



**SLOVENIAN**

**CONNECTION**

The Műcsarnok-Kunsthalle opened four related exhibitions in the summer of 2015 as part of its **Slovenian Connection** series. Around the core exhibition on modern Slovenian painting entitled **Masters and their masters**, works by **Johannes Aquila, György Zala** and **Jože Plečnik** were also exhibited. These exhibitions span centuries and present artists who – despite the different cultural contexts – all worked in the same historic region and exerted an important and lasting influence. The exhibitions, organized under the auspices of the Presidents of Slovenia and Hungary, were open until the end of September.

**7 August – 27 September 2015**

# MASTERS AND THEIR MASTERS

## Homage to Painting

07 08 – 27 09 2015

Műcsarnok | Kunsthalle Budapest – rooms I., II., III., XI. and XII.

The exhibition was initiated by the painters Branko Suhy and Jožef Muhovič, both of whom teach at the Academy of Fine Arts and Design at the University of Ljubljana, in order to present the oeuvre of five members of the Faculty at the Academy. **Emerik Bernard, Herman Gvardjančič, Jožef Muhovič, Franc Novinc** and **Branko Suhy** have a strong belief in the continuing tradition of painting and the manual form and spiritual power of visual representation. This conviction inspired their exhibitions in the past few years organized in Slovenia (Castle of Ljubljana), in Croatia (Mimara Museum in Zagreb), in Austria (Künstlerhaus in Vienna), in Italy (Accademia di Belle Arti di Venezia in Venice) and elsewhere.

Paintings by former professor-painters – by emeritus professors **Janez Bernik** and **Andrej Jemec**, by the late **Bogdan Borčić, Zoran Didek, Božidar Jakac, Gojmir Anton Kos, Marij Pregelj** and **Gabrijel Stupica**, all of them former professors at the Academy, and by **Zoran Mušič**, who did not teach at the Academy but he inspired many Slovenian artists and he is acknowledged in the international art scene. This selection of artworks gives a more comprehensive and representative view of the history of Slovenian painting from 1920 up to the present.

**Curator: Dr. Milček Komelj**

**Co-curators: Jožef Muhovič, Branko Suhy and Marianna Mayer**

**The exhibition catalogue is edited by Dr. Milček Komelj, Prof. Mag. Branko Suhy and Prof. Dr. Jožef Muhovič**

Supporting organizations: MMA, EMMI, Republic of Slovenia Embassy in Budapest, Galerija-Muzej Lendava

Opening Speeches by: Anton Peršak, State Secretary at the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Slovenia

Péter Hoppál, State Secretary for Culture at the Ministry of Human Resources

Ksenija Škrilec, Ambassador of the Republic of Slovenia to Hungary

Beáta Lázár, Director of Gallery-Museum Lendava

Patrons: Borut Pahor, President of the Republic of Slovenia and János Áder, President of the Republic Hungary



Ksenija Škrilec, Ambassador of the Republic of Slovenia to Hungary



György Szegő, art director, Műcsarnok / Kunsthalle Budapest



Beáta Lázár, art director, Galerija-Muzej Lendava



OPENING OF SLOVENIAN CONNECTION'S EXHIBITIONS | MASTERS AND THEIR MASTERS

06 08 2015 – Műcsarnok / Kunsthalle Budapest



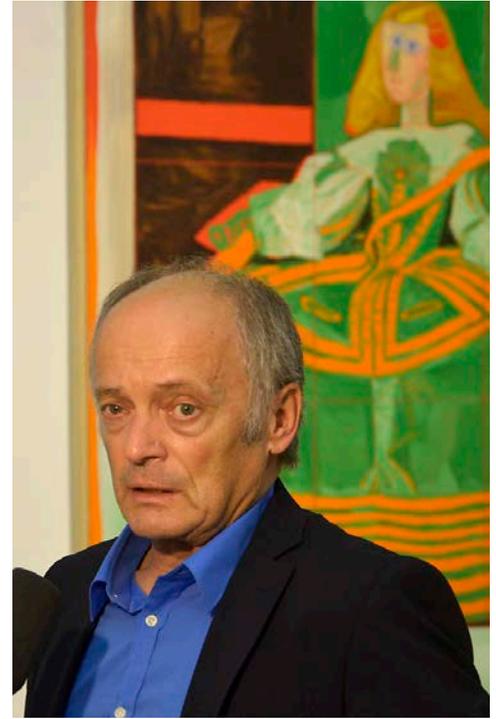
Anton Peršak, State Secretary at the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Slovenia



