



ANNUAL REPORT FOR YEAR 2008

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**OPEN TO INTERCULTURAL DIALOGUE IN EUROPE AND THE
DECENTRALIZATION OF CULTURAL LIFE IN SERBIA**

In 2008 programme activities of the Balkankult Foundation were mostly dealing with international and interregional cultural cooperation projects.

On the other hand the Foundation continued its project of cultural decentralization popularly called "Against the Cultural Boredom", with the purpose of providing smaller towns throughout Serbia and Western Balkan Region with the international cultural events.

One of the largest realized projects continuing in 2008 is promotion of the Council of Europe's "Integrated Rehabilitation Project Plans of the Architectural and Archaeological Heritage" in Serbia. A few specialized analysis and creation of particular web presentation and a photo exhibition were produced as the outcome.

In the field of research, the Balkankult Foundation accomplished an important study on European cultural issues for the ERICarts Institute. The study called "Mobility Matters" examines mobility of cultural professionals in Europe. Appointed a key expert, Dimitrije Vujadinović, president of the Balkankult Foundation was in charge of the research on programmes and schemes to support the mobility of artists and cultural professionals in the countries of South-East Europe. This study carried out for the European Commission, Directorate-General for Education and Culture, begun in April to be completed by October 2008 when the final report was issued.

In 2008 the Balkankult organized visits of artists and practitioners from Europe to artists' workshops in Serbia. Just to mention a few: Csaba Bene Perlenberg, Swedish filmmaker who inaugurated Nordisk Panorama 08, Reinhard Doubrawa, a German artist who participated in the Gamzigrad Artists colony in August 2008,

Nataša Kokić, Serbian artist hosted by the Association of Icelandic Visual Artists (SÍM) in Reyjavik within the artists-in-residence programme in September 2008.

Cooperation with the socially responsible corporations successfully continued in 2008. In this respect the Balkankult Foundation wants to thank the companies who supported its work:

New Publication

The Calendar of Cultural Manifestation in Vojvodina for 2008. The calendar presents a mosaic survey of 142 manifestations in the areas of film, theater, music, literature, visual arts and folklore. Considering the number of included events, it can be freely concluded that it is about a specific review of the most important standing cultural manifestations, namely, an inventory of «manifestational culture».

Title: Research Project "Mobility Matters"

Balkankult Foundation participated in the six month study initiated by the ERICarts Institute on Programmes and Schemes to Support the Mobility of Artists and Cultural Professionals for the European Commission. Experienced in mobility issues the Balkankult Foundation was selected to participate in the research, respectively Dimitrije Vujadinović was appointed as the national correspondent for the Western Balkans. Balkankult researchers contributed to the Study with a complete report on mobility incentives and obstacles in the South East Europe accompanied by four case studies. More information on the project can be found on the ERICarts Intitute's web site (www.mobility-matters.eu).

Time and place: May -October 2008. Important events: 5th European Forum on Culture and Society from 26-27 June 2008 in Luxembourg; Debate on "The Future of Mobility Schemes for Cultural Professionals in Europe" on 12 September 2008 in Duesseldorf,

Participants in the project: Susanne Capiou, Danielle Cliche, Rod Fisher, Oliver Goebel, Ilkka Heiskanen, Dorota Ilczuk, Ritva Mitchell, Dimitrije Vujadinovic, Andreas Wiesand

Title: Council of Europe's Regional Programme on Cultural and Natural Heritage in South East Europe

On the basis of agreement on the technical cooperation with the Ministry of Culture of Republic of Serbia, signed in November 2007, the Balkankult Foundation is

appointed an official coordinator for Serbia of the Regional Programme on Cultural and Natural Heritage in South East Europe –Project Plan for the Integrative Rehabilitation of Architectural and Archeological Heritage.

