



# DUBROVAČKE LJETNE IGRE DUBROVNIK SUMMER FESTIVAL

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## *Without Compromise* Exhibition in honor of the great Ika Škomrlj Ajki

Dubrovnik, 14 July 2021 – The retrospective exhibition titled “*Without Compromise*” – *Ika Škomrlj Ajki* by authors Ivana Bakal and Martina Petranović opens on Saturday 17 July at 9pm, at Lazareti; in cooperation of ULUPUH (Croatian Association of Artists of Applied Arts) and the Dubrovnik Summer Festival.

“Without Compromise” is a large retrospective exhibition of the rich and varied costume design opus of the great Ika Škomrlj. Based largely on the author’s and her family’s inheritance, but with material from the Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts Division for the History of Croatian Theatre, the numerous theatre houses Škomrlj created for, the Croatian Radio and Television, and with pieces she did for Dubrovnik Summer Festival productions. The exhibition is a collaboration of the Festival and the Croatian Association of Artists of Applied Arts (ULUPUH), whose long-time active and respected member this doyen of Croatian theatre costume design was. The concept and art display are by doc. dr. art Ivana Bakal – costume designer herself, ULUPUH president, Ajki’s colleague and friend, as well as the editor of a monography on the peerless Ajki – and dr. sc. Martina Petranović, theatrologist with the Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts Division for the History of Croatian Theatre and the aforementioned monography’s author.

“Over almost half a century long and extremely productive career, costume designer Ika Škomrlj, better known as Ajki - with her relentless creative energy, professional knowledge which she continually furthered and true passion towards costume design and theatre in general – had quickly become an authority on the Croatian costume design scene, having produced numerous timeless, creative and interpretatively innovative costumes of drama, opera, operetta, ballet and dance repertoires, and television and film occasionally too. Selflessly sharing her knowledge and experience with younger artists, as their mentor, colleague and friend, she did invaluable pedagogical work in the field of educating young costume designers, and influenced a great number of Croatian costume designers of various ages and creative styles thus helping shape modern Croatian costume design, and its future”, as Martina Petranović says in the exhibition catalogue opening.

The exhibition is put up with the help of Dubrovčka baština d.o.o. and is open until 5 August, Monday through Friday from 10am to 9.30pm, and Saturdays from 10am to 1pm and 7pm to 9.30pm. Entrance is free.

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 this year by the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Croatia, the City of Dubrovnik, the Dubrovnik-neretva county and numerous other sponsors and benefactors who helped bring this most prestigious cultural event in Croatia to fruition.

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