

Opening Ceremony of the 67th Dubrovnik Summer Festival on Sunday

Dubrovnik, July 8th 2016 - The Dubrovnik Summer Festival will traditionally be opened on July 10th, starting at 21 pm in front of St. Blaise Church. With *Hymn to Freedom*, the festival will raise the Libertas flag for the 67th time. After exclaiming "Let them in!" and all the way until 25th of August, the twenty locations in Dubrovnik will become a meeting place for almost 2,000 artists from around the world with an international audience of about 60,000 local and foreign visitors.

Opening Ceremony screenplay is signed by Mani Gotovac and is directed by Ivan Miladinov. Festival Drama Ensemble consists of Nikola Baće as Master of Ceremonies, Dragan Despot, Boris Svrtan, Doris Šarić Kukuljica, Nikša Butijer, Pjer Meničanin, Anđela Ramljak, Anja Đurinović and Olga Pakalović. Folklore Ensemble Lindo that celebrates its' 50 summers at the Festival, Kolarin Theatre Group, Ballet Department of Art School "Luka Sorkočević", Dance Studio "Lazareti" will also be a part of the Opening Ceremony. The music will be performed by the Symphony Orchestra of Croatian Radio and Television, alongside the "Ivan Goran Kovačić" Academic Choir, Dubrovnik Chamber Choir and Libertas Choir.

Prologue from the *Pagliacci* opera will be performed by the guest of honor of the City of Dubrovnik, tenor, conductor, composer and photographer - José Cura, who will, with maestro Mladen Tarbuk, perform in the role of conductor. In the singing role, he will be joined by tenor Cristian Suriani and soprano Iliana Korać Teklić and Linda Ballova. She will also perform with Maestro Cura the next day, July 11 at the Gala Concert.

The Opening Ceremony will be preceded by the General Rehearsal day earlier, on Saturday July 9 at midnight. This rehearsal is a traditional event for all the people of Dubrovnik.