

ZÁMEK LITĚŇ

JARMILA NOVOTNÁ FESTIVAL
2015 – 4TH SEASON





After a sixty-nine year pause, Jarmila Novotná starred in Municipal House in Prague again – here she also ended her first concert tour after the return to her homeland once the WWII was over.

INTRODUCTORY WORD

Dear friends,

let me, already for the fourth time, look back on the work of the Association of Chateau Liteň.

Every year, we are thinking how to retain the quality of our activities and keep set standards. In 2015, after three years of systematic work, we had a chance to persuade renowned cultural institutions about the meaningfulness of our work and to start the cooperation with them.

We are very grateful for the cooperation with organizations such as the International Music Festival Prague Spring, the Metropolitan Opera in New York, Music and Dance Faculty of the Academy of Performing Arts in Prague, Municipal House, the National Gallery in Prague, The Museum of Decorative Arts in Prague and others. Thanks to their contribution, we were able to bring a very diverse program that – as we hope – helped to revive the name and raise public awareness of Jarmila Novotná. The positive reactions from our spectators but also an exceptional interest from media make us hope that the standard was not only retained but probably also exceeded our expectations.

We value especially the international research devoted to Jarmila Novotná based on which we were able to publish the first monograph about this unique and partially forgotten personality. This artwork will enable everyone interested in learning more about the life and career of Jarmila Novotná. This book is one of the milestones of the Association of Chateau Liteň's activities.

I truly appreciate and thank for all the support you have provided us with through all these years.

I am looking forward to seeing you all next year!



Ivana Leidlová
Founder and Director
The Association of Chateau Liteň



**První monografie o světové operní hvězdě,
významné osobnosti a velké vlastence
Jarmile Novotné**

– nejnovější kniha Pavla Kosatíka

**V prodeji od 17. září 2015 v e-shopu na www.zamekliten.cz
a u českých knihkupců.**



The 4th year of the festival had a very inventive dramaturgy – it presented new music but also other projects and thus drew the larger attention of the wide public.

Worldwide Research Project and Monograph about Jarmila Novotná

The worldwide research project that was initiated in 2014 finally brought desired results. The first monograph ever published about Jarmila Novotná called Baroness in Opera was written by Pavel Kosatík.

The Exhibition of Opera Costumes of Jarmila Novotná

The most famous costumes of Jarmila Novotná owned by the Metropolitan Opera in NY for more than fifty years were rented to the Czech Republic for the first time in history.

Special Event of the Festival

The 4th year of Jarmila Novotná Festival culminated through a special event organized in Municipal House in Prague. It took only a moment to present the first monograph about Jarmila Novotná written by Pavel Kosatík, to organize a discussion with the author accompanied by a music performance, and to open the exhibition of Jarmila Novotná's opera costumes.

The Master Classes of Adam Plachetka and Kateřina Kněžíková

For a second time this year, the grounds in Liteň hosted master classes organized in the cooperation with Music and Dance Faculty of the Academy of Performing Arts in Prague. Despite the extensive interest from potential participants, only nine of them had a chance to study under the tutelage of the most competent young singers.

Concert of Singers at the International Music Festival Prague Spring 2015

The first common project of the Music Festival Prague Spring and Jarmila Novotná Festival at which appreciated bass-baritone Adam Plachetka presented young singers in the Rudolfinum in Prague. The support of young artists at the start of their career is part of the legacy of Jarmila Novotná and one of the main goals of the Association.



WORLD-WIDE RESEARCH PROJECT AND MONOGRAPH ABOUT JARMILA NOVOTNÁ



It took Pavel Kosatík eighteen months to collect enough material for his book about Jarmila Novotná.



What would be a presentation of a book without an autograph session? Pavel Kosatík enjoyed it twice – at the end of a special event in the Municipal House and few days after that in the bookstore Academia.