György Szegő, Ksenija Škrilec, Branko Suhy, Jožef Muhovič and Marianna Mayer

**OPENING OF SLOVENIAN CONNECTION'S EXHIBITIONS | MASTERS AND THEIR MASTERS**

**06 08 2015 – Műcsarnok / Kunsthalle Budapest**



Branko Suhy



Branko Suhy, Jožef Muhovič and Andrej Jemec



Jožef Muhovič

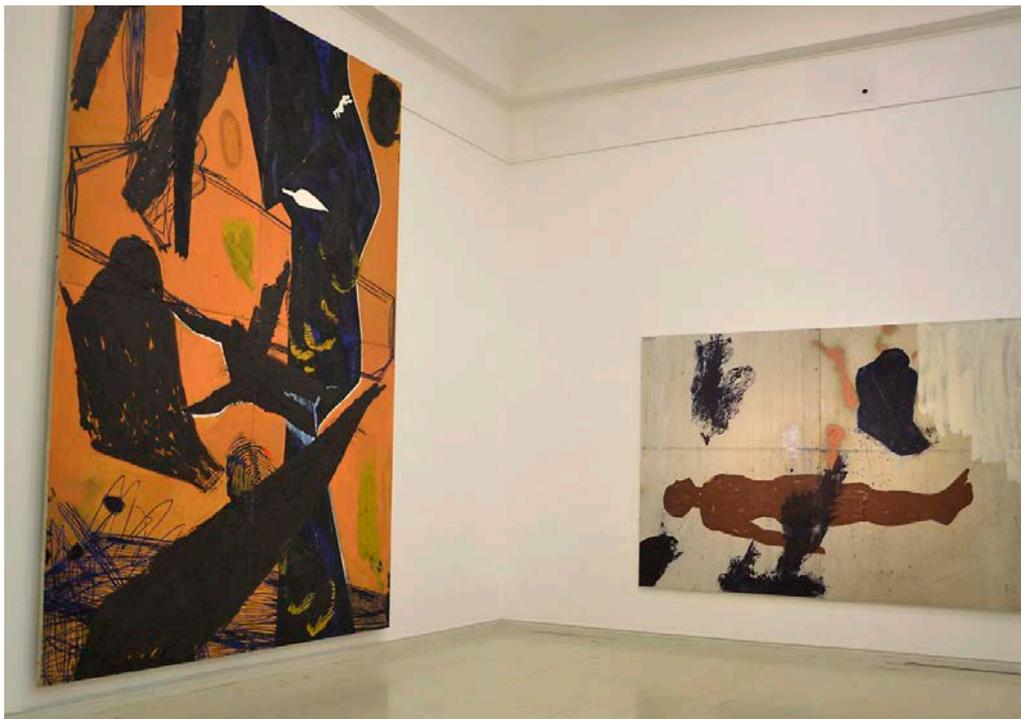
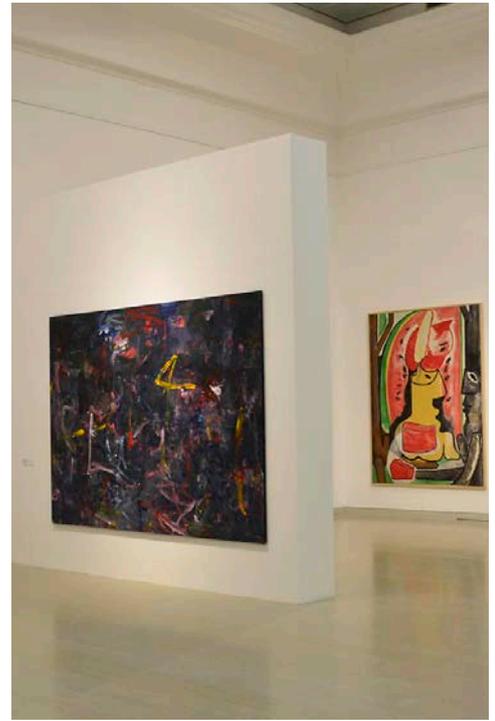
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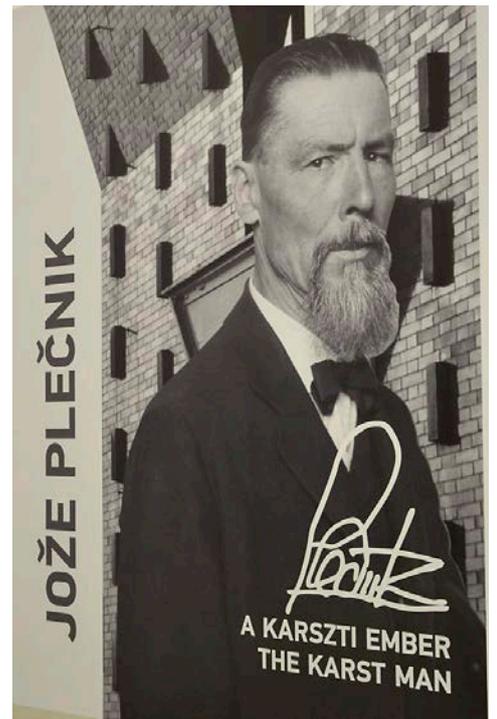
**06 08 2015 – Múcsarnok / Kunsthalle Budapest**



