ZÁMEK LITEŇ

Jarmila Novotná Festival 2021

The 10th season



INTRODUCTORY

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The Jarmila Novotná Festival 2021 was held under the auspices of the Minister of Culture Phdr. Lubomír Zaorálek and the Head of the Central Bohemia Region Mgr. Petra Pecková.

Dear music friends.

Last year we celebrated 10 years since the founding of our non-profit organization the Association of Chateau Liteň and the Jarmila Novotná Festival. The time flew so quickly

In addition to the already traditional activities of the Jarmila Novotná Festival, such as interpretation courses for young singers or a parade of basic art schools in the Central Bohemian Region, which were also present in our program this year, we wanted to celebrate this anniversary with an exceptional project. Therefore we decided to organize an open air concert "Rusalka in the Park", which took place on August 28 in the chateau park in Liteň. It was a multimedia performance composed of the most famous parts of Antonín Dvořák's opera "Rusalka", complemented by dance, with the most significant Czech opera singers - Kateřina Kněžíková, probably our best Rusalka. Richard Samek as Prince, Jan Martiník as Vodník and Jana Kurucová as Ježibaba and Foreign Princess, the Prague Radio Symphonic Orchestra under the baton of Robert Jindra, directed by Michal Caban and his team.

The organization of the concert was really specific. Until the last moment, we were not sure if the event would take place at all. In the first part of the year, we were bothered by the constantly changing epidemiological situation and the conditions for the possibility of holding cultural events. And just before the concert, the rainy and cold weather didn't let us sleep.

But when, together with the artists, we saw a full auditorium in freezing weather with more than 1,300 spectators, who came both from far and near, we were all happy that we DIDN'T GIVE UP. We realized that more important than the 10th anniversary of the festival is the effort of all of us - spectators, performers and organizers - to help at least partially the Czech culture, which has suffered so much in the last year and a half, and which deserves our support and favor so much.

I would like to thank all those who came to Liteň even at such an uncertain time and who believed that the concert would take place, and all those who prepared it both in front of and behind the stage.

It was a really powerful experience for all of us. Thank you very much! Ivana Leidlová





The 10 years anniversary of the Jarmila Novotná Festival and celebrations of 10 years since the founding of the non-profit organization – the Association of Chateau Liteň were crowned with an open-air concert of Antonín Dvořák's most famous opera, "RUSALKA IN THE PARK". The gala concert with a multimedia production took place on Saturday, August 28 in the magical atmosphere of the Liteň's chateau park and was also conceived as a tribute to the opera "Rusalka", which made its' debut 120 years ago.

The amazing **Kateřina Kněžíková** starred in the main role. Her Prince was the excellent tenor **Richard Samek**, Vodník was performed by the powerful bass **Jan Martiník** and the double role of Foreign Princess and Ježibaba were perfectly portrayed by **Jana Kurucová**. Absolvents of Interpretation Courses in Liteř, **Markéta Klaudová**, **Tamara Morozová** and **Jarmila Balážová** introduced themselves in the roles of nymphs. The soloists were accompanied by the excellent **Prague Radio Symphony Orchestra** under the brilliant direction of conductor **Robert Jindra**, who prepared an impressive cross-section of the entire opera for the audience.

The original expression of the performance was made by a tandem of **Caban brothers**, who took over the stage direction. In the lighted chateau park by the lake, in front of the grotta and salla terrena, the dancers in costumes portrayed the plot of the opera. These scenes were transmitted live to an LED screen located at the top of the dome-shaped scene.

Despite the cold weather, **1,300 visitors watched the concert in the sold-out auditorium**. In the end, the whole production received standing ovations and warm responses.

At the beginning of the evening, the visitors watched the documentary "10 years in 10 minutes" mapping the 10 years since the founding of the Association of Chateau Liteň and the festival. At the end of the evening, the Association of Chateau Liteň thanked important cultural personalities, partners, institutions and collaborators for their support during its' ten-year existence through a photo projection. The concert was filmed on the spot by Czech Television and the Czech Radio, which subsequently broadcasted the record.







































































INTERPRETATION COURSES IN LITEN

The 8th courses were a perfect professional symbiosis of two excellent singers. Our invitation to Liteň was extraordinarily accepted by **the famous Dutch singer and renowned opera singer Margreet Honig**, author of the book "True Singing", which we published in the Czech version in 2019. She invited her long time student, **leading soprano Simona Houda Šaturová**, who accepted it as a lecturer for the very first time in her career. The creative trio was completed by the experienced pianist **Lenka Navrátilová**.

