

The 9th season



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The Jarmila Novotná Festival 2020 was held under the auspices of the Minister of Culture Lubomír Zaorálek and the Head of the Central Bohemian Region Jaroslava Pokorná Jermanová.

### Dear friends of The Association of Chateau Liteň.

I guess no one will be surprised to mention that the year 2020 was really not easy for anyone. The Covid-19 virus affected our ordinary lives, business, sports and, of course, our cultural life. Due to government restrictions. The Association of Chateau Liteň had to significantly reduce the ambitious program for this year and move some activities like The French Horn Days or performance of the Slovak Opera Studio of the National Theater in Bratislava for upcoming years. We are happy that in the difficult time we managed to produce the singing courses with the final concert, show of elementary art schools "ZUŠ Open" and the first photography courses. We would like to recall all these projects on the following pages. During the spring we agreed with the son of Jarmila Novotná. George Daubek, to move her inheritance from America to the Liteň Castle. We took advantage of the period without cultural activities on organization and cataloging of the Jarmila Novotná Archive.

The Association of Chateau Liteň is already fully dedicated to preparing for 2021 to celebrate together the 10th anniversary of the Jarmila Novotná Festival. The main project this year will be the open-air performance "Rusalka in the Park". We would like to take the opportunity to thank all the partners, artists, collaborators, visitors and institutions who have supported and continue to support us since the establishment of our festival.

Let me wish you good health at this time, and I look forward to meeting you at celebrations this year!

### Ivana Leidlová

Founder and Director of The Association of Chateau Liteň





# SINGING COURSES IN LITEN 2020

Singing Courses in Liteň 2020 took place on August 22–27. The focus was put on voice and breathing techniques under the guidance of our leading mezzo-soprano Markéta Cukrová and a HAMU pedagogue, the Associate Professor Helena Kaupová. The participation of Ahmad Hedar cannot be neglected either, who with great sensitivity of a singer accompanied the piano.

Every year, the courses increase their prestige based on choice of top lecturers, but also the participants themselves, among whom courses are increasingly sought after. The 7th year was no exception. Singers studied individually with lecturers, with whom they also spent free time and shared their life and professional experience, which is another very valuable enrichment. The courses also include an accompanying program. This year we offered a lecture on phoniatrics by a recognized expert MUDr. Jitka Vydrová and a pilates lesson about proper breathing given by Renata Sabongui. The topic was further deepened with a lecture by the musicologist Dita Hradecká.

Again, there was a closing concert last evening in the Čechovna hall. The topic became the Italian period of "belcanto", translated as "beautiful singing", which perfectly captures the atmosphere of this year's courses and the ending concert. The program was accompanied by interesting, professional words of Dita Hradecká. As in recent years, this time too, the Čechovna hall was filled up to capacity. The enthusiasm of the visitors, after the tones faded, confirmed that the enjoyment from the concert is more powerful for them every year.



























# THE PHOTOGRAPHY COURSE WITH TONO STANO

We have decided to expand the portfolio of educational projects and beyond singing framework to offer those who are interested courses in other art fields. For the first time, we held a course focused on teaching photography with the world-famous Tono Stano on the September 18–20. An experiential photo course called "The Figure and The Light" was focused on photographing figures in different lighting conditions.

Participants worked with natural light, there were two models to act as figurants. Firstly Tono and the participants created locations in the castle and then tested their art. The evenings belonged to lovely meetings over the photographs enriched by telling Tono about his childhood, youth, professional experience and private life. On the last day, he posed for the participants at the location in the castle, so they learned photographic skills with the help of his face and figure.

There was a pleasant atmosphere at the courses, the photographers were enthusiastic. The personality of Tono Stano and the opportunity to learn from him in unusual environment plus the chance to work with two models at once made a perfect match. Such a great chance to be enriched by the experience of personality of a world known artist is also not offered every day...

This year we plan **a new photography workshop.** We discuss the possibility to teach with **a young photographer Martin Stránka**, the holder of a photographic Oscar.













# ZUŠ OPEN

On Saturday, October 3rd, the castle grounds opened for the second time to the parade of basic art schools of the Central Bohemian Region called "ZUŠ Open". The program had to take into account the situation regarding COVID, so it was built in more intimate spirit. Pupils and teachers of eight basic art schools of Central Bohemia, Pilsen, Pardubice and Prague directed and organized the event by themselves.