György Szegő, Marianna Mayer, Júlia Bálint Čeh, Borut Pahor, János Áder and György Fekete



György Szegő, András Hadik and János Áder



**SLOVENIAN CONNECTION'S EXHIBITIONS | JOŽE PLEČNIK – The Karst Man**

**Műcsarnok / Kunsthalle Budapest**

# JOHANNES AQUILA

## ...by his hands

12 08 – 27 09 2015

Műcsarnok | Kunsthalle Budapest – rooms IV., V. and VI.

The exhibition entitled „Johannes Aquila by his hands” is dedicated to the outstanding figure of medieval fresco-painter who worked in the Őrség–Muraköz/Međimurje County–Styria triangle. Two self-portraits are known from Johannes Aquila dating from the late Anjou age (late 14th century), held in high esteem by the curator of the present exhibition as the first preserved artist self-portraits signed with by the artist.

Although Aquila is relatively well known, the details of his life are unclear, and the archives have so far remained silent about his life. To judge from his earliest work known to us, the murals of the Trinity Church in Velemér, Vas County in Hungary dated to 1378 (the murals unfortunately do not survive), he was probably born around the middle of the 14th century. On the strength of his first name written as Johannes and the consequent use of the artistic coat of arms, he is likely to have been of German descent, although it has yet to be proved. His surname, also included on the banderole, was probably taken up sometime during his life and refers primarily to his patron saint, Saint John the Evangelist, represented in the iconographic tradition with an eagle (aquila).

His known frescoes are to be found in the Trinity Church in Velemér, in the Church of the Virgin Mary in Bántornya, in the Church of Saint Martin in Mártonhely, in the Augustinian Church in Fürstenfeld. His only known secular painting is in the Pistorhaus in Bad Radkersburg.

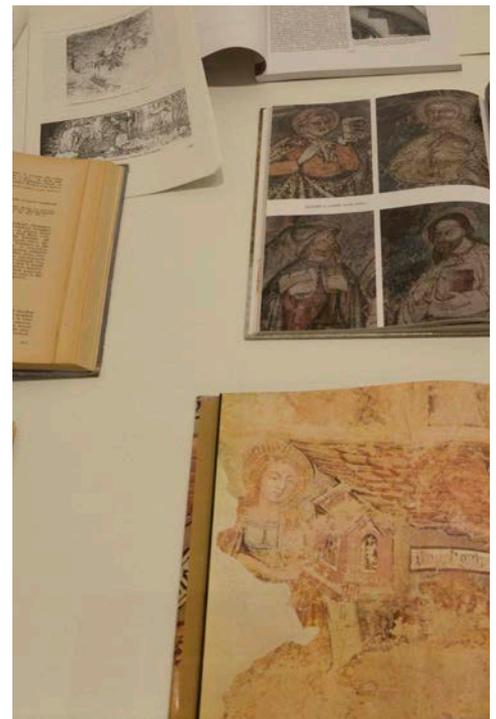
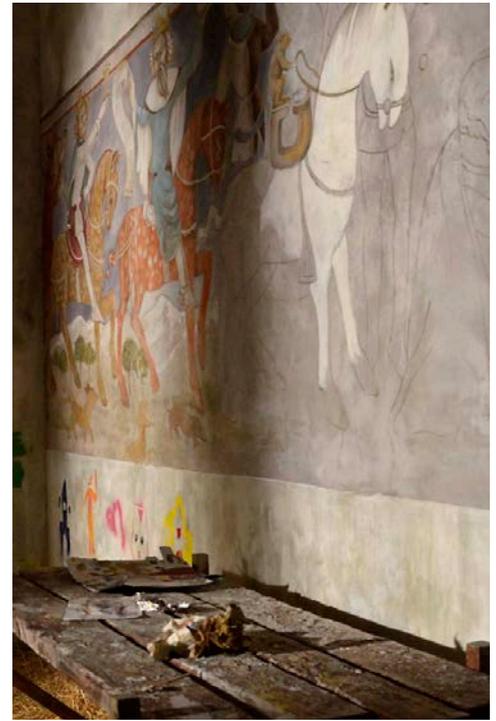
In line with medieval conventions, Johannes Aquila painted eschatological themes adopted by the Church using a set of traditional iconographical models, which might have been the basis of his personal emblembook. His other compositions followed works – primarily murals – seen in neighbouring countries which he often adapted without modifications. When painting specific Hungarian themes – such as the history of Saint Ladislaus – his aristocratic clients, the Széchys and the Bánffys, and through the min directly the royal court provided him with artistic models and patterns to use. A scale model of the Velemér Church will be set up as part of the exhibition, in which visitors can observe how medieval frescoes were produced. This will be complemented by material from the main Hungarian collections (Hungarian National Gallery, Forster Center, Storno-collection in Sopron) which survey the major phases of the historiography of Johannes Aquila and his work. The exhibition will be accompanied by a photoexhibit by Zoltan Móser showing details from the frescoes of Johannes Aquila.

