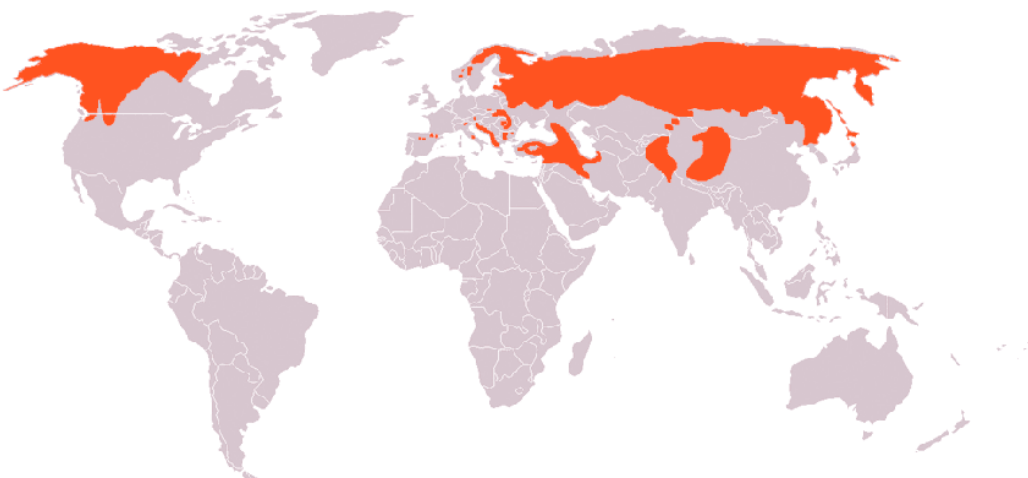
The ministry also set a hunting quota of 10 wolves, for the first time since they were declared a protected species in 1993.

"We estimate the natural increase to be 90 to 100 animals a year so we have to set a hunting quota to keep the population at the current level," Janez Kastelic, head of the nature conservation policy sector at the ministry, told Reuters.

He said up to 25 bears die in railway and car accidents every year, so the quota is below the natural increase.

Some local environmentalists argue that hunters should not be allowed to shoot the two species at all, claiming their numbers are lower than estimated by the government.

Last year bears and wolves caused damage to farmers estimated at some 450,000 euros (\$597,600).



(Reporting by Marja Novak,
Edited by Zoran Radosavljevic
[http://www.alertnet.org/thenews/
newsdesk/L9961278.htm](http://www.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/L9961278.htm)

The Brown Bear (*Ursus arctos*) is a large bear distributed across much of northern Eurasia and North America. It weighs 100 to 700 kg (220-1,500 pounds) and its larger populations such as the Kodiak bear match the Polar bear as the largest extant land predator

TIMETABLE FOR 2009 EUROPEAN UNION PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS



May 8

Last day for Slovene citizens who have a permanent residence in Slovenia but are temporarily living abroad to register to vote at a diplomatic or consular mission or by mail.

Registration forms must be sent by mail to the State Elections Committee at Državna volilna komisija, Slovenska cesta 54, 1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia, by fax to +386 1-433-1269, or by e-mail to rvk@gov.si. Registration forms are also available at www.dvk.gov.si

May 8

Last day for Slovene citizens with permanent residence abroad, who are not enlisted in the special electoral register and wish to vote, to submit a request to be added to the electoral register. The electoral register is on view at the Consulate General.

May 8

Last day for voters to register a party affiliation for the 2009 EU Parliamentary Elections.

May 23

Last day for voters to view the electoral register.

June 4

Last day for voters with permanent residence abroad who wish to vote in Slovenia in the 2009 EU Parliamentary Elections to inform the State Election Committee of their intent.

June 7

2009 EU Parliamentary Elections.

For more information, please contact the Consulate General of Slovenia at 212-370-3006 or at clara.drew@gov.si

Slovene citizens with addresses registered at the Consulate General will be mailed election information and voting instructions in Slovene. If you do not receive this information and would like to, please contact the consulate.

April 9 – May 3, 2009

Opening and lecture by the artist: April 9, 4:30 pm

MARJETICA POTRČ: ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN

Artist and architect Marjetica Potrč is known for her installations and architectural projects in a gallery context. "Working at the interface of architecture, art and social science, she is concerned with the fundamentals of human life and well-being in the community: the dangers of globalization, climate change and unsustainable urban growth. Her work has been featured in exhibitions throughout Europe and the Americas, and she has been the recipient of numerous awards and grants."