The program fantastically started with a mixture of film music by the ensemble ODDechovka from the Václav Talich School in Beroun. In a historic building of Čechovna other music pieces were subsequently introduced by young singers and pianists, all of them were promising scholarship holders of the MenART Academy. The beauty and art of his instrument were presented by a talented young accordionist from ZUŠ Vlašim. The poetic set of baroque music was performed by ZUŠ U půjčovny from Prague. Visitors had throughout the afternoon the opportunity to see exhibitions of art departments of ZUŠ Václava Talicha in Beroun and ZUŠ Kouřim, the youngest children then enjoyed the fairytale theater performance or children's Paleček Choir from the ZUŠ Ratibořická in Prague.



The 4th year of the nationwide project visited more than 200 visitors in Liteň. The motto of this year's parade was "ZUŠ Open helps". Schools wanted to draw attention to the need for social responsibilities and education leading to it. It was in the spirit of that thought that the gain from the voluntary entrance fee was donated to support the repair of a chapel niche of St. Jan Nepomucký in Liteň and thus supported the development of the region. Totally CZK 6,445 was collected on the voluntary entrance fee and together with the contribution of our organization and the town of Liteň it was successful to obtain an amount of CZK 15,000 for the repair of this important monument.







# ANDREA BOCELLI, PATRON OF THE NEW PLANTED TREE

In autumn 2019, the castle park received a newly planted tree under the patronage of the famous tenor Andrea Bocelli. The maestro expanded the group of opera music stars who have become patrons of trees in Liteň in the past. The oak "Crimschmidt", which now has a signboard with his name, the singer christened very unconventionally in the O2 Arena shortly before the start of his sold-out concert.

The tradition of new planted trees was established after the first part of the castle park revitalization in 2013. Among other famous personalities that also have a tree in Liteň, are for example the American actor John Malkovich, a famous conductor Jiří Bělohlávek, a politician Karel Schwarzenberg and many others.







# Tadv musí iet obři vpravo

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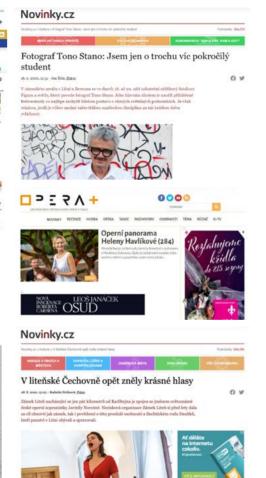
### Mám velký pocit zodpovědnosti

Potřetí povede operní pěvkyně Markéta Cakrová interpretační kurzy od 22. do 27. srp- na na zámku Liteň.	Letolisi karu je amelićenj sa tak- ruamen belizantevom technika a na poči o obavoj blac. Predr Pičes akini je dilediti a ce vjuor apėra mi plipadi tecilio openika. A julie se takime e sieteliklai- tetia. Jesli nekde apirti krimė mės naikini, tik vende citis stir- mės naikini, tik vende citis stir-		architect productit, melf neventualite to the recold of remos aprical med pirkes of exchesic a porticle of k vehicles metal, milisty proprietal of all technical of
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## MEDIA COVERAGE

"It is obvious that all participants this year are very well-founded and constantly educated - that's why we can witness such high-level performances. It was really beautiful experience. The dramaturay of Markéta Cukrová deserves compliment again, the Čechovna hall was filled with beautiful atmosphere and wonderful music. You keep on reaching higher and for that it belongs to your team big thanks. It was an exceptional evening. We felt beautiful in body and soul, so we are very much looking forward to the next, annual year. Everything is always nicer and better in Liteň." 

Music publicist Marta Tužilová in reaction to the Final Concert of Singing Courses in Liteň / 28, 8, 2020

"Everyone managed the demanding singing tasks at a high level, in seven performances there was not a weak one. The concert started with a playful singing and acting performance of Rosina of Rossini's aria "The Barber of Seville" by Markéta Cukrová. The singer was sensitively accompanied on the piano by Ahmad Hedar. Dita Hradecká guided the visitors with her beautiful words through the evening. Next year, the Jarmila Novotná Festival will celebrate ten years of the existence, so we can certainly look forward to an extraordinary musical experience. This year's with beautiful voices was very nice." 
Právo, Novinky.cz / Radmila Hrdinová about the Final Concert of Singing Courses in Liteň 2020 / 28. 8. 2020