Curator: **Terézia Kerny**

Exhibition design: György Árvai and Róbert Bogár

The exhibition catalogue is edited by Terézia Kerny

Supporting organizations:



**SLOVENIAN CONNECTION'S EXHIBITIONS | JOHANNES AQUILA – ...by his hands**

**Műcsarnok / Kunsthalle Budapest**



**SLOVENIAN CONNECTION'S EXHIBITIONS | JOHANNES AQUILA – ...by his hands**

**Műcsarnok / Kunsthalle Budapest**



# GYÖRGY ZALA

A classic of public space

12 08 – 27 09 2015

Műcsarnok | Kunsthalle Budapest – rooms VII. and VIII.

*“the exhibition presenting the oeuvre of György Zala will showcase how Zala’s sculpting activity shaped the appearance of Heroes’ Square.*

György Zala was born in Alsólendva, a municipality in Zala county of the pre-1918 Hungary (present day Lendava in Slovenia). He went to a Realgymnasium, and continued his studies in the „Mintarajztanoda” or Model Drawing School (the precursor of the Hungarian University of Fine Arts). Later he worked with artists in Vienna and München. The fashionable allegorism and symbolism of his age were matched in his person with outstanding sculpting skills.

True to the spirit of historicism, he based his symbolism on Greco-Roman culture and art, which he used to discover and develop new correspondences from a finalized and closed system of symbolic meanings and from the unequivocal allusions rooted in classical literacy. From 1844 he worked in Hungary. He achieved notable success with the Sepulchre of a young mother (with the figures of Mary and Magdalene), his work was noted and he received a number of significant commissions during his life (Statue of Liberty, Arad; the Patriotic Soldier, Castle of Buda; and later the Millenary Monument).

Hungarian sculpture in its first phase mainly produced works of public art. As the influence of the propertied middle classes and of the grand bourgeoisie expanded to match that of the aristocracy in means and cultural pretensions, the demand for both representative and private portraiture grew considerably. Zala was a notable portraitist, and he was commissioned to sculpt a great number of portraits. His most interesting pieces span the period from the second part of the 1880s to the turn of the century (the portraits of Franz Josef, of Empress Elizabeth or „Sisi”, Ferenc Deák).

György Zala, described by Artúr Elek as „a great talent born into an unresponsive age” was always looking for the classic, the sempiternal, the unchanging, the enduring in every single work of art.



**Curator: Gizella Szatmári**

The exhibition catalogue is edited by Gizella Szatmári.

Supporting organizations: MMA, EMMI



**SLOVENIAN CONNECTION'S EXHIBITIONS | GYÖRGY ZALA – A classic of public space**

**Műcsarnok / Kunsthalle Budapest**

# JOŽE PLEČNIK

## THE KARST MAN

12 08 2015 – 27 09 2015

Műcsarnok | Kunsthalle Budapest – rooms IX. and X.



