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November 2024



BATHS  
GOTHIC CHURCHES  
MINERS' HOUSES

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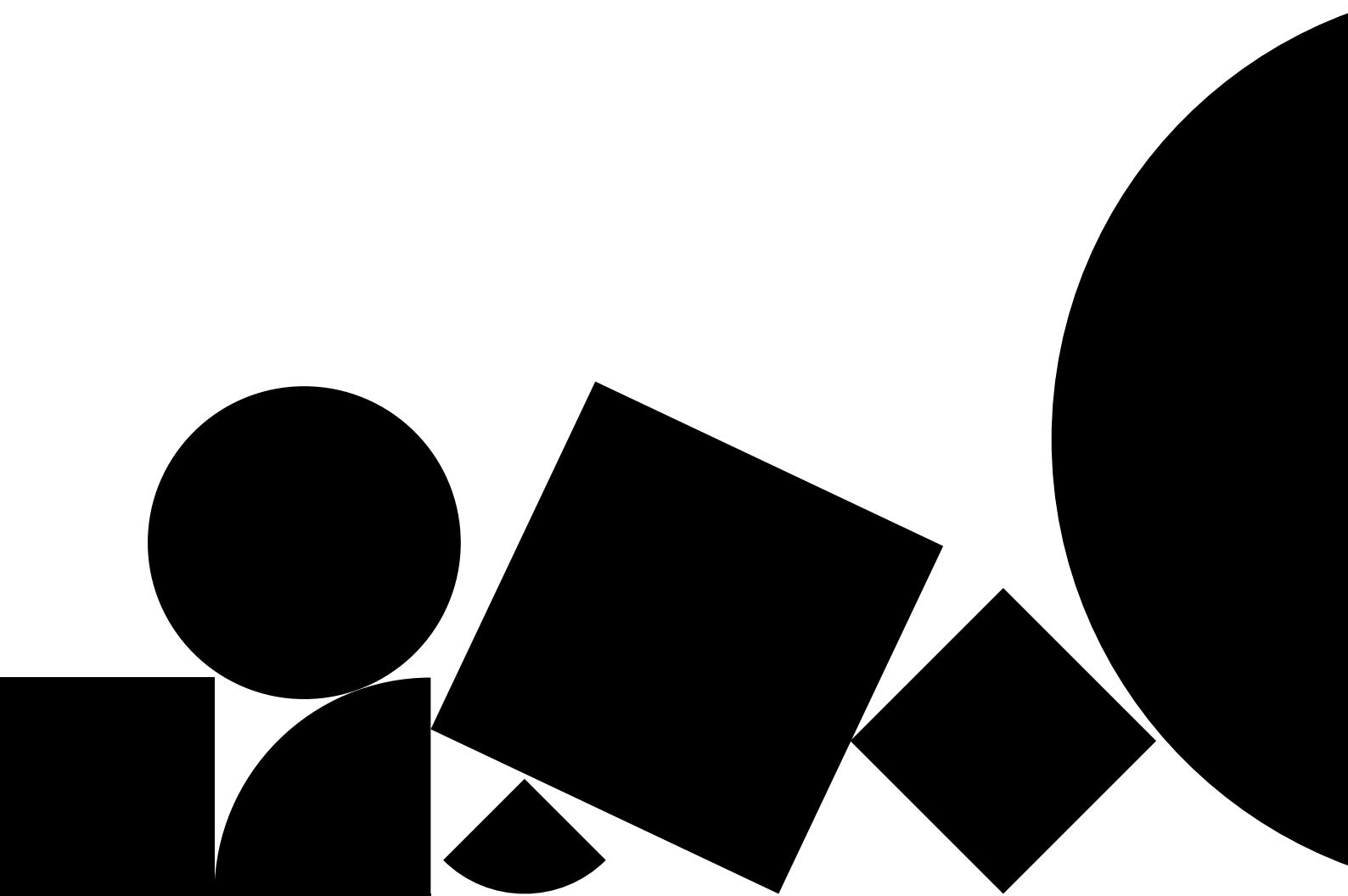
ID20 /



Locus

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## **Baths, gothic churches and miners' houses:** Youth-led revitalisation of built cultural heritage

In 2023 and 2024, three non-governmental and non-profit organizations from the peripheral regions of Central and Eastern Europe – Slovenia, Romania, and Slovakia – demonstrated, through their innovative approaches to cultural heritage, how a holistic and interdisciplinary approach to preserving cultural heritage can inspire new generations. At the heart of these activities were three symbolic cultural heritage objects: 19th-century mining houses in Idrija (Slovenia), the 19th-century Neptune's Baths in Băile Herculane (Romania), and the 13th-century Church of St. Ladislav in Kamenica (Slovakia). The following pages present the main activities and results. Enjoy reading!

## **Kopališča, gotske cerkve in rudarske hiše:** Mladinska revitalizacija stavbne kulturne dediščine

V letih 2023 in 2024 so tri nevladne in neprofitne organizacije iz obrobnih območij srednje in vzhodne Evrope – Slovenije, Romunije in Slovaške – s svojimi inovativnimi pristopi h kulturni dediščini dokazale, kako je mogoče s holističnim in interdisciplinarnim pristopom za ohranjanje kulturne dediščine navduševati nove generacije. V središču aktivnosti so bili trije simbolni objekti kulturne dediščine – idrijske rudarske hiše 19. stoletja (Slovenija), Neptunove terme iz 19. stoletja v Băile Herculane (Romunija) ter cerkev sv. Ladislava iz 13. stoletja v Kamenanih (Slovaška). V naslednjih straneh predstavljamo glavne aktivnosti in rezultate.



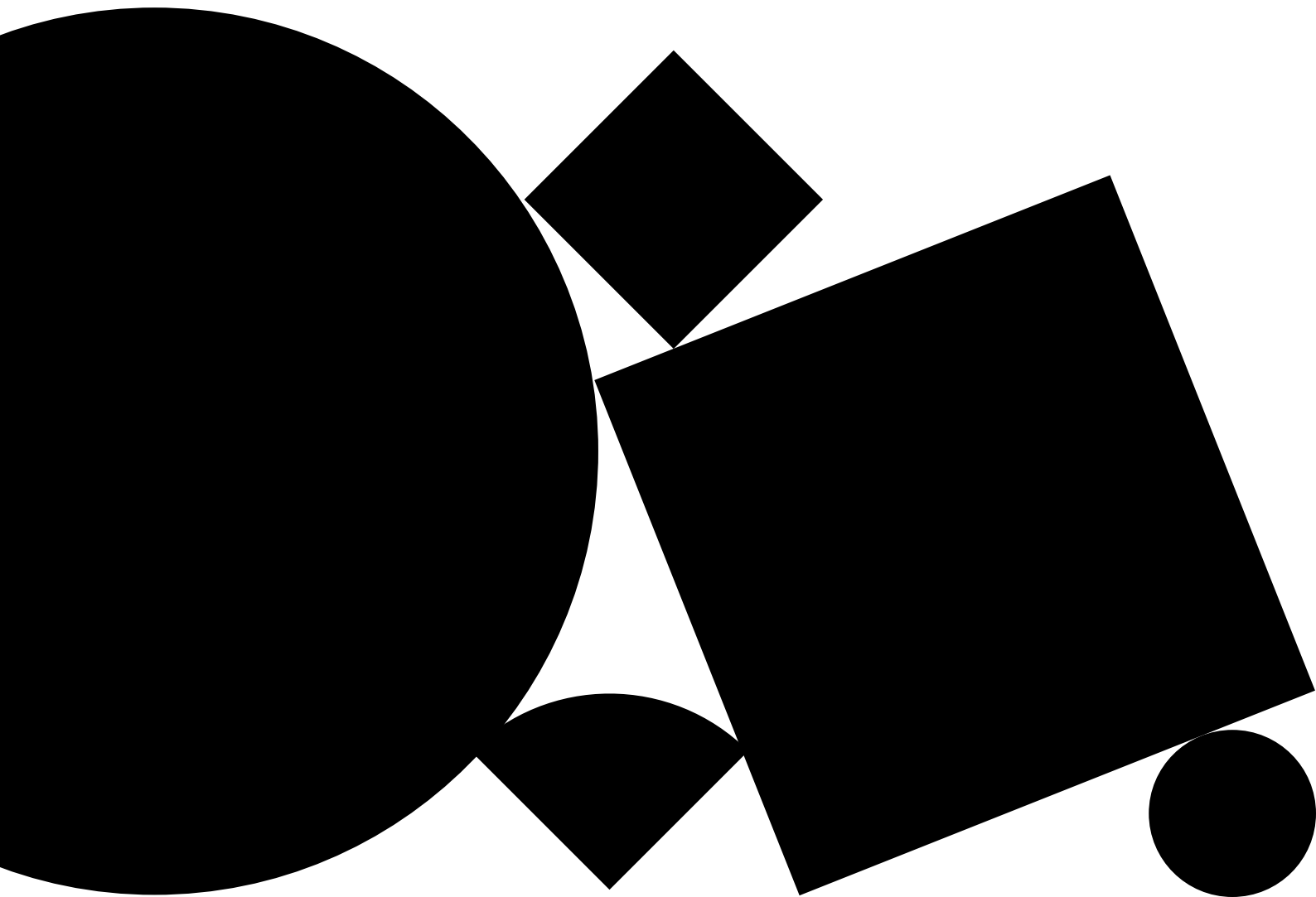
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**ID20 /**



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# ID20: More Than Just Preservation

## ID20: Več kot le ohranjanje

Text: Matevž Straus  
Photos: Marko Čuk, Iztok Hvala, Natalie Rupnik, Jan Sedej, Nejc Menard



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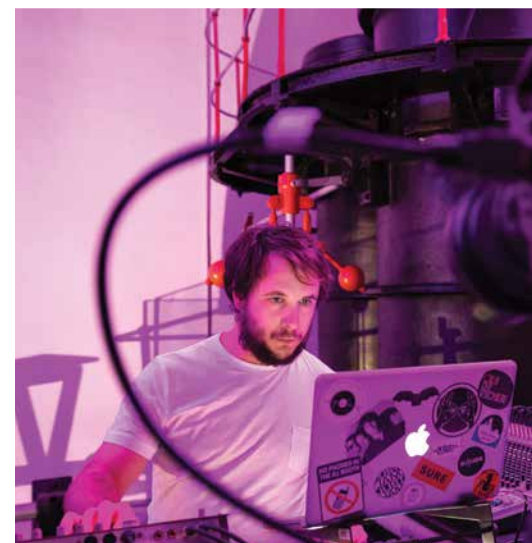
Nestled in the heart of Slovenia, the picturesque town of Idrija boasts a rich history that stretches back centuries. Once renowned for its mercury mines, Idrija has transformed into a cultural hub, preserving its heritage while embracing the future. At the forefront of this revitalization is the ID20 Institute, a non-profit organization dedicated to preserving and promoting the region's cultural heritage. **V središču Slovenije leži slikovito mesto Idrija, ki se ponaša z bogato stoletno zgodovino. Nekdaj znana po živosrebrnem rudniku se je Idrija preobrazila v kulturno središče, ki ohranja svojo dediščino, hkrati pa gleda v prihodnost. Na čelu te revitalizacije stoji Zavod ID20, neprofitna organizacija, ki se posveča ohranjanju in promociji kulturne dediščine območja.**

Founded in the former mining town of Idrija, ID20 is a driving force behind innovative and award-winning approaches to heritage preservation. Their mission extends beyond mere conservation, encompassing social and economic development through heritage-based initiatives. By engaging youth, cultural enthusiasts, and tourists, ID20 aims to revitalize peripheral and rural areas, breathing new life into their cultural heritage. **Zavod ID20, ustanovljen v nekdanjem rudarskem mestu Idrija, je gonilna sila inovativnih in nagrajenih pristopov k ohranjanju dediščine. Njegova naloga pa presega zgolj ohranjanje, saj preko različnih iniciativ povezanih z dediščino, v svoje dejavnosti vključuje tudi socialni in**

**gospodarski razvoj. Z vključevanjem mladih, kulturnih navdušencev in turistov si ID20 prizadeva revitalizirati periferna in ruralna območja ter vdihniti novo življenje v lokalno kulturno dediščino.**

**Miners' houses, gastronomy, industrial culture Rudarske hiše, gastronomija, industrijska kultura**

One of ID20's key activities involves preserving the historic miners' houses that dot the Idrija landscape. These charming dwellings offer a glimpse into the lives of the miners who once toiled beneath the earth's surface. After years of research and community-engagement activities as well as



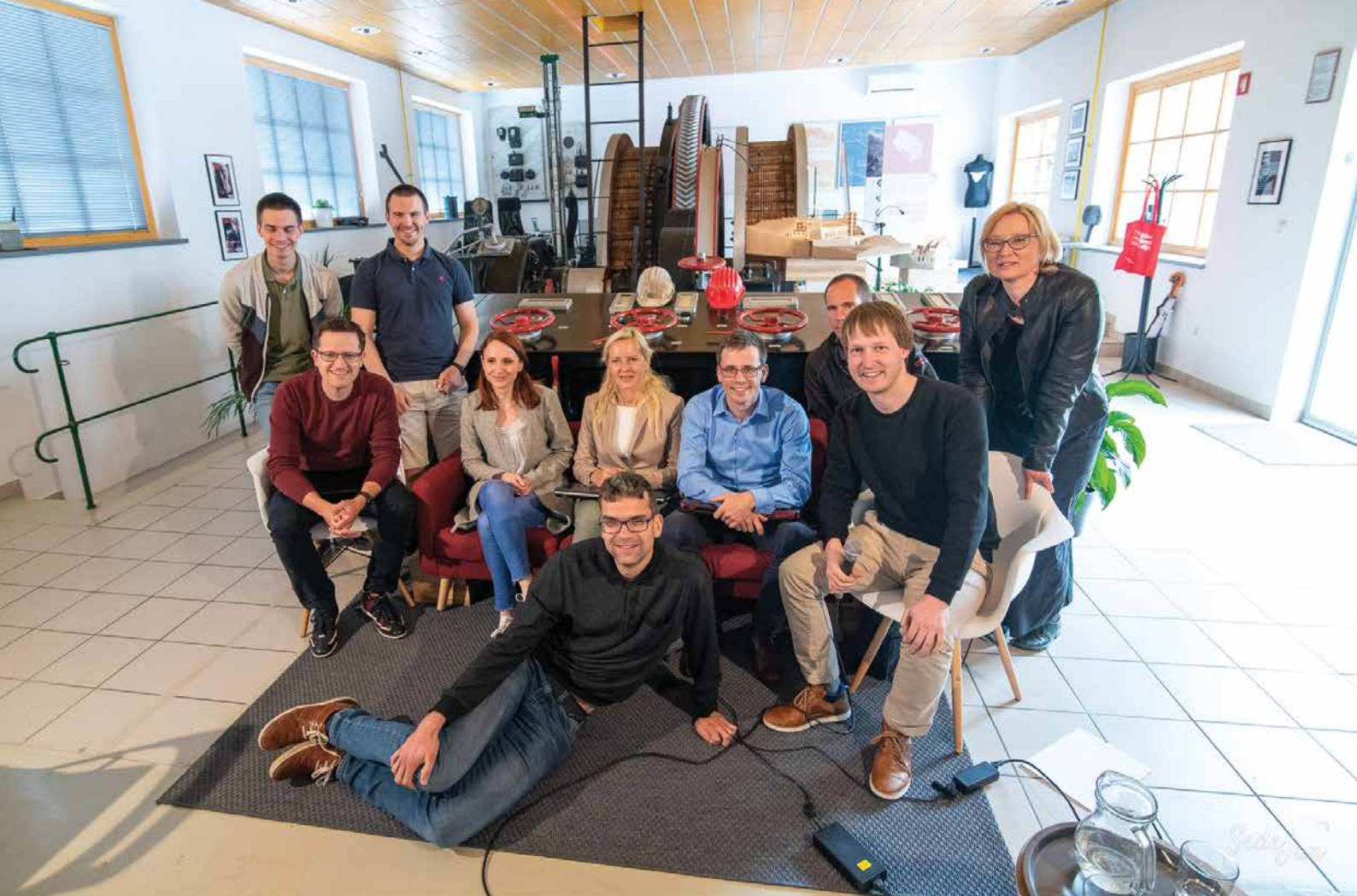


offering architectural consultation to private owners of such houses, ID20's work has focused on House Giser. This house, dating back to 1800, was acquired by ID20 in 2021 after years of neglect and abandonment. Through practical workshops, volunteer actions, and cultural events, ID20 is slowly and gradually improving the physical condition of the house, researching its past and opening it to the community, while in parallel passing on the knowledge of traditional construction techniques to future generations.