(<http://hop.dartmouth.edu/galleries/index.html>)

Hopkins Center for the Arts
Jaffe-Friede Gallery
Dartmouth College
Hanover, NH 03755
Tel: 603-646-2422
email: hopkins.center@dartmouth.edu
web: hop.dartmouth.edu

April 19, 2009, 11:00 am

SLOVENE CULTURAL HOUR: CIRCLE 2

The Slovenian Junior Chorus, Circle 2 will perform. Circle 2 is based in Cleveland, OH. Now in its 71st year, Circle 2 is one of the oldest youth choirs in the United States.

The Church of St. Cyril
62 St. Mark's Place (E 8th St.)
New York, NY 10003

Application Deadline: April 13, 2009

INDIANA UNIVERSITY: SUMMER LANGUAGE WORKSHOP

"The Summer Workshop provides up to 200 participants...the opportunity to complete a full year of college language instruction during an eight-week summer session... Utilizing the resources of Indiana University's own specialists as well as native speakers from other universities and abroad, the Summer Workshop has developed and maintained a national program of the highest quality.

The American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS) will fund the teaching of first year Slovene... Tuition for SWSEEL courses in [this language] will be waived for graduate students specializing in East European studies in any discipline...Qualified graduate students applying for [language courses] by that date will receive ACLS funding and can compete for FLAS fellowships."

(<http://www.indiana.edu/~iuslavic/swseel/>)

For more information, please contact Indiana University at iuslavic@indiana.edu or go to <http://www.indiana.edu/~iuslavic/swseel/>

Application Deadline: April 30, 2009

OPEN CALL: SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

The Government of the Republic of Slovenia announces a limited number of scholarships for the 2009-2010 academic year (10-1-2009 to 9-30-2010). The scholarships are open to foreign students who wish to come to Slovenia as a visiting student for up to 10 months (depending on quota and selection). The main purpose of the scholarships is to support foreign students who wish to study on an individual basis under the supervision of a Slovene professor.

Priority will be given to the citizens of countries with bilateral agreements or if the direct exchange of government scholarships exists on a reciprocal basis. The duration of the stay period can range from three months to ten months. Scholarships can be awarded for any field of study offered by Slovene

institutions of higher education.

For more information, please contact the Ministry of Higher Education, Science, and Technology at scholarships@cmepius.si or go to www.cmepius.si

Application Deadline May 1, 2009

ART COLONY FOR SLOVENIANS LIVING ABROAD AND ALL OVER THE WORLD 2009

Organized by Združenje Slovenska izseljenska matica, this traditional art colony is open to Slovenian academic and amateur painters living abroad. The art colony will run in two sessions, convening successively in two picturesque Slovenian localities, Most na Soči (The Bridge on Soča River) and in Goriška Brda. In both locations, seven painters will work under the professional guidance of a professional mentor. The first session will run from June 13th to July 21st, 2009.

Room, board, and art supplies will be paid for by Združenje Slovenska izseljenska matica. Travel will be at the participants own expense.

For more information e-mail vesna.vuksinic@zdrufenje-sim.si or go to www.zdrufenje-sim.si.

June 29 - July 24, 2008

Application deadline: May 31, 2009

CENTRE FOR SLOVENE AS A SECOND LANGUAGE: SUMMER SESSION

The Centre for Slovene as a Second Language offers two and four week courses at three levels: beginning, intermediate, and advanced. Courses run in the morning with elective language courses offered in the afternoon.

Summer School activities also include a varied social program, where students can become acquainted with Slovene culture, history and contemporary reality while at the same time coming into close contact with the Slovene language and its speakers in its natural linguistic environment outside the classroom.

For more information go to www.centerslo.net or e-mail center-slo@ff.uni-lj.si.

University of Ljubljana
Faculty of Arts
Centre for Slovene as a Second/Foreign Language
Courses of Slovene
Kongresni trg 12
SI-1000 Ljubljana
Tel.: + 386 (0)1 241 86 48

June 29 - July 10, 2009

Application deadline: June 16, 2009

YOUTH SUMMER SCHOOL OF SLOVENE LANGUAGE

The traditional Summer School at the Center for Slovene as a Second language has a younger sister, the Youth Summer School of Slovene. Now in its fourth year, the course runs for two weeks.

