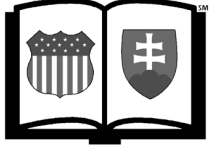


NEWS



From The Slovak-American International Cultural Foundation, Inc.

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VIRTUAL MUSEUM OF SLOVAK ART ESTABLISHED ON INTERNET

Slovak artists are among the best in the world, but few people know about them. A Slovak-American may have a favorite Slovak artist, but the chances are overwhelming that the public at large knows nothing of the art and artists. To call attention to the work of these fine artists, the Slovak-American International Cultural Foundation, a not-for-profit organization, has established an Internet "Virtual Museum." The Museum contains galleries with images from all periods and styles of Slovak art and makes available to the entire world the wonderful, yet largely undiscovered artistic culture of Slovakia.

Don Bustion, Managing Director of the Foundation, stated the goal for the Museum: "It is our hope that we will have millions of visitors each year, people who otherwise would never have an opportunity to visit the many fine museums and venues in Slovakia. We expect the Museum to encompass every important artist and artistic trend and always to be evolving as an important visual record of the impressive art of the Slovak people. We welcome tax-deductible support from the public and corporations in this work." He also noted that the Virtual Museum is especially seeking corporate sponsors for individual works of art, galleries of artists, or the whole collection. "Corporate support is essential if the Virtual Museum concept is to reach its fullest potential," Dr. Bolchazy stated. He further added that such support is fully tax-deductible.

The Museum can be visited on the Internet at www.slovakculture.org.

The inaugural collection contains two galleries: the first is devoted to the beautiful, haunting, and evocative photographs of Igor Grossmann which capture the essence of Slovak rural life at the moment before it disappeared. The second gallery features the landscape photography of Anton Fiala, a noted Slovak photographer and graphic designer. A third gallery, featuring the religious art of Mikhail Klimchak, is under construction.

Bustion also announced that the Foundation has agreed with the National Gallery of Slovakia to display the SNG's collection in the Virtual Museum, beginning in Summer of 2000. "This is a tremendous, unparalleled opportunity for both Slovakia and the world," Mr. Bustion noted in well-received key-note address to a recent national forum on Slovak history and culture. The SNG venue in the Virtual Museum will feature English-language guide to the art collection, and other aids for the enjoyment of the art presented there.

The Slovak-American International Cultural Foundation sponsors programs to showcase the literary, artistic and scholarly contributions of Slovaks and Slovak-Americans. Support from the public is welcomed and contributions are fully tax-deductible.