Ena ključnih dejavnosti ID20 vključuje ohranjanje zgodovinskih rudarskih hiš, ki so razpršene po idrijski kotlini. Te čudovite stavbe ponujajo vpogled v življenja rudarjev, ki so nekoč delali pod površjem zemlje. Po letih raziskav in dejavnosti za vključevanje skupnosti kot tudi svetovanja lastnikom takšnih hiš se je delo zavoda osredotočilo na Hišo Giser. Ta hiša, ki datira v leto 1800, je leta 2021 po letih zanemarjanja in zapuščenja prišla v roke Zavodu ID20. S pomočjo praktičnih delavnic, prostovoljnih akcij in kulturnih dogodkov ID20 počasi in postopoma izboljšuje fizično stanje hiše, raziskuje njeno preteklost ter jo odpira skupnosti, hkrati pa prenaša znanje tradicionalnih gradbenih tehnik na prihodnje generacije.

Beyond architecture, ID20 is also passionate about preserving the region's culinary heritage. Idrija žlikrofi, a traditional filled pasta dish, is a local delicacy that has been enjoyed for generations. ID20 has been selected as a organiser of Idrija Žlikrofi Festival in 2021 for the first time and has since then organised 4 edition, each growing by the number of visitors, the richness of the programme and the media reach. The festival, organised every August, brings together around 5000 people in a one-day celebration of this traditional dish. ID20's vision to turn local folk gathering into an urban happening in a public park has proved to be correct – the festival was awarded Jakob 2024 award for innovative tourist events. Through the festival and other gastronomic events – such as gastronomic-theater experience





at Giser House or with its food trailer, ID20 promotes the importance of culinary heritage for a sustainable future, emphasizing the use of local, seasonal ingredients and waste reduction. Poleg arhitekture je Zavod ID20 tudi strasten zagovornik ohranjanja kulinarčne dediščine regije. Idrijski žlikrofi, tradicionalne polnjene testenine, so lokalna specialiteta, ki jo uživajo že generacije. Zavod je bil leta 2021 prvič izbran za organizatorja Praznika idrijskih žlikrofov, od takrat je organiziral že štiri izdaje, kjer iz leta v leto narašča tako število obiskovalcev kot tudi obseg programa in medijska prepoznavnost. Festival vsako leto v avgustu privabi več kot 5000 obiskovalcev na enodnevno praznovanje te tradicionalne jedi. Vizija zavoda ID20, da lokalno ljudsko srečanje spremeni v urbano doživetje v javnem parku, se je izkazala kot relevantna – festival je prejel nagrado Jakob 2024 za inovativne turistične dogodke. S festivalom in drugimi gastronomskimi dogodki – kot je gastronomsko-gledališka izkušnja v Hiši Giser ali prikolica za hrano – ID20



promovira pomen kulinarične dediščine za trajnostno prihodnost, poudarjajoč uporabo lokalnih, sezonskih sestavin ter zmanjševanje odpadkov.

Idrija's industrial past is another significant aspect of its heritage. ID20 is working to reimagine industrial culture for the 21st century, exploring its impact on communities and promoting a broader understanding of its tangible and intangible elements. By combining past and present, ID20 aims to create a new perspective on industry and its role in shaping our lives. This is primarily pursued through a bi-annual festival Betrib, a festival of industrial culture. Industrijska preteklost Idrije pa je še en pomemben vidik njene dediščine. Zavod ID20 si prizadeva ponovno opredeliti industrijsko kulturo za 21. stoletje, raziskuje njen vpliv na skupnosti in spodbuja širše razumevanje njenih otipljivih in neotipljivih elementov. To pa se izvaja predvsem preko bienalnega festivala Betrib – festivala industrijske kulture.

### A Community-Driven Approach Pristop usmerjen k skupnosti

ID20's success is rooted in its community-driven approach. By involving local residents, heritage enthusiasts, and young people, ID20 fosters a sense of ownership and pride in the region's cultural heritage. This collaborative spirit is essential for the long-term sustainability of ID20's initiatives. Uspeh Zavoda ID20 temelji na skupnostno usmerjenem pristopu. Z vključevanjem lokalnih prebivalcev, ljubiteljev dediščine in mladih ID20 spodbuja občutek lastništva in ponosa do kulturne dediščine regije. Ta sodelovalni duh je ključnega pomena za dolgoročno trajnost iniciativ ID20.

ID20's work extends beyond preservation. The organization is committed to using heritage as a catalyst for social and economic development. By promoting tourism, supporting local businesses, and engaging young people, ID20 is helping to create a vibrant and sustainable future

for Idrija. Vendar delo ID20 presega ohranjanje. Organizacija se zavezuje, da bo dediščino uporabila kot katalizator socialnega in gospodarskega razvoja. S spodbujanjem turizma, podporo lokalnim podjetjem in vključevanjem mladih, ID20 soustvarja živahno in trajnostno prihodnost za Idrijo.

As Idrija continues to evolve, the ID20 Institute remains at the forefront of efforts to preserve and promote its rich cultural heritage. Through innovative initiatives and a commitment to community engagement, ID20 is ensuring that the legacy of this historic mining town will endure for generations to come. Medtem, ko se Idrija nadalje razvija, Zavod ID20 ostaja v ospredju prizadevanj za ohranjanje in promocijo svoje bogate kulturne dediščine. S pomočjo inovativnih iniciativ in zavezanosti vključevanju skupnosti ID20 zagotavlja, da bo zapuščina tega zgodovinskega rudarskega mesta obstajala še za mnoge generacije.



# Reviving Giser House

## Oživljanje Hiše Giser

Text: Matevž Straus, Matevž Šlabnik  
Photos: Iztok Hvala, Nejc Menard

At Ulica zmage 12, the Idrija miners' house Giser stands on a locally well-known hill between Skirca and Jurčkova grapa. The precise year this apartment building was built is not known; based on preserved sources and literature, however, we can establish that it has at least two centuries of history. **Na Ulici zmage 12 v Idriji, na lokalno dobro poznani vzpetini med Skirco in Jurčkovo grapo stoji rudarska hiša Giser. Kdaj točno so položili temeljne kamne te stanovanjske stavbe ni znano, a na podlagi ohranjenih virov in literature lahko trdimo, da ima za sabo vsaj dve stoletji zgodovine.**

Typical for the town of Idrija, the Idrija Miners' house is a unique architecture that reached the height of its popularity in the "century of the miners' house" spanning from 1776 and 1876. In contrast to later miners' apartments blocks, this type of multifamily building was privately owned by the workers: the first floor was occupied by the owner's family while the upper floors were being rented. **Rudarska hiša je edinstvena arhitekturna zasnova, tipična za mesto Idrija, ki je dosegla vrhunec priljubljenosti v "stoletju rudarskih hiš" med letoma 1776 in 1876. V nasprotju s kasnejšimi stanovanjskimi bloki, je ta tip več-družinske stavbe pripadal delavcem: pritličje je zasedala družina lastnika, medtem ko so bila zgornja nadstropja oddana v najem.**

In 2018, ID20's team has recorded 102 miners' houses in Idrija. As they have been heavily modified, only 18 have retained more than five traditional characteristics. Only 8 of those are still inhabited. Today,



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a half of the 102 houses are empty. In a time when Idrija and its surroundings are facing a dire lack of apartments, this is a problem worth discussing. Leta 2018 je ekipa ID20 v Idriji zabeležila kar 102 rudarski hiši. Ker je bila večina močno predelanih, jih je le 18 ohranilo več kot pet tradicionalnih značilnosti. Le 8 od teh pa hiš je še vedno naseljenih. Danes je polovica od 102 hiš praznih. V času, ko Idrija in njena okolica doživljata hudo pomanjkanje stanovanj, je to problem, ki si zasluži pozornost.

The Giser House itself dates to the early 19th century, when a modest miners' dwelling was erected, and later expanded under different working-class landlords. The building has changed over the years, as each generation and historical period has given it its own unique character. The house is partly dug in and leaning into the hill with a stone base, above which a wooden superstructure rises up. The gabled roof, which was probably originally covered with shingles, is now covered with a newer concrete roofing, and the original subdued whiteness of a typical mining house is revealed under the ochre layers of the present plaster, harmoniously complemented by symmetrical rows of small double-casement windows. The mining character of the building is complemented by the classic attributes of *podiček*, a small raised platform in front of the main entrance at the side of the building, and the *gank*, a covered external corridor down which flowering roses still climb from the ornamental garden below. Hiša Giser datira v začetek 19. stoletja, ko je bila zgrajena skromna rudarska hiša, le ta pa kasneje razširjena pod različnimi delavskimi lastniki. Stavba se je skozi leta spreminjala, saj ji je vsaka generacija in zgodovinsko obdobje dalo svoj edinstven značaj. Hiša je delno vkopana in se naslanja na hrib s kamnitim temeljem, nad katerim se dviga lesena nadgradnja. Špičasta streha, ki je bila verjetno prvotno pokrita z lesenimi šinklni (skodlami), je sedaj prekrita z novejšo betonsko kritino, originalna zmerna belina tipične rudarske hiše pa se razkriva pod oker plastjo sedanjega ometa, harmonično



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dopolnjena s simetričnimi vrstami majhnih dvokrilnih oken. Rudarski značaj stavbe dopolnjujejo klasične značilnosti podička, majhne dvignjene platforme pred glavnim vhodom ob strani stavbe, in ganka, pokritega zunanjskega hodnika, po katerem še vedno plezajo cvetoče vrtnice iz okrasnega vrta spodaj.

Inside, the Giser House also reflects traditional living patterns. It reveals a typical arrangement of rooms, with a steep staircase to the first floor, the kitchen, and the main room – *hiša* with an accompanying small chamber – arranged around the doorway. The typical layout is repeated on the first floor in a slightly less spacious form. The house furnishings suggest a gradual development of the house inventory, following the general evolution of living standards. From the simpler original 19th-century chests of drawers and trunks to the more modern veneered furniture of the post-World War II era, the furniture in the Giser House tells the story of two centuries of continuous living in this building. *Notranjost hiše Giser prav tako odraža tradicionalne življenjske vzorce. Razkriva tipično razporeditev prostorov, s strmimi stopnicami do prvega nadstropja, kuhinjo in glavno sobo – hišo z manjšim spremljevalnim prostorom, razporejenimi okoli vhoda. Tipična razporeditev se ponavlja v prvem nadstropju v nekoliko manj prostorni obliki. Oprema hiše nakazuje postopno razvijanje inventarja, ki sledi splošni evoluciji življenjskega standarda. Od preprostih prvotnih skrinj in predalnikov 19. stoletja, do modernejšega furniranega pohištva povojne dobe, pohištvo v hiši Giser pripoveduje zgodbo dveh stoletij neprekinjenega bivanja v tej stavbi.*

### Why Giser House? Zakaj hiša Giser?

Many generations of miners' families called the Giser House their home and left an indelible mark on the building. The house at Ulica zmage 12 was originally owned by the Bogataj (Wogathy) family. Ownership then passed to the Brus family, who occupied the house with four family members around 1880. The Zupančič, Mihevc and Peljhan families succeeded





them. The house was occupied by a maximum of 10 people at a time, which was a relatively bearable number for the residential reality of Idrija. From the first years of the 20th century onwards, the house was entirely owned by the Zupančič family, with whom the present house name is also connected. **Mnoge generacije rudarskih družin so hišo Giser imenovale za svoj dom in na stavbi pustile neizbrisen pečat. Hiša na Ulici zmage 12 je bila prvotno v lasti družine Bogataj (Wogathej). Lastništvo je nato prešlo na družino Brus, ki je okoli leta 1880 v hiši živela s štirimi družinskimi člani. Za njimi so se zvrstile družine Zupančič, Mihevc in Peljhan. Hišo je v določenem trenutku zasedalo največ 10 ljudi, kar je bilo za stanovanjsko resničnost Idrije razmeroma znosno število. Od začetka 20. stoletja naprej je hiša v celoti pripadala družini Zupančič, s katero je povezana tudi današnje hišno ime.**

The story of the unusual name Giser, also Gisar, comes from the German word Gießler, meaning foundryman, and refers to the occupation of the first house-keeper of the Zupančič family, who immigrated to Idrija from Dvor near Žužemberk before 1890. The Auersperg family had a foundry here until 1891. Zupančič's foundry profession was apparently representative enough to give birth to a peculiar house name, which has survived to this day. The house remained in the ownership of the Zupančič family for another two generations, with all the male householders professionally connected to the mine right up to the last. In 2003, with the death of the last occupant, the mining house reached the end of its first, mining phase. **Zgodba o nenavadnem imenu Giser (tudi Gisar), izhaja iz nemške besede Gießler, kar pomeni livar, in se nanaša na poklic prvega gospodarja družine Zupančič, ki je pred letom 1890 emigriral v Idrijo iz Dvora pri Žužemberku. Družina Auersperg je imela v Idriji livarno vse do leta 1891. Poklic Zupančiča kot livarja pa je bil očitno dovolj reprezentativen, da je hiši dal ime, ki se je ohranilo do danes. Hiša je ostala v lasti družine Zupančič še dve generaciji, pri čemer so bili vse do zadnjega vsi**

moški družinski člani poklicno povezani z rudnikom. Leta 2003, je rudarska hiša s smrtjo zadnjega prebivalca, doživela konec svoje prve – rudarske – dobe.