*"Like a spider I attach my threads to tradition, to weave from them my own web." (Jože Plečnik)*

The exhibition displays the oeuvre of Jože Plečnik, the most important Slovenian architect of the 20th century, whose emblematic figure defined the modern architectural landscape of Ljubljana, the capital of Slovenia. His universality stems from combining various cultural influences and architectural traditions. The exhibition presents the oeuvre chronologically with a topographical assessment.

Plečnik studied in Vienna in Otto Wagner's master school during the second part of the 1890s. He then worked in Vienna until the end of World War I. He taught at the School of Art and Design in Prague from 1911 for 10 years. In 1920 he was commissioned to rebuild and renovate Hradčany, the symbolic acropolis of the new Czechoslovakia and to create and construct the presidential residence. His architectural style is characterized by a specific version of neoclassicism applied with mastery and skill.

Beside urban design, his achievements in industrial design are also notable. He taught at the University of Ljubljana from the 1920s until his death. His Ljubljana house was converted into a museum. The academic reassessment of his oeuvre started to gather momentum in the 1980s, and his architecture is considered today to be a forerunner of postmodernist urban design. His oeuvre and his buildings commissioned and built in Central Europe could be the springboard for a common regional language in architecture. The exhibition surveys his multifaceted architectural activity and creative urban thinking which spanned a number of locations and cities. The exhibition presents Plečnik as an architect, as an urban designer of plastic and pliable forms who articulated the idea of a universal city for the next century. All this is best seen in his complex urban development project for Ljubljana which defines the landscape of the capital even today, among others, through the design of the central city cemetery „Žale”. The exhibition showcases the buildings of the architect and presents the locations of his activity to chart Plečnik's personal portrait. The exhibition catalogue is edited and written by architectural historian András Hadik. An international conference and roundtable were also organized around the oeuvre of Jože Plečnik.

**Curator: András Hadik**

**Exhibition design: József Készman**

**Production: Platinum Kft.**

Contributing partners: Atelje Prelovšek d.o.o., Boštjan Burger (burger.si), Damjan Prelovšek, Geodetska Uprava Republike Slovenije / Surveying and Mapping Authority of the Republic of Slovenia, Muzej za arhitekturo in oblikovanj, RTV Slovenija, Slovenski Filmski Arhiv / Slovene Film Archives, Szlovén Köztársaság Budapesti Nagykövetsége / Republic of Slovenia Embassy in Budapest

Supporting organizations:



Video of the exhibition:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BndBc-1CYQk>

Virtual tour of the exhibition:

[http://www.mucsarnok.hu/new\\_site/images/panoramafoto/plecnik/index.htm](http://www.mucsarnok.hu/new_site/images/panoramafoto/plecnik/index.htm)

## ACCOMPANYING PROGRAMS OF THE EXHIBITION

**24 September 2015**, Thursday, 4 pm – Múcsarnok / Kunsthalle Budapest, Auditorium

**GOTHIC ART AND MODERN MYSTICISM. The portrait of a 20th century architect**  
**Lectures on the oeuvre of Jože Plečnik**

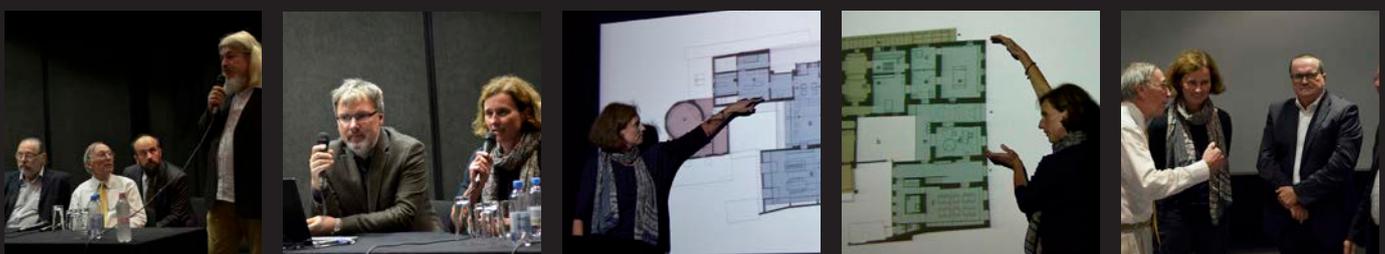
(in English and German, with Hungarian translation)

Slovenian experts held lectures richly illustrated with photographs about Plečnik's art, architecture and oeuvre.