Background: The Programme started in 2004 as a joint activity implemented by the Council of Europe and the European Commission in SEE region and is based on the belief that the heritage of each country is part of common European heritage. In this respect, various actions have been launched such as the evaluation of needs, identification of priorities and technical requirements associated with 160 significant buildings and sites of the Region, with a view to conservation, restoration, appropriate rehabilitation and long-term sustainability. One of the programme's priority goals is to promote the notion of social and economic sustainable development in these sites through the enhancement of cultural and natural heritage. In 2008 on-going phases of the Programme aim at ensuring public and private funding for a significant number of the 26 "Consolidated Projects" selected by national authorities, among the 186 monuments on the Priority Intervention List, because of the quality of the rehabilitation process carried out so far, their symbolic, historical and cultural value, and the economic potential of the projects. The fund-raising activity and the simultaneous elaboration of financial strategies for the heritage sector should be conducive to a coherent incorporation of these sites' rehabilitation into the regional economic development plans.

Results:

Activities Balkankult Foundation has completed so far refers to the promotion of the Project. Sandro Weltin, a photographer of the Council of Europe, was guided by the Balkankult Foundation on his mission tour in Serbia in June during which ten monument sites on the Priority Intervention List were photographed. Brochures on the Project were published in Serbian and in English. Web site (www.heritagerehabilitation.rs) was designed. Analysis of media considerations for monument sites on the priority intervention projects list was completed. The plan for establishing artists-in-residence center in Senjski Rudnik was presented at the Res Artis 11th General Meeting in Amsterdam, between 9th and 11th October 2008. Exhibition of the photographs by Sandro Weltin on Rudnik was prepared to take place in the Gallery of the Library of the City of Belgrade between 9-13 January 2009.

Activities in the planning process:

Filming short documentaries on the monuments is on going activity

Time and Place: Throughout 2008, Serbia.

Partners: Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Serbia, Council of Europe, European Commission.

Title: Zaječar Philosophy School

Description: The traditional Philosophy School took place in Zaječar between at historical place Felix Romuliana under protection of UNESCO from last year. The School is traditional international reunion of modern philosophers and contemporary themes. The main theme of this year union was The topic of this year's School is "Modernity at Dusk".

Time and place: 27 - 29th August, 2008, Zaječar (Felix Romuliana)

Partners: Museum in Zajecar, Theatre Zoran Radmilovic

Title: The Second International Festival of Bread

Description: The Festival was realized as multimedia event called "6000 years of Bread Culture". The Festival was organized by the Balkankult Foundation in cooperation with Žitovojvodina and the Institute of Food Technology in Novi Sad.

Apart from the major and most famous names in the domestic bakery industry, this year's Festival gathered private bakers of the highest quality from all over the country, as well as a large number of guests from the region and Europe.

Besides official presentation at the corporate and expert level, this year' Festival programme consisted of exhibitions, music concerts, lectures, panel discussions and film projections on the bread theme.

At the Festival there was staged exhibition of graphic miniatures so called Ex libris „Bread - Cultural Heritage“ and Russian posters on bread and bakery.

Time and place: Between 4 - 8th August 2008, at the Gallery PROGRES in Belgrade; Between 18 and 21 September 2008, at Liberty Square in Novi Sad.

Partners: Gallery PROGRES in Belgrade, the City of Novi Sad

Title: Calendar of Cultural Manifestations in Vojvodina for 2008

Description: Calendar of Cultural Manifestation in Vojvodina present unique publications on cultural manifestations that take place throughout the year in all towns and places in Vojvodina. The publication held information about festivals devoted to films, visual arts, music, literature, theatre, children manifestations and folklore.

Time and place: Throughout the year, towns in Vojvodina.

Partners: Zavod za kulturu Vojvodine (Institute for Vojvodina Culture).

NORDEN BALKAN CULTURE SWITCH

The Nordic Council of Ministers has initiated a project for cultural exchange between the Western Balkans and the Nordic Countries. The project entitled Norden Balkan Culture Switch was planned during 2002 and was implemented from 2003-2005. Balkankult Foundation continued work on the Norden Balkan Culture Switch during 2006. The goal of all these programs were to continue development of long-term collaboration and understanding of the two regions on the fringes of Europe. Accent was on the mobility of artists, ideas and expertise and so-called snow ball effect and follow-up process of the projects.

