

The exhibition is under the auspices of the Croatian Commission for UNESCO



Split Cathedral

CASA Glyptotheque: idea and realisation
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Photographs: Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts Glyptotheque Archives and Documentation, and students photography

Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts - Glyptotheque, Medvedgradska 2, Zagreb, Croatia, 2019.

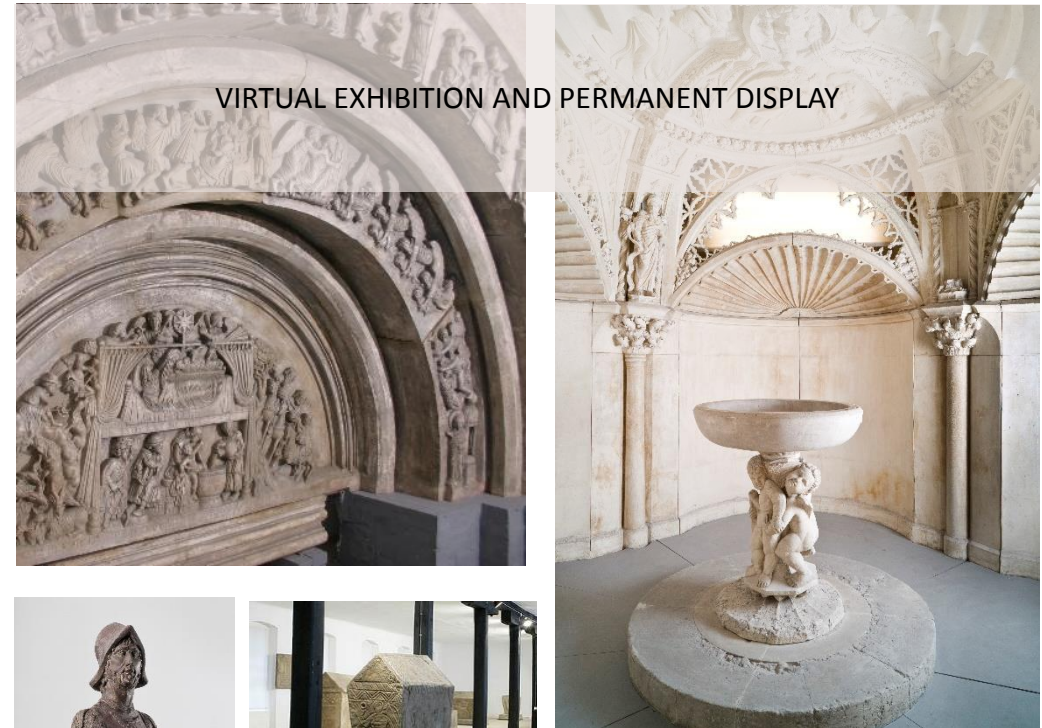
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Financial support: Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Croatia,
City Office for Culture of the City of Zagreb



UNESCO MONUMENTS IN THE CROATIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES AND ARTS GLYPTOTHEQUE



CROATIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES AND ARTS GLYPTOTHEQUE

ABOUT EXHIBITION

Virtual exhibition brings together those UNESCO monuments from the World Cultural Heritage List, the plaster casts of which are exhibited in the permanent display of the Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts Glyptotheque. On show are exhibits, monuments or parts of them, from historical units and sites of the UNESCO-listed cultural heritage, pieces from the plaster cast collections of the Glyptotheque (the Collection of Plaster Casts of Fragments of the Croatian Cultural Heritage from the 9th to the 15th century, the Collection of Plaster Casts of Stechaks and the George the Dalmatian Collection). These individual monuments are used to present five out of the total of eight units of the cultural heritage from the UNESCO List.

By means of this exhibition, we would like to popularise the permanent display of the Glyptotheque through the theme of the UNESCO heritage. We would like to stress the value of the collection of plaster casts, which in a one-of-a-kind way bring together the most important monuments of the sculptural heritage placed in the UNESCO List.

