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## DANUBE – ROUTE OF CULTURE - KULTURSTRASSE

### Ex libris for an intercultural dialogue

Tribel III - Ex libris competition

## REPORT FOR 2011

**Project organizer:** Balkankult Foundation

**Project leader:** Dimitrije Vujadinović

**Jury president and supervisor:** academic Časlav Očić

**Official Support:** Secretariat for Culture of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina, City of Novi Sad

**Financial support:** European Investment Bank, Luxembourg, Central Museum of Danube Schwabs, Ulm (Germany)

**Support:** Association of Danube River Municipalities "Danube" (Bulgaria); Donau Buro, Ulm (Germany), Akademie Schloss Solitude, Stuttgart (Germany) The Graphic Cabinet of the Liuben Karavelov Library (Bulgaria); Dunaújváros Online (Hungary); Institute of Contemporary Art Dunaújváros (Hungary); The European Network of Literary Centres e.V. Berlin (Germany); NGO "World and Danube", Novi Sad (Serbia), NGO "European Cultural Center" (Bulgaria), City Hall of Tulcea (Romania).

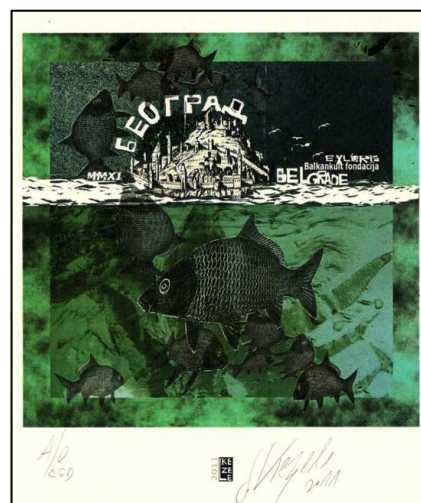


## INTRODUCTION

The Danube is the foremost European river!

The Danube region has always been special since it is a birth place and cradle of European spirit. The Danube has become a metaphor of development and influential paths of Europe which have built and enriched this continent, even if sometimes they reduced it to rubble and caused it to regress.

Each region, each city and village along the Danube is unique in its own right, but all together they form a mosaic of the general image of the passing of life on the Danube banks.



This powerful river enables all the people of Europe to recognize their unique future within it.

## PROJECT GOALS

The *Balkankult Foundation* is launching the Third international Ex-libris competition on the topic of **The Danube - Route of Culture**, in order to promote the development of cultural, artistic, communicational, professional, as well as technical and economical ties within the Danube region.

Taking into account this aspect, the project goals include:

- supporting inter-regional art connections, i.e. bringing together artists and promoting cooperation among them around common inspiration
- initiating an intercultural dialogue for a broader audience
- spreading the idea of the Danube region as a unique European region
- affirming art in the context of a process advancing better understanding among different cultures within the Danube region

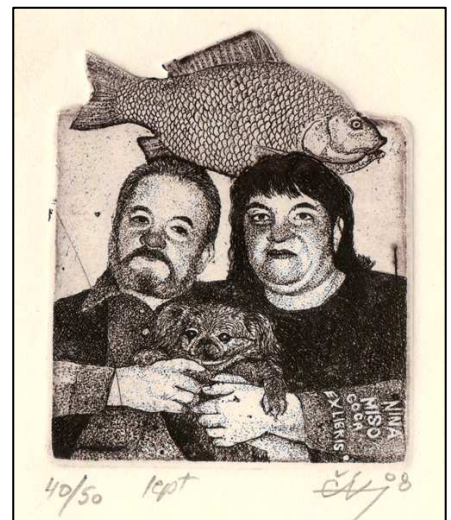
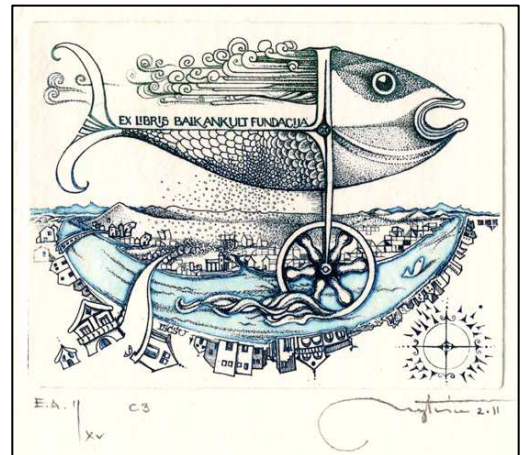
The first phase of Danube – Route of Culture – Kulturstrasse: Ex libris for an intercultural dialogue, with the goal of connecting artists, exchange of perception and vision around one idea and establishing a synergy force has been successfully completed.