### Reviving beyond brick-and-mortar Oživljanje onkraj zidov

After the last owner, Franz's grandson Franc Zupančič passed in 2003, the house was left abandoned and untouched. It was not until 2021 that the ID20 team bought the house and with the help of international volunteers started to uncover its secrets and help her open a new chapter in her centuries-old existence. Po smrti zadnjega lastnika, vnuka Franca Zupančiča, je leta 2003 hiša ostala zapuščena in nedotaknjena. Šele leta 2021 je ekipa Zavoda ID20 hišo kupila ter s pomočjo mednarodnih prostovoljcev začela odkrivati njene skrivnosti in pomagala odpreti novo poglavje v njeni stoletni zgodovini.

Revitalisation of Giser House was never just about the brick-and-mortar – cultural heritage lives on when the stories, values and histories of “common people” are interpreted and passed on. The ID20 Institute wants to prevent the demise of another mining house, so intimately linked to the former mining town. Through its projects and activities, it is educating future generations about the importance of using natural materials in construction and the need for improvements in the built heritage and the built environment. For example, in 2021, 2022 and 2023, international volunteers participated in the restoration of the Giser House in Idrija. They worked on various tasks, including repairing the building, landscaping the surrounding area, and learning about the town's mining history. These efforts contributed to the preservation of this important historical landmark.

Revitalizacija hiše Giser nikoli ni bila zgolj vprašanje opeke in malte – kulturna dediščina živi, ko se zgodbe, vrednote in zgodovina “navadnih ljudi” interpretirajo in prenašajo naprej. Zavod ID20 želi preprečiti propad še ene rudarske hiše, ki je tako tesno povezana z nekdanjim rudarskim mestom. S svojimi projekti in dejavnostmi izobražuje prihodnje

generacije o pomenu uporabe naravnih materialov v gradnji ter o potrebi po izboljšavi na področju nepremične dediščine in grajenega okolja. Na primer, leta 2021, 2022 in 2023 so mednarodni prostovoljci sodelovali pri obnovi hiše Giser v Idriji. Delali so na različnih nalogah, vključno z obnovo stavbe, urejanjem okolice in učenjem o rudarski zgodovini mesta. Ta prizadevanja so prispevali k ohranjanju te pomembne zgodovinske znamenitosti.

In 2024, ID20 launched the “O, sole mio” gastronomic-theatre experience, and cold empty rooms were filled with joy, laughter, music and a smell of 100-year old dishes. Leta 2024 pa je ID20 zagнал gastronomsko-gledališko izkušnjo “O, sonce moje” in hladne prazne sobe so se napolnile z veseljem, smehom, glasbo in vonjem jedi pripravljenih po receptih stoletne kuharice.





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# Reviving the Past Through Food and Storytelling

## Oživljanje preteklosti skozi hrano in pripovedovanje zgodb

Text:

Matevž Straus

Photos:

Marko Čuk,

Jan Sedej

**The Giser House, a historic miners' dwelling in Idrija, Slovenia, has undergone a remarkable transformation. Before its physical restoration, the house served as a living museum, inviting visitors to step back in time and experience the lives of its former inhabitants through a unique gastronomic-theatrical experience, in which food becomes a catalyst for emotions from the past.**

**Hiša Giser, tradicionalna idrijska rudarska hiša v Idriji, Slovenija, doživlja preobrazbo. Pred obnovo namreč hiša služi kot živi muzej, ki obiskovalcem omogoča, da se vrnejo v preteklost in izkusijo življenje njenih nekdanjih prebivalcev skozi edinstveno gastronomsko-gledališko izkušnjo, kjer hrana postane katalizator čustev iz preteklosti.**

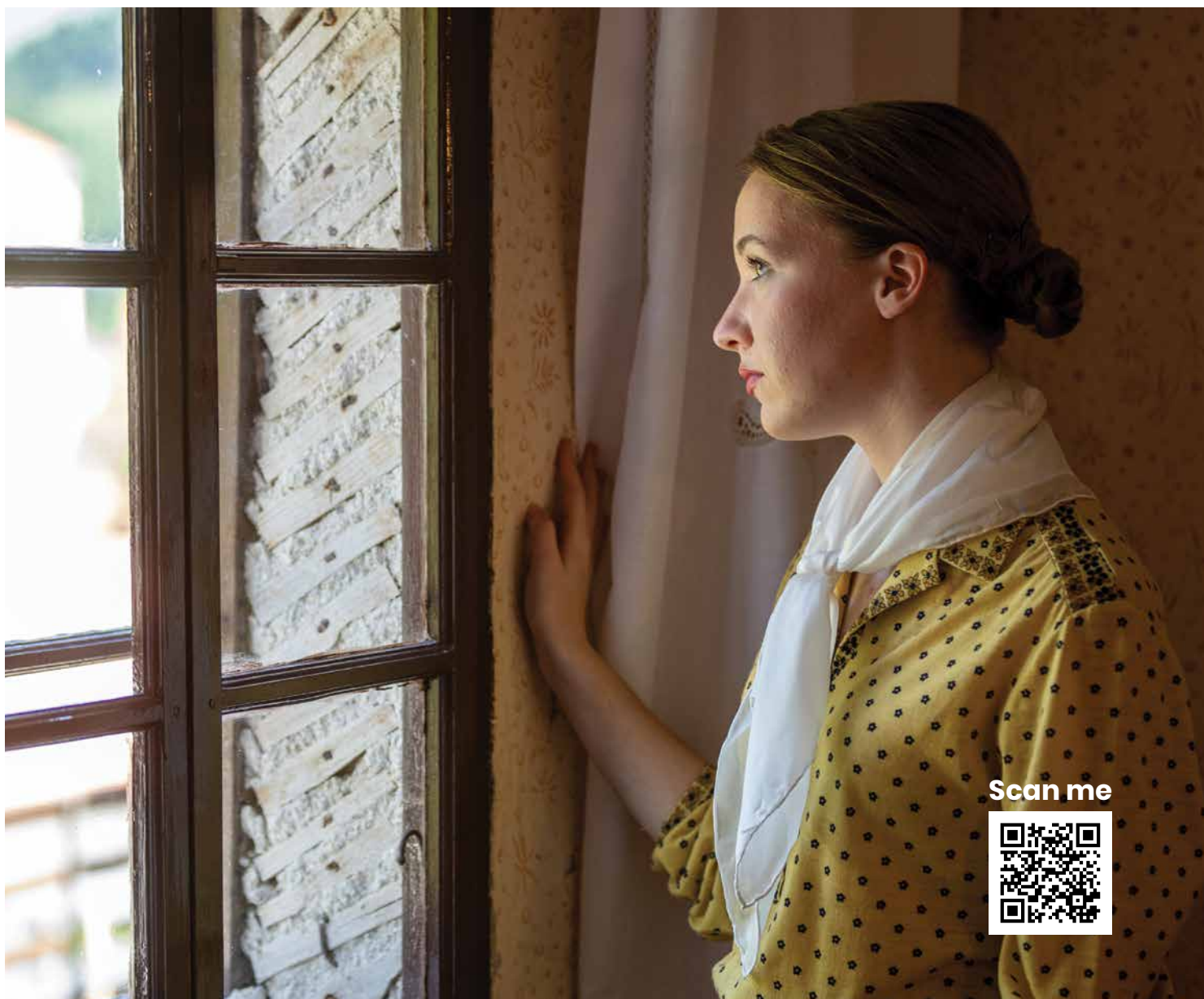


The Giser House experience combines the art of storytelling with the delight of fine dining. As guests arrive, they are greeted by a harmonica player and guided to the house, where a captivating drama unfolds. The theatrical performance is accompanied by a four-course meal, carefully curated to reflect the culinary traditions of the era. Using a cookbook from 1920 found within the house, the menu features "forgotten" dishes that are both authentically Idrian and remarkably delicious. [Izkušnja v Hiši Giser združuje umetnost pripovedovanja zgodb s prefinjeno kulinariko. Ko gostje prispejo, jih](#)

[pozdravi harmonikaš in jih usmeri v hišo, kjer se odvija očarljiva drama. Gledališka predstava je pospremljena s štirihodnim menijem, skrbno zasnovanim tako, da odraža kulinarčno tradicijo tistega časa. V jedilnik, ki temelji na receptih iz kuharske knjige najdene v hiši iz leta 1920, so vključene "pozabljene" jedi, ki so avtentično idrijske in izjemno okusne.](#)

### **A Journey Through Time** **Potovanje skozi čas**

Set in 1922, the play revolves around the Črv family, whose lives are intertwined with the rich mining history of Idrija. Idrija, at that time, was a small but vibrant town in Italy, known for its centuries-old mining tradition. The town was also an important center of culture and art. In 1922, about 6,000 people lived in Idrija, most of whom were employed in the mercury mine. After the Treaty of Rapallo in 1920, Idrija was assigned to Italy along with most of the Littoral. This meant that



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Idrija became part of the Italian state and was subject to Italian laws and policies.

Dogajanje je postavljeno v leto 1922 in se osredotoča na družino Črv, katere življenje je prepleteno z bogato rudarsko zgodovino Idrije. V tistem času je bila Idrija majhno, a živahno mesto v Italiji, znano po stoletni rudarski tradiciji. Mesto je bilo tudi pomembno središče kulture in umetnosti. Leta 1922 je v Idriji živelo približno 6.000 ljudi, od katerih je bila večina zaposlena v rudniku živega srebra. Po Rapalski pogodbi leta 1920 je bila Idrija dodeljena Italiji skupaj z večino Primorske. To je pomenilo, da je Idrija postala del italijanske države in je bila podvržena italijanskim zakonom in politikam.

With the rise of fascism in Italy (in 1922, Benito Mussolini of the National Fascist Party became Prime Minister), the presence of fascists, their organizations, and propaganda in Idrija also increased, leading to strong distrust among the locals. There were more and more Italian soldiers and officials in Idrija who seduced young locals. Among the elderly, the memory of Austria-Hungary remained strong. Z naraščanjem fašizma v Italiji (leta 1922 je Benito Mussolini iz Nacionalne fašistične stranke postal predsednik vlade) se je v Idriji povečala prisotnost fašistov, njihovih organizacij in propagande, kar je vodilo v močno nezaupanje med domačini. V Idriji je bilo vse več italijanskih vojakov in uradnikov, ki so zapeljevali mlade domačinke. Med starejšimi pa je bil spomin na Avstro-Ogrsko še vedno močno prisoten.

Through the captivating storytelling, delectable cuisine, and immersive atmosphere, the Giser House experience transports guests back to a time when Idrija was a bustling mining town. The play delves into the challenges and triumphs of the Črv family, offering a glimpse into the lives of ordinary people during a tumultuous period in history. Hiše Giser z očarljivim pripovedovanjem, okusno kulinariko in poglobljeno izkušnjo obiskovalce popelje v čas, ko je bila Idrija živahno rudarsko mesto. Predstava se poglobi v izzive in zmage družine Črv ter ponudi vpogled v življenja navadnih ljudi v turbulentnem zgodovinskem obdobju.

### More Than Just a Meal

#### Več kot le obrok

The Giser House experience is more than just a meal; it's an opportunity to connect with the past, understand the lives of those who came before us, and appreciate the rich cultural heritage of Idrija. It's a testament to the power of storytelling and the enduring appeal of traditional cuisine. Izkušnja v Hiši Giser ni le obrok; je priložnost za povezovanje s preteklostjo, razumevanje življenj tistih, ki so prišli pred nami ter cenjenje bogate kulturne dediščine Idrije. Priča o moči pripovedovanja zgodb in brezčasni aktualnosti tradicionalne kulinarike.

Whether you're a history buff, a foodie, or simply seeking a unique and unforgettable experience, the Giser House offers something truly special. By combining theater, history, and gastronomy, it invites visitors to step into the past and discover the fascinating story of this historic miners' dwelling. Ne glede na to, ali si zgodovinski navdušenec, ljubitelj dobre hrane ali pa preprosto iščeš edinstveno in nepozabno izkušnjo, Hiša Giser ponuja nekaj resnično posebnega. S kombinacijo gledališča, zgodovine in gastronomije vabi obiskovalce, da stopijo v preteklost in odkrijejo fascinantno zgodbo te zgodovinske rudarske hiše.





### Menu Meni

The menu is based on a cookbook from 1920 that was found in the Giser House in 2021:

- Welcome: Homemade plum brandy
- First Course: Trout pate, homemade charcuterie, cow's cheese, homemade bread
- Second Course: Wine soup and "prežganka" (soup made by browning flour on lard and adding water)
- Third Course: venison goulash, gnocchi with cheese, homemade žlikrofi with dried fruit, mushrooms
- Fourth Course: Tolki with homemade jam

Jedilnik temelji na kuharski knjigi iz leta 1920, ki je bila najdena v Hiši Giser leta 2021:

- Dobrodošlica: Domače slivovo žganje
- Prvi hod: Ribja pašteta (postrv), domače suhe mesnine, kravji sir, domač kruh
- Drugi hod: Vinska juha in "prežganka" (juha, pripravljena s praženjem moke na masti in dodajanjem vode)
- Tretji hod: Divjačinski golaž, krompirjevi svaljki s sirom, domači žlikrofi z suhim sadjem, gobe
- Četrti hod: Tolki z domačim slivovim džemom

# RE:viving Heritage Masterclass: Days of Learning and Inspiration

Text: Matevž Straus  
Photos: Marko Čuk

## RE:viving Heritage Masterclass: Dnevi učenja in inspiracije

From June 12th to 14th, the UNESCO World Heritage site of Idrija hosted a three-day RE:viving Heritage Masterclass. This immersive event brought together heritage enthusiasts from around the Europe for a day of learning, inspiration, and hands-on experience.