Title: Nordisk Panorama 08

Description: The Nordisk Panorama '08 was the fifth edition of the film festival which jointly founded by Balkankult foundation and Film Kontakt Nord in 2004. The Festival took place in Belgrade at the Hall of the Cultural Centre of Belgrade from 14th – 18th February 2009. Alongside with the Cultural Center of Belgrade, Nordisk Panorama 08 films were screened in the Cultural Center of Studentski Grad as well.

Background: "Nordic Panorama 08" presented a summary of the latest Nordic short, animated and documentary film festival – NORDISK PANORAMA 07, which was held from 21th to 26th September, 2008 in the town of Oulu, Finland.

A special film selection was made for the screenings in Serbia by Mr. Anti Auttio, Nordisk Panorama 07, filmmaker, and Ms. Hanna Lahti, the festival director. The programme editor for the screenings in Serbia was a Serbian filmmaker, Mr. Srdan Golubović. The Guest to inaugurate the Festival was Mr. Csaba Bene Perlenberg, (with courtesy of HEPP film, Malmo, Sweden), Swedish director awarded in category "New Nordic Voices" at Nordisk Panorama 07, Oulu, Finland.

The opening ceremony took place on 14th of February at the Cinema Hall of Belgrade Cultural Centre. The first film that opened "Nordisk panorama 08" was "Occupations" by Lars von Trier.

The Second Opening night was held at Cultural Center of Studentski Grad, on February the 16th. After Belgrade, screenings were also organized in the small cities in Serbia and West Balkans.

Time: February-December 2008

Place: Belgrade (Belgrade Cultural Center and Cultural Center of Studentski Grad)

Chief organizer: Balkankult Foundation, Belgrade.

Project Partners: Film Kontakt Nord, Norwegian Film Institute, Swedish Film Institute, Danish Film Institute, Icelandic Film Institute, Finnish Film Fund; (inc. independent Nordic film producers) Belgrade Cultural Centre, Cultural Center of Studentski Grad.

General sponsor : Carlsberg Srbija d.o.o.

Sponsors: Zdravlje-Actavis, Royal Norwegian Embassy, Embassy of Sweden, Embassy of Finland

Support: Nordic council of ministers, Euroimages, Filmkontakt Nord. City of Belgrade (Secretariat for Culture)

MOBILITY FUND – FOR ARTISTS AND CULTURAL PRACTITIONERS

Balkankult Foundation continued cooperation with Nordic countries and Countries from West Europe in the Mobility Fund program.

This program, in the organization of Balkankult Foundation, included hosting of Mr. Jakko Heikila, eminent photographer from Finland, as well as Mr. Reinhard Doubrawa, German artist who participated in the Gamzigrad Artists colony in August 2008. Young Serbian artist Nataša Kokić participated in the artists-in-residence programme organized by the Association of Icelandic Visual Artists (SÍM) in Reyjavik in September 2008, with support provided by the Balkankult Foundation.

The Foundation also supported mobility of Northern artists participating in the International Graphic Art Workshop in Belgrade: Klavs Weiss and Kristian Egholm Bust from Denmark, Taina Kokkonen and Annu Vertanen from Finland, Hermann Isaksen from Norway, Lars Wikstrom from Sweden, Anne Birthe Hove from Greenland and Valgredur Hauksdottir from Iceland.

In addition, Mr. Dimitrije Vujadinovic, president of Foundation attended the Nordisk Panorama 08 in Malmo. There he was hosted by the Balkankult Foundation's partner Film Kontakt Nord.

On occasion of the Frankfurt Book Fair, Mr. Dimitrije Vujadinovic and Ms. Danica Radovic, PR manager of the Balkankult Foundation, attended the Fair from 15th to 20th October, 2008. This was another important place where the Balkankult presented its issued publications and made cultural bridges with European publisher about future projects.

PRESENCE IN THE MEDIA

The Balkankult Foundation's presence in the media is important indicator of the overall effect its activities produce in cultural life of the Region.

Press clipping material reporting on results of the Balkankult foundation by major Serbian newspapers and electronic media makes tangible evidence on its recognition in local as well as international environment.