## ACTIVITIES IN 2011

Throughout the year 2011, within the project it was planned for the competition to end, best works to be selected, awards to be given, the project idea to be presented at international conferences with the goal of advancing cultural cooperation in the Danube region.

## Presenting the Project in Belgrade

In the Museum of the National Theatre in **Belgrade** on **May 26**, The Balkankult Foundation presented one of their most significant projects - Ex Libris for an Intercultural Dialogue - Danube Route of Culture. The participants and guests were greeted by the director of the National Theatre Božidar Đurović, and the director of the Balkankult Foundation Dimitrije Vujadinović talked about motivation, goals and the project realization.



Other people who participated in the discussion were Jagoda Stamenković, Ministry for Culture, Danijela Vićentijević, Ministry for Economic Relations, Vesna Bogunović, Center for Art Education.

Representatives of the ministries for culture and economic development were present, as well as the Ambassador of Hungary, representatives of the embassies of Austria and the Ukraine, Economic Chamber of Serbia, academic Caslav Ocic, president of the jury, many cultural practitioners and artists.



### **MIKSER Festival, Panel – Has the Danube Swallowed the Balkans?**

Dimitrije Vujadinovic has actively participated at the panel discussion held at the Mikser Festival in Belgrade on May 25. The main questions for the panelists were: How does Danube relate to our real life? Why is the Danube region our new identity? Where have the Balkans disappeared? Is it a question of moving European funds or a real change of identity for European countries?

In the context of the discussions, the Balkankult project „Danube – Route of Culture“ was presented.



Other panelists were: Rainer Nolvak - "Let's Do It World" movement (Estonia), Regina Hellwig-Schmid - Project Donumenta (Germany), Tijana Markovic - Coca-Cola Company (Serbia), Dejan Veselinov – Tob (Serbia), Tulga Beyerle – Vienna Design Week (Austria) Ivan Karić – Green Party (Serbia).

### **Jury selection of best works**

We have not received as many artworks as we expected. On the other hand, those we received are of high quality. How the artists perceive the topic – Danube Route of Culture, differs depending on the region they come from, generation they belong to and their personal affiliation. The works we received resemble a colorful mosaic of ideas, various arts and techniques. We believe that such variety is the best illustration of a cultural diversity and creative potential of life connected to the Danube.

The selection and awards jury consisting of academic Časlav Očić, president of the Belgrade Ex Libris Society; Regina Hellwig-Schmid, project manager at Donumenta Regensburg; Dan Mircea Cipariu, president of the Poetry Department of the Union of Writers of Romania and Dimitrije Vujadinović, president of the Balkankult Foundation, have viewed all the works which have been submitted to the competition. The jury has agreed to select 128 works which thematically and aesthetically meet the criteria laid out in the competition. Jury president Časlav Očić considered the awards suggestions, with which other jury members have agreed on.



The jury awarded one second ex aequo award to: Snežana Kezele (Serbia), Istvan Icsu Molnar (Hungary) and Pavel Čanji (Serbia). One third ex aequo award to: Tijana Kojić (Serbia), Dumitru Ovidiu (Romania) and Ulyana Turchenko (Ukraine). Three Belgrade Ex Libris Society awards for Desislav Gechev(Bulgaria), Ivana Vidić (Serbia) and Tamara Čikeš (Serbia).One special Balkankult Foundation Award to Gligor Traian from Germany.