Med 12. in 14. junijem je Idrija s svojo UNESCO svetovno dediščino gostila tridnevni mojstrski tečaj. Dogodek je zbral dediščinske navdušence iz cele Evrope za dni učenja, inspiracije in praktičnih izkušenj.





### A Masterclass for Everyone **Mojstrski tečaj za vse**

The masterclass offered three parallel sessions, catering to a variety of interests: **Mojstrski tečaj je ponudil tri paralelne delavnice, ki so zadostile različnim interesom:**

- **Lime Plaster Workshop:** For those interested in traditional building techniques, the lime plaster workshop provided hands-on experience in applying lime plaster to heritage buildings. Participants learned about the properties of lime plaster, its historical use, and the proper techniques for application. **Delavnica apnenih ometov:** Za tiste, ki jih zanimajo tradicionalne gradbene tehnike, je delavnica apnenih ometov podala praktične izkušnje pri nanašanju apnenega ometa na dediščinske stavbe. Udeleženci so se seznanili s lastnostmi apnenega ometa, njegovo zgodovinsko uporabo in pravilnimi tehnikami nanosa.
- **Storytelling Workshop:** This workshop was perfect for creative individuals who wanted to develop engaging stories about Idrija's

miners' houses. Participants used a variety of media, including text, photos, graphics, and short videos, to create compelling narratives that brought the history of these buildings to life. **Delavnica zgodbarjenja:** Ta delavnica je bila odlična za kreativne posameznike, ki so želeli razviti zanimive zgodbe o idrijskih rudarskih hišah. Udeleženci so za to uporabili različne medije, vključno s tekstom, fotografijami, grafikami in kratkimi videi, da so ustvarili privlačne pripovedi, ki so oživele zgodovino teh stavb.

- **3D Digitization Workshop:** For those interested in technology and heritage preservation, the 3D digitization workshop offered training in using 3D scanning and modeling techniques to capture and preserve the details of historic buildings. Participants learned how to create digital replicas of buildings, which can be used for documentation, education, and research. **Delavnica 3D digitalizacije:** Za tiste, ki jih zanima tehnologija in ohranjanje dediščine, je delavnica 3D digitalizacije ponudila usposabljanje v uporabi tehnik 3D skeniranja in modeliranja

za zajemanje in ohranjanje podrobnosti zgodovinskih stavb. Udeleženci so se naučili, kako ustvariti digitalne replike stavb, ki se lahko uporabljajo za dokumentacijo, izobraževanje in raziskave.

### More Than Just Learning **Več kot le učenje**

Beyond the technical skills, the masterclass provided a unique opportunity to connect with like-minded individuals, explore Idrija's rich heritage, and enjoy local culture. The event included guided tours of the town's historic sites, inspiring presentations from experts in the field of heritage preservation, and a vibrant cultural program that showcased Idrija's traditional music, dance, and cuisine. **Poleg tehničnih veščin je mojstrski tečaj nudil edinstveno priložnost za povezovanje z enakomislečimi ljudmi, raziskovanje bogate dediščine Idrije in uživanje v lokalni kulturi.** Ta tridnevni dogodek je vključeval vodene ogledе zgodovinskih znamenitosti mesta, navdihujoče predstavitve strokovnjakov s področja ohranjanja dediščine ter živahen kulturni program, ki je predstavil tradicionalno glasbo, ples in kulinariko Idrije.

## Days to Remember **Dnevi, ki bodo ostali v spominu**

Whether you're a seasoned heritage professional or simply passionate about preserving the past, the RE:iving Heritage Masterclass offered a memorable and enriching experience. By combining hands-on learning with cultural exploration, the event showcased the importance of heritage preservation and the power of community engagement. **Ne glede na to, ali ste izkušen strokovnjak za dediščino ali pa vas preprosto zanima ohranjanje preteklosti, je mojstrski tečaj RE:iving Heritage ponudil nepozabno in obogatitveno izkušnjo. S kombinacijo praktičnega učenja in kulturnega raziskovanja je dogodek pokazal pomen ohranjanja dediščine in moč angažiranosti skupnosti.**

Participants left Idrija with new skills, lasting connections, and a deeper appreciation for the town's rich history and cultural heritage. The RE:iving Heritage Masterclass was a resounding success, demonstrating the value of collaborative efforts in preserving our shared past for future generations. **Udeleženci so Idrijo zapustili z novimi veščinami, trajnimi povezavami in globljim razumevanjem bogate zgodovine in kulturne dediščine mesta. Mojstrski tečaj RE:iving Heritage je bil izjemen uspeh, ki je pokazal vrednost sodelovalnih prizadevanj pri ohranjanju naše skupne preteklosti za prihodnje generacije.**

**"This storytelling workshop was an excellent experience. In fact, we had 10 people with very different profiles, and the concept that were later realised were so diverse, that it truly opened our eyes once it was completed, not just during the processes of thinking. Delavnica zgodbarjenja je bila odlična izkušnja. Pravzaprav smo imeli 10 ljudi z zelo različnimi profili, in koncepti, ki so se kasneje razvili, so bili tako raznoliki, da so nam resnično odprli oči - ne le ob koncu temveč tudi med procesom razmišljanja."**

- **Blaž Prapotnik, participant udeležene**

## Programme

### Wednesday, June 12th, 2024

9:00 – 9:30: Registration, check-in and morning coffee [Inzaghi]

9:30 – 10:30: Introduction to Idrija, the hosts, the masterclass and the programme [Inzaghi]

10:30 – 11:30: Idrija Miners Houses: The past, the present, the future. Lecture by Matevž Šlabnik (ID20). [Inzaghi Machine House]

11:30 – 12:30: Guided tour of Idrija. Tour by Matevž Šlabnik (ID20).

12:30 – 14:00: Organised common lunch [Inzaghi]

14:00 – 17:00: Parallel masterclass sessions:

- Lime plaster workshop 1/3. Led by Klavdij Zalar. [Giser]
- Storytelling workshop 1/3. Led by Ajda Bračič and Maša Ogrin. [Giser]
- 3D digitisation workshop 1/3. Led by Luka Vodopivec and Matteo Pascale [Inzaghi]

17:00 – 19:00: Free time or (optional) Idrija sightseeing

19:00 – 22:00: Evening cultural and music programme. Food included. [Inzaghi]

- Round table discussion. Moderated by Ajda Bračič (Kajža).
- Food: Taste the 1920's menu.
- Music performance.

### Thursday, June 13th, 2024

9:00 – 14:00: Parallel masterclass sessions:

- Lime plaster workshop 2/3. Led by Klavdij Zalar. [Giser]
- Storytelling workshop 2/3. Led by Ajda Bračič and Maša Ogrin. [Giser]
- 3D digitisation workshop 2/3. Led by Luka Vodopivec and Matteo Pascale [Inzaghi]

14:00 – 16:00: Organised lunch [Youth Centre Idrija]

16:00 – 18:00: Free time or (optional) Idrija sightseeing

18:00 – 18:20: Inspirational presentation: Gastronomy, theater and housing heritage: ID20, Slovenia. Presented by Drejc Kokošar (ID20). [Youth Centre Idrija]

18:20 – 18:40: Inspirational presentation: Marketing and fund raising in the cultural sector: Herculane Project, Romania. Presented by Oana Chirilă (Locus). [Youth Centre Idrija]

18:40 – 19:00: Inspirational presentation: Cultural Routes, volunteers and restoration: Goticka Cesta, Slovakia. Presented by Peter Palgut (Goticka cesta). [Youth Centre Idrija]

19:00 – 19:30: Open discussion.

19:30 – ...: Self-organised dinner.

20:00 – ...: Outdoor movie night [Youth Centre Idrija]

### Friday, June 14th, 2024

9:00 – 12:00: Parallel masterclass sessions:

- Lime plaster workshop 3/3. Led by Klavdij Zalar. [Giser]
- Storytelling workshop 3/3. Led by Ajda Bračič and Maša Ogrin. [Giser]
- 3D digitisation workshop 3/3. Led by Luka Vodopivec and Matteo Pascale [Inzaghi]

12:00 – 13:00: Final get-together, feedback sharing and exchange of contacts [Inzaghi]

[OPTIONAL]

14:00 – 16:00: Architectural tour of Idrija's 19th and 20th Century housing (Miners houses and Miners blocks). Guided by Matevž Šlabnik (ID20).

16:00 – ...: International Idrija Lace Festival

## Program

### Sreda, 12. junij, 2024

9:00 – 9:30: Registracija, prijava in jutranja kava [Inzaghi]

9:30 – 10:30: Predstavitev Idrije, gostiteljev, mojstrskega tečaja in programa [Inzaghi]



**“It was particularly a very valuable experience in the Slovene context as I usually attend such workshops abroad. So, this was a truly welcoming experience. What I found most valuable was the group work, with a lot of listening, talking, and sharing impressions during the workshops, as well as the wonderful people.**

**Predvsem ena zelo dragocena izkušnja v slovenskem okolju, saj običajno obiskujem takšne delavnice v tujini. Tako je bila to res prijetna izkušnja. Najbolj dragoceno mi je bilo pa skupinsko delo, z veliko poslušanja, pogovarjanja in deljenja vtisov med delavnicami. In pa seveda krasni ljudje.”**

**- Kužner Čelešnik,  
participant udeleženka**

10:30 – 11:30: Predavanje: Idrijske rudarske hiše: preteklost, sedanjost in prihodnost. Predavatelj: Matevž Šlabnik (ID20) [Inzaghi]

11.30 – 12.30: Voden ogled Idrije. Vodnik: Matevž Šlabnik (ID20)

12.30 – 14.00: Organizirano skupno kosilo [Inzaghi]

14.00 – 17.00: Paralelne mojstrske delavnice:

- Delavnica izdelave apnenih ometov 1/3, pod vodstvom Klavdija Zalarja.
- Delavnica zgodbarjenja (storytelling) 1/3, pod vodstvom Ajde Bračič & Maše Ogrin.
- Delavnica 3D digitalizacije 1/3, pod vodstvom Luke Vodopivca in Mattea Pascale

17.00 – 19.00: Prosti čas ali (opcijsko) ogled znamenitosti Idrije.

19.00 – 22.00: Večerni kulturni in glasbeni program. Hrana je vključena. [Inzaghi]

- Okrogla miza, moderira Ajda Bračič (Kajža).
- Hrana: Okus menija iz leta 1921.
- Glasbeni nastop.

#### Četrtek, 13. junij, 2024

9.00 – 14.00: Paralelne mojstrske delavnice:

- Delavnica izdelave apnenih ometov 2/3, pod vodstvom Klavdija Zalarja.
- Delavnica zgodbarjenja (storytelling) 2/3, pod vodstvom Ajde Bračič & Maše Ogrin.
- Delavnica 3D digitalizacije 2/3, pod vodstvom Luke Vodopivca in Mattea Pascale

14.00 – 16.00: Organizirano kosilo [Mladinski center Idrija]

16.00 – 18.00: Prosti čas ali (opcijsko) ogled znamenitosti Idrije.

18.00 – 18.20: Predavanje za navdih: Gastronomija, teater in stanovanjska dediščina: ID20, Slovenija. Predstavlja Drejc Kokošar (ID20). [MC Idrija]

18.20 – 18.40: Predavanje za navdih: Marketing in zbiranje sredstev v kulturnem sektorju: Projekt Herculane, Romunija. Predstavlja Oana Chirilă (Locus). [MC Idrija]

18.40 – 19.00: Predavanje za navdih: Kulturne poti, prostovoljstvo in obnova: Goticka Cesta, Slovaška. Predstavlja (Goticka cesta). [Mladinski center Idrija]

19.00 – 19.30: Odprta diskusija.

19.30 – ...: Večerja v samoorganizaciji.

20.00 – ...: Filmski večer na prostem [Mladinski center Idrija]

#### Petek, 14. junij, 2024

9.00 – 12.00: Paralelne mojstrske delavnice:

- Delavnica izdelave apnenih ometov 3/3, pod vodstvom Klavdija Zalarja.
- Delavnica zgodbarjenja (storytelling) 3/3, pod vodstvom Ajde Bračič & Maše Ogrin.
- Delavnica 3D digitalizacije 3/3, pod vodstvom Luke Vodopivca in Mattea Pascale [Inzaghi]

12.00 – 13.00: Končni zbor, povratne informacije in izmenjava kontaktov [Inzaghi]

[OPCIJSKO]

14.00 – 16.00: Arhitekturni ogled idrijske stanovanjske dediščine 19. in 20. stoletja (rudarske hiše in bloki). Pod vodstvom Matevža Šlabnika (ID20).

