



Vol. 2 No. 2

"The Bridge"

Fall 1992

News Of The Czech & Slovak Museum And Library

A "Living" Iowa Treasure

Marjorie A. Nejdí has been named the recipient of the 1992 Cultural Heritage Fellowship award. The \$1,000.00 award, given by the Iowa Arts Council, a division of the Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs, recognizes Marj as Iowa's outstanding folk artist of 1992. The award was given in appreciation of her "significant contributions to the enrichment of Iowa's diverse cultural traditions".

In the letter to Marj, announcing her selection, Department of Cultural Affairs Director, William H. Jackson, said "Your continued involvement as a master artist in the Iowa Arts Council's Folk Arts Apprenticeship program, excellence in artistry, and commitment and support toward the nurturing of Czechoslovak traditions in Iowa clearly establish you as one of "Iowa's Living Treasures" — the second person in the history of the Iowa Arts Council to receive this award".

The award may be used, as Marj chooses, to further her exploration and expression of Iowa's cultural heritage.

Marj demonstrates the art of batik egg decorating to groups of all ages. She has served on the Board of Directors of the Czech Fine Arts Foundation, Inc. since 1986.



Forget "Cats"

"Forget 'Cats' and 'Starlight Express' ... the best musical in London right now has to be Smetana's 'Bartered Bride' " (the London Tribune).

You won't have to go to London to attend a performance of "The Bartered Bride" — just as far as the Hawkeye Bank parking lot. There you will find a motorcoach waiting to take you to Chicago to the Lyric Opera.

The Czech Fine Arts Foundation, Inc. is sponsoring an overnight trip to "Prodaná Nevěsta" on November 7 - 8, 1992. The cost of the trip is \$100 per person, which includes:

- the opera ticket
- transportation by motorcoach
- overnight lodging
- a family-style Czech meal

Forty-five tickets are available on a "first-come-first-served" basis.

"When I receive requests from subscribers, "The Bartered Bride" comes up again and again. So, for the first time ever, we're presenting this charming, delightful comedy — with Barbara Daniels and Neil Rosenshein you know it will be a smash hit." (General Director - the Lyric Opera of Chicago)

Payment must accompany each reservation in order to secure a place on the tour. Send your reservation form plus a check or money order made payable to the Czech Fine Arts Foundation, Inc. to:

Czech & Slovak Museum & Library
PO Box 5398
Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52406-5398

The reservation deadline is October 1, 1992. If you have any questions, please feel free to call the Museum at (319) 362-8500.

Additional information on page #3

Arts 'N' Facts

ADDY, EPIC, EITA

This column is dedicated to special recognitions. Early in 1991, we began developing a new museum brochure. With the planning and design help of Leora Zahorik, Marj Nejd, and Patty Hikiji, the professional design services of Design Ranch, of Iowa City, and the photography of Brook Lightner, of DLJ Studio Productions, Inc. a new full-color brochure was created. Printed by Julin Printing of Monticello, Iowa, and published with the generous support of The Greater Cedar Rapids Foundation, Inc. the Czech & Slovak Museum & Library brochure is an outstanding and popular piece. In January, of 1992, it was selected for recognition by the Cedar Rapids Area Advertising Federation. The ADDY Awards recognize the best advertising in the area.

In April, 1992, the brochure received an EPIC (Excellent Performance In Communication Awards Competition) "Award of Merit" in the Public Relations Division, Brochure category, from the Northeast Iowa Chapter of Women in Communications, Inc.

The Czech & Slovak Museum & Library was honored yet a third time at the Eastern Iowa Tourism Association's annual meeting in May 1992. In the Second Annual Excellence in Tourism Award Ceremony, the Museum's brochure won the "Best Promotional Brochure" award, in the four or more colors brochure category.

GOODWILL ACHIEVER OF THE YEAR

Staff member, Carol K. Dostal, received a "Goodwill Achiever of the Year" award from Goodwill Industries. A Threshold program participant, Carol trained in Goodwill's office skills program before becoming a tour guide and gift shop sales clerk at the Museum.

WEDDING BELLS

On June 14, 1992, Museum Curator, Nan Wolverton became Nan Wolverton Franklin, in a lovely wedding ceremony on the lawn at Birch Lake Farm, home of her parents in Troy Mills, Iowa.