### **First Exhibition of Ex Libris Works, Danube - Route of Culture**

The Balkankult Foundation is a partner of the non-government organization World and Danube, and the Foster Europe Foundation from Austria in their organizing the big European event **OPEN DAYS 2011**.

The event takes place under the auspices of the Government of the AP of Vojvodina with the support of Republic Ministry for European Integrations, backed by the European Commission for Regional Politics.

Within that context, the premiere exhibition of selected ex libris works for Danube - Route of Culture was opened at the **City Hall of Novi Sad** on **October 27**.

The exhibition was opened by Andrej Bursac, City council member for culture.



During the ceremony awards were given to participating artists from Serbia Snežana Kezele, Pavel Čanji and Tamara Čikeš.

## INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES

### International Conference **DANUBE + New Dimensions, New Synergies**, Leopold Museum, Vienna, March 10-11, 2011

Dimitrije Vujadinović has presented the project at a significant international conference on cultural cooperation in the Danube region. Numerous conference participants were from the political and economic sectors, as well as cultural experts and artists from the Danube region.

The high level of the meeting was confirmed by the presence by government officials of Austria and Hungary (Ministry of Foreign Affairs), Serbian cultural minister, as well as numerous representatives of international institutions.



### EU Danube Strategy - International Symposium, Vienna

Jovana Radovanović, an associate for the project has participated at the EU Danube strategy seminar organized by the IDM Institute (*Institute for the Danube Region and Central Europe*) in cooperation with the *Internacional House Pecs* held in Vienna from July 3-10, 2011.



Within the topic *Regional Cooperation along the Danube-Culture, Education, Science* with the goal of emphasizing socio-culturological potential of Danube region countries as well as ways in which it can be realized, she presented the project *Danube - Route of Culture*, emphasizing the significance this project has towards cultural cooperation.

### Art and Culture in the Danube Region – Donumenta 2011, Regensburg

Dimitrije Vujadinović, has participated at the *International Symposium for Art and Culture in the Danube Region, Donumenta 2011*. The symposium took place under the patronage of the



Bavarian Minister President Horst Seehofer from **October 20-22** in Regensburg, Germany. The symposium was organized by the Donumenta network from Regensburg.

### **Partnership of Eastern Countries as a Cultural Project**

Milica Radenković, associate of the Balkankult Foundation, has participated in the Eastern Partnership Culture Congress in **Lublin (Poland)** in the period of **October 21-23**.

The congress, as part of the bigger project titled "Eastern partnership as a cultural product" has attracted a large number of artists, cultural and academic workers, representatives of NGOs, ministries and local governments from Eastern Europe as well as other European countries (Norway, Spain, Russia, Serbia).

### **Exhibition in Danube Commission, Budapest**

The exhibition Danube- Route of Culture was presented at the annual meeting fo the

**Danube Commission** in Budapest on **December 15**. On that occasion, the second prize award was given to Mr. Istvan Molnar, which was accepted by his spouse. The exhibition left a great impression on the meeting participants. During his stay at the Danube Commission, Mr. Dimitrije Vujadinovic, president of the foundation has discussed the



possibilities of cooperation between the Balkankult Foundation and the Danube Commission in 2012. It has been agreed that the Balkankult Foundation prepare two project ideas which

## **CONCLUSION**

### **Ex libris - travels the Danube**

Based on all the achieved results we can conclude that the goals set for 2011 have been completely accomplished according to plan.

The Balkankult Foundation plans during the year 2012 to continue its realization of the project Danube - Route of Culture. Our main goal is, along with organizing the exhibitions in traditional gallery spaces, to present the selected works through a mobile gallery. With this goal, we have negotiated the times and places of exhibitions.

It has been agreed for the Ex libris exhibition 'Danube - Route of Culture' to take place in Ulm, Vienna, Pecs, Bucharest, Belgrade, Russe ...