The exhibition has been put on to mark International Museum Day 2019, and has been produced jointly by the Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts Glyptotheque, the Croatian Studies Centre and the Graphic Arts Faculty of Zagreb University.

UNESCO (the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) is a United Nations agency which takes special care for intellectual and ethical issues in the realms of education, science and culture.

A precondition for the entry of a site onto the List of the UNESCO World Heritage is the unique universal value of the cultural property and the importance that the heritage has for the identity of the given nation and culture, as well as for humanity as a whole.

The present virtual exhibition covers five of the eight units of the cultural heritage that are in the permanent displays of the Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts Glyptotheque from the area of Croatia: the Historical Complex of Split and Diocletian's Palace; the Old City of Dubrovnik; the Historic City of Trogir; Šibenik Cathedral; Stechaks and one site (Radimlja) of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

STECHAKS – MEDIEVAL TOMBSTONE GRAVEYARDS (2016.)



In 2016, the stechaks – from medieval tombstone graveyards in the territory of the Republic of Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro and Serbia were jointly entered on the UNESCO World Cultural Heritage List. Twenty eight cemeteries were inscribed, 20 from Bosnia and Herzegovina, three each in Serbia and Montenegro and two in Croatia (Cista Provo, Konavle).

Stechaks are medieval tombstones that appeared in the second half of the 12th century, were made at a great pace and vigour in the 14th and 15 centuries, and gradually disappeared in the 16th century. The particular value of them is their ecumenism, for members of all three medieval Christian communities in this area were buried beneath them – the Catholic, the Orthodox and the Bosnian Church.

This exhibition includes a site of Radimlja from Bosnia and Herzegovina, whose stechaks are in the permanent exhibition of Glyptotheque CASA.

THE CATHEDRAL OF ST JAMES IN ŠIBENIK (2000.)



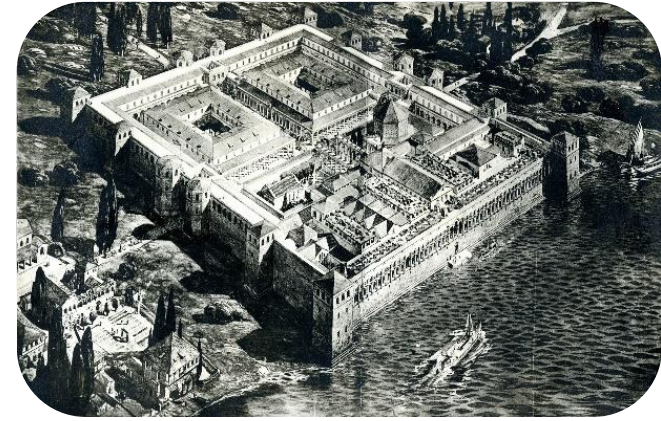
The Cathedral of St James in Šibenik was built between 1431 and 1535. This unique building, which combines Gothic and Renaissance characteristics, was built according to a design of George of Dalmatia, and completed by Niccolò di Giovanni. A salient feature of this three- nave cathedral is the innovative technical handling, the dome of stone slabs fitted into grooves, and the vault. The organic fusion of architecture and sculpture is most to be seen on the frieze of the apse, with the sequence of 71 carved heads that clearly have the characteristics of portraits.

A distinct unit of the holdings of the Glyptothek consists of the oeuvre of builder and sculptor George of Dalmatia or Giorgio da Sebenico, with casts from the Cathedral of St James in Šibenik, his masterpiece, which in 2000 was entered on the UNESCO World Cultural Heritage List.

This exhibition includes some of the architectural and sculptural fragments from the Collection of the Giorgio da Sebenico of Glyptothek CASA.

These are plaster casts of the northern façade fragment, the northern portal sculpture, baptistery, the frieze of the apse and the wooden model of the cathedral.