Lessons are held in the morning and there is a varied social program in the afternoons and evenings,

intended to acquaint participants with Slovene culture, history, and contemporary reality.

For more information on the school and scholarship opportunities, please go to:
http://www.centerslo.net/l2.asp?L1_ID=1&L2_ID=2&LANG=eng. Please be advised that the deadline for scholarship applications is May 15, 2009.

University of Ljubljana
Faculty of Arts
Centre for Slovene as a Second/Foreign Language
Courses of Slovene
Kongresni trg 12
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Editor's Note: To inquire about being listed in Kažipot, please contact the Consulate General of Slovenia in New York at (212) 370-3006 or clara.drew@gov.si

Back issues of Kažipot are available on the Consulate General's website at
<http://newyork.consulate.si>.



Events

Exhibition of photographs by Slovenian Consul General in Cleveland, Ohio, Dr. Zvone Žigon. Embassy of Slovenia.



Perfect, by Dr. Zvone Žigon

April 11 – Velikonočni žegen, Easter Blessing. Slovenian Chapel, located on the lower level of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. 400 Michigan Ave, Washington, DC, at 3:00 pm.

May 9 – EU Open House. EU Embassies and EU Commission open their door to general public for the third year in a row. Washington, D.C., from 10.00 am to 4.00 pm. Free bus shutles provided.



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Türk and Obama Discuss Development of Transatlantic Partnership

Istanbul, April 7 - After the end of the first day's session of the Forum of the UN Alliance of Civilizations, several heads of state and government and senior representatives of international organizations attending the Forum met with the President of the United States of America, Mr. Barack Obama.



Slovenian President Danilo Türk meets US President Barack Obama

During the one-hour informal meeting, they exchanged views on the impact of the global financial and economic crisis, the results of the recent G20 Summit of the most developed and emerging countries in London and the tasks of international organizations in the new circumstances. They particularly focused on the importance of strengthening

global dialogue, renunciation of prejudice and xenophobia and improvement of communication among diverse cultures and civilizations.



Slovenian President Danilo Türk in conversation with US President Barack Obama and Turkish President Abdullah Gül

Slovenian President Danilo Türk and US President Barack Obama discussed in particular the development of the transatlantic partnership under conditions determined by the current global re-disposition of economic and political power and influence.

Slovenian Prime Minister Pahor meets with Obama

Strasbourg, April 4 – Slovenian Primer Minister Borut Pahor met with US President Barack Obama during the two-day meeting of NATO Heads of State and Government in Strasbourg (France) and Kehl (Germany).



Prime Minister Pahor meets US President Obama

The Slovenian delegation to the NATO meeting comprised also Slovenian Minister of Foreign Affairs, Samuel Žbogar, and Minister of Defense, Ljubica Jelusič.

Washington Times: Slovenian Ambassador a Candidate for a Position at the IAEA

Washington Times, by James Morrison, April 7 - Slovenia's first ambassador to the United States is now a candidate for the highly sensitive position as head of the United Nation's nuclear watchdog organization.



Ernest Petric, 72, is a "candidate for director-general of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)," the Slovenian foreign minister said Monday.

Mr. Petric and a second candidate, Noramly Muslim, director of Malaysia's atomic energy board, are candidates

to replace Mohamed ElBaradei, who is retiring after 12 years as director-general of the 35-nation agency.

Mr. Petric, now a Slovenian constitutional court judge, served in Washington from 1992 to 1997. He also served as Slovenia's ambassador to the IAEA.

Company Royal Caribbean Interested in Investing in Luka Koper

This year, the number of tourists visiting Koper and Slovenia will double due to tourist-ship cruises in the Mediterranean, which will stop at the Slovenian coast. The current estimate of visitors to Slovenia arriving through the Port of Koper in 2009 is between 40.000 to 45.000. The ship to open the season on Easter Monday, April 13, 2009, will be the Azamara Journey of the company Royal Caribbean, which will bring 750 tourists.

The owners of three quarters of worlds' most prominent ship companies already came to the only Slovenian port and were satisfied with Koper and Slovenian tourist offer, and promised to return this year with their ships more than once.

