



DUBROVAČKE LJETNE IGRE DUBROVNIK SUMMER FESTIVAL

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The 74th Dubrovnik Summer Festival Is Officially Opened!

Dubrovnik, 11 July 2023 – As the verses of the *Hymn to Liberty* were sung, the *Libertas* flag was raised **last night, 10 July in front of St Blaise's Church** making the 74th Dubrovnik Summer Festival was officially opened, **until 25 August** when it traditionally ends.

This year's grand opening ceremony was directed by the Festival's Assistant Artistic Director for Theatre **Saša Božić** based on a script he co-wrote with theatre artist **Nataša Dangubić**. Alongside the **Dubrovnik Symphony Orchestra**, under the baton of maestro **Tomislav Fačini**, performing were the **Libertas Mixed Choir, Dubrovnik Chamber Choir, Pro musica Mostar Academic Choir, Blasius Choir**, as well as **Slavenko Prizmić, Ivan Kušelj, Antun Puljizević** and **Matija Slomović** fanfares, **Vicko Dragojević** and **Marko Šilje** on mandolins, and the youngest singers **Marijeta Bošković** and b. Part of the grand opening ceremony are also the **Festival Drama Ensemble, acting students from the Academy of Dramatic Arts in Zagreb and Split, Lero Student Theatre, Kolarin Theatre Troupe, Lindo Folklore Ensemble**, and **Lazareti Dance Studio**. The ceremony was broadcast live by the Croatian Radio and Television.

After the ceremony, Dubrovnik citizens and their guests enjoyed the fireworks show which was spectacular this year, judging by their delighted comments and earnest reactions.

In the upcoming 46 days, the Festival will bring its local and international audience some 70 theatre, music, dance, folklore, and other events with the first one being ***Lightness of Youth*** exhibition opening **tonight, 11 July at 9 pm** in the **Sponza Palace atrium** featuring a cycle of works by the Croatian painter and graphic artist **Fadil Vejzović**. The first premiere of the summer, **Ivana Lovrić Jović's *Look How Lokrum Washes Its Teeth***, will open the theatre programme tomorrow, **12 July** while the music programme starts on **13 July** with pianist **András Schiff** at the Rector's Palace.

Tickets for all Festival programmes are available on the official website www.dubrovnikfestival.hr and on the ticketing service www.ulaznice.hr, as well as at the box office at the Festival Palace (Od Sigurate 1 Street), which is open every day from 9.00 am to 9.30 pm. Tickets can also be bought at the Festival box office in Vukovarska St during the week from 10.00 am to 5.00 pm.

The Dubrovnik Summer Festival – the centre of Croatian and global spirit and culture, a place of creation and not just a place of visit, a place of community, ideas and new artistic expressions, is traditionally supported

once again this year by the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Croatia, the City of Dubrovnik, the Dubrovnik-neretva county, Dubrovnik Tourist Board and numerous sponsors Mastercard, Dubrovnik Airport, ACI club, ALH, Euroherc, Studenac, HEP, Croatian Lottery, Coca-Cola, MG Motors, Kraš, Croatia Airlines, and donors OTP bank, Atlantska Plovidba alongside other benefactors who helped bring this most prestigious cultural event in Croatia to fruition.

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