škofjeloški pasijon
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Intangible Cultural Heritage

The Škofja Loka Passion Play in an International Context

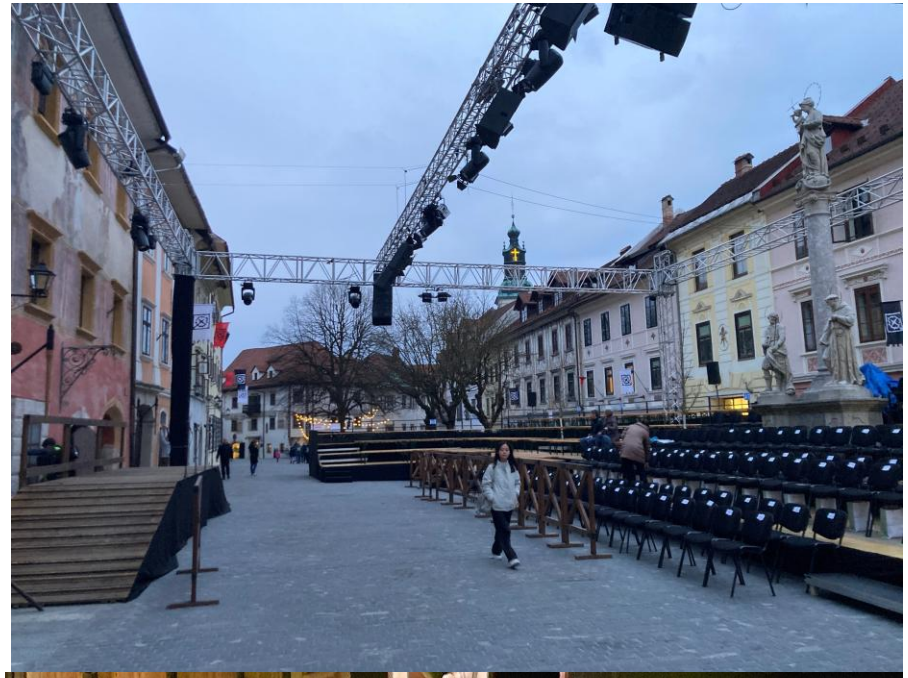
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Key facts about Škofja Loka Passion Play (ŠLPP)

- Originally performed on Easter Friday afternoon from around 1715 until 1767 as a procession through the streets of Škofja Loka's old town.
- The text, written by the Capuchin monk Romuald, has been preserved to this day.
- 1936 and 1937: Performances of the ŠLPP on a fixed stage behind the new school.
- 1999, 2000, 2009, 2015 and 2026: Modern-era performances of the ŠLPP.
- Key facts about the 2026 ŠLPP:
  - 8 performances during Lent and Easter, prepared as a procession with four fixed stages used in each performance;
  - 1200 volunter actors, 60 on horses, 300 technical personnel, around 30.000 spectators;
  - Theatre director: Marcelo Brula, a Slovenian Catholic born in Buenos Aires, Argentina, who has lived in Slovenia since 2021.

- From 2007 on Škofja Loka is a member of Europassion Association.
- December 2016: The Škofja Loka Passion Play was inscribed on UNESCO's Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.


















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General impacts of UNESCO‘s List

- To the best of my knowledge, the ŠLPP is the first Passion Play in the world to be inscribed on UNESCO‘s Representative List;

- General recognition that life and misson of Jesus Christ, including his suffering, crucifixtion and resurrection, form part of humanity‘s intangible (spiritual) cultural heritage;

- Through UNESCO inscription, the general conditions for staging ŠLPP were defined: the time and place of performances, the text, its proccesional format, an audience limit determined by the capacity of the old town center (a maximum 4000 spectators per performance);

- The Municipality of Škofja Loka is the main organizer, while the Capuchin friars of Škofja Loka are the custodian of its spiritual heritage;

General impacts of UNESCO‘s List

- Growing interest among residents of Škofja Loka and neihgbouring communities in participating in the ŠLPP;
- Participation in the ŠLPP has already become a family tradition for many families, with as many as three generations taking part;
- Participants are very proud to be involved;
- Schools and music schools readilly support the particiaption of their pupils;

General impacts of UNESCO‘s List

- Awarenes of the importance of ŠLPP‘s importance has been grown throughout the Škofja Loka Passion Play community and more broadly across Slovenia;
- The ŠLPP is now recognized as a cultural and spiritual pearl of Škofja Loka;
- Growing interest among foreign public, especailly among cities with its own passion play tradition;
- Growing interest among the media, sponsors and donors;
- The ŠLPP is protected from the influence of prevailing local and national political circumstances;

Thank you for your attention.

Welcome to see Škofja Loka Passion Play in year 2033 – 2000 years from Jesus Christ resurrection.

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