The passenger terminal of the Port of Koper is one of the Slovenian tourist successes of the last four years, which could still improve in the future due to the company Royal Caribbean's interest in investing in Luka Koper.



Passenger terminal at Luka Koper.

One of the main characteristics of Koper, central to this interest, is its closeness to Venice. The port of Koper has great possibilities for becoming a port for exchange of cruise's guests, due to its strategic geographic position. However, foreign investments will not suffice, there is also a need for investments from the local economy, local community and the Slovenian government.

Thanks to Koper's passenger terminal, Slovenia placed itself on the tourist world map.

Marjetica Potrč at Dartmouth College

An internationally known Slovenian artist, Marjetica Potrč, presently an artist in residence at Dartmouth College in Hanover, New Hampshire, has an exhibition of her work at the Hopkins Center for the Arts at this prestigious Ivy League liberal arts college. Her exhibition "Florestania" (April 9 - May 3) includes several of her imaginative and futuristic drawings, which resulted from her research project in the state of Acre (Brazil) in 2006. Marjetica Potrč, based in Ljubljana, is an artist and architect known for installations and architectural projects in a gallery context. Working at the interface of

architecture, art and social science, she is concerned with the fundamentals of human life and well-being in the community: the dangers of globalization, climate change, and unsustainable urban growth.

Her work has been featured in exhibitions throughout Europe and the Americas, including the Sao Paolo Biennale (1996, 2006) and the Venice Biennale (1993, 2003). Besides having participated in numerous group exhibitions, Potrč has had several one-person shows at prestigious venues, among them the Guggenheim Museum (New York, 2001) and the Nordenhake (Berlin, Germany, 2003), and her on-site installation *Genesis* (2005) is on permanent display at the Nobel Peace Center in Oslo. She has taught at several highly respected institutions, such as the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (Cambridge, MA, 2006) and the IUAV Faculty of Arts and Design in Venice (2008).

In addition to her art projects, she writes about contemporary architecture. A prolific artist, Potrč is also the recipient of numerous grants and awards. Her web site address is <http://potrc.org>

For more information of the Dartmouth College exhibit, visit [the gallery's web site](#).

University of Ljubljana's Relations with US Universities

University of Ljubljana (UL) offers a variety of international educational exchange options, for Slovenes, interesting in studying or teaching abroad,

or foreigners wanting to participate in education in Slovenia. Some relationships are established through the UL's membership in the Utrecht's network of universities, and organized with the US universities' consortium. This cooperation organizes students exchanges through the [MAUI association](#).



The seat of the University of Ljubljana, Ljubljana, Slovenia.

UL has also independent agreements with US universities, organizing exchanges of professors. Some of the exchanges are financed directly by UL.

A third type of collaboration exists independently between UL member colleges and includes a variety of different exchanges.

You can find out more on the international cooperation at the [Office of International Relations](#), University of Ljubljana.

For the complete list of the US universities, participating in mentioned agreements with the UL, visit the [Slovenian Embassy's web site](#).

Slovenian Diplomats Successfully Complete Cherry Blossom Ten Mile Run

Washington, DC, April 5 –

Five Slovenian diplomats, from the Slovenian Representation to the UN in New York and the Slovenian Embassy in Washington, DC, successfully completed The Cherry Blossom Ten Mile Run, all of them finishing within 1 h and 30 min. This year the participation of runners was immense - there were 12.000 registered, making the run track crowded with runners. It was just as crowded at the finish line with a high number of supporters and fans, who came to enjoy the last day of the Cherry Blossom festival.

There were also some records set, due to good weather conditions. The most outstanding one was set by Moroccan Ridouane Harroufi, who finished the run with a winning time of 45 min and 56 sec and became the first competitor in a decade to break the 46-minute mark.

See photo gallery of the Slovenian runners below.

Velikonočni Žegen, Traditional Easter Blessing of Food

On Saturday **April 11**, the Bishop Baraga Society of KSKJ will join with a local Slovenian Women's Union of America branch in celebrating the traditional Easter blessing of food. The event will begin at 3:00 pm and will be held in the Slovenian Chapel, located on the lower level of the

Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception,
400 Michigan Ave,
Washington, DC.



The Basilica in Washington, D.C.

The Society Spiritual Director, Fr. Ray Wadas, will be joined by Fr. Peter Rožič SJ in bestowing the blessing. All are welcome to the blessing of pirhi (easter eggs), gnjat (ham), hren (horse radish), Potica, and other food.