## PR activities through regional printed and electronic media

The web site [www.donau-kulturstrasse.net](http://www.donau-kulturstrasse.net) is regularly updated with new information. By the end of 2011, more than 1100 artists have become Facebook friends. A large number of internet websites have also posted the information about the project.

### Press

**ПОЛИТИКА**

# Дунав пут културе

Отворена међународна изложба 130 изабраних радова малих графика – екслибриса за интеркултурни дијалог

Нови Сад – Подунавље је увек било посебан простор исходишта и попришта европског духа, а Дунав метафора развојних и потресних токова Европе који су овај континент изстрајивали и осподњавали, али и рзарали и враћали уназад. Дунав – судбоносна река Европе, пре свега као „пут културе – Kulturstrasse“ – била је тема Трећег екслибрис конкурса за интеркултурни дијалог у организацији Балканкулт фондације (Београд/ Нови Сад), а 130 изабраних радова уметника из свих подунавских земаља први пут је приказано ликовној публици на изложби отвореној у Атријуму Скупштине града Новог Сада.

Међународни жири, којем је председавао дописни члан САНУ и председник београдског екслибрис друштва Часлав Оцић, за најбоље радове прогласио је графике Снежане Кезеле (Србија), Иштвана Молнара (Мађарска), Павла Чањија (Србија), Тијане Којић (Србија), Димитрија Овдију (Румунија) и Милане Турчино (Украјина).

Изложбу графика малог формата – екслибриса отворио је Андреј Бурсаћ, члан Градског већа Новог Сада задужен за културу, а награде добитницима уручио је директор Балканкулт Димитрије Вукановић. После Новог Сада, ова изложба креће на гостовање по многим великим и малим градовима и местима у читавом Подунављу, од Немачке до ушћа Дунава у Црно море, баш као што је то претходних година био случај и са радovima са ранија два екслибрис конкурса за интеркултурни дијалог – први је био на тему „Мост“, а други на тему – „Хлеб као културна баштина“.

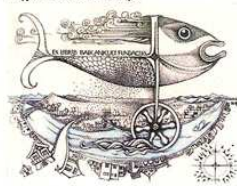
Пројекат је реализован под покровитељством и уз подршку Секретаријата за културу Владе АП Војводине, града Новог Сада, Европске инвестиционе банке, Музеја дунавских Шваба из Улама и Компаније „Феникс“, као и бројних институција културе, посебно музеја и галерија из региона.

Д. Радовић



Награђени радови Снежане Кезеле, Иштвана Молнара и Павла Чањија

Рад Иштвана Молнара



Рад Павла Чањија



Рад Снежане Кезеле



### Дунав пут културе – Kulturstrasse

Дунав – судбоносна река Европе, пре свега као „пут културе – Kulturstrasse“, била је тема Трећег екслибрис конкурса за интеркултурни дијалог у организацији Балканкулт фондације (Београд/ Нови Сад). На управо отвореној изложби у Атријуму Скупштине града Новог Сада, ликовној публици први пут је приказано 130 изабраних радова уметника из свих подунавских земаља. Међународним жиријем пред-

седавао је дописни члан САНУ и председник београдског екслибрис друштва Часлав Оцић. После Новог Сада ова изложба креће на гостовање по великим и малим градовима у читавом Подунављу, од Немачке до ушћа Дунава у Црно море.

Графика-екслибрис или „књижни листић“ је штампано уметничко дело малог формата које се обично лепи на унутрашњу страну корица књиге да би идентификовало

власника. Ex libris је латинска фраза која значи „из књига“ и обично је прати име сопственика књиге. Сматра се да је од 1470. године до данас израђено више од пола милиона екслибриса. Израђивали су их многи највећи уметници свих епоха, као што су Дирер, Крапах, Хогарт, Буше, Бирдсли, Кле, Ђакомети... Процењује се да у свету има 15.000 колекционара екслибриса.

[www.ilustrovana.com](http://www.ilustrovana.com)