16.00 – ...: Mednarodni festival idrijske čipke

# GOTICKA CESTA: Guardians of Gothic Splendor

## Gotická cesta: Varuhi gotskega sijaja

Text: Peter Palgut

Photos: Vladimír Ondrejovič

**In the heart of Slovakia's Gemer region, a hidden treasure trove of Gothic churches awaits discovery. The Gothic Route Association, a dedicated group of heritage enthusiasts, has been working tirelessly to preserve and promote these architectural gems. Through their efforts, these Gothic churches are not just relics of the past but vibrant cultural landmarks that continue to inspire and amaze. V srcu slovaške regije Gemer se skriva dragocen zaklad gotskih cerkva. Društvo Goticka cesta, združenje ljubiteljev kulturne dediščine, si že leta prizadeva za ohranjanje, zaščito in promocijo teh arhitekturnih draguljev. Zaradi njihovih prizadevanj te gotske cerkve niso zgolj ostanki preteklosti, temveč živahni kulturni spomeniki, ki tudi danes še vedno navdihujejo in osupljajo.**

The Gothic Route Association was established in 2007 as a result of several years of cooperation between the monument restoration professionals and the Regional Development Agency in Rožňava. In addition to the founding members from the ranks of professional workers engaged in the protection and restoration of cultural heritage, the membership in the association was also accepted by representatives of the municipalities in which the monuments of the Gothic Route are located, as well as representatives of the Evangelical and Roman Catholic Church as owners

of these cultural monuments. The aim of the association is to work for the benefit of the cultural monuments located on the Gothic Route in the Gemer region. **Društvo Goticka cesta je bilo ustanovljeno leta 2007 kot rezultat večletnega sodelovanja konzervatorjev in Regionalne razvojne agencije v Rožňavi. Poleg ustanovnih članov, ki so strokovnjaki za zaščito in obnovo kulturne dediščine, so se društvu pridružili tudi predstavniki občin, v katerih se nahajajo spomeniki Goticke ceste, ter predstavniki evangeličanske in rimskokatoliške cerkve kot lastniki teh kulturnih spomenikov. Namen društva je**



**delovati v korist kulturnih spomenikov na Goticki cesti v regiji Gemer.**

Since 2017, new members have joined the association, mostly, but not only, from the fields of architecture, history and art history from Bratislava and other parts of Slovakia. **Od leta 2017 so se društvu pridružili tudi novi člani, večinoma, vendar ne izključno, s področja arhitekture, zgodovine in umetnostne zgodovine iz Bratislave in drugih delov Slovaške.**

An important part of the association's activities is administrative and financial



assistance to the owners of monuments – through obtaining subsidies from the Ministry of Culture of the Slovak Republic or other public national and international sources, as well as from private sponsors. Contributions through the system of remittance of 2% of personal taxes for the non-profit sector the Gothic Route obtains resources for the annual project of support for the restoration of monuments “Owner in need – monument in danger”. Thanks to this activity, the association has been able to contribute financially to the restoration of dozens of cultural monuments over the years of

its existence. **Pomemben del dejavnosti društva je administrativna in finančna pomoč lastnikom spomenikov – z zagotavljanjem subvencij Ministrstva za kulturo Republike Slovaške ali drugih nacionalnih in mednarodnih javnih virov ter zasebnih sponzorjev. Prispevki v obliki 2 % dohodnine za neprofitni sektor omogočajo Goticki cesti lastna sredstva za redni letni projekt „Lastnik v stiski – spomenik v nevarnosti“, ki podpirajo obnovo spomenikov. S to dejavnostjo je društvo v letih svojega obstoja lahko finančno podprlo obnovo številnih kulturnih spomenikov.**

Through promotional or publicity activities, and especially by making these churches accessible to the public, members actively raise awareness of these jewels beyond the significance of the region. Since 2016, the Gothic Route Association has been organising the event “Gothic Route Open”, which aims to highlight monuments of high value. The event is visited annually by approximately 350 – 700 participants from Slovakia and neighbouring countries. In addition to this event, volunteers participate in various cultural and educational activities related to the theme of the

Gothic Route, which are organized in the region by other actors – museums, galleries, the owners themselves, municipalities or other entities. These range from concerts, exhibitions, guided tours to historical theatre, festivals and workshops. Z različnimi promocijskimi in publicističnimi dejavnostmi, predvsem pa z omogočanjem dostopa do teh cerkva javnosti, člani aktivno širijo zavest o dragocenih spomenikih, ki presegajo pomen same regije. Od leta 2016 društvo Goticka cesta organizira dogodek "Odperta Goticka cesta", katerega cilj je izpostaviti spomenike visoke vrednosti. Dogodek vsako leto obišče približno 350–700 udeležencev iz Slovaške in sosednjih držav. Poleg tega dogodka prostovoljci sodelujejo v različnih kulturnih in izobraževalnih dejavnostih, povezanih s temo Goticke ceste, ki jih v regiji organizirajo drugi akterji – muzeji, galerije, lastniki sami, občine ali druge ustanove. Te dejavnosti vključujejo koncerte, razstave, vodene ogleda, zgodovinsko gledališče, festivale in delavnice.

The association is also a co-organiser of the biennial professional conference "The Gothic Route: crossroads of culture and heritage". The output is also the eponymous peer-reviewed collection of professional papers, a total of 5 issues have already been published with valuable content for the professional and lay public. Društvo je prav tako soorganizator bienalne strokovne konference "Goticka cesta: križišče kulture in dediščine". Rezultat konference je tudi istoimenska strokovna publikacija, ki je izšla že v peti izdaji ter vsebuje dragocene vsebine za strokovno in laično javnost.

One of the greatest achievements of the association is the award of the European Heritage Label to 12 churches in the Gemer–Malohont area, which the volunteers participated in obtaining in cooperation with partners at the level of the regional government. Thanks to the creation of a platform for cooperation on this project with church owners, municipalities, professional organisations in monument restoration and tourism at local or international level, the Gothic Route is becoming more and more



known to the public. Steps leading not only to restoration, but also to making the churches accessible to visitors and improving their presentation or infrastructure providing comfort for tourists and locals aim to make the churches of the Gothic Route one of the pillars of tourism in the region. Thanks to the support of the self-governing regions, the churches with the European Heritage Label have regular opening hours during the summer season. Eden največjih dosežkov društva je pridobitev Značka evropske dediščine za 12 cerkva na območju Gemer-Malohont, pri čemer so prostovoljci sodelovali s partnerji na ravni regionalne vlade. Zahvaljujoč ustvarjanju platforme za sodelovanje v tem projektu z lastniki cerkva, občinami, strokovnimi organizacijami za obnovo spomenikov in turizem na lokalni ali mednarodni ravni, postaja Goticka cesta vse bolj prepoznavna v javnosti. Prizadevanja ne vodijo le k obnovi, temveč tudi k dostopnosti cerkva za obiskovalce in izboljšanju njihove predstavitve ali infrastrukture za udobje turistov in domačinov. Cilj pa je tudi, da bi cerkve Goticke ceste postale eden od stebrov turizma v regiji. Zahvaljujoč podpori samoupravnih regij so cerkve z Znakom evropske dediščine v poletni sezoni redno odprte za obiskovalce.

Thanks to its long-term activities, the Gothic Route Association has found its place in the scene of monument restoration and cultural tourism in Slovakia and has become recognised among experts and the general public. For its contribution in this field, the association was awarded the annual prize of the magazine "Monuments and Museums" in 2019 and the Professor Martin Kusý Prize in 2024. Zaradi svojih dolgoletnih dejavnosti je društvo Goticka cesta našlo svoje mesto na področju obnove spomenikov in kulturnega turizma na Slovaškem ter postalo priznано med strokovnjaki in širšo javnostjo. Za svoj prispevek na tem področju je društvo leta 2019 prejelo letno nagrado revije "Spomeniki in muzeji" in leta 2024 nagrado Profesorja Martina Kusýja.



# Reviving History: A Community Effort in Kameňany

## Oživljanje zgodovine: Prizadevanje skupnosti Kameňanya sijaja

Text: Peter Palgut

Photos: Vladimír Ondrejovič

In the serene landscapes of Slovakia's Gemer region, a hidden gem awaits discovery: the medieval church of Kameňany. This remarkable architectural treasure, with its stunning frescoes and rich history, has captivated the hearts of local communities and heritage enthusiasts alike. In recent years, a dedicated group of volunteers and experts have embarked on a mission to revitalize this historic site, ensuring its preservation for future generations.

V spokojni pokrajini slovaške regije Gemer na odkritje čaka skriti dragulj: srednjeveška cerkev v Kameňanyju. Ta izjemna arhitekturna znamenitost, s čudovitimi freskami in bogato zgodovino, je očarala srca lokalnih skupnosti in ljubiteljev kulturne dediščine. V zadnjih letih se je skupina predanih prostovoljcev in strokovnjakov podala na misijo oživitve tega zgodovinskega kraja, da bi zagotovili njegovo ohranitev za prihodnje generacije.



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The small village below the slopes of one of the Slovak Karst plains, away from the main roads, was once the splendid seat of the Bubek family. In fact, it is one of the oldest villages in the entire Gemer region. Its rich history is still evidenced by the massive medieval church standing on a hill in the middle of the village, belonging to the Evangelical Church. Together with other historical buildings such as the former evangelical school and the disused rectory with its land, they form the extensive centre of the village. A road leads around the church grounds. In the vicinity there are family houses, mostly of historical character, some of them are in an unmaintained state or in a certain stage of destruction. *Majhna vas pod pobočji ene od kraških planjav Slovaške, stran od glavnih cest, je bila nekoč veličastni sedež družine Bubek. Pravzaprav je ena najstarejših vasi v celotni regiji Gemer. O njeni bogati zgodovini še danes priča masivna evangeličanska srednjeveška cerkev, ki stoji na griču sredi vasi. Skupaj z drugimi zgodovinskimi zgradbami, kot sta nekdanja evangeličanska šola in opuščeni župnijski dom z zemljiščem, tvorijo obsežno središče vasi. Okrog območja cerkve vodi cesta, v bližini pa stojijo večinoma zgodovinsko zasnovane družinske hiše, od katerih so nekatere v slabem stanju ali celo delno porušene.*

The cultural and artistic values of the church itself go beyond the region of Gemer and Malohont and are the most important component of the church's presentation to visitors. In 2022, the set of murals from Kameňany, together with 11 other churches from the region, was awarded the European Heritage Label. This label is awarded on the basis of the common story of several European cultures. On the Gothic Route (i.e. also in Kameňany), the story of Hungarian kings, nobility, German miners and Italian art, especially mural painting, is linked in the Middle Ages. Fragments of preserved 14th century frescoes in the interior of the church suggest that Kameňany must have been an important and wealthy place. There were rich deposits of ores in the vicinity of the village, and the mined iron was processed in smelters. In

the later period Kameňany, like nearby Ratková, was a centre of craftsmen. As in most of the municipalities in Gemer, Kameňany embraced the Reformation ideas at the end of the 16th century and the church still belongs to the Evangelical Church. **Kulturne in umetniške vrednosti same cerkve presejajo meje regij Gemer in Malohont, saj predstavljajo najpomembnejšo sestavino predstavitev cerkve obiskovalcem. Leta 2022 je bil cikel fresk iz Kameňanyja, skupaj z 11 drugimi cerkvami iz regije, odlikovan z Znakom evropske dediščine. To priznanje se podeljuje na podlagi skupne zgodbe večih evropskih kultur. Na Gotski poti (torej tudi v Kameňanyju) so se v srednjem veku prepletale zgodbe madžarskih kraljev, plemstva, nemških rudarjev in italijanske umetnosti (zlasti stenske poslikave). Ohranjen fragment fresk iz 14. stoletja v notranjosti cerkve namiguje, da je bilo Kameňany nekoč pomembno in premožno naselje. Bližnje vasi so imele bogate zaloge rude, pridobljeno železo pa so predelovali v talilnicah. V poznejšem obdobju je bil Kameňany, podobno kot bližnja Ratková, središče rokodelcev. Konec 16. stoletja je Kameňany, tako kot večina občin v Gemeru, sprejel ideje reformacije in cerkev še danes pripada Evangeličanski cerkvi.**

The church stands on the foundations of an older building from the 13th century, it has a semicircular apse, an added south tower and a northern sacristy. Some experts assumed that the apse was originally part of a large Romanesque rotunda, but architectural and historical research has disproved this theory. The present-day appearance of the church was influenced by the rebuilding in the 17th and 18th centuries, when the nave was vaulted, a brick emporium was built and the south tower was introduced; the window openings were also changed in the spirit of Baroque and Classicism. Around 1800, a brick, detached, late Baroque bell tower was built in the church grounds to the east of the church. The interior frescoes are undoubtedly the most artistically valuable part of the church. The fresco decoration of the church dates from the middle of the 14th and 15th centuries. On the emporium on

the north side of the nave we can find a fresco of St. Anne alone (Metercia) with the Virgin Mary and Jesus. On this wall there is also a rather rare scene of the Assumption of Mary Magdalene and a scene of the Adoration of the Three Kings. The monumental murals in the presbytery are presented after the restoration was completed. In the central band are the figures of the apostles, in the space behind the altar alternated with the figures of the Hungarian kings St. Ladislaus and St. Stephen and the prince St. Imrich. A particularly valuable element of the church are the so-called pastiglia,

sculptural relief treatments of the haloes. The restoration also uncovered a painting in the presbytery depicting the three bishops. At the place of their eyes are visible the so-called magic pits, evidence of the ancient custom of collecting the sacred matter of the church, which was believed to have magical powers. **Cerkev stoji na temeljih starejše zgradbe iz 13. stoletja, ima polkrožno apsidno, dodan južni stolp in severno zakristijo. Nekateri strokovnjaki so domnevali, da je bila apsidno prvotno del velike romanske rotunde, a so arhitekturne in zgodovinske raziskave to teorijo ovrgle. Današnji**





videz cerkve je rezultat prenove v 17. in 18. stoletju, ko so obokali ladjo, zgradili opečni emporij in dodali južni stolp; odprtine oken so bile spremenjene v duhu baroka in klasicizma. Okrog leta 1800 so na vzhodu cerkvenega območja zgradili ločen pozno baročni zvonik iz opeke. Notranje freske so nedvomno najdragocenejši umetniški del cerkve. Stenske poslikave cerkve izvirajo iz sredine 14. in 15. stoletja. Na emporiju na severni strani ladje najdemo fresko sv. Ane Samotne (Metercia) z Devico Marijo in Jezusom. Na tej steni je tudi precej redke prizor vnebovzvetja Marije Magdalene ter prizor čaščenja treh kraljev.

Monumentalne freske v prezbitoriju so predstavljene po zaključeni obnovi. Na osrednjem pasu so podobe apostolov, v prostoru za oltarjem pa se izmenjujejo podobe madžarskih kraljev sv. Ladislava in sv. Štefana ter kneza sv. Imricha. Posebno dragocen element cerkve so t. i. pastigilje, reliefne obdelave nimbov. Obnova je razkrila tudi sliko v prezbitoriju, ki prikazuje tri škofe. Na mestu njihovih oči so vidne t. i. magične vdolbine me, kar je dokaz starodavnega običaja zbiranja sakralnih snovi, za katere so verjeli, da imajo magično moč.

The restoration of the inner walls of the church has been systematically carried out by professional restorers for several years, but during our visits we were also interested in the surroundings of the church. The area has an irregular oval shape and is enclosed by an already disturbed enclosure wall, which has three historic entrances with a staircase. The church surroundings have gone through the process of being declared an independent national cultural monument. The subject of the designation is the orchard landscaping and the church cemetery (archaeological



site), which, together with the evangelical church and its bell tower, form an integrated area. Obnovo notranjih sten cerkve že več let sistematično izvajajo strokovni restavratorji, vendar smo se med obiski zanimali tudi za okolico cerkve. Območje ima nepravilno ovalno obliko in je obdano z že načetim obzidjem, ki ima tri zgodovinske vhode s stopniščem. Okolica cerkve je bila razglašena za samostojen nacionalni kulturni spomenik. Predmet zaščite sta urejen sadovnjak in cerkveno pokopališče (arheološko najdišče), ki skupaj z evangeličansko cerkvijo in njenim zvonikom tvorita enotno območje.