KUDOS

A big thank-you to Marj Nejd, Pauline Jasa, Barb Sherman, Jo Miller, and Cory Hikiji who spent three exhausting, but fulfilling days working in the Cedar Rapids Area Convention & Visitors Bureau's booth, in the Tourism Building at the Iowa State Fair, promoting Cedar Rapids, the Museum and the Czech Village

For those of European ancestry, a visit to the Czech & Slovak Museum is like a walk across the "MOST" that imaginary bridge that leads back to the land and culture of their ancestors.

P.A.H.

IOWA EXPRESSIONS

On Sunday, September 27, 1992 at 8:00 p.m. and repeating, again, on Sunday, October 4, 1992 at 2:30 p.m., Iowa Public Television will broadcast "Dvorak's Iowa Expressions." The music, performed by Iowa musicians, has roots in the "Spillville summer" of 1893. The small, "Czech" town of Spillville, Iowa was Antonín Dvořák's summer vacation retreat in 1893, during his two-year stay in the United States, serving as Director of the New York National Conservatory.

The "Sonatina in G major, Opus 100" will be performed by violinist Susanna Cortesio, a senior at Dowling High School, and pianist, Emily Senti, a 1992 graduate of Roland-Story High School.

The "String Quartet in F, Opus 96" will be performed by the Stradivari Quartet from the University of Iowa School of Music. Members are Allen Ohmes, violin, Don Haines, violin, William Přeučil, viola, and Charles Wendt, cello.

The program will also feature two of the "Humoresques", a set of eight solo piano works Dvořák wrote after his return to Czechoslovakia. The two performed by Drake University faculty member and concert pianist, Chiu-Ling Lin were sketched in America.

Each performance will be prefaced by a short description and brief historical background, of each work, as it was either composed in Iowa or indirectly influenced by Dvořák's trip to America. Research, in part, for the creation of the stage setting for the performance was done at the Czech & Slovak Museum & Library. Be sure to program your VCR's — this is a concert you'll want to keep!

SLOVAK CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

Beginning October 30, 1992, the Cedar Rapids Community Concerts Association presents its 62nd season of live performances. The schedule of four concerts includes:

- Friday, Oct. 30, 1992 Stecher & Horowitz
- Tuesday, Nov. 3, 1992 Slovak Chamber Orchestra
- Thursday, Feb. 11, 1993 The Mantovani Pops Orchestra
- Wednesday, March 31, 1993 Mac Frampton Trio

Praised as one of the world's finest string ensembles, we would like to call particular attention to the Slovak Chamber Orchestra performance, with Bohdan Warchal as artistic director and violin soloist. The orchestra has performed throughout four continents and is a regular participant in the Prague Spring Festival. "... a superior ensemble that sustains the reputation of Czechoslovak art" says the Chicago Sun-Times.

All performances are held at the Paramount Theatre, in Cedar Rapids, and start at 7:30 p.m. The price of the concert series is \$25 for each general admission and \$10 for each student admission. No single concert admissions are sold. For more information on the individual programs and other membership levels of giving, call (319) 364-6200 or write: Cedar Rapids Community Concerts Association 800 35th Street N.E., Cedar Rapids IA 52402

"Prodaná Nevěsta"

(The Bartered Bride)

by Bedřich Smetana

presented by the Lyric Opera of Chicago
in English with projected English titles

THE STORY

"The marriage broker's bound and determined to make his commission, but the bride-to-be says she's not taking a 'lemon' — and her real true love's working on a few deals of his own!"