WORLD-WIDE RESEARCH PROJECT AND MONOGRAPH ABOUT JARMILA NOVOTNÁ

At the beginning of the year 2014, we have started a research project and helped a writer Pavel Kosatík to study archive materials in the Czech Republic, Europe, and the USA. These materials were also supported by statements of many contemporary witnesses and people with deeper knowledge about the life of Jarmila Novotná. Based on this research, the first comprehensive monograph called *Baroness in Opera* was published. This book provides us with new perspectives and context and draws our attention also through more than hundred pictures mapping the life and career of this world-known singer. The book was quite untraditionally presented at the end of a moderated discussion with Pavel Kosatík and Martina Kociánová during a special event in Municipal House in Prague. A week later, we have organized an autograph session in a bookstore Academia in Prague.

Both readers and critics very well accepted the book. As the book was sold out quite fast, we have initiated second edition of it. We are very glad for that as we truly haven't expected that the book will be so successful in the time when the reading is not so popular anymore.

We have presented the book through a serie of discussions with Pavel Kosatík organized in many Czech towns in fall 2015, and we will continue in these efforts also in 2016.



You can buy the book *Baroness in Opera* together with other items related to Jarmila Novotná in our e-shop at <http://shop.zamekliten.cz>.

THE EXHIBITION OF OPERA COSTUMES OF JARMILA NOVOTNÁ



Costumes from the Metropolitan Opera counts for artworks, and that is why it is necessary – literally – to treat them with kid gloves.



The most beautiful of all is probably the costume for the role of Violetta made in fashion house of Hana Podolská.



In these dresses, Jarmila Novotná played the part of Cherub, Octavianus, and Manon for many, many times.



Visitors were also interested in the guided tours lead by the initiator and director of the festival Ivana Leidlová.

THE EXHIBITION OF OPERA COSTUMES OF JARMILA NOVOTNÁ

After a three-year negotiation of the Association of Chateau Liteň with the Metropolitan Opera in New York, it was possible to rent original opera costumes that were tailor-made for Jarmila Novotná and her most famous roles. Thanks to that, this famous singer entered Municipal House in Prague again – through an exhibition called Jarmila Novotná: Opera Diva. These six costumes in which she performed the roles of Mařenka, Violetta, Cherub, Mimi, Manon, and Octavianus and which accompanied her to the most successful times of her career were – for the first time in history – rented to the Czech Republic. The exhibition described her sixteen years long work at the Metropolitan Opera in New York and other famous opera stages. The context of the life of this famous singer was described through her biography complemented by the selection of original pictures. The costumes were presented together with selected items from the museum collection of the Association of Chateau Liteň.

The exhibition was installed in the cooperation with the experts from the company Scénografie in the foyer on the second floor of Municipal House in Prague, which was during fall 2015 visited by around 13,000 visitors. The opening ceremony took place during the special event in Municipal House, and it was open by the deputy of the US Ambassador, Mr. Steven B Kashkett. The exhibition was complemented by guided tours and lectures on life and career of this famous diva.

The exhibition was organized in the cooperation with the Metropolitan Opera in New York, the National Gallery in Prague, and Municipal House in Prague.



Hundreds of visitors crowded the foyer of Municipal House in Prague.



The exhibition also consisted of the museum collection of Jarmila Novotná and the Daubek family that was very attractive to visitors.

SPECIAL EVENT OF THE FESTIVAL



Maximum concentration is important to reach the goal. Vojtěch Kopecký and Michal Caban – team in action.



Jarmila Novotná was smiling at visitors from all corners of Municipal House.

SPECIAL EVENT OF THE FESTIVAL

A special event of the festival is considered to be the top of the 4th year of Jarmila Novotná Festival. During this event, we had a chance to present our efforts at Municipal House in Prague. The goal of this event was to open the exhibition of original opera costumes of Jarmila Novotná owned by the Archive of Metropolitan Opera in New York and to present the first monograph ever published about Jarmila Novotná at the discussion with the author of this book – Pavel Kosatík.

