

◀ NARODNI DOM MARIBOR ▶

# Spomenu.

Taj hram slavila je leta 1897 in 1898 Gospoda  
v Mariboru po načrtih arhitekta Sta  
Vojtek v Pragi slovenskemu ljudstvu  
in okolici.

V Mariboru dne 1898

Klene starbinskega

godbora

Frany Hammet

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♦ NARODNI DOM MARIBOR ♦

# NARODNI DOM - PAST AND PRESENT



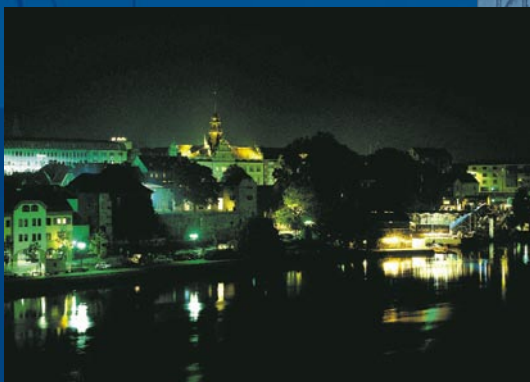
Narodni dom was completed in 1899 with funds from the Slovene Loan Society based on plans of the Czech architect Jan Vejrych, who based it on the town hall in Pardubice. His palatial neorenaissance building was a focal point for Styrian and Maribor people. Narodni dom played a major role in the political and cultural development of the Slovene people in Maribor from the turn of the century until the end of the Danube Monarchy. As well as the Slovene Loan Society, the Slavic Reading Society, a drama club, the public library, the national museum, the History Association Library and many others were domiciled in Narodni dom. On the stage of Narodni dom more and more professional theatre performances in the Slovene language took place in the years before World War I. There were also numerous concerts, celebrations, parties and dances taking place in Narodni dom, the bar inside was a kind of a national tavern.

At the end of October and the beginning of November 1918 Narodni dom played a key role when Maribor and Slovene Styria joined with Yugoslavia as the Styrian National Council, collaborating with general Rudolf Maister, whose national guard had its headquarters here. The importance of the building itself became less important during the era of the old Yugoslavia, although some associations still had their headquarters there, in addition to the Loan Society. By the time the Second World War came, Narodni dom had been rebuilt several times. Both World Wars destroyed the building significantly. The First World War mainly destroyed the inside of the building as the army was billeted there. When Maribor was bombed during the Second World War the exterior was extensively damaged, too.

In the years between 1946 to 1991, Narodni dom was an Officer's Club (Dom JLA; JLA stood for Yugoslav National Army), however there were some cultural or social performances from time to time which took place in Narodni dom. When Slovenia declared its independence, the building regained its name "Narodni dom" and soon in 1993 our present institution moved in, which has since radically changed and enriched the events scene in Maribor.



# CULTURAL AND EVENT CENTRE NARODNI DOM MARIBOR



The Cultural and Event Centre Narodni dom was established in September 1992. We started working immediately. Firstly, in the premises of the City Hall in the Main Square, but very soon, on the 8th February, which is a national cultural holiday in Slovenia, the institution moved into the premises of Narodni dom. This event also had a symbolic meaning, since at the beginning of the 20th Century, Narodni dom was the domicile for the cultural and national revival of the Slovene people living both in Maribor and elsewhere.

The first bright star in the wide-ranging organizational portfolio of Narodni dom was the concert of the chamber music series in Kazina Hall, when the violinist Birgit Kolar and the pianist Leonore Aumeier performed, on 6th November 1992. The very first performance in Narodni dom building, within the newly established cultural and event centre, was the comedy "Balkan Santa Claus", performed by the Grapefruit Theatre from Ljubljana, on 8th February 1993.

Shortly after that, we arranged an ambitious programme of activities, which strongly revived the cultural and event scene in our town.

It all began with the multicultural summer Festival Lent, which mostly takes place on several different open-air stages, along the riverbank, south of the old city centre. Within the framework of the Festival Lent since its inception there has also been the International Jazz Festival and the International Folklore Festival called "Folkart". Numerous awards prove now the Festival Lent has achieved its reputation abroad. Its numerous high-quality performances entice thousands of visitors every year and it will continue to be the backbone of the cultural and event portfolio of Narodni dom Maribor.

In addition to the Festival Lent, Narodni dom also acts as an organizer of various types of events, which encompass our repertoire. Let's just mention a few significant ones starting with our Concert Agency, which organizes subscription and non-subscription classical music concerts. Furthermore, the annual International Chamber Music Festival, Music September, the Chamber Music series, the Youth Subscription series and the Concerts of the musical artists of Maribor are all organized within the Concert agency. Until recently, the Concert Agency was also the driving power of the Maribor Philharmonic.

Maribor audiences especially favour the Slovene comedies performed in the majestic Grand Hall of the Narodni dom. The best Slovene productions of this kind and, of course, some of our own productions are performed here regularly.


We have transformed the basement premises of Narodni dom, which used to serve as a coal store, into an intimate performance and social premises, suitable for chamber theatre performances and intimate night-time gatherings with live or DJ music.

Of course, Narodni dom with its various premises and numerous possibilities provides venues for diverse events, balls, receptions and other social occasions for guest organizers. The Pingi dance school and the Kibla multimedia centre with its Kibela, representing a very important exhibition room in Maribor, are permanently situated under the umbrella of Narodni dom.

# FESTIVAL LENT







The city of Maribor was founded in the late Middle Ages and one of the main centres of the old part of town lies along the south side of the former city wall and the river Drava. This area used to serve as a port for rafts and other watercraft, as well as being a lively business, transit and amusement centre of the old town with many taverns, shops and trade workshops situated there. This part of town today is called Lent.

Lent is probably the most romantic part of the modern city of Maribor with its narrow stone paths, small guesthouses, cafés, bars, galleries, small shops... One of the renovated houses fronting the river Drava houses the oldest vine in the world, the "Old vine".

This area also contains the remains of the city wall, and the Judgement tower on the West side and the Jewish Synagogue and Jewish tower, as well as the Water tower on the East side. Its ambience along the banks of the Drava river, present every year a wonderful cloth for the multicultural Festival Lent, the biggest open-air Slovene summer festival, and one of the biggest festivals in Europe. Just imagine: at the end of June and beginning of July this festival, with its spontaneity, attracts 500,000 visitors in only two weeks. Without the Festival Lent which includes the International Folklore Festival "Folkart", the Jazz Festival "Jazzlent" and the Street Theatre Festival Ana Desetnica, this city would lose its summer heart beat. Actually, it all began with the "Folkart" in 1989.

The institution of Narodni dom stays with its trusty festival formula which gives the city of Maribor a new lease of life. In only sixteen days every year, the banks of the Drava river become the setting for various yet harmonized performance genres: classical concerts, ballet performances, jazz concerts with jamsessions, singer-songwriter concerts, chansons and ethno-music concerts, folklore evenings, street-theatre performances, and performances for children, called "Children's Lent", and, finally sports events called "Sports Lent". The centre-piece of the festival, however, is the big floating stage on the river, next to the Water Tower.

To date, many internationally acknowledged musicians have performed at Festival Lent, particularly at "Jazzlent". Along the banks of the river Drava, stars such as Ray Charles, B.B. King, James Brown, Jose Feliciano, Lester Bowie with his brass orchestra and Caribbean drummers, the famous French violinist Stephane Grappelli, Tania Maria, Les McCann, Jimmy Whitterspoon, Maynard Ferguson Big Band, Paquito D'Rivera, Howard Johnson, Dr. John, B. Golson and many others have attracted numerous visitors. Moreover, every year honoured guests at the festival also include many acknowledged Slovene artists. The International Folklore Festival "Folkart" is characterised by its quality and the variety of folklore groups from Slovenia and abroad. Some top street theatre groups from all around the world, and from Slovenia, visit Maribor every year thanks to the Street theatre Festival.

FESTIVAL  
**LENT**

# FOLKART

## INTERNATIONAL FOLKLORE FESTIVAL



The international folklore festival FOLKART is a special part of the multicultural International Festival LENT - the great open-air event, which takes place in the old city centre of Maribor each summer; Folkart can proudly be represented as the biggest festival in our country and it is also very well known among folklore enthusiasts from all over the world.

It is an international cultural event representing folklore groups and their musicians. The festival is annually held under the patronage of CIOFF (Conseil International des Organisations de Festival de Folklore). Hereby the common conditions of the International Folklore Festival FOLKART in Maribor are regulated by the statute of CIOFF.

Performances within Folkart mainly take place on the technically very well equipped floating stage on the Drava river, which is the central venue of the Festival Lent.

At the same time open-air stages on several squares and streets in the city of Maribor offer very appropriate scenes for folklore events and short activities, performed by the groups.

Folklore is giving us the valuable, never forgotten experience of folk tradition and heritage, as well as possibility to meet vivid colours and richness of national costumes from all over the world.

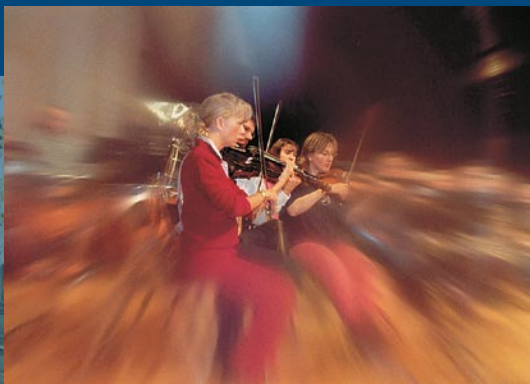
Festival Folkart is no longer just another excellent organised cultural event; its most important mission is to create the bonds of friendships among all participants.

In past 16 festival years (from 1988 till 2004) thousands of folklore dancers and musicians from entire world have been appearing on the main Lent stage;

Austria (2 ×), Albania (2 ×), Argentina (2 ×), Armenia, Bulgaria (3 ×), Brasilia, Bosnia in Herzegovina (2 ×), Buryatia, Cook Islands, Czech Republic (4 ×), Montenegro, Dominicans Republic, Philippines (2 ×), Finland, France, Greece (2 ×), Georgia, Croatia (4 ×), Italy (5 ×), Ireland, Yugoslavia (3 ×), Canada, Kalmykia, Kabardino-Balkaria, Columbia, Lithuania, Hungary (4 ×), Macedonia (3 ×), Mauritius, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Northern Ossetia, Poland (3 ×), Peru, Portugal, Romania (3 ×), Russia (4 ×), Slovakia (3 ×), Senegal, Serbia (2 ×), Scotland, Switzerland (2 ×), Sweden, Spain (4 ×), Sri Lanka, Taiwan, Thailand, Turkey (4 ×), Ukraine, USA (3 ×) and Slovenia.



# INTERNATIONAL CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL MUSIC SEPTEMBER





Every September Maribor chamber premises, like the Kazina Hall, the Knight's Hall in Maribor Castle or the Grand Hall of Narodni dom, have special musical guests from all around the world performing at the International Chamber Music Festival - Music September.

This festival originates from a Baroque Music Festival that first offered audiences distinguished baroque music programs in 1963. With a different concept and a new name Music September the present festival first took place in 1964 under the artistic direction of the pianist Professor Janko Šetinc. Under his direction the festival attained a level that exceeded its repertoire, formulated to the standards of a certain musical period, in this case baroque. In the organization of Narodni dom and its Concert Agency the Festival Music September has evolved into a very distinguished and respectable festival of chamber music in Slovenia and, which is acclaimed internationally.

The chamber music festival distinguishes itself by its sensitive and extraordinary music programs, and by its high quality of performers (horn player Radovan Vlatković, the Slovene greatest flutist Irena Grafenauer, clarinetist Mate Bekavac, violinist Arvid Enggard and ensembles like the Kronos Quartet, the String Quartet Endellion and many others) from all over the world, but above all, it epitomizes a peculiar and a unique way of organizing. The Festival does not invite chamber orchestras with concert programs prepared in advance, but top solo musicians, who join together into ensembles and study the programs in workshops.

The programs of Music September encompass chamber music works from European, World and domestic music literature covering various musical periods linked by *fille rouge*, thus giving a recognizable profile and guideline to the festival.

The festival offers central festival concerts (evening concerts, matinee concerts and family or youth concerts), where participating musicians present themselves in various ensembles, in a festival chamber orchestra. Alongside them, young and talented Slovene musicians present themselves in a concert series Young for Music September at the Synagogue, and in city streets. Music September extends throughout Slovenia, since it takes place in marvellous concert halls and churches all over Slovenia and, as of late, abroad.



GLASBENI  
SEPTEMBER

# MARIBOR PHILHARMONIC





Founded in 1950, the symphonic orchestra of Maribor Philharmonic was the major carrier of musical happening in Maribor until its cancellation in 1965. Since its reestablishment in 1993 until the end of the year 2004, the Maribor Philharmonic was active within the organization of Narodni dom Maribor. During this era it achieved a rapid growth and enviable results. It hosted numerous world-famous conductors and solo performers, as well as successfully presented itself in many concert halls in Slovenia and abroad. The Maribor Philharmonic enriched its character with popular programs, but above all with some really daring music programs. We should like to emphasise the highly ventilated concerts with jazz stars Paquito D'Rivera or Roseanna Vitro and with the famous Hollywood conductor, composer, arranger, and pianist Lalo Schiffrin. Furthermore, Gustav Mahler's 8th Symphony, known as the "Symphony of a Thousand", which joined members of Slovene and Maribor Philharmonic for the first time, marked its spot in the concert history.

The cancellation of the Maribor Philharmonic is related to the expiration of the co-production contract between SNG Maribor (SNG stands for Slovene National Theatre) and Narodni dom Maribor or to the initiative of the new management of SNG to cease cooperating with Narodni dom Maribor on the project Maribor Philharmonic.

Therefore we brought about a change of the concept with new goals and perspectives within the symphonic series. In other words, we are trying to invite the best orchestras of various musical traditions and styles, like we already did in the past. Let's just mention the Mariinsky Theatre Orchestra from St. Petersburg with its legendary conductor Valery Gergiev.


It is a great pleasure at the very beginning of our new concept to welcome some of the top orchestras from abroad, like The Linz Bruckner Orchestra, Concerto Köln, The Utah Symphony Orchestra and the domestic Slovene Philharmonic.

The trademark Maribor Philharmonic is, however, continuing with its activities within the symphonic subscription concerts organized by Narodni dom Maribor.

## CHAMBER MUSIC SERIES







Maribor ranks high among cities that having a rich tradition in chamber music. The Chamber Music Series encompass seven concerts; we annually offer concerts by a number of excellent and proven domestic, as well as foreign, musicians and performers. Their programs are carefully chosen and composed, and range from classical to modern types of music, and from solo recitals to chamber orchestras.

The chamber series of the Concert Agency offers a wide selection of programs and ensembles, whose quality and variety definitely please even the most demanding chamber music admirers. Let's mention some of them: Dubravka Tomšič Srebotnjak, Marjana Lipovšek, Trio di Milano, top violinist Midori, excellent bassoon player Dag Jensen, cello player David Finckel, Slokar Brass Trio, Trio Hantai, countertenor Gerard Lesne, Ensemble Sándor Végh, Leipzig String Quartet and the New Zealand String Quartet.

Aside from quality concerts, Maribor can be commended for its top-notch concert halls, which arouse much enthusiasm from performers and audiences alike. Among those halls that pride themselves on great acoustics are: Kazina Hall, SNG Maribor, The Knight's Hall of the Regional Museum of Maribor, the Cathedral, Aloysius Church, the Synagogue and last, but not least, the Union Hall, which will, when finally renovated, start shining in all its magnificence. We can hope that the renovated Union Hall will once again live up to the reputation of being one of the most acoustically acclaimed halls in Slovenia.

KOMORNI  
CIKEL

## YOUTH SUBSCRIPTION SERIES



The Youth Subscription Series program is mainly intended, as its name suggests, for youngsters, and those that feel young at heart.

The Youth Subscription Series could never be described as a serious or classical concert opportunity for just a chosen few experts and admirers of high art, so to speak. It is all about a musical journey that is attractive, stirring and full of surprises; namely a musical expression, whose purpose is to satisfy not just demanding listeners, but above all, youngsters keen on music. Various types of music are included in the Youth Subscription Series, which, in spite of some contemporary deluges of noisy musical expressions, has gradually become fully accepted. Special emphasis lies on the selection of musical works of art.

Beside standard musical pleasure, the six concerts that mostly contain educational significance do not lack elements of theatre and laughter. We are proud to say that the selection of performers guarantees a high level of technical and, above all, artistic performances.

Most concerts from the Youth Subscription Series are held in the Grand Hall of SNG Maribor and the Grand Hall of Narodni dom Maribor.




GLASBENA MLADINA  
MARIBOR

## MARIBOR'S MUSICAL ARTISTS' SALON







Maribor is a lively musical city. It does not only attract great ensembles and solo artists from elsewhere, but it has a lot to show its own right. Beside large, institutional groups such as the Maribor Philharmonic Orchestra or the Maribor Opera and Ballet Orchestra of SNG (Slovene National Theatre Maribor), there are numerous smaller chamber ensembles.

It is understandable that these ensembles want to perform in front of an audience. Therefore Narodni dom, in collaboration with Maribor Philharmonic and the Orchestra Musicians' Society organized a concert marathon, where 12 chamber ensembles introduced themselves with 20 minute programs. It was a concert evening whose purpose was to widely open doors for domestically operating musical groupings in Maribor. The seed was planted.

The Maribor's Musical Artists' Salon is, nowadays, an event that offers evening-long concerts from Maribor's musicians on several stages, such as the Synagogue, Aloysius or Minorite Churches' in the summer, within the Festival Lent. It added to the fact that all of its participants successfully hold their concerts at various events both at home and abroad - at expo inaugurations, various special events, and other cultural activities. They also organize independent (solo) concerts.

## SEASON TICKET SUBSCRIPTION - COMEDY





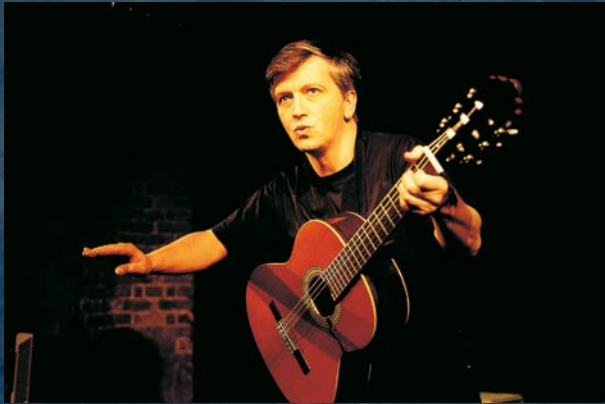
Maribor has a long and rich theatre tradition. The city got its first theatre with a permanent headquarters, at the end of the 18th century. The main bearer of quality professional theatrical expression in the city, drama and opera-ballet alike, has been SNG Maribor ever since 1919. At Narodni Dom we sensed a need and extra demand for a so-called easier genre.

We set ourselves a task to bring quality shows from other parts of Slovenia as well as abroad, into Narodni dom, and to stage them as our own productions. In the first few years following Slovenia's independence, working conditions were anything but good, since on leaving the Yugoslav National Army took almost all of the stage equipment and chairs, so that the Grand hall was left with nothing but heaters and a stage curtain. However, at the beginning of 1994, the first comedies were staged in Narodni dom (Play it Again, Sam, Balkan Santa Claus ...).

Since the demand for this kind of theatre grew rapidly, we decided to invite tenders for season ticket subscription. It encompassed six shows over six months, from November to April, and is still offered today. The interest of audience constantly increased. Therefore, we introduced six others with more than 2000 season ticket holders in a season ticket subscription series "Comedy in Narodni Dom". Also, many shows are held for non season ticket holders. Over the past years we have created quite a few successful shows as our own productions. For instance, *Življenje v teatru* (Life in theatre) with Peter and Aljoša Ternovšek, *Služkinji* (Maids) with Alojz Svete, Branko Šturbej and Radko Polič Rac, and *Špuk pogum* (Spuk courage) with Irena Varga, Milada Kalezić and Jure Ivanušič. Some were created as co-productions.



## SMALL STAGE





Small-Stage theatre is also being catered for with our Small stage. Placed in the basement of Narodni dom, where once the coal storage room was, and with a direct connection to the Club of Narodni dom, the Small stage provides the perfect spot for smaller theatre performances, concerts and social activities.

Its unique atmosphere is known to give shelter to all those who enjoy monodramas, petite chamber concerts, dance performances and jazz concerts. However receptions and other social events take place in there as well.

The Small stage has two own season ticket subscriptions; each consisting of six theatre shows. One of the regular guests of the Small Stage is the culture and art association "Studio gledališče" (Studio Theatre) - its driving force is the acknowledged actor Peter Boštjančič - which has already brought to life two performances: "The Lower Depths" by Maxim Gorky and "Pierrot in Pierrette" by Slavko Grum. Both of them found much approval of the audiences.

But there are also many other acknowledged artists such as Saša Pavček, Branko Šturbej, Tina Gorenjak, Zvone Hribar, Zijah Sokolović, Iztok Mlakar, Andrej Rozman - Roza, Gregor Čušin, Maja Blagovič to name just a few, who have contributed much to the beauty, fascination and a fresh breeze of the Small Stage. Numerous audiences give us the drive to move on successfully.



## KEKEC AND PIKA



After many years of hosting theatre shows we found out that there is something missing: performances for children!

That is why we produced the show ŠPUK POGUM (Spuk Courage), which was directed by Matjaž Latin and hosted Irena Varga, Milada Kalezić and Jure Ivanušič. Despite the great success of the play and its numerous repetitions all over Slovenia we decided to meet a new challenge and try to offer interesting, but above all top quality shows for children.

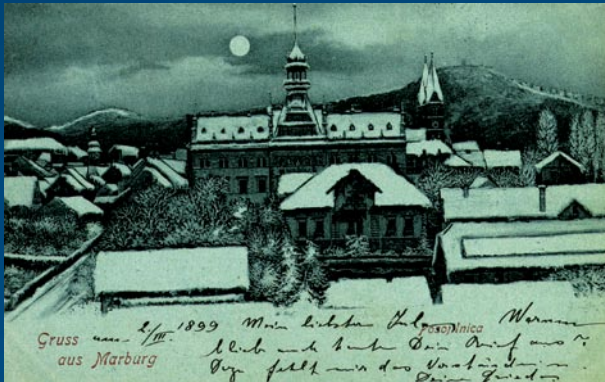
To make them more familiar with the fascinating world of theatre in an unobtrusive and funny way, we prepared two season ticket subscriptions.

The season ticket subscription "Kekec" is suitable for our youngest audiences, namely for children aged 4 and 9. It offers five shows over a period of five months.

The season ticket subscription "Pika" has been created to suit the demands of children above 9 years of age, offering one performance per month within the period of five months, as well.

Slovene theatres like the Mladinsko gledališče Ljubljana (Youth Theatre Ljubljana), Mini teater (Mini Theatre), Slovensko ljudsko gledališče Celje (Slovene Public Theatre Celje), Lutkovno gledališče Ljubljana (Puppet Theatre Ljubljana) and Mestno Gledališče Ptuj (Theatre Ptuj) provide good and interesting shows for children. Nonetheless this was proven during first subscription performances as the Grand Hall of Narodni dom was filled to the very last spot.





Velika d







Ben Hur.

1. Valerius Gratius da ukeniti Ben Hurjevo rodbino.

POZDRAV iz  
„Narodnega doma“





## ◀ NARODNI DOM MARIBOR ▶

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