FIDEM XXX
30th Congress
International Federation of Medallic Art
Fédération Internationale de la Médaille

September 19-22, 2007 • Colorado Springs, Colorado
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The most interesting medal project in recent memory is the Irish-Croatian silver 15-euro coin. Its obverse was designed by Croatian Ivan Meštrović (1883-1962) for the Irish Free State in 1926. Nobel-Prize winner and medal jury member William Butler Yeats included Meštrović, a favorite sculptor, among the five artists invited to take part in the 1926 competition.

The jury wrote to the wrong address, and Meštrović received the invitation much too late. He sent a bronze model of the obverse that featured a strong, young woman playing a Celtic harp, aware the jury could not accept it. Meštrović's model was adapted for a contemporary coin by Damir Meštrović, who provided a suitable reverse.

Elsewhere in Croatia, a special postgraduate course in medal-making and small-scale sculpture began at the Zagreb Academy of Fine Arts. The first three students enrolled in 2006 were Karlo Gross and Matej Pašalić, both trained in Zagreb; and Luka Petrinjak, who studied in Antwerp. Gross and Pašalić have modeled works for the FIDEM exhibition in Colorado Springs.

Medals were shown at several exhibitions in 2006. The representative exhibition of Velibor Mačukatin (b. 1919) at the Salon of the Antun Augustinčić Museum at Klanjčec opened on November 17. The Vukovar Town Museum exhibited the considerable Matijas family donation, consisting of 107 works by Branko Crrenjak (b. 1930), which included 18 plaquettes and 22 medals. There now is a permanent medal exhibition at the Glyptothèque of the Croatian Academy of Science and Arts in Zagreb, presented by Vesna Mažuran Subotić, which features an excellent cross-section of art medals. The exhibition center at the former Jesuit College in Zagreb showed many works by the sculptor Vanja Radauš (1906-75), including his complete medallic works.

Last year also saw the publication of an elegant monograph dedicated to the work of Stipe Sikirica (b. 1933) by Darko Glavan, which included medals. Recently, the Croatian State Mint released several valuable editions, among them a medal struck for the 2006 FIFA Football World Cup in Germany, and a special issue dedicated to the 150th anniversary of the birth of inventor Nikola Tesla (1856-1946), who spent many years in the United States.

—Ivan Mirnik
La Croatie

Le projet de médaille le plus intéressant de ces dernières années est la pièce irlando-croate de 15 euros en argent. Le côté face a été conçu par le Croate Ivan Meštrović (1883-1962) pour l'État libre irlandais en 1926. William Butler Yeats, lauréat et membre du jury de la médaille du Prix Nobel, a compris le sculpteur préféré Meštrović parmi les cinq artistes invités à participer à la compétition de 1926.

Le jury a envoyé l'invitation à la mauvaise adresse, et Meštrović l'a reçue bien trop tard. Il a envoyé un modèle en bronze du côté face représentant une jeune femme forte qui joue une harpe celtique, conscient que le jury ne l'accepterait pas. Le modèle de Meštrović a été adapté pour une monnaie contemporaine par Damir Meštrović, qui a fourni un côté pile convenable.


Les médailles ont été présentées à plusieurs expositions en 2006. Le vernissage de l'exposition représentative de Velibor Macukatín (né en 1919) au Salon du Musée Antun Augustinčić à Kranjcek a eu lieu le 17 novembre. Le Musée de la ville de Vukovar a exposé le don considérable de la famille Matijas, qui consiste de 107 œuvres par Branko Crilenjak (né en 1930), y-compris 18 plaquettes et 22 médailles. Une exposition permanente de médailles présentée par Vesna Mažuran Subotić prend place actuellement à la Glyptothèque de l'Académie croate des arts et des sciences à Zagreb, et comprend un excellent échantillon des médailles d'art. Le centre d'exposition de l'ancien Collège jésuite de Zagreb a exposé de nombreuses œuvres par le sculpteur Vanja Radauš (1906-75), y-compris l'intégralité de ses œuvres sur médaille.


—Ivan Mirnik
IVAN ANTOLČIĆ  b. 1928
Štefanićeva 5, 10110 Zagreb, Croatia


CR1. ZAGREB PUPPET THEATRE
123.5 x 115mm, cast bronze, uniface, 2005

ZDRAVKO BRKIĆ  b. 1949
Slavenskog 27, 10000 Zagreb, Croatia

Graduated from Academy of Fine Arts in Zagreb, 1972. Began exhibiting in 1973 and has participated in most of the triennial exhibitions of Croatian medals and small sculpture. Several solo exhibitions in Zagreb, Split and Komiža, Koprivnica, Sisak, Osijek and Vinkovci. Several awards and prizes.

CR2. DANTE ALIGHIERI
107.5 x 96.5mm, cast bronze, 2006
STJEPAN DIVKOVIĆ  b. 1961
Dedići 28, 10000 Zagreb, Croatia

Graduated from Zagreb Academy of Fine Arts, 1986. Produced many sculptures, reliefs, and struck and cast medals, mainly for the Croatian State Mint.

CR3.  BISHOP J.J. STROSSMAYER (1815-1905) OF SYRMIA-DAKOVO
148.5mm, cast bronze, uniface, 2005

CR4.  IV. INTERNATIONAL NUMISMATIC CONGRESS IN CROATIA
78.5mm, cast bronze, 2004

CR5.  NIKOLA TESLA (1856-1943)
37mm, *truck silver, 2006

KARLO GROSS  b. 1978
Babonićeva 10, 10000 Zagreb, Croatia

Studied at Zagreb Academy of Fine Arts; presently enrolled in doctoral postgraduate course in medals and small sculpture.