"From Peasants to Pilsner ... this opera's chock full of Czechoslovak charm and tune after show-stopping tune."
(Lyric Opera Subscription Booklet)

THE CAST

Mareňka: Barbara Daniels — "Beautiful to look at, lovely to listen to, and a born actress." (Opera Magazine, London)

Jeník: Neil Rosenshein — "A wonderful singer and perfect for this role! Rosenshein is great fun to watch." (Chicago Tribune)

Kecal: Peter Rose — (Lyric Opera debut)

Vašek: Graham Clark (Lyric Opera debut)

Háta: Jean Kraft

Esmeralda: Kathryn Gamberoni

THE CONDUCTOR

Jiří Kout

THE DIRECTOR

Elijah Moshinsky



RESERVATION FORM

for "The Bartered Bride" Opera Trip

November 7 -8, 1992

Name: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone No. _____

Date: _____

Number of Reservations at \$100.00 each: _____

Total Amount Enclosed: _____

Make Check Payable to:
Czech Fine Arts Foundation, Inc.
P.O. Box 5398
Cedar Rapids IA 52406-5398

RESERVATION DEADLINE: OCTOBER 1, 1992

THE ITINERARY SATURDAY

8:30 am

9:00 am

Between
11:00 am & 1:00 pm
By 3:00 pm

3:45 pm
5:00-6:15 pm

6:30 pm
7:15 pm

7:30 pm

SUNDAY

?-9:00 am

9:00 am

10:00 am-1:00 pm

1:30 pm

Between
2:00 & 5:00 pm
6:00-6:30 pm

NOVEMBER 7, 1992

Board bus at Hawkeye Bank west parking lot (corner of Hamilton Street & 16th Avenue S.W.).
Depart Cedar Rapids via Tri-State Motorcoach.

Lunch Stop (out-of-pocket expense)
Arrive at Drury Inn, Schaumburg, IL.
Check in. Dress for opera
Board bus for restaurant.
Family-style Czech dinner (included in tour package).
Depart for Lyric Opera.
Be seated in our balcony seats. (No one will be seated once the performance starts).
Performance begins.

NOVEMBER 8, 1992

Quikstart Breakfast at Drury Inn (FREE - included in lodging fee).
Board bus for Chicago - Lake Shore Drive area.
Free time to visit museums, aquarium, etc. (out-of-pocket expense).
Depart Chicago for return trip to Cedar Rapids.

Stop to snack and stretch.
Arrive at Hawkeye Bank parking lot.

Talk with your friends and make your plans TODAY!! Don't delay, only 45 tickets are available on a "first-come-first-served basis".
Payment MUST accompany reservation form.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Sept. 22 - 24** Conference on Czech & Slovak immigration to the United States presented by the University of Nebraska at Lincoln, Nebraska
- Sept. 26** "Ethnic Day" at the National Cattle Congress, Waterloo, Iowa - egg - decorating, wheat- weaving, bobbin lace-making, peroutky-making, and tatting demonstrations in the Czech Fine Arts/ Czech Heritage booth - craft items, kolace and coffee for sale
- Sept. 27** 53rd "Moravian Day" celebration at Countryside, Illinois - sponsored by the Moravian Folklore Circle of United Moravian Societies
- Nov. 7** "The Bartered Bride" - Lyric Opera Bus Trip to Chicago - see newsletter article for details
- Nov. 14** Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International Fall Workshop and Annual Meeting at Minneapolis Lutheran High School, Bloomington, Minnesota
- Dec. 5** Sv. Mikulas Day in the Czech Village and at the Czech & Slovak Museum & Library in Cedar Rapids, Iowa

The Museum is open Tuesday through Friday from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. beginning the first Tuesday in March, through the Friday before Christmas. The Museum is open year-round on Saturdays from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

MUSEUM GIFT SHOP

The Museum Gift Shop features unique, ethnic gifts created by local Czech artists and craftsmen, and imported items from Czechoslovakia.

Choose from:

- * Beautifully hand-crafted & hand-painted ceramic items
- * Intricately decorated Easter eggs
- * A one-of-a-kind "needle holder"
- * A variety of wooden items
- * Cookbooks, language tapes, and handcraft booklets
- * Aprons, T-shirts, and Sweatshirts of special design
- * Hand-blown, glass Christmas ornaments, available year-round
- * Dolls, eggs, and lovely ribbon trim imported from Czechoslovakia

Stop by the Museum during business hours or write to the Gift Shop Manager
P.O. Box 5398, Cedar Rapids, IA 52406-5398
for information regarding orders by mail.

Czech & Slovak Museum and Library
Czech Fine Arts Foundation, Inc.
10 - 16th Avenue S.W. P.O. Box 5398
Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52406-5398

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U.S. Postage
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