

WORKSHOPLEADERS – PARZIVAL SYMPOSIUM – SLOVENIA 2013

Alexander Mackenzie has been an entrepreneur and storytelling pioneer for over 25 years. He delivers unique leadership programmes based on people centred collaborative values linked to an inspirational spiritual context. He has been using the Parzival myth for almost 15 years in a variety of cultural contexts to explore enlightened responsibility linked to personal creativity as the most practical task of our time. Alexander is happily married to Kristine and he is blessed to have five beautiful sons.

Alja Venturini has studied eurythmy and worked as a waldorf teacher in Ljubljana. Within KUD sredina she is running dancing and eurythmy workshops for children and adults. Last years she is developing feltmaking and promotes this beautiful handcrafting all over Slovenia and abroad.

CANTEFABLE – accompanying symposium events

Nancy Thym and **Thilo Viehrig** (in german and english)

Cante for the music, which enchants the spirit

Fable for the story, which delights the wit

"Cantefable" is a term from the Middle Ages for a story, which is partly spoken and partly sung or accompanied by music. The programs offered by Nancy Thym and Thilo Viehrig are a refreshing blend of medieval and traditional music interwoven with stories and dance which transport the listener to far-off times and places.

CORTESÍA . Ensemble for Renaissance Music and Dance Cortesía, Ljubljana, Slovenija, with Lidija Podlesnik Tomašikova as art director aims to create the mood, grace and elegance of an evening at a Renaissance court with its programme of music and dance. Their selections offer diverse musical and dance styles from a range of countries, including France, Spain, Italy, Germany, Netherlands, England and Slovenia. The dancers and musicians are dressed in immaculate period costumes. The ensemble (recorders, gamba, harpsichord, percussion, and voice) is synchronized beautifully with the dancers' movements. The richness of the dancing performance is in the details: the lightness of step, the fluidity of arm movements, the carriage of the head, and the expressiveness of the dancers' faces. The passion of the Ensemble Cortesía is to breathe life into Renaissance music and dance for contemporary audiences.

Darja Zagoc is a teacher. She has studied eurythmy and teaches at the Waldorf School in Ljubljana for 12 years. She is a member of Cultural-Artistic association SREDINA - The Inner Center actively clarifying her consciousness through studies of antroposophy and cooperates in realising many pedagogical and artistic projects for young people in schools all around Slovenija. Artistically she is connected and works with a eurythmy group at Celovec/Klagenfurt in Austria, three public eurythmy performances were realised with Barbara Patricija Berden.

Davor Peršič is a philosopher from Ljubljana, Slovenia.

Davor Lucianović was born in Dubrovnik in 1958, Croatia, where he graduated from high school. In 1981 he graduated from ALU in Zagreb, and as an independent artist he exhibited in many independent and collective exhibitions. In 1993 he initiated the founding of the Art Department in the Art school „Luka Sorkočević“ in Dubrovnik, where he also today works as a professor of drawing, painting and plastic modeling. After he devoted himself to pedagogic work, he significantly decreased the intensity of exhibiting, so that his last independent exhibition called „Jelenin san“ took place in 2001. In more than one mandate he was elected as president of HDLU Dubrovnik and as president of the administrative council of the Art school in Dubrovnik.

Inger Lise Oelrich is a theatre director and storyteller working with creativity and adult education for the past 30 years in all areas of human life, such as health and community, social work, worklife and peace & reconciliation. Her main focus is on developing community and a future together through creative imagination. She is organizer of international symposia, Storytelling as a Healing Art 2005, Storytelling as a Pathway to Peace 2007 and Words that Heal 2010 and runs a nordic training in applied storytelling in Scandinavia. She is Founding Director of ALBA Peace Project, investigating the special competencies of the storyteller in conflict and peace-creating situations. Inger Lise lives in Sweden and has recently written two books on storytelling.

Ljoba Jenče – is a slovenian free lance artist, singer of traditional songs and ballads, oral tradition collector, storyteller and the heart of our symposium of Parzival. She has initiated storytelling in Slovenia in 1994 by organising the first symposium at Kozjak. Since that time she has been working to develop inspiring connections between tradition and the modern world, between cultures and religions. In her workshops people learn to sing the old songs and tell stories through touching their own uniqueness. She encourages everybody to root him or herself in their own voice in a natural way. Slovene poet Milan Dekleva says: „She can evoke the memory of the world.“ Ljoba toured nearly all over the World from Himalayas in Tibet with Idriart to New York and the UN with Forum of Slavic cultures, from Argentina with Slovenian people to Thailand. Ljoba has published cd's and books, performed in films and radio programmes.