CR6.  LANDSCAPE
47.5 x 43mm, cast bronze, 2005

DURĐICA KOVAČIČEK  b. 1958
Mlinovi 60, 10000 Zagreb, Croatia


CR7.  NIKOLA TESLA (1856-1943)
136.5mm, cast bronze, uniface, 2006

CR8.  DRAGUTIN TADJANOVIĆ (B. 1905)
140mm, cast bronze, uniface, 2006
MARIJA KRSTIĆ-LUKAČ b. 1954
Magdiceve Stube 2, 10000 Zagreb, Croatia


CR9. THE TENTH SECONDARY SCHOOL (GYMNASIUM) AWARD
69.5mm, cast bronze (silver-plated), 2004

DAMIR MATAUŠIĆ b. 1954
Andrijevićeva 30, 10000 Zagreb, Croatia

Graduated with focus in metal design from School of Applied Arts in Zagreb, 1974; graduated in small sculpture and medal design from Zagreb Academy of Fine Arts, 1979. Taught at School of Applied Arts in Zagreb, 1986-96; teaches small sculpture and medal design at Academy of Fine Arts, 1996-present. In 2003 elected vice dean of the academy. More than 30 collective and 17 solo exhibitions; 100 gold and silver medals, more than 450 two-sided medals. Produced dies for more than 12 special jubilee editions for the Republic of Croatia.

CR10. THE REVEREND MOTHER KLARA ŽIŽIĆ, 1706-2006
123.5 x 115mm, silver, 2006

CR11. CROATIAN CULTURE
90 x 83.5mm, silver, 2005

CR12. CENTENARY OF THE BRETHREN OF THE CROATIAN DRAGON
70mm, silver, 2005

CR13. 2006 FIFA FOOTBALL WORLD CUP
37mm, cast bronze, 2006

CR14. JOSIP BOZANIĆ, CARDINAL-ARCHBISHOP OF ZAGREB / ST. JEROME, ROME
75mm, silver and enamel, 2005

CR15. THE PULA AMPHITHEATRE
123.5 x 115mm, struck alloy (gold-plated), 2006
MARGARETA LANDAU NEJAŠMIĆ b. 1931
Pantovčak 118A, 10000 Zagreb, Croatia

Medals, jewelry, paintings and engravings; medals focus on cities and architecture. About 30 exhibitions in Croatia and abroad, with two solo shows.

CR16. BLEIBURG
80.5mm, bronze, 2005

CR17. POPE JOHN PAUL II—THREE VISITS TO CROATIA
98 x 74.5mm, silver-plated, gilt bronze and enamel, 2005

DALIBOR PARAČ b. 1921
Ilica 106, 10000 Zagreb, Croatia

Graduated from Academy of Fine Arts in Zagreb. Worked at the master’s studio of Krsto Hegedušić. Career includes many exhibits. Began modeling medals relatively late in his career.

CR18. DR. SLAVKO KOMAR (1918), VETERINARY, DIPLOMAT AND POLITICIAN
112mm, cast bronze, 2005
MATEJ PAŠALIĆ  b. 1978
Tome Matica 14, 10000 Zagreb, Croatia

Graduated in medal design from School of Applied Art in Zagreb, 1997; graduated in sculpture from Zagreb Academy of Fine Arts, 2005. Since 2003, teaches at School of Applied Arts in Zagreb. Several group and solo exhibitions.

CR19.  HE
74 x 55mm, cast silver, 2005

CR20.  DUŠAN VUKOTIĆ (1927-1998), AUTHOR AND DIRECTOR OF SHORT ANIMATED FILMS
122 x 61mm, cast bronze, uniface, 2004

IRENA PODVORAC  b. 1977
Travnički Put 14, Velika Rakovica, 10430 Samobor, Croatia


CR21.  STUDIO-CAT
71.5mm, cast bronze, 2006

CR22.  DESTINY
66.5mm, cast bronze, 2006

CR23.  PASSAGES TO RECONSTRUCTION
61mm, cast bronze, 2006
JOSIP POLJAN  b. 1925
Gajdekova 12, 10000 Zagreb, Croatia

Taught at School of Applied Arts in Zagreb, 1951-61; Academy of Paedagogy, 1961-78; and Zagreb Academy of Fine Arts, 1978-present. First made medals when in his mid 60s. Exhibits frequently; solo show in 1984 in Zagreb. Won Mare Nostrum Croatian, 2006.

CR24. EMAUS
73.5 x 68.5mm, cast bronze, uniface, 2006

ANTE STARČEVIĆ  b. 1933
Smodekova 14, 10000 Zagreb, Croatia

Graduated in sculpture from Academy of Fine Arts in Zagreb, 1957. Four solo shows; numerous exhibitions at home and abroad.

CR25. OLIVE TREE
123mm, cast bronze, uniface, 2005

ŽELJKO ZIMA  b. 1946
Petrova 63a, 10000 Zagreb, Croatia

Graduated in sculpture from Academy of Fine Arts in Zagreb, 1970; worked at master's studio of Antun Augustinčić, 1973-75. Since 1970, has showed his works in several solo and group exhibitions in Croatia and abroad.

CR26. POINT IS IN THE POINT
143 x 140mm, cast bronze and steel, 2006