Individual parts of the discussion were accompanied by arias that were once sung by Jarmila Novotná. These arias were presented by famous soprano Kateřina Kněžíková and accompanied by David Švec – a conductor of the National Theater – this time in the role of a pianist. Very nice and professional moderator Martina Kociánová also contributed to the success of this event. More than three hundred visitors were virtually greeted by one of the executive directors of the Metropolitan Opera – Brian Zeger, who knew Jarmila Novotná personally and helped the Association of Chateau Liteň with the organization of the exhibition. The speech of the son of Jarmila Novotná – George Daubek – presented at the end of this event only emphasized the emotional drive of it.

The event was organized mainly by our team; however, we wouldn't succeed without the cooperation with other experts. We would like to thank Michal Caban (a director, a choreographer, and a script writer), Jakub Švejda (a producer and a supervisor), and Vojtěch Kopecký (a creative producer) thanks to whom we will be able to remember this event also through a short documentary.



More than three hundred visitors were listening about the destiny of the famous diva.

SPECIAL EVENT OF THE FESTIVAL



The star of the evening – Pavel Kosatík – was talking about the life of Jarmila Novotná. It was gripping not only for the moderator Martina Kociánová but also for the visitors.

SPECIAL EVENT OF THE FESTIVAL



Maybe the same atmosphere full of emotions and tenderness created by Kateřina Kněžíková was typical for the performances of Jarmila Novotná.

THE MASTER CLASSES OF ADAM PLACHETKA AND KATEŘINA KNĚŽÍKOVÁ



Interiors of the Chateau provided the participants with the place for rehearsals and concentration.



Čechovna became the main place for the master class.



At the beginning of the final concert, the lecturer Kateřina Kněžíková set high standards for the students of the master class.

THE MASTER CLASSES OF ADAM PLACHETKA AND KATEŘINA KNĚŽÍKOVÁ

After the success of the first master class with Dagmar Pecková, we have realized that this type of educational project should continue. That is why we – in the cooperation with Music and Dance Faculty of the Academy of Performing Arts in Prague – opened two runs of master classes under the supervision of bass-baritone Adam Plachetka and similarly great soprano Kateřina Kněžíková.

Extensive interest from the side of students of art schools and professional singers overcame our expectations. However, the chance was devoted only to the best of them. After the spring run held at the Music and Dance Faculty of the Academy of Performing Arts in Prague, two selected participants met their colleagues at the master class organized in August at Chateau Liteň. Nine students attended this course organized in the area of the chateau; they were devoting their time to the singing but also to fun and relax there. The course was enriched by lectures on the life and career of Jarmila Novotná and the history of Chateau Liteň.

It would be really difficult to find teachers of a better quality than Adam Plachetka and Kateřina Kněžíková. The focus lay especially on the improvement of interpretation side of vocal expression while taking into consideration the technical potential of master class participants. The four-day effort culminated through the common concert of the graduates of the class together with their lecturers. The concert program was tailor-made for all performers. A great performance was accompanied by keen reactions of concert visitors and huge applause in the fully crowded Čechovna at Chateau Liteň.



Listeners in sold-out Čechovna appreciated performances of the artists by everlasting applause.



It was obvious that the graduates of the courses including their lecturers and the director of the Association of Chateau Liteň were satisfied. Who knows whom will we see on world-famous stages?

CONCERT OF SINGERS AT THE INTERNATIONAL MUSIC FESTIVAL PRAGUE SPRING 2015



In addition to the colleagues Petr Nekoranec and Roman Hoza, Adam Plachetka has also introduced young singers Šimona Mrázová and Michaela Kuštěková.

CONCERT OF SINGERS AT THE INTERNATIONAL MUSIC FESTIVAL PRAGUE SPRING 2015

This year, we started the cooperation with the International Music Festival Prague Spring that included a concert called Tribute to Jarmila Novotná to its program. A member of the Advisory Board of the Chateau Liteň – world-renowned and respected bass-baritone Adam Plachetka presented his younger colleagues there and became a successor to the legacy of this unique singer whose mission was – among other things – to support young artists at the start of their career.