"The planned open air option of the concert would certainly be magical, due to the lower temperatures however, of course, a concert took place inside the Čechovna hall. The effort for a high

level of courses was also evident in the form of the concert. Dramaturgically, it was managed to grasp it meaningfully, with a focus on Gaetan Donizetti's arias. It also made a pleasant impression thanks to accompanying words of musicologist Dita Hradecká," 

Klasikaplus.cz / Lucia Maloveská about the Final Concert of Singing Courses in Liteň / 29, 8, 2020

"Singing Courses in Liteň have experienced another successful vear, though the original plans were changed (the organizers wanted to dedicate the courses to a half-stage performance of the opera "Dido and Aeneas" by Henry Purcell in the castle park). To what extent it was possible to judge from the final concert, a good, friendly group of students and young singers gathered here. which definitely connects talent and effort to develop it. After all, some of the students participated in the Liteň courses for more than the first time." 
Operaplus.cz / Jan Venclík in a review on the Final Concert of Singing Courses in Liteň / 29. 8. 2020

"This year's ninth season of the Jarmila Novotná Festival was significantly marked by a spring pandemic, but traditional singing courses, finished on August 27 in the Čechovna hall of the Liteň castle, confirmed the rising level of next generation opera singers. The concert was actually the first event that was possible to produce in Liteň this year and from the beginning it attracted the visitors with high level of all performers, as well as with interesting dramaturgy."

Harmony Online / Marta Tužilová in the review of the Final Concert of Singing Courses in Liteň / 1. 9. 2020



## THE YEAR 2021 — RUSALKA IN THE PARK

## OPEN AIR CONCERT FOR THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE JARMILA NOVOTNÁ FESTIVAL

August 28, 2021 at 8 pm, Chateau Liteň — the castle park

In 2021 we will celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Jarmila Novotná Festival and the non-profit organization the Association of the Chateau Liteň with an exceptional project. We would like to thank to all partners, artists, collaborators, visitors and institutions who have supported and continue to support us since our beginning.

For this reason, we have prepared an extraordinary project in the castle park called "Rusalka in the Park". It will be an open air concert performance of the most famous parts of the opera "Rusalka". We invited the Prague Radio Symphony Orchestra and the conductor Robert Jindra to participate. The main role of Rusalka was accepted by one of our most sought-after sopranos Katerina Kněžíková. A large scene will be installed in the castle park for the first time. A multimedia production, directed by the Caban brothers, will be included.

The beneficial concert will take place on August 28, 2021 at 8 pm in the castle park and the proceeds from the ticket sale will be donated to help to repair the orangery, a cultural monument in the castle grounds.

The orangery building should serve to organizing cultural projects for the public. Above all, it should become a background for art courses for art school students, the general public and children under guidance of renowned Czech and world artists.

Information on ticket sales available at www.zamekliten.cz

# INTERPRETATION COURSES IN LITEN 2021

The interpretation courses will take place in June14–18 under a brand new pedagogical management. We prepare something very special for the 10th season of Jarmila Novotná Festival even in this area. We will be honored by a visit of a famous Dutch singer and now a world-renowned opera singing teacher Margreet Honig, the author of the book "True Singing", which we released in 2019. Mrs. Honig invited her long-time student, the acclaimed soprano Simona Houda Šaturová, to join her. It will be a premiere for Simona. We will prepare a final concert for the last evening of June 18 again, which cannot be missed in any year of the festival.





## SUPPORT US

We are constantly trying to keep the quality bar high and to produce events with first-class artists, which is why we are highly dependent on financial support from the private and public sectors. Therefore we are looking for one-time sponsors as well as long-term partners and patrons, who would like to participate in the development of our activities and projects of Jarmila Novotná Festival. We are grateful for the support in the form of financial contribution, gifts or services. And we will be happy to create you a tailor-made offer for a cooperation.

# Advisory Board of the Association of Chateau Liteň:

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FROM LEFT: Barbora Dušková – PR and Marketing, Ivana Leidlová – Founder and Director, Michaela Tučková – Team Support, Production







**Jarmila Novotná Festival 2020** Published by the Association of Chateau Liteň **Texts:** Barbora Dušková **Photos:** Jan Žirovnický, the archive of Simona Houda Šaturová

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