**Damjan Prelovšek:** Jože Plečnik between Tradition and Avant-garde

**Andrej Hrausky:** Plečnik's Ljubljana

**Maruša Zorec:** The process and experiences of the reconstruction of Plečnik's house



To watch the videos of the lectures please visit the video channel of Múcsarnok / Kunsthalle on Youtube:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/mucsarnok>

25 September 2015, Friday, 5 pm – Műcsarnok / Kunsthalle Budapest, exhibition space

## ARCITECTURE AS A FORM OF DIVINE EXPRESSION. THE CREATION OF PSYCHIC SPACES

### Roundtable-discussions

(in Hungarian)

Hungarian architecture professionals discussed the significance and influence of Jože Plečnik's oeuvre.

Participants: **Dr András Ferkai PhD, András Hadik, Miklós Sulyok, György Szegő DLA, János Térey**  
Moderator: **Zorán Vukoszávlyev PhD**



27 September 2015, Sunday, 3 pm

### CURATORIAL TOUR

by András Hadik

### MUSEUM PEDAGOGY WORKSHOPS

Museum learning for student groups – on demand, for groups of children aged 6–10 and 10–18



The ideal city/on land, in water or in the air?  
For children aged 6–10.

Have you ever planned a city for extreme circumstances?  
For young people aged 10–18.