THE HISTORICAL COMPLEX OF SPLIT AND DIOCLETIAN'S PALACE (1979)



The historical complex of the city of Split with Diocletian's Palace has multiple values, not only at a national but also at a universal level, because of which in 1979 it was entered on the UNESCO World Cultural Heritage List. The palace of Emperor Diocletian, one of the most important of the emperors of Rome, is a monument of extraordinary value. It is possible to observe, through its continuous existence, the layering of each separate period, from Late Antiquity and the rule of Diocletian, via its transformation into a Christian cathedral in the 7th century until the present day. An important example of architectural transformation, Diocletian's Palace had a great influence on the later development of planning and architecture in the Dalmatian region and at the wider European level. The degree of preservation of original parts and the whole, the engineering feat of the actual building, and the string of original architectural forms on the borderline between Ancient and early medieval art tell of the artistic worth of the complex. In addition, Diocletian's Palace is considered a key monument for the study of ancient imperial palaces. Within the Roman walls there are a Romanesque church of the 12th and 13th century, medieval fortifications as well as Gothic, Renaissance and Baroque palaces. In the CASA Glyptothek in the Collection of Plaster Casts of Fragments from the Immovable Monuments of the Croatian cultural heritage from the 9th to the 15th century there are casts that were taken from the former Diocletian Mausoleum, today the Cathedral. There are also the altar of St Anastasius by George of Dalmatia, the wooden doors of Master Andrija Buvina of 1214, and two reliefs from the cathedral's bell tower. From the historic core of the city of Split, the Glyptothek has a cast of the baptismal font from the Baptistery, of the one-time Small Temple, and the altar rail from the little Romanesque Church of St Martin.

OLD CITY OF DUBROVNIK (1979.)



Dubrovnik, a late medieval planned city on the southern shores of the Adriatic, became an important medieval maritime power in the 13th century. Its economy continued to flourish in the historical period of the Dubrovnik Republic, a special political and territorial whole the inhabitants of which were proud of their culture, successful commerce and the freedom they managed to preserve through the centuries.

Although damaged to a great extent by the earthquake of 1667, Dubrovnik managed to preserve its lovely Gothic, Renaissance and Baroque churches, its monasteries, palaces and fountains. The walls of old Dubrovnik surround this exceptionally well preserved complex of public and private, sacred and secular buildings. The Rector's Palace, the main street of the old city, Stradun, the Church of St Blaise, the cathedral, three large monasteries, the building of the Customs House and the Council Chamber, the bell tower and the fountain are just some of the important buildings of the old city centre, which in 1979 was placed on the UNESCO World Cultural Heritage List.

There are several monuments in the display of the Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts Glyptotheque that were originally housed in the protected city centre, part of the Franciscan monastery and church, as well as the jacquemarts from the city bell tower.

THE HISTORIC CITY OF TROGIR (1997.)



The historic city of Trogir and its rich culture, with impulses from the Ancient Greeks, the Romans and the Venetians, was entered onto the World Cultural Heritage List in 1997.

Preserved from the Hellenistic period is the right-angled street plan, with many public and residential buildings as well as fortifications. In the medieval period, religious buildings were put up, and the city walls were reconstructed. In the period from the 13th to the 15th century Trogir arrived at the peak of its strength, social and economic, cultural and artistic. This was aided by its geographical position, because of which it was exposed to influences of France, Venice and the Italian centres of Romanesque art. The city of Trogir has been recognised as the best preserved Romanesque-Gothic city, the core of which consists of forts, religious and secular buildings, with the Rector's Palace and the City Loggia standing out. Its Romanesque churches were supplemented with Renaissance and Baroque edifices and the works of Master Radovan, Blaž Jurjev of Trogir (Blasius Georgii de Lapaç), Ivan Duknović, Andrija Aleši and Niccolò di Giovanni Fiorentino. The most important building is Trogir Cathedral with its portal, which is the most successful synthesis of Dalmatian medieval art.

In the Glyptotheque there is a cast of Radovan's Portal and sculptures of Niccolò di Giovanni from Trogir Cathedral (St Jerome, St John the Baptist) and from the Church of St Sebastian (St. Sebastian).