This project has launched the 4th year of Jarmila Novotná Festival and was initiated by Adam Plachetka – this year's debutant of the Metropolitan Opera, who also participated in the preparation of the dramaturgy of this event. The singers were performing in the sold-out Dvořák Hall of Rudolfinum in Prague under the baton of Tomáš Brauner. Prague Radio Symphony Orchestra accompanied them.

The concert was preceded by the meeting of the members of the Prague Spring Friends Club with the son of Jarmila Novotná – Mr. George Daubek, the director of the Association of Chateau Liteň – Ivana Leidlová, and the author of the first monograph about Jarmila Novotná – the writer Pavel Kosatík.



In the duet of the opera The Elixir of Love, Adam Plachetka is letting Petr Nekoranec clearly know that he is incorruptible.



Rising stars together with their „host“ were able to sell completely out Dvořák Hall in Rudolfinum.

JARMILA NOVOTNÁ FESTIVAL 2015 – MEDIA COVERAGE

"This year, Ivana Leidlová was able to bring the costumes of Jarmila Novotná owned by the Metropolitan Opera in New York for the first time in history to the Czech Republic. The collection of six theatre costumes can be seen in the Municipal House in Prague. They also serve as a testimony of times when opera stars ordered and also purchased costumes for their roles. The beautifully embroidered robe for the role of Violetta made in the fashion house of Hana Podolská in Prague is especially breath-taking. In this costume, the slim and tall opera diva conquered the world."

Lidovky.cz, Helena Havlíková, September 22, 2015



Instinkt, 10/08/2015

"Kosatík was able to base his book on the family correspondence and the diaries of Jarmila Novotná's husband – Jiří Daubek. In contrast to other authors of biographies of opera stars, he is not only admiring his idol. The main benefit of this book lies in the effort to bring real and authentic view on Jarmila Novotná and think about her character and motives."

MF Dnes, Věra Drápelová, September 12, 2015 / Idnes.cz, September 13, 2015

"...out of all Kosatík's books, the one about Jarmila Novotná is probably the most standard, traditional biography. Still it is worth of reading not only because very smooth and readable style of the author but also because of the story of an unbelievable talent that was able to break through quite easily. The book called Baroness in the Opera also brings interesting historical context: it shows us the singer in the era of interwar avant-garde during which she left theater scene to star in movies and then she returned to opera and operetta again. It also reveals the international context of her artwork."

Hospodářské noviny / Ihned.cz, Petr Fischer, November 6, 2015



Cosmopolitan, 10/2015



Právo Víkend, 9/25/2015



Vlasta, 9/14/2015

JARMILA NOVOTNÁ FESTIVAL 2015 – MEDIA COVERAGE

It was our pleasure to see that the 4th year of Festival of Jarmila Novotná attracted a lot of attention of media. We would like to offer you the selection of the most important media outcomes.

TV

TV Prima, Show Jana Krause (Jan Kraus's Show), 09/02/2015

ČT 2, Dobré ráno s ČT (Good Morning with the Czech Television), 09/07/2015

ČT 24, Zprávy ve 12 (News at Noon), 09/11/2015

ČT Art, Události v kultuře (Cultural Events), 09/11/2015

RADIO

ČRo Radiožurnál

Report from the special event (Opening of the exhibition and the promotion of the book) at Municipal House in Prague, 09/10/2015

Večerní host Radiožurnálu (Evening Guest of Radiožurnál), 08/10/2015

ČRo Praha

Host do domu (A Guest to the House), 10/20/2015

Odpoledne s Dvojkou (An Afternoon with Czech Radio 2), 09/08/2015

ČRo Vltava

Mozaika (Mosaic) – Opera panorama of Helena Havlíková, 09/21/2015

Mozaika (Mosaic), 09/10/2015

Telefonotéka, 08/25/2015

Recorded broadcast from the concert at the International Music Festival Prague

Spring, 06/16/2015

ČRo Plus

Knížky Plus (Books Plus), 11/01/2015

Report from the special event. (Opening of the exhibition and the promotion of the book) at Municipal House in Prague, 09/10/2015