Library at the Slovenian Embassy

Slovenian Embassy would like to offer anyone interested in reading magazines, newspapers, children's books, and novels, to take advantage of the collection of publications, available in the Library.

The journals and newspapers available are the following:
Delo, Dnevnik, Mladina, Demokracija, Slovenska vojska, Glas gospodarstva, Mag, The Washington Diplomat.

EU Open House

On **May 9, 2009**, diplomatic representations of EU Member States in the United States will celebrate European Day by organizing the third annual **EU Open House** day, under a slogan *Shortcut to Europe*.

For a few hours, Embassies of 27 countries and the EU Commission Delegation in Washington, DC, will open their doors, showcasing their art, culture, food, and introducing the European Union to visitors from the area. The event attracts more and more people each year. In 2008 we recorded a total of over 50.000 visitors.

Embassies have prepared an extensive and interesting program, which you can find on the official EU Open House web site www.europe-in-dc.com.

Volunteers Needed

The event has gained extreme popularity and success, and we would like to offer anybody the opportunity to do his part. If you would like to volunteer with the Slovenian Embassy or any other EU member representation, please give us a call or send an [email](#).

Please sign up by mid-April 2009. The volunteers' coordination meeting is planned for Monday, May 4, 2009.

Andrej Berginc, Political Counselor at the Embassy of Slovenia since 2005, is ending his service at the Slovenian Embassy in Washington, DC, this Friday. Andrej, also an editor of the Embassy's Newsletter, is returning to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Slovenia. He will be using his highly regarded diplomatic skills and rich experiences in foreign relations at the Ministry's Department for Economic Diplomacy. Andrej's aptitude for forging long-lasting and solid friendships within the diplomatic community of Washington, US administration as well as Slovenian community around the States will be highly missed. We wish Andrej many more successful endeavors in his diplomatic career and joyous return to his family.



Andrej with his son Luka



Photo Gallery- Cherry Blossom Ten Mile Run



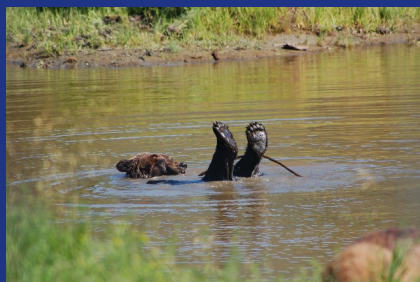


*Embassy of Slovenia is
Wishing You the
Joys of Easter!*



Embassy's Events

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*Alaska, Taking the Bath II,
by Dr. Zvone Žigon*

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Türk: Obama's Prague Speech to Have Long-Term Effect on Security

Ljubljana, 14 April (STA) - President Danilo Türk on Tuesday delivered in Ljubljana a speech on global security and cooperation, suggesting that US President Barack Obama's push for ridding the world of nuclear weapons will have "a long-term effect on our security situation".



President Danilo Türk speaking on international security and cooperation.

Türk, an international law expert, stressed that Obama's speech, made recently in Prague, needed to be seen against the background of the current security circumstances. There were a lot of nuclear weapons during the Cold War, but they were well controlled, he said.

Today, the situation is different, as the world's nuclear security does not depend only on the five permanent members of the UN Security Council which possess nuclear weapons. They have been joined by other countries, and nuclear weapons can also be obtained by terrorist groups.

Addressing a distinguished audience, Türk said that this has created a new dynamics

and that allowing nuclear weapons proliferation will lead to a much more dangerous world.

Also important is the issue of how to design relations among countries which already possess nuclear weapons and those which wish to obtain them to provide for their own security, the president stressed.

He also addressed the issue of global organization, which entails different ideas, among them one to expand NATO into an organization of global character.

Türk is not a supporter of this idea, believing that globalization of NATO would, not increase its efficiency and would moreover, undermine the debate on a reforming the UN Security Council.

He added that the reform of the Council was needed, since its membership had not been expanded in 40 years, while the number of UN member states almost doubled.

Director General Andrej Benedejčič to Visit Washington, D.C.

Washington, April 19 - Visit of Andrej Benedejčič, Director - General, Directorate for Policy Planning and Multilateral Relations at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, will be the first visit by a high ranking member of the Slovenian government to the United States since the new

US administration took office in January 2009.