György Szegő, art director, Műcsarnok / Kunsthalle Budapest



Metka Lajnscek, Deputy Ambassador,  
Republic of Slovenia Embassy in Budapest



Áron Petneki, cultural historian



Beáta Lázár, art director, Galerija-Muzej Lendava

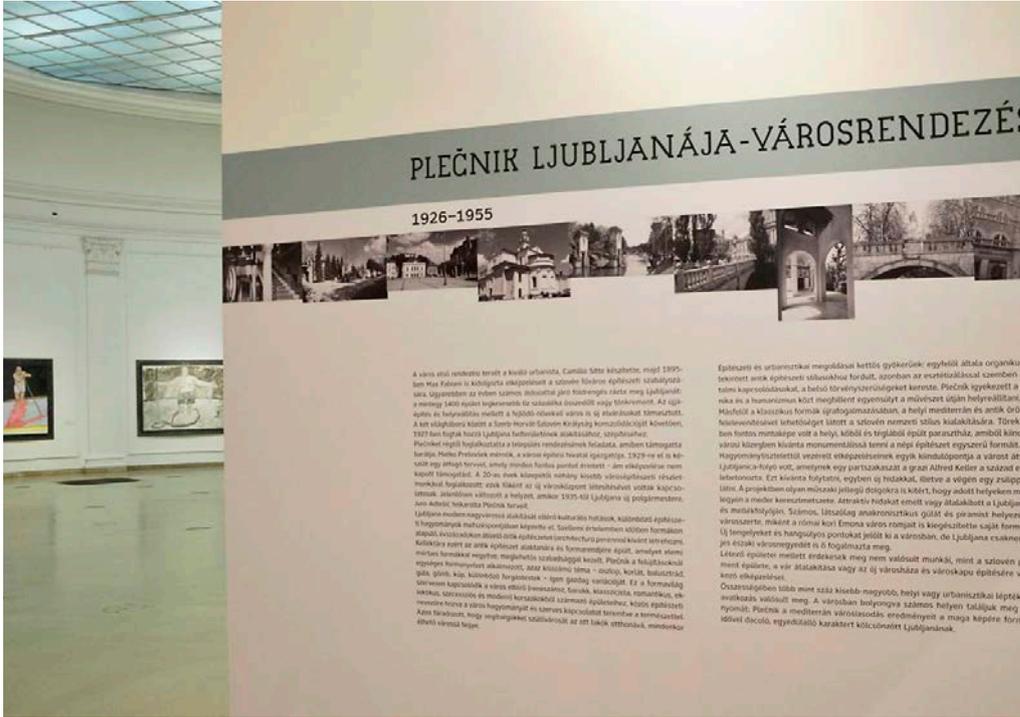
## OPENING OF SLOVENIAN CONNECTION'S EXHIBITIONS

11 08 2015, 5 pm – Műcsarnok / Kunsthalle Budapest, room I



## JOŽE PLEČNIK (1872–1957) – THE KARST MAN

exhibition interiors



**JOŽE PLEČNIK (1872-1957) – THE KARST MAN**  
**exhibition interiors**



**JOŽE PLEČNIK (1872–1957) – THE KARST MAN**

**exhibition interiors**



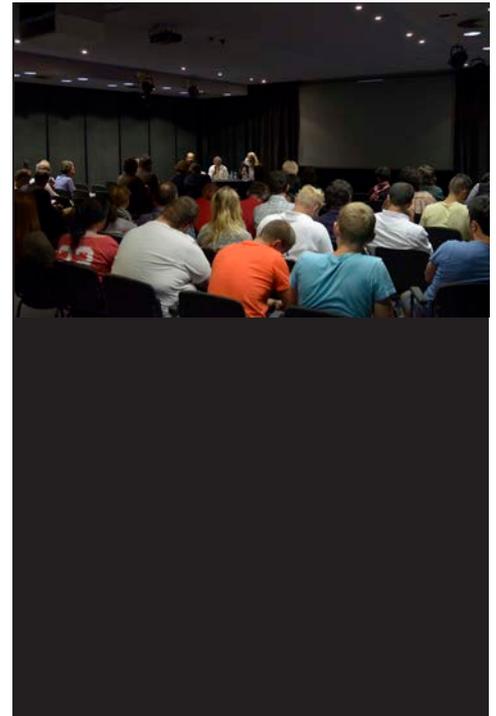
György Szegő, Damjan Prelovšek, Péter Molnár (translator), András Hadik