Micaela Sauber, born 1945 in Hamburg/Germany is a storyteller since 1986. Before she was a journalist and later became a curative educator. Over the years Micaela has initiated many cultural events, was the head of a non profit organization for telling and fairytales "Märchenforum Hamburg" for many years and took part in organizing cultural festivals of IDRIART in Slovenija, Croatia and Bosnia & Hercegovina. She travels as a professional storyteller mostly in German-speaking countries as well as for German Cultural Institute "Goethe Institut" in different countries abroad. Micaela has performed at different storytelling festivals in Germany; she initiated and co-organized 3 storytelling festivals in Dubrovnik/Croatia. Micaela has told the Parzival story in english many times to Miha Pogacnik's groups in Slovenija, mostly at Borl Castle. At the present, she is teaching storytelling in education and curative education to educators and librarians in Gaza/Palestine. This is part of her initiative of "Tellers without Borders" - "Erzähler ohne Grenzen", which is a young, growing network of storytellers who are engaged in healing storytelling.

Nancy Thym is recognized internationally for her programs which combine harp music, songs and stories. In her native California she studied theater, dance and anthropology and later folklore and ethnomusicology with special emphasis on traditional storytelling and music. She has received awards and grants for her research on the Bohemian hook harp, the Siberian harp and the Norwegian Krogharpe. For over 20 years she has lived in Germany where she transforms her extensive research on the history of the harp into programs which are both entertaining and educational – storytelling combined with songs and harp music, ballad programs on specific themes or one-woman theater pieces in which she portrays harpists of the past.

Instrument builder and musician **Thilo Viehrig** studied violin and organ building as well as instrument restoration in East Germany. For over 20 years he has concentrated on the performance practice and reconstruction of historical instruments. He established the musical instrument museum at the Center for Performance Practice in Michaelstein, Germany and his copies of historical instruments (harps, lyres, bowed instruments, clavichords, harpsichords and organettos) can be viewed in various museums. As a musician he has specialized in historical bowed instruments - vielle, rebec baroque violin – and medieval lyre. The reconstructions of historical instruments heard in Cantefable's concerts were all built in Thilo Viehrig's workshop.

The two met while working on an international project to examine, conserve and reconstruct the collection of over 30 original Renaissance musical instruments discovered in the Freiberg Cathedral near Dresden. Together they are restoring a Gothic House from 1493 near Naumburg in East Germany. The Gothic House has been converted into a center for early music, which hosts an international festival for early music every September.

Vida Talajić Čuletić is from Croatia an after taking the Foundation year and studying Waldorf Education at Emerson College, England, she finished her studies of Eurythmy at Peredur Centre for the Arts, England in 1994. She is the Head Teacher of the Eurythmy training in Zagreb under the mentorship of Eurythmeum Stuttgart. In 2004 she founded the Eurythmy Ensemble "Iona" in Zagreb together with Alen Guca giving performances for children and adults. She teaches eurythmy, gives workshops and performs in Croatia and Slovenia.

The STORYTELLERS:

Slovenian tellings - this wonderful story of Parzival will be told in slovenian language publicly for the first time ever. **Davor Peršič** had been giving lectures on the inner meaning of the grail story and connections to slovenian places around Ptuj/Hajdina, which Wolfram von Eschenbach speaks about in the epos. **Ljoba Jenče** had organised the group with „golden bird“ poetessa **Barbara Korun**, actor **Ivan Peternelj**, **Petra Špehar**, ethnologist and eurythmist **Darja Zagorc**, storyteller **Francka Imeri**, classroom teacher **Maja Juvan**. Slovenian tellings will be at Library Ptuj.

English tellings will be held by two main carriers of symposium **Inger Lise Oelrich** and **Alexander Mackenzie**. They both are masters of storytelling, who brought their essence to this town of Ptuj last year for this symposium to happen. Just being with them as life-long tellers is an inspiring moment of wisdom. And they may invite other storytellers to join them. English tellings will be held in **hotel Mitra and Muzikafe**.

German tellings with **Micaela Sauber**, who has come to Slovenia already for years with her endless love of Parzival's impulse being a devoted and creative support to the IDRIART festivals, founded by **Miha Pogačnik**. He is a slovenian violinist who is a kind of spiritual initiator of the Parzival impulse in Slovenia through IDRIART and Terra Parzival Festivals. German tellings will be held at **Minorit monastery**.

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