Hovory (Talks), 09/04/2015

ČRo Regina

S vámi v Praze – (With You in Prague), 09/16/2015

Report from the special event. (Opening of the exhibition and the promotion of the book) at Municipal House in Prague, 09/10/2015

S vámi v Praze (With You in Prague), 08/17/2015

Radio Praha

Jarmila Novotná, Birth of a Modern Diva, 10/10/2015

ČRo Region

Písničky od srdce (Songs from the Heart), 09/28/2015

Classic Praha

Dobyli svět – Baronka v opeře Jarmila Novotná (They have conquered the world – Baroness, Jarmila Novotná), 10/16/2015

Hudba v miléniu (Music in Millenium), 10/13/2015

An interview with Jan Králík about Jarmila Novotná, 08/21/2015

JARMILA NOVOTNÁ FESTIVAL 2015 – MEDIA COVERAGE

PRESS – Invitations to the festival

Překvapení, 11/02/2015 | **City Life**, 11/2015 | **E15**, 10/30/2015

Tolko Praha, 10/2015 | **Paní domu**, 10/2015 | **Medicína a umění**, 4/2015

Playboy, 9/2015 | **OK!**, 9/2015 | **Story**, 08/31/2015 | **Praha 1**, summer 2015

Berounský radniční list, 8/2015 | **Naše noviny** 18/2015 | **Naše noviny** 16/2015

ONLINE – Invitations to the festival

Praha.eu, 09/16/2015 | **Opera Plus**, 09/14/2015 | **Českátelevize.cz**, 09/13/2015

Deník.cz, 09/09/2015 | **Americkécentrum.cz**, 09/09/2015 | **Blesk.cz**, 09/09/2015

Žena-In.cz, 09/09/2015 | **Praha.eu**, 09/08/2015 | **Českátelevize.cz**, 09/07/2015

Novinky.cz, 08/31/2015 | **Harmonie online**, 08/28/2015 | **Praha1.cz**, summer 2015

Dáma-online.cz, 08/26/2015 | **Českátelevize.cz**, 05/23/2015

Rozhlas.cz, 05/23/2015 | **Harmonie online**, 03/31/2015

PRESS – Interviews, reviews, and others

Hospodářské noviny, 11/06/2015 – Managers of Fame Did Not Steal the Baroness in Opera

Pražský deník, 10/21/2015 – Letters from You: Baroness in Opera

Naše noviny, 20/2015 – There Were No Closed Door for Jarmila Novotná

Instinkt, 10/08/2015 – There is No Truth in History

Lidové noviny, 09/29/2015 – Kosatík's Jarmila Novotná

Šperk a móda, 04/2015 – Opera Diva

Cosmopolitan, 10/2015 – Jarmila Novotná

5 plus 2, 09/25/2015 – They Return the Fame to an Opera Diva

Právo Víkend, 09/25/2015 – Will the Famous Soprano Excel Ema Destinová?

Regionální deníky, 09/22/2015 – Rediscovery of Jarmila Novotná

Týdeník Rozhlas, 09/21/2015 – Pavel Kosatík: No Tight Writing

MF Dnes, 09/16/2015 – Both Pecková and Malkovich Are Visiting Liteň

Vlasta, 09/14/2015 – Unknown Star through the Eyes of Pavel Kosatík

MF Dnes, 09/12/2015 – She Was a Star but the Book about Her Is Realistic

Haló noviny, 09/11/2015 – Opera Diva Jarmila Novotná

Instinkt, 09/10/2015 – A Story of a Woman Not Used to Applause

Literární noviny, 09/10/2015 – A Singer Jarmila Novotná: Aristocratic

Commonplace

MF Dnes, 09/03/2015 – Mařenka and Manon. Costumes Worn by the Star of the Metropolitan Opera