Interpretation courses in Liteň took place from 14 to 18 June and focused mainly on the repertoire of W. A. Mozart, but not only that. Margreet Honig is widely sought after mainly for her teaching of breathing technique, which needs to be properly mastered for perfect singing as well as for the voice care. The gratitude and response of the participants to the possibility of cooperating with this exceptional expert was fantastic.

The past year was specific, among other things that in addition to the more experienced singers of the courses, **the conservatory teachers accompanied their young students** and took active part in the lessons. This created a unique format of courses, where our lecturers gave their experience not only to students, but also worked with their teachers. As part of the accompanying program, we again offered a **great lecture by musicologist Dita Hradecká**, who introduced the participants the life and career of Jarmila Novotná.

The program of the final concert included mainly Mozart's repertoire.

Although it was not clear until the beginning of May whether we would be able to hold the courses and the final concert due to the epidemiological situation regarding COVID, the Čechovna hall was filled to the last seat during the concert, as it is every year.

Liteň courses have gained a high prestige over the years of their existence and are **among the most sought-after both among students of opera singing and among renowned professionals who participate as lecturers**. Many of them return to Liteň repeatedly, which was the same last year.

INTERPRETATION COURSES IN LITEŇ

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On Sunday, October 3, the chateau complex in Liteň hosted for the third time a parade of art schools of the Central Bohemian, Prague, Plzeň and Pardubice regions as part of the national ZUŠ Open festival, which was established under the patronage of the opera singer Magdalena Kožená. The rich program across all artistic disciplines attracted more than 500 visitors. This year, more than ever, the attention was drawn to the benefits and importance of art education, which has been significantly affected by the pandemic lasting more than a year.

The program was opened by **choirs, instrumental ensembles** including harps and guitars from Central Bohemian ZUŠ schools and the popular band **ODDechovka** from ZUŠ Beroun, which did not disappoint this year either. A different kind was a show of **an ensemble of historical music and dance** from the Prague ZUŠ "U půjčovny", **dancers from the Beroun ZUŠ** performed interesting author choreographies.

The original MAFI singing duo from Hořovice and the talented scholarship holders of the MenART Academy, who together with other instrumentalists prepared a "tea at five" as a form of a concert in the Čechovna hall, stood out among the performers. The art section of ZUŠ Beroun and ZUŠ Kouřim was also particularly successful this year, and the landscape paintings and other works of the pupils literally merged with the picturesque environment of the chateau park. The exhibition of art works was traditionally located in the orangery.

As in the previous year, a voluntary entrance fee was collected. Its' proceeds amounted to CZK 6,391 and our organization matched it to a total of CZK 10,000. This amount was donated to support the repair of a historic chapel niche of St. Jan Nepomucký in Liteň, which is located in close proximity to the chateau grounds and the church and thus supported the development of the region.

ZUŠ OPEN





















NOVINKY RECENZE HUDRA OPERA TANEC ROZHOVOR

S Margreet Honig o umění naslouchat i poslouchat

HELENA HAVLÍKOVÁ, 26.08.2021 0:10

Margreet Honig je úžasná šarmantní dáma, která s úsměvem přiznává svých 82 let. Vyřazuje z ní zvláštní charisma. Cítíte úctu, vnitřní klid, moudrost – a zároveň upřímnost, otevřenost i báječný smysl pro laskavý humor. Máte pocit, že se jí můžete svěřit úplně se vším a ona vám bude s porozuměním naslouchat a dá "rozhřešení".

TÉMATA: FESTIVAL JARMILY NOVOTNÉLITEŇ MARCREET HONIG SEZ











"Pro Rusalku není hezčí místo

než park na zámku Liteň"

The spectacular conclusion and the joy of the brilliant performances were confirmed by the joint performance of all participants. including the lecturers, with a touching song from "the Moravian duets" by Antonín Dvořák - "Žalo děvče, žalo trávu". The atmosphere of beautiful music friendship and hopes for the future then moved in front of the Čechovna hall and to the chateau park where Dyořák's "Rusalka" is being prepared for the end of August for this year's anniversary of the Association of Chateau Liten."

Harmonie Online / Marta Tužilová about the Final concert of the Interpretation courses in