Mr. Benedejčič will be meeting his counterparts in the Department of State, the Senate and the Pentagon. He will continue discussions on important bilateral and global issues and present Slovenian positions on several multilateral issues. Director-General will also attend a ceremony to mark the 5th anniversary of NATO enlargement at the German Marshall Fund in Washington D.C.

Slovenian Minister of Finance to Visit Washington, D.C.

Slovenian Center of Excellence in Finance is organizing a seminar entitled *Economic Stability and EU Convergence in Southeast Europe: Building Capacities for Policy Design and Implementation* this Friday, April 24, 2009, at 9:00 AM, at the IMF headquarters in Washington, D.C.



The seminar is being organized in cooperation with the IMF and the European Commission as part of the IMF and World Bank's spring meetings. Participating in the seminar will be ministers of finance and governors of central banks of the countries of Southeastern Europe, among them also the Slovenian Minister of Finance, Dr. Franc Križanič.

The seminar will focus on the need for South-Eastern European countries' attention to the formulation and implementation of medium-term economic policy on their way to the European Union in spite of world economic crises.

To learn more about the activities and projects of the CEF, visit <http://www.cef-see.org/>.

Interview Series: Erica Johnson Debeljak

Erica Johnson Debeljak moved from New York City to Ljubljana in 1993 to marry Slovenian poet, Aleš Debeljak. During the years she's lived in Slovenia, she had become a writer, publishing three books in Slovenian translation in her adopted country, a well-known columnist and commentator, and the mother of three children. Now her first book has been published in the United States. It is a memoir entitled *Forbidden Bread* (North Atlantic Books) and is about falling in love and moving to Slovenia in the 1990s.



Erica Johnson Debeljak

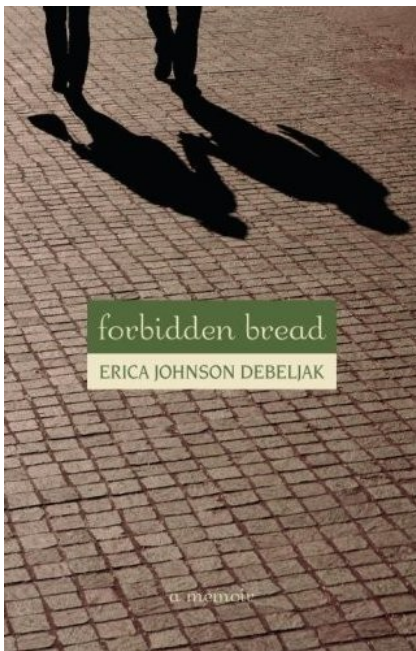
Before you moved to Slovenia, you were working in investment banking in New York. How did you become a writer?

Looking at the situation in investment banking now, it looks like a fortuitous career change. But at the time, in 1993, it was difficult for foreigners (even those married to local Slovenians) to get a permit to work in Slovenia. So instead of getting a job right away, I studied the language and started to become a language editor for English translations, eventually a translator, and in 1999, I published my first book *Tujka v hiši domačinov* (Foreigner in the House of Natives), which was a critical and popular success. After that, I never looked back. Slovenia not only gave me a wonderful home and a family, but a new and meaningful calling which I probably wouldn't have had in the United States.

Your first book, *Foreigner in the House of Natives*, was also about coming to Slovenia? How does your new book, *Forbidden Bread*, differ?

It's been a long voyage. *Foreigner*, published in 1999 (and first appearing as a feuilleton in the Slovenian newspaper Delo), was more essayistic and thematic. It was my first effort at writing a full-length work and, though it was fascinating for Slovenians and went through a number of printings, it didn't quite suit the demands of the American market at the time. Nearly ten years later, I was approached by North Atlantic books, a

California publishing house that is particularly interested in international memoirs by women and has published a number of Slovenian books in translation. They asked me to rewrite *Foreigner* in a more novelistic way, highlighting the love story that brought me to Slovenia, and the specific people and characters I met along the way. So *Forbidden Bread* is really a completely new book about the same experience. It was particularly gratifying, with the gift of time and hindsight, to paint a more complete picture of Slovenia in the 1990s which was a fascinating time: combining the quirky and sometimes charming specificities of the fading communist and Yugoslav system with the hopes of a new democratic beginning, all against the backdrop of the terrible wars going on to the south. I think I was able to capture the very special, bitter-sweet quality of that decade in ***Forbidden Bread***.



