

Czech and Slovak Society for Arts and Sciences Cleveland Chapter

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CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

Fall 2013

Lubica (Ľuba) Orgonášová (January 22, 1961) is a Slovak operatic soprano, who is particularly known for her interpretation of Mozart roles performed at Blossom Music Center on July 5th. Our Chapter arranged for discount tickets for the concert. We also had a delightful picnic on the Blossom grounds before the event. Born in Bratislava, Slovakia to parents who loved music and were supportive of her talents, Orgonasova studied voice and piano at the Music Conservatory and Music Academy. She sang as a soloist at the State Opera in Banská Bystrica before moving to Germany in 1983 to become a member of the Hagen Opera House. The concert was very well received by the audience and press.

Special Exhibit at the Bohemian National Hall (BNH). Our Chapter and the Sokol Greater Cleveland hosted a traveling exhibit entitled "Leaving Czechoslovakia" at the BNH. The exhibit is based on oral histories of the 1968 wave of immigrants that was conducted by the National Czech & Slovak Museum and Library in Cedar Rapids, IO., (NCSML). This exhibit was presented by NCSML and featured Cleveland as one of the cities selected for this project. Pictures and narrative of Cleveland's Zdena Nacasek, often seen in the BNH kitchen, were included in the display.

The exhibit opened with a private reception for SVU and SOKOL members. The Friday showing featured a "happy hour" with Czech and other beer available for purchase. On Sunday July 28 a SOKOL Dinner preceded the presentation by Rosie Johnston and Charity Tyler of CSNML. With over 75 in attendance for the presentation, Cleveland made a good showing and developed a working relationship with the National Museum.



Dr. Bohonek and Tom Pavlik at the exhibit.

Activities Coming Up

Cleveland Orchestra Concert at Severance Hall: Czech conductor Jakub Hrusa will again perform at Severance Hall on Oct 17,18 and 19th. Our Chapter arranged with the Cleveland Orchestra for discount tickets- use code; 16133 to obtain 20% discount for any of the three performances. Visit clevelandorchestra.com or call 216-231-1111. Maestro Hrusa was with us last year and the Chapter arranged for a dinner cruise on Lake Erie on the Nautica Queen with him and his wife Klara. It was a very enjoyable time for all. We again hope to arrange for a meeting, but it all depends on his schedule - watch for future e-mails.



Maestro Hrusa (R) and Paul Burik (L) plant a flower at the statue of Antonin Dvorak in the Czech Cultural Garden in 2012.

Garden Clean- Up and a Picnic: Annually the Chapter holds a Czech and Slovak Cultural Gardens clean-up and a picnic. This year we are aiming for Sunday, October 13th (October 20 rain out date) at 2:00pm. Trimming the shrubs, roses and waxing the statues is on the agenda, followed by a cookout. Sausage and buns will be provided – bring a side dish to share.

Our chapter is dedicated to advancing the understanding of Czech and Slovak cultures by people of all backgrounds.

For SVU Cleveland Chapter - Paul Burik, President <u>paulb54@centurytel.net</u>