Damjan Prelovšek

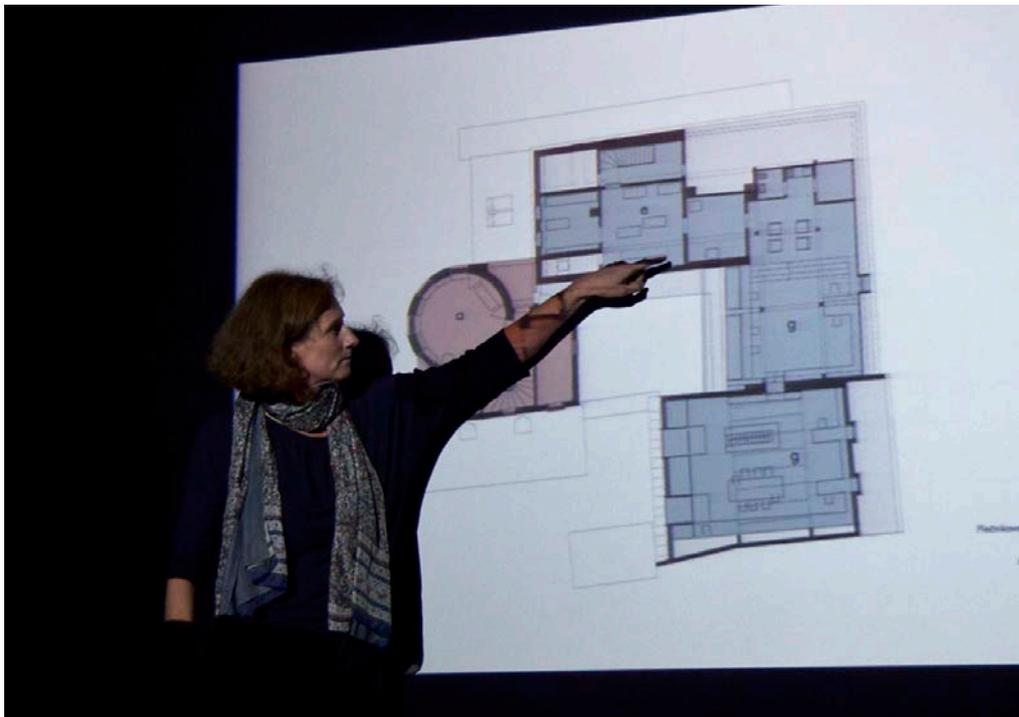


Andrej Hrausky, Maruša Zorec, György Szegő

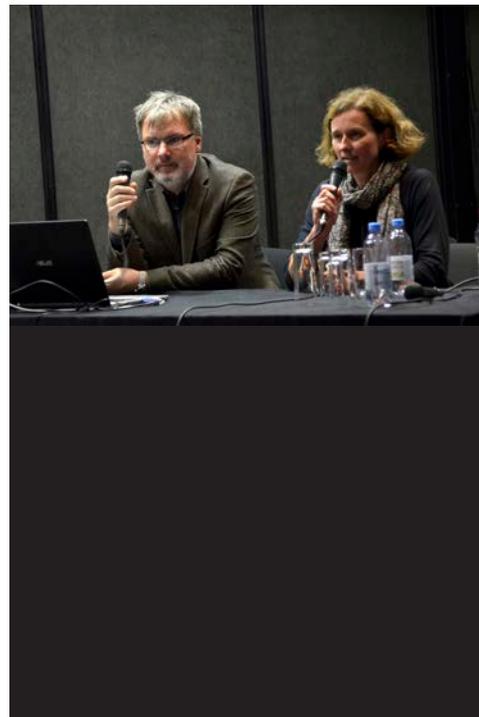


## **GOTHIC ART AND MODERN MYSTICISM. THE PORTRAIT OF A 20TH CENTURY ARCHITECT**

**Conference on the œuvre of Jože Plečnik  
24 09 2015, 4 pm – Műcsarnok / Kunsthalle Budapest, Auditorium**



Maruša Zorec



Miklós Bodóczy (translator), Maruša Zorec



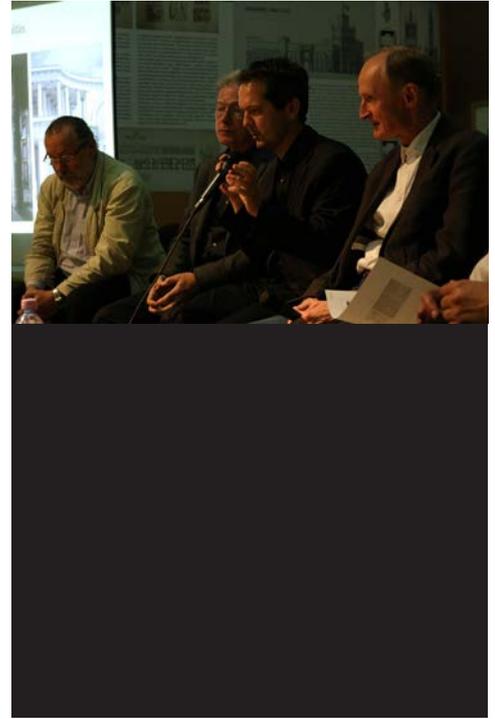
György Szegő, Miklós Bodóczy (translator), Maruša Zorec, András Hadik, Damjan Prelovšek



Damjan Prelovšek, Maruša Zorec, Andrej Hrausky, György Szegő

## GOTHIC ART AND MODERN MYSTICISM. THE PORTRAIT OF A 20TH CENTURY ARCHITECT

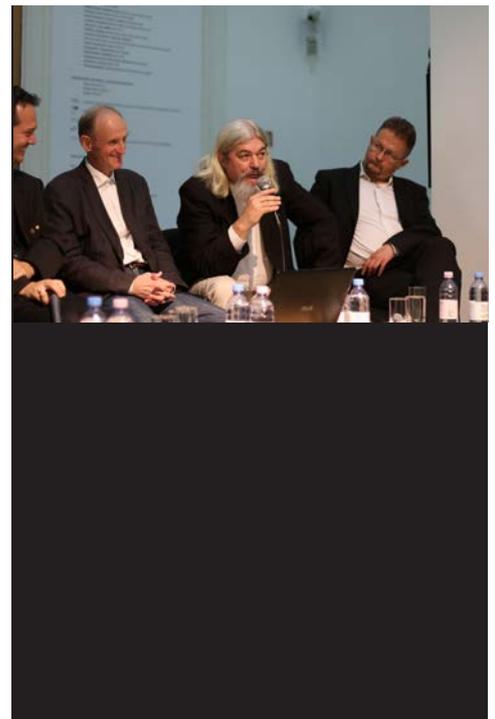
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György Szegő, András Ferkai, Zorán Vukoszávjev, Miklós Sulyok



György Szegő, András Ferkai, Zorán Vukoszávjev, Miklós Sulyok, András Hadik



Zorán Vukoszávjev, Miklós Sulyok, András Hadik, János Térey

## ARCHITECTURE AS A FORM OF DIVINE EXPRESSION. THE CREATION OF PSYCHIC SPACES

Roundtable-discussions

25 September 2015, Friday, 5 pm – Műcsarnok / Kunsthalle Budapest, exhibition space



## Museum pedagogy workshops