As an American-Slovenian living in Slovenia, what part of your intercultural engagement do you find the most rewarding?

There are so many rewarding aspects that it is hard to name one. I think the most surprising and moving element is my connection to my Slovenian readership. I have been truly accepted in Slovenia and, during literary events and at book groups, I have sensed a level of intimacy and appreciation that I doubt even the most successful American writers enjoy. Now, with this new book, I have the chance to reach a new audience: the Slovenian-American community in the United States, and I am very excited about that.

Link to Erica's website and to purchase her book on Amazon:

www.ericajohnsondebeljak.com
<http://www.amazon.com/Forbidden-Bread-Erica-Johnson-Debeljak/dp/1556437404>

Prosenc's *Souvenir* Released This Week

Slovenian video artist Nataša Prosenc's feature film *Souvenir: The Stolen African Art* was released this week by [Kanalya Pictures](#).

Souvenir's story revolves around Ivy, an elegant but troubled gallery owner, who inherits from her father a cache of ancient African funerary posts. They carry a terrible secret, known only to her, which is slowly destroying her. The discovery of the stolen art is the key to unlocking Ivy's neatly

packaged life and the memory of her father's murderous past. While Ivy struggles to forget her disturbing history, her colleagues from the art world learn that the posts are worth millions, and a rising firestorm of greed and lust rages as everyone chases the money they will bring. Ivy's reputation, her career, and her sanity depend on concealing the secret that her father was a war criminal.

Souvenir has been an extraordinary journey, utilizing a unique camera process, predicting the future regarding an actual theft of African art, starting the feature-film career of many talented people, including its insightful director, Nataša Prosenc.

Souvenir is available through [Netflix](#), [Blockbuster](#), [Hollywood Video](#), [Barnes & Noble](#), and [Amazon](#).



Nataša Prosenc exhibited at the 48th Venice Biennale in Italy and is a recipient of the Prešeren award, the Slovenian Award for great achievement in art, and of numerous international film awards. She was a Fulbright scholar at the California Institute of the Arts and is currently developing her third feature film in Los Angeles.

Prosenc's work *Vortex* is also on view at the Embassy of Slovenia as part of Embassy's permanent collection. And on May 9, during the EU Open House, you will be able to experience Nataša's video art work, *Transpositions*.

Dr. Zvone Žigon to Give a Speech at the 2009 Lecture Series

Euclid, OH, April 21 – Dr. Zvone Žigon will be the guest speaker at the *2009 Lecture Series*, held by Slovenian-American Heritage Foundation on Tuesday, April 21, at 7.00 pm at the Slovenian Society Home in Euclid.

In his lecture, Dr. Žigon will discuss his decade long correspondence, interviews and visits with Slovenian missionaries in places such as Botswana, Chile, Egypt and the Canadian Nunavut (Eskimo) territory. Dr. Žigon's latest book, *Ljudje odprtih src – Slovenski misionarji o sebi* (People of Open Harts – Slovenian Missionaries about Themselves), on which the talk will be based, will be available for purchase at the lecture.

Slovene Language Courses - Summer 2009

Center for Slovene as a Second/Foreign Language at the University of Ljubljana is organizing *28th Summer school of Slovenian Language*, from June 29 until July 24, 2009, and *4th Youth Summer School of Slovene Language*

from June 29 until July 10, 2009.

The Summer School is an intensive language course with up to 6 hours of classes per day, offering also a rich program of extra-curricular activities, where participants can learn about Slovenian culture and society.

The Youth Summer School is also an intensive language course with up to 4 hours of daily classes and extra-curricular activities, geared toward young people between the ages of 13 and 17.

You can learn more about the language courses at www.centerslo.net.

Europe's Cultural Guide

For all of you who plan on taking a trip to one of the EU member states this summer, we suggest that you visit onculture.eu, a very interesting and informative website on current cultural and art events, to plan your trip ahead of your arrival.



Onculture is a website updated daily. It was founded on June 2008 and is staffed by a group of experienced cultural editors specializing in internet media and freelance editors from all over Europe.

The dedicated team at Onculture collaborates with

the finest cultural websites in every EU country, collating these single efforts into one European cultural portal.

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