Harmonie, 9/2015 – Nice Improbabilities of Jarmila Novotná

Revue 50 plus, 9/2015 – Costumes of Jarmila Novotná from the Metropolitan Opera for the First Time in the Czech Republic

Naše rodina, 08/25/2015 – Pavel Kosatík: Humour is a Valve

Harmonie, 8/2015 – Baroness in Opera

Business Woman, 2/2015 – Jarmila Novotná

Haló noviny, 06/20/2015 – Plachetka and His Young Guests

JARMILA NOVOTNÁ FESTIVAL 2015 – MEDIA COVERAGE

ONLINE – Interviews, reviews, and others

lhned.cz, 11/06/2015 – Kosatík's Biography of Singer Novotná Is Written in a Smooth and Readable Style

Týden.cz, 10/25/2015 – Events in History Do Not Repeat – Pavel Kosatík Said

Radio.cz, 10/25/2015 – Jarmila Novotná, Birth of a Modern Diva

Scena.cz, 10/05/2015 – Ivana Leidlová – Viva Aqua from the Legacy of Jarmila Novotná

Deník.cz, 09/23/2015 – Rediscovery of Jarmila Novotná

Lidovky.cz, 09/22/2015 – Comeback of Jarmila Novotná and the Anniversary of Soňa Červená in the Opera Panorama of Helena Havlíková

Vlasta.cz, 09/17/2015 – Pavel Kosatík – Baroness in Opera

lhned.cz, 09/16/2015 – Pavel Kosatík – Baroness in Opera

Idnes.cz, 09/13/2015 – Jarmila Novotná Was a Star but Kosatík's Book about Her Is Realistic

Harmonie online, 09/10/2015 – Nice Improbabilities of Jarmila Novotná

Idnes.cz, 09/03/2015 – Mařenka and Manon. Costumes worn by the Czech Star Famous in the Metropolitan Opera

Scena.cz, 08/31/2015 – Concert at Chateau Liteň Was a Presentation of Young Talents

Harmonie online, 05/24/2015 – Adam Plachetka Introduced Talented Young Singers

Českátelevize.cz, 05/24/2015 – Echo of Prague Spring 2015

Idnes.cz, 05/24/2015 – GLOSS: Plachetka Presented "His Children" at the Concert

Opera Plus, 05/24/2015 – Young Singers at Prague Springs Paid a Tribute to Jarmila Novotná

lhned.cz, 05/24/2015 – Plachetka Presented Four Young Singers at Prague Spring – They Have Succeeded with an Italian Repertoires



Regionální deníky, 9/22/2015



5 plus 2, 9/25/2015



Týdeník Rozhlas, 9/21/2015



Literární noviny, 9/10/2015

Links to media outputs are available at www.zamekliten.cz.

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SUPPORT US

The Association of Chateau Liteň is a non-profit organization established in 2012, registered at the Ministry of Interior of the Czech Republic, and regulated by relevant legislations. For the future, the Association has prepared many clearly defined projects the implementation of which is dependent on financial support from private but also public sources. We believe that results of our work are of such a good quality that based on them we can approach potential partners with requests for financial support or cooperation. We would appreciate any financial support of individual projects and activities of the Association of Chateau Liteň. We are looking for long-term partners to participate in the further development of the festival theme but also one-time sponsors from the business world who would like to help through financial contributions, in-kind donations or through pro bono services.

Financial donations can be sent directly to the account of our Association or through our American fiscal partner Friends of Via that enables tax deductions from donations provided within the USA.

If you would like additional information, please, do not hesitate to contact the director of the Association, Ms. Ivana Leidlová at +420 724 043 863 or ivana.leidlova@zamekliten.cz.





ZÁMEK LITEŇ

Jarmila Novotná Festival 2015

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