### Three days of working together Trije dnevi skupnega dela

The idea to carry out some landscaping and planting of greenery in cooperation with the locals was in our heads for a long time, but we managed to do it thanks to the RE: project. The church and its surroundings are, of course, a natural gravitational point in the village, but the local community, only a fraction of which regularly participates in church life nowadays, did not feel the need to take an interest in it for natural reasons. We wanted to change this approach, as without local people it is impossible to maintain a satisfactory condition of the church surroundings, even for visitors.

Ideja, da bi v sodelovanju z domačini uredili okolico in zasadili zelenje, se nam je porodila že pred časom, uspelo pa nam je zahvaljujoč projektu RE:. Cerkev in njena okolica sta naravno središče vasi, vendar lokalna skupnost, od katere le majhen del redno sodeluje v cerkvenem življenju, ni čutila potrebe, da bi se zanimala za to območje. Želeli smo spremeniti ta odnos, saj brez domačinov ni mogoče ohraniti zadovoljivega stanja okolice cerkve, niti za obiskovalce.

In planning the interventions, we consulted heritage practitioners and in the first phase of the project created the Kameňany Centre Restoration Handbook. This document served as a basis for us in our dealings with the authorities, the church owner and the municipal leadership. In addition to the design of the works in the area, we also envisaged

a plan for the long-term care of the greenery and other elements around the church by the local community. After weighing up all the options, we decided to proceed with four activities for the workshop activity that brought about a significant improvement in the quality of the grounds, while offering an opportunity for volunteers and local people to connect with professionals and learn something from them. A MasterClass was held on 23–25 May 2024 right in Kamenany, with over 40 people attending. Together we have worked on the following activities: **Pri načrtovanju posegov smo se posvetovali z varuhi dediščine in v prvi fazi projekta pripravili Priročnik za obnovo središča Kameňany. Ta dokument je služil kot osnova pri naših pogovorih z oblastmi, lastnikom cerkve in občinskimi vodstvom. Poleg načrta del na območju smo predvideli tudi dolgoročni načrt za skrb za zelenje in druge elemente okoli cerkve s strani lokalne skupnosti. Po tehtanju vseh možnosti smo se odločili za štiri dejavnosti, ki so prinesle pomembne izboljšave kakovosti območja in ponudile priložnost za povezovanje prostovoljcev, lokalnih prebivalcev in strokovnjakov. Delavnica je potekala od 23. do 25. maja 2024 v Kameňanyju, kjer se je zbralo več kot 40 ljudi. Skupaj smo izvedli naslednje dejavnosti:**

**1) Earthworks and gardening** – the immediate surroundings of the church have undergone, although not significant, but nevertheless modifications. We have taken care of classic earthworks such as levelling the ground or clearing historic blocked water drains from the raised area. The design and restoration of the old garden bed was overseen and tutored by landscape architect Michaela. We used perennials suitable for a warm and dry environment, as the bed lies directly under the south wall of the church, where the summer sun shines for a large part of the day. The second intervention was to prepare the soil and sow meadow flowers in front of the church.

**1) Zemeljska dela in vrtnarjenje** – neposredna okolica cerkve je bila deležna manjših, a pomembnih prilagoditev. Poskrbeli smo za klasična zemeljska dela, kot so izravnava tal ali čiščenje

zgodovinskih zamašenih odtokov vode s privzdignjenega območja. Oblikovanje in obnova stare cvetlične grede je potekala pod vodstvom krajinske arhitektke Mihaele. Uporabili smo trajnice, primerne za toplo in suho okolje, saj se greda nahaja tik ob južni steni cerkve, kjer poleti večji del dneva sije sonce. Drugi poseg je bila priprava tal in setev travniških cvetlic pred cerkvijo.

**2) Tree care** – originally, when the church was built, the landscaping around the church was probably just an area of lawn, with no tree planting. Subsequent alterations may have added trees around the inner perimeter of the site. In subsequent alterations to the church, linden trees were probably planted in front of the south and north entrances to the site. During the 19th century the original planting around the perimeter of the wall may have been similarly implemented or restored. In the recent past, the felling of diseased horse chestnut trees was carried out, so we decided to return at least one linden tree to the grounds as a traditional tree in our area. We followed the historical photos and planted the linden tree in the south-western part of the church grounds, where it used to stand. There were two other linden trees growing on the outside of the wall that needed urgent professional treatment. The intervention, together with a theoretical explanation, was demonstrated for the participants by the arborist Marek.

**2) Skrb za drevesa** – ob izgradnji cerkve je bila verjetno okolica le travnata površina brez dreves. Kasnejše spremembe so morda dodale drevesa okoli notranjega oboda območja. V 19. stoletju so okoli cerkve posadili lipe, ki so bile pred kratkim odstranjene zaradi bolezni. Zato smo se odločili, da nazaj posadimo vsaj eno lipo, kot tradicionalno drevo za regijo. Dva druga drevesa na zunanji strani obzidja sta potrebovala nujno strokovno obdelavo. Arborist Marek je predstavil poseg in teoretično razlago za udeležence.

**3) Lime plastering** – the activity that was ultimately of most interest. There is a barn at the back of the old rectory next

to the church which was an ideal object to try out working with lime plaster. For legislative reasons, as non-professionals, we were unable to tackle the fallen plaster of the wall, which is listed as a national monument. We learned how to slake lime using the traditional quick method without access to air and prepare lime plaster using indigenous materials and techniques. The highlight was the training of the restorer Juraj and a practical test of applying the plaster in different ways according to historical practices – according to how the plaster looked in the Gothic, Renaissance or Baroque periods.

**3) Apneni ometi** – dejavnost, ki je pritegnila največ zanimanja. Na zadnji strani starega župnišča ob cerkvi je bila lopa, ki je bila idealen objekt za delo z apnenim ometom. Zaradi zakonodajnih omejitev nismo smeli popravljati ometa na cerkvi, saj gre za nacionalni spomenik. Naučili smo se gasiti apno po tradicionalni hitri metodi brez dostopa zraka in pripraviti apneni omet z domačimi materiali. Vrhunec je bilo usposabljanje restavradorja Juraja in praktičen preizkus nanašanja ometa z različnimi tehnikami prakticiranimi glede na zgodovinsko obdobje – apneni ometi gotike, renesanse in baroka.

**4) Furniture renovation** – we renovated wooden unused furniture that we found in the village. Specifically, it was a dilapidated door that was over a century old, which we mechanically cleaned of old paint deposits and preserved with linseed oil. After this intervention, the door found its new place in a manor house in nearby Jelšava, where our last lecturer, Vierka, also works.

**4) Obnova pohištva** – obnovili smo leseno pohištvo, ki ni bilo v uporabi in smo ga našli v vasi. Natančneje, šlo je za razpadajoča vrata, stara več kot sto let, ki smo jih mehansko očistili starih slojev barve in zaščitili z lanenim oljem. Po tej obnovi so vrata našla svoje novo mesto v graščini blizu Jelšave, kjer dela tudi naša zadnja predavateljica, Vierka.

Volunteers from the three countries, together with experts and the local community, had the opportunity to broaden their horizons, get to know each other's worlds and step out of their comfort zone. Despite all the differences and the language barrier, the linking of these different worlds has succeeded beyond all expectations right here in Kameňany, which has once again come alive thanks to its cultural heritage. Already during the workshop, local partnerships and mutual agreements on further assistance in local activities and the care of common property were established. *Prostovoljci iz treh držav, skupaj s strokovnjaki in lokalno skupnostjo, so imeli priložnost, da razširijo svoja obzorja, spoznajo drugačne svetove in stopijo izven cone udobja. Kljub vsem razlikam in jezikovni pregradi je povezovanje teh različnih svetov uspelo nad vsemi pričakovanji prav tu v Kameňanyju, ki je po zaslugi svoje kulturne dediščine ponovno oživel. Že med delavnico so bila vzpostavljena lokalna partnerstva in medsebojni dogovori o nadaljnji pomoči pri lokalnih dejavnostih in skrbi za skupno lastnino.*

## Programme

### Thursday, May 23rd, 2024

8.00 – 9.00: Breakfast & coffee; Introduction to the Gothic Route and the programme [Monastery]

9.00 – 9.30: Transfer from Rožňava to Kameňany

9.30 – 12.00: Parallel masterclass sessions:

- Lime plaster workshop 1/3. Led by Juraj Gregorek
- Landworks & gardening 1/3. Led by Michaela Poláková
- Tree caring 1/3. Led by Marek Áč
- Furniture renovation 1/3. Led by Viera Kozárová

12.00 – 13.00: Organized lunch [on the site]

13.00 – 16.00: Parallel masterclass sessions:

- Lime plaster workshop 2/3. Led by Juraj Gregorek
- Landworks & gardening 2/3. Led by Michaela Poláková
- Tree caring 2/3. Led by Marek Áč
- Furniture renovation 2/3. Led by Viera Kozárová

16.00 – 16.30: Transfer from Kameňany to Rožňava

16.30 – 18.00: Free time

18.00 – 19.30: Common organized dinner [Pizza Micio, Rožňava]

### Friday, May 24th, 2024

8.00 – 9.00: Breakfast & coffee [Monastery]

9.00 – 9.30: Transfer from Rožňava to Kameňany

9.30 – 12.00: Parallel masterclass sessions:

- Lime plaster workshop 3/3. Led by Juraj Gregorek
- Landworks & gardening 3/3. Led by Michaela Poláková
- Tree caring 3/3. Led by Marek Áč
- Furniture renovation 3/3. Led by Viera Kozárová

12.00 – 13.00: Organized lunch [on the site]

13.00 – 15.00: Finishing of the masterclass sessions, packing up

15.00 – 15.30: Transfer from Kameňany to Rožňava

16.00 – 16.20: Inspirational presentation: Cultural Routes, volunteers and restoration: Gotická Cesta, Slovakia. Presented by Peter Palgut and David Raška (Gotická cesta). [Monastery]

16.20 – 16.40: Inspirational presentation: Marketing and fund raising in the cultural sector: Herculane Project, Romania. Presented by Oana Chirilă and Cristina Apostol (Locus). [Monastery]

16.40 – 17.00: Inspirational presentation: Cultural heritage on periphery: ID20, Slovenia. Presented by Matevž Šlabnik (ID20). [Monastery]

17.00 – 18.00: Free time

18.00 – 19.30: Common organized dinner [Pizza Micio, Rožňava]

19.30 – 22.00: Evening music programme & free networking [Monastery]

- Some of the most famous rap singers in Slovakia performance in the Monastery (Vec, Zverina)

### Saturday, May 25th, 2024

8.00 – 9.30: Breakfast & coffee [Monastery]

9.30 – 16.00: Getting to know the Gemer region – trip around the Gothic Route, exploring heritage both cultural and natural. Presentation of the Gothic Route association work in situ. Lunch included.

16.00 – 18.00: Free time (optional Rožňava sightseeing; guided tour in Betliar chateau museum and its surrounding English park) [nearby village]

18.00 – 20.00: Common organized dinner, final get-together, feedback sharing and exchange of contacts [Pizza Micio, Rožňava]

20.00 – ...: Informal networking

## Program

### Četrtek, 23. maj 2024

8.00 – 9.00: Zajtrk in kava; Uvod v gotiko in predstavitev programa [Samostan]

9.00 – 9.30: Prevoz iz Rožňave v Kameňany

9.30 – 12.00: Vzoredne mojstrske delavnice:

- Delavnica apnenih ometov 1/3. Vodja: Juraj Gregorek
- Dela na prostem in urejanje vrta 1/3. Vodja: Michaela Poláková
- Nega dreves 1/3. Vodja: Marek Áč
- Obnova pohišstva 1/3. Vodja: Viera Kozárová

12.00 – 13.00: Organizirano kosilo [na lokaciji]

13.00 – 16.00: Vzoredne mojstrske delavnice:

- Delavnica apnenih ometov 2/3. Vodja: Juraj Gregorek
- Dela na prostem in urejanje vrta 2/3. Vodja: Michaela Poláková
- Nega dreves 2/3. Vodja: Marek Áč
- Obnova pohišstva 2/3. Vodja: Viera Kozárová

16.00 – 16.30: Prevoz iz Kameňany v Rožňavo

16.30 – 18.00: Prosti čas

18.00 – 19.30: Skupna organizirana večerja [Pizza Micio, Rožňava]

### Petek, 24. maj 2024

8.00 – 9.00: Zajtrk in kava [Samostan]

9.00 – 9.30: Prevoz iz Rožňave v Kameňany

9.30 – 12.00: Vzoredne mojstrske delavnice:

- Delavnica apnenih ometov 3/3. Vodja: Juraj Gregorek
- Dela na prostem in urejanje vrta 3/3. Vodja: Michaela Poláková
- Nega dreves 3/3. Vodja: Marek Áč
- Obnova pohišstva 3/3. Vodja: Viera Kozárová

12.00 – 13.00: Organizirano kosilo [na lokaciji]

13.00 – 15.00: Zaključek mojstrskih delavnic in pospravljanje

15.00 – 15.30: Prevoz iz Kameňany v Rožňavo

16.00 – 16.20: Navdihujoča predstavitev: Kulturne poti, prostovoljstvo in obnova: Goticka Cesta, Slovaška. Predstavljata Peter Palgut in David Raška (Goticka Cesta). [Samostan]

16.20 – 16.40: Navdihujoča predstavitev: Marketing in zbiranje sredstev v kulturnem sektorju: Projekt Herculane, Romunija. Predstavitelja Oana Chirilă in Cristina Apostol (Locus). [Samostan]

16.40 – 17.00: Navdihujoča predstavitev: Kulturna dediščina na obrobju: ID20, Slovenija. Predstavlja Matevž Šlabnik (ID20). [Samostan]

17.00 – 18.00: Prosti čas

18.00 – 19.30: Skupna organizirana večerja [Pizza Micio, Rožňava]

19.30 – 22.00: Večerni glasbeni program in neformalno mreženje [Samostan]

- Nastop nekaterih najbolj znanih slovenskih rap izvajalcev (Vec, Zverina)

### Sobota, 25. maj 2024

8.00 – 9.30: Zajtrk in kava [Samostan]

9.30 – 16.00: Spoznajmo regijo Gemer – izlet po Gotiki, raziskovanje kulturne in naravne dediščine. Predstavitev dela združenja Goticka Cesta na terenu. Kosilo vključeno. [prevoz z avtomobili]

16.00 – 18.00: Prosti čas (izbirno: ogled Rožňave; voden ogled dvorca Betliar z okolico in angleškim parkom) [bližnja vas]

18.00 – 20.00: Skupna organizirana večerja, zaključna srečanja, izmenjava povratnih informacij in kontaktov [Pizza Micio, Rožňava]

20.00 – ...: Neformalno mreženje

# Locus: Revitalizing Herculane Baths and Beyond

## Locus: Oživljanje Herkulanskih kopeli in več

Text: Oana Chirila  
Photos: Mihai Toth

**Locus Association is a dedicated non-governmental organization committed to preserving Romania's rich cultural and architectural heritage. By implementing innovative projects and engaging local communities, they are breathing new life into historic sites and fostering a deeper appreciation for the past. From rescuing iconic buildings to organizing cultural events, Locus is making a significant contribution to Romania's cultural landscape.** Zdrúženje Locus je predana nevladna organizacija, ki si prizadeva za ohranjanje bogate kulturne in arhitekturne dediščine Romunije. Z izvajanjem inovativnih projektov in vključevanjem lokalnih skupnosti vdihujejo novo življenje v zgodovinske znamenitosti in spodbujajo globlje spoštovanje preteklosti. Od reševanja ikoničnih stavb do organiziranja kulturnih dogodkov Locus pomembno prispeva k kulturni podobi Romunije.

Locus Association is a non-governmental organization that aims to save and promote the cultural, architectural, urban and natural heritage of Romania. Zdrúženje Locus je nevladna organizacija, ki si prizadeva za ohranjanje in promocijo kulturne, arhitekturne, urbane in naravne dediščine Romunije.

The Association's defining philosophy is that the national heritage, whether tangible or intangible, has the potential to become an engine of community reactivation and regeneration. The tools used are multidisciplinary and are aimed at obtaining strategies tailored on a case-by-case basis. The impact is

intended to be two-fold. On one side it is intended to be material in nature, for example the rehabilitation of heritage objectives and increasing the well-being of the community. On the other side it is intended to be immaterial, such as coagulation of the social environment and the conservation of invisible heritage.

Ključna filozofija združenja temelji na prepričanju, da ima nacionalna dediščina, bodisi oprijemljiva bodisi neoprijemljiva, potencial, da postane gonilna sila za ponovno oživitev in regeneracijo skupnosti. Uporabljajo interdisciplinarne metode, glede na vsak posamezen primer pa prilagojene strategije. Organizacija ima dvojni cilj. Na eni strani si prizadevajo za materialne učinke, kot sta obnova dediščinskih objektov in izboljšanje počutja skupnosti. Na drugi strani želijo doseči nematerialne učinke, kot sta krepitev socialnega okolja in ohranjanje nevidne dediščine.

Locus Association has a diverse team, from a professional background perspective (e.g. architecture students and graduates, economists, IT specialists, journalists, specialists in marketing and communication, collaborating artists, engineers, historians etc.), in terms of age (ranging between 18 years and pensioners/retirees) and as a geographical location (e.g. Timișoara, Bucharest, Cluj-Napoca, London, members of the local community from Herculane baths etc.). This reflects the fact that Herculane Baths are of interest to different categories of population, at the national level and even internationally. Zdrúženje Locus sestavlja raznolika ekipa strokovnjakov z različnimi poklicnimi ozadji (npr. študenti in diplomanti arhitekture, ekonomisti, IT-strokovnjaki, novinarji, strokovnjaki za trženje in komuniciranje, sodelujoči umetniki, inženirji, zgodovinarji itd.), različnih starosti (od 18 let do upokojevcov) in iz različnih krajev (npr. Timișoara, Bukarešta, Cluj-Napoca, London, člani lokalne skupnosti iz Herkulanskih kopeli itd.). To odraža, da Herkulanske kopeli zanimajo različne družbene skupine na nacionalni in mednarodni ravni.



Scan me



The Locus Association has a diverse composition and has developed cultural and educational projects both as a partner and as an organizer. Projects such as Cultural Baths Herculane or Heritage First Edition I co-financed by AFCN, the summer school Architecture Bath found at the 7th edition - co-financed by the Romanian Order of Architects have contributed to increasing the quality of cultural life in Băile Herculane and to the involvement of the community in the activities of the organization. Projects are strategically developed to have continuity and impact in the community. [Združenje Locus je zasnovalo različne kulturne in izobraževalne projekte kot partner ali organizator. Projekti, kot so Kulture kopeli Herkulane ali Dediščina na prvem mestu!, sooblikovana z AFCN, ter poletna šola Arhitekturna kopal, ki je že v sedmi izdaji, so povečali kakovost kulturnega življenja v kraju Băile Herculane in vključili skupnost v dejavnosti organizacije. Projekti so strateško načrtovani za kontinuiteto in dolgoročni vpliv v skupnosti.](#)

The Locus Association concluded a series of strategic partnerships in order to implement its projects with the following partners: Băile Herculane City Hall, the Caraș-Severin County Directorate for Culture, the National Heritage Institute, ISHO, the companies Dedeman, Linde Gaz, Ivatherm, Rothoblaas, Color Metal, MAPEI, Linde Gaz, Raiffeisen Bank, as well as sponsorships from entrepreneurs. In 2020 and 2021, the Locus Association undertook fundraising actions through 2 SMS campaigns, the involvement of over 20 companies, which contributed to the process of saving Neptune Baths and reached over 3,000,000 people in social media in 2023. The total number of platform donors has exceeded 15,000 people, and the number of volunteers has exceeded 200. [Locus je sklenil vrsto strateških partnerstev za izvajanje svojih projektov z naslednjimi partnerji: občino Băile Herculane, Direktoratom za kulturo okraja Caraș-Severin, Nacionalnim inštitutom za dediščino, podjetji ISHO, Dedeman, Linde Gaz, Ivatherm, Rothoblaas, Color Metal, MAPEI, Raiffeisen Bank ter z različnimi sponzorstvi](#)

podjetnikov. Leta 2020 in 2021 so v združenju izvedli kampanje zbiranja sredstev prek SMS-ov in sodelovanja več kot 20 podjetij, ki so prispevala k reševanju Neptunovih kopeli in dosegle več kot 3.000.000 ljudi na družbenih omrežjih leta 2023. Skupno število donatorjev na platformi presega 15.000 ljudi, število prostovoljcev pa več kot 200.

Our projects fit into the city's development vision. Among the most important achievements are: 3 stages of the construction site successfully carried out to save the Neptune Baths, the saving of the only bookshop in the city with the help of the community and donors through a national campaign, 6 editions of the Architecture Bath and the organization of Heritage First!, the first biennial dedicated to cultural heritage in Romania. **Naši projekti so skladni z vizijo razvoja mesta. Med najpomembnejšimi dosežki so: tri faze izvedenega gradbišča za rešitev kopeli Neptune, ohranitev edine knjigarne v mestu s pomočjo skupnosti in donatorjev prek nacionalne kampanje, šest uspešnih izvedb Arhitekturne kopeli in organizacija Dediščina na prvem mestu!, prve bienalne prireditve, namenjene kulturni dediščini v Romuniji.**

One of the biggest projects found currently under implementation is the revitalization of the Cerna riverbanks as a cultural and green artery of Herculane Baths, a project financed by Raiffeisen Bank through three packages of educational, community and ecological activities, aims to reconnect the local and transitory community with the banks of the Cerna River and the thermal springs, the research and conservation of the natural ecosystem and the proposal of alternative interventions, sustainable and reversible in terms of the regeneration of green spaces. We offer continuity to a project started by HerculaneProject in 2019, supported by the local community, the public and private sector, the impact being visible and quantifiable. This new stage transforms the historical area of La Cădițe (Thermal Pools) into a point of sustainable and creative development, the project's activities coagulating people, ideas and solutions for a sustainable future.

Eden največjih projektov, ki je trenutno v teku, je revitalizacija obrežij reke Cerna kot kulturno-zelene arterije Herculanskih kopeli. Projekt financira Raiffeisen Bank, vključuje tri sklope izobraževalnih, skupnostnih in ekoloških dejavnosti, katerih cilj je ponovno povezati lokalno in prehodno skupnost z obrežji reke Cerna in termalnimi vrelci, raziskovanje in ohranjanje naravnega ekosistema ter predlaganje alternativnih, trajnostnih in reverzibilnih posegov pri regeneraciji zelenih površin. Ta nova faza preoblikuje zgodovinsko območje La Cădițe (Termalni bazeni) v točko trajnostnega in ustvarjalnega razvoja. Projektne dejavnosti povezujejo ljudi, ideje in rešitve za trajnostno prihodnost.

The Locus Association is a nationally awarded NGO, part of the European organization EUROPA NOSTRA. Last but not least, Neptune Baths were included in the 7 Most Endangered list for 2022 following the application written by the association. Locus Association is a member of the European organization 'EUROPA NOSTRA'. Locus je nacionalno nagrajena nevladna organizacija, članica evropske organizacije EUROPA NOSTRA. Neptunove kolpeli so bile po zaslugi prijave, ki jo je sestavilo združenje, vključene na seznam 7 najbolj ogroženih dediščin za leto 2022.





# Working with plaster and wood: unique workshops with community impact

## Delo z ometom in lesom: edinstvene delavnice z vplivom na skupnost

Text: Oana Chirila  
Photos: Mihai Toth

**Herculane Baths is one of the oldest thermal baths in Romania and in Europe. Over time, it went through several periods of progress and regress, but it always found the opportunity to reinvent itself. Herkulanske kopeli (Băile Herculane) so ene najstarejših termalnih kopeli v Romuniji in Evropi, ki so skozi čas doživele več obdobj napredka in nazadovanja. Pa vendar so vedno našle priložnost, da so se ponovno preoblikovale.**

Although Herculane is nowadays the exponent of the declining Romanian spa heritage, the resort is starting to be redeveloped due to its cultural, historical and thermal potential, as well as the multitude of stakeholders interested in contributing to the sustainable development of the city. Čprav Herkulane danes veljajo za simbol propadajoče romunske zdraviliške dediščine, se letovišče zaradi svojega



kulturnega, zgodovinskega in termalnega potenciala ter številnih zainteresiranih strani, ki želijo prispevati k trajnostnemu razvoju mesta, postopoma obnavlja.

The spa facilities are mostly closed, access to the thermal resources is limited, and the historic center is in a state of abandonment, and this is where our team comes in and provides ideas, projects and knowledge in order to help transform the place. Večina termalnih objektov je zaprta, dostop do termalnih virov je omejen, zgodovinsko središče pa v stanju zapuščenosti. Tu vstopi naša ekipa, ki s svojimi idejami, projekti in znanjem pomaga pri preoblikovanju kraja.

Our project responds to local needs, addresses European themes, and continues to contribute to the development of the local cultural ecosystem through interdisciplinary approaches and the debate of topics of national interest in a space with universal value. Naš projekt se odziva na lokalne potrebe, obravnava evropske teme in še naprej prispeva k razvoju lokalnega kulturnega ekosistema prek interdisciplinarnih pristopov in razprave o temah nacionalnega pomena v prostoru univerzalne vrednosti.

### Working with... Delo z...

The 3-days RE: living Heritage Masterclass in Herculane Baths (Romania) offered a unique opportunity to learn restoration techniques, connect and get inspired with like-minded peers. 49 volunteers from Romania, Slovenia and Slovakia joined forces over the course of three days and participated in two different workshops that involved traditional restoration techniques on the casts of decorative elements from the facade of Neptune Baths and working with wood. 3-dnevni RE: living Heritage Masterclass v Băile Herculane (Romunija) je ponudil edinstveno priložnost za spoznavanje tehnik restavriranja, navdih in povezovanje s podobno mislečimi posamezniki. 49 prostovoljcev iz Romunije, Slovenije in Slovaške je v treh dneh združilo moči in sodelovalo v dveh različnih delavnicah, ki so vključevale

tradicionalne tehnike restavriranja na odličnih dekorativnih elementov z fasade Neptunovih kopaljš in delo z lesom.

Working for the first time on Neptune Baths – a monument of national importance inscribed on the 7 Most Endangered List by Europa Nostra and EIB Institute in 2022 – the Locus Association through HerculaneProject platform contributed further into the plans of saving the monument. Two days of workshops provided the tools and an intrinsic image of what it is like to be a restorer and to work with natural materials in order to revive heritage sites. Two working stations were organized, and each volunteer took part in making a plaster piece, either an ornament part of the Neptune Baths facade or interior, or a smaller decorative piece in the molds provided by the restorers. Ker je šlo za prvo delo na Neptunovih kopaljših – spomeniku nacionalnega pomena, ki je bil v letu 2022 uvrščen na seznam 7 najbolj ogroženih spomenikov s strani Europa Nostra in EIB Institute – je Locus Association prek platforme HerculaneProject prispevala k načrtom za rešitev tega spomenika. Dva dneva delavnic sta ponudila orodja in vpogled v to, kaj pomeni biti restavrator in kako poteka delo z naravnimi materiali za oživljanje dediščinskih objektov. Organizirani sta bili dve delovni postaji, kjer je vsak prostovoljec sodeloval pri izdelavi mavčnega kosa, bodisi okrasnega dela fasade ali notranjosti Neptunovih kopaljš, bodisi manjšega dekorativnega kosa v odličnih, ki so jih zagotovili restavratorji.

The carpentry workshop was also a unique way to discover how to work with wood and for our team it was the best opportunity to invite so many young volunteers to leave a mark behind, as all the wood pieces that were crafted were included in a project with community impact. Participants passed through a series of multidisciplinary training stages starting from the presentation of work tools and how they are used to their participation in all woodworking processes. Workstations were organized on various stages of the process, such

as rough cutting, splitting, planning, final cutting, traditional Romanian interlocking timber construction (joints, cuts, cuts, additions), cold mounting (trial), finishing (sanding and oiling). Delavnica obdelave lesa je bila prav tako edinstvena priložnost za odkrivanje dela z lesom, za našo ekipo pa je bila to najboljša priložnost, da povabimo toliko mladih prostovoljcev, da pustijo svoj pečat, saj so bili vsi leseni kosi, ki so jih izdelali, vključeni v projekt z vplivom na skupnost. Udeleženci so prešli skozi vrsto večdisciplinarnih faz usposabljanja, ki so se začele s predstavitvijo delovnih orodij in njihove uporabe, nato pa so sodelovali v vseh fazah obdelave lesa. Delovne postaje so bile organizirane na različnih stopnjah procesa, kot so grobo rezanje, cepitev, planiranje, končno rezanje, tradicionalna romunska tehnika spajanja lesenih konstrukcij (spoji, rezi, dodajanje), hladno montažo (preizkus) in končna obdelava (brušenje in oljenje).

Our aim was to learn from one another and from the professionals invited, to exchange opinions and to find ways to preserve our common European heritage. The programme was crafted in such a way that all 49 participants passed through all stages of the restoration of decorative elements and working with wood with manual tools. Naš cilj je bil učiti se drug od drugega in od strokovnjakov, izmenjavati mnenja in poiskati načine za ohranjanje naše skupne evropske dediščine. Program je bil zasnovan tako, da je vseh 49 udeležencev prešlo skozi vse faze restavriranja dekorativnih elementov in dela z lesom z ročnimi orodji.

The whole schedule was intertwined and integrated in this year's summer school edition; a crafts workshop dedicated for architecture students which has the purpose of reactivating abandoned public spaces throughout the spa resort through reversible interventions. This year we are reactivating and regenerating the famous Promenade of Empress Sissi and all the wooden pieces crafted by the participants were afterwards assembled in a pavilion on the Cerna rivershore. Celoten urnik je bil prepleten in vključen v letošnjo poletno šolo, delavnico obrti,

namenjeno študentom arhitekture, katere cilj je reaktivirati zapuščene javne prostore v letovišču z reverzibilnimi intervencijami. Letos reaktiviramo in regeneriramo znano promenado cesarice Sissi, vsi leseni kosi, ki so jih izdelali udeleženci, pa so bili kasneje sestavljeni v paviljonu ob reki Cerna.

**To be or not to be involved Biti ali ne biti vključen**

Each and every one of us organizes projects that aim to reactivate and preserve cultural heritage sites with the help of professionals and volunteers and for our team the best part of this exchange was to see how we can connect in a broader European space and how we can have impact in the local community of Herculane. **Vsak izmed nas organizira projekte, katerih cilj je oživiti in ohraniti kulturne spomenike s pomočjo strokovnjakov in prostovoljcev. Za našo ekipo je najboljši del te izmenjave bilo opazovanje, kako se lahko povežemo v širšem evropskem prostoru in kako lahko vplivamo na lokalno skupnost Bâile Herculane.**

The walks and tours we've had, the baths in the thermal pools nearby the river, the connection with the place through food, music and other experiences that we have had prepared emphasized how we, as Europeans, can continue to collaborate and transform our ideas into projects that change how we approach cultural heritage. **Sprehodi in ogledi, ki smo jih imeli, kopeli v termalnih bazenih ob reki, povezava z mestom skozi hrano, glasbo in druge izkušnje, ki smo jih pripravili, so poudarili, kako lahko mi, Evropejci, še naprej sodelujemo in spreminjamo naše ideje v projekte, ki spreminjajo naš pristop do kulturne dediščine.**

## Programme

### Wednesday, July 17th, 2024

16.00 Check-in

18.00 - 19.00 Welcome to Herculane & short orientation

19.00 (optional) Herculane Baths historical center city tour

20.30 Dinner

### Thursday, July 18th, 2024

08.00 - 09.00 Breakfast at accommodation

09.30 - 10.00 Registration for the masterclasses

10.00 - 11.30 Introduction: Herculane Baths Tour & HerculaneProject presentation during the tour

12.00 - 13.00 Lecture: Old and new methods of restoration for decorative elements with on-site study

13.00 - 13.15 Q&A Session / Let's talk

13.30 - 15.00 Lunch

15.30 - 16.00 Introduction: Neptune Baths Tour / Welcome tour of the Romanian volunteers

16.00 - 18.30 Practical session on-site: Step by step recreation of decorative elements with historical methods

18.30 - 20.00 Free time

20.00 Dinner

### Friday, July 19th, 2024

08.00 - 09.00 Breakfast at accommodation

09.30 - 12.30 Practical session on-site: Step by step recreation of decorative elements with historical methods

12.30 - 13.00 Free time

13.00 - 14.30 Lunch



14.30 – 17.30 Practical session on-site: Step by step recreation of decorative elements with historical methods

17.30 – 18.30 Coffee break / Free time

18.30 – 19.00 Presentation: Gastronomy, theater and housing heritage: ID20, Slovenia

19.00 – 19.30 Presentation: Cultural Routes, volunteers and restoration: Goticka Cesta, Slovakia

20.00 Dinner

### Saturday, July 20th, 2024

08.00 – 09.00 Breakfast at accommodation

09.00 – 10.30 Let's talk: The Architecture Bath summer school

10.30 – 12.30 Wood workshop: How to work with manual tools

13.00 – 14.30 Lunch

14.30 – 18.30 Wood workshop: Practical wood / carpentry workshop

18.30 – 19.00 Conclusions

20.00 Dinner

### Sunday, July 21st, 2024

09.30 – 10.00 Breakfast at accommodation

11.00 Final get-together on site & feedback session

## Program

### Sreda, 17. julij 2024

16.00 Registracija

18.00 – 19.00 Pozdrav v Herculane in kratka orientacija

19.00 (neobvezno) Ogled zgodovinskega centra Herculane

20.30 Večerja

### Četrtek, 18. julij 2024

08.00 – 09.00 Zajtrk na nastanitvi

09.30 – 10.00 Registracija za delavnice

10.00 – 11.30 Uvod: Ogled Herculane in predstavitev HerculaneProject med ogledom

12.00 – 13.00 Predavanje: Stare in nove metode restavriranja okrasnih elementov z obiskom na terenu

13.00 – 13.15 Seznam vprašanj in odgovorov / Pogovorimo se

13.30 – 15.00 Kosilo

15.30 – 16.00 Uvod: Ogled Neptune Baths / Pozdravni ogled romunskih prostovoljcev

16.00 – 18.30 Praktična delavnica na terenu: Postopek rekreacije okrasnih elementov s tradicionalnimi metodami

18.30 – 20.00 Prosti čas

20.00 Večerja

### Petek, 19. julij 2024

08.00 – 09.00 Zajtrk na nastanitvi

09.30 – 12.30 Praktična delavnica na terenu: Postopek rekreacije okrasnih elementov s tradicionalnimi metodami

12.30 – 13.00 Prosti čas

13.00 – 14.30 Kosilo

14.30 – 17.30 Praktična delavnica na terenu: Postopek rekreacije okrasnih elementov s tradicionalnimi metodami

17.30 – 18.30 Odmor za kavo / Prosti čas

18.30 – 19.00 Predstavitev: Gastronomija, gledališče in dediščina stanovanj: ID20, Slovenija

19.00 – 19.30 Predstavitev: Kulturne poti, prostovoljci in restavriranje: Gotická Cesta, Slovaška

20.00 Večerja

### Sobota, 20. julij 2024

08.00 – 09.00 Zajtrk na nastanitvi

09.00 – 10.30 Pogovor: Poletna šola Architecture Bath

10.30 – 12.30 Delavnica dela z lesom: Kako delati z ročnimi orodji

13.00 – 14.30 Kosilo

14.30 – 18.30 Delavnica dela z lesom: Praktična delavnica dela z lesom / mizarstvo

18.30 – 19.00 Zaključki

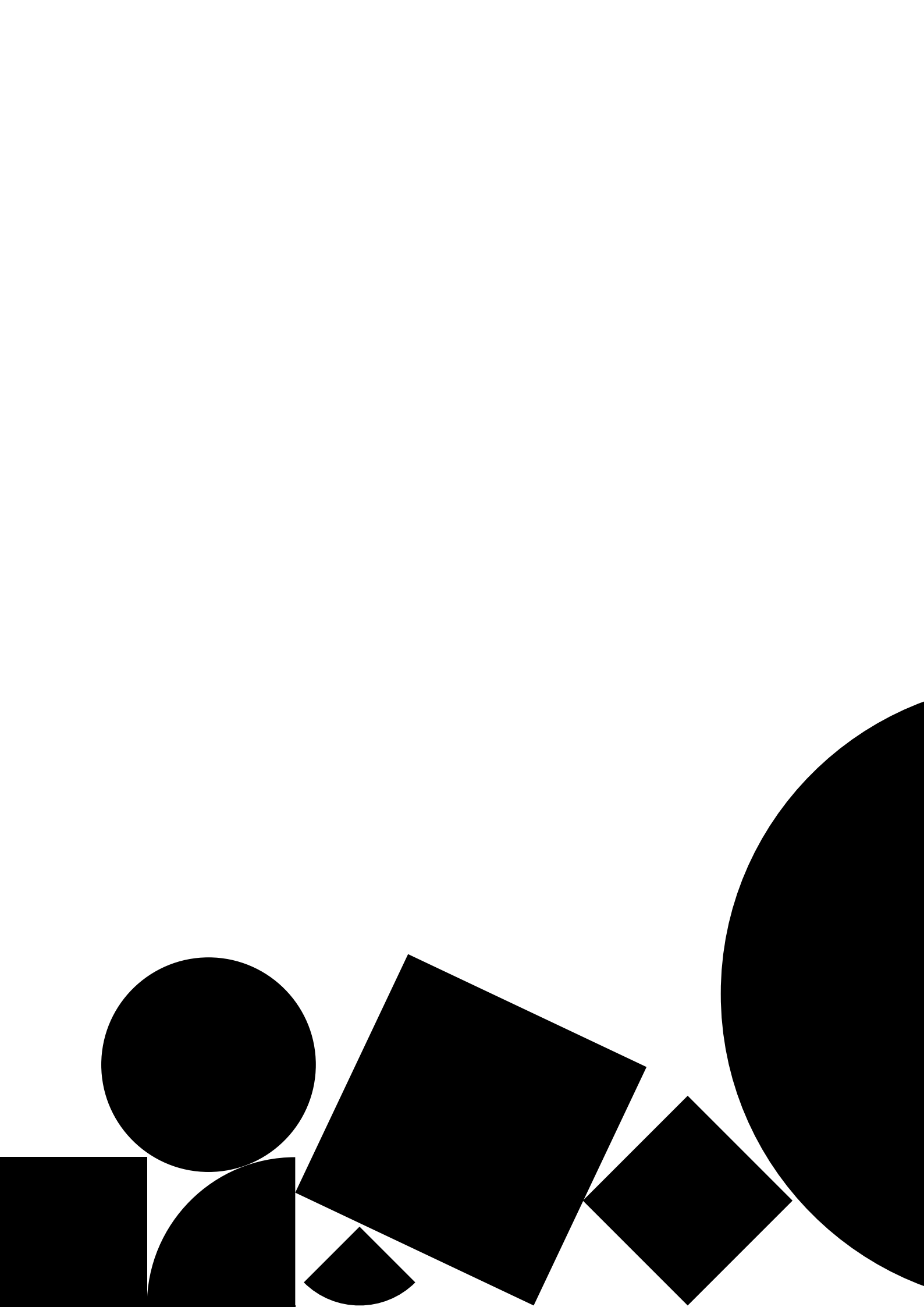
20.00 Večerja

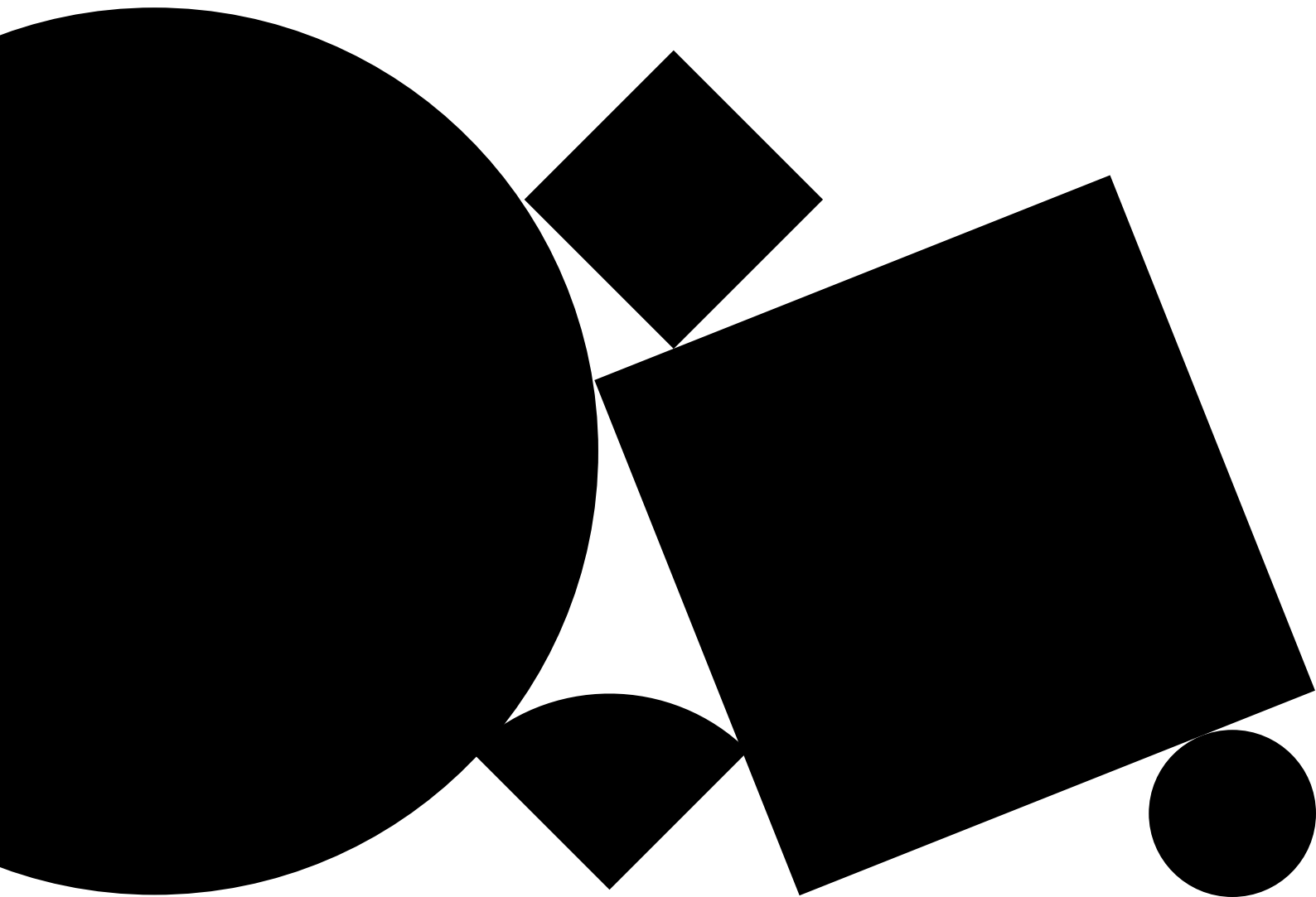
### Nedelja, 21. julij 2024

09.30 – 10.00 Zajtrk na nastanitvi

11.00 Zaključni sestanek na terenu in povratna informacija









BATHS  
GOTHIC CHURCHES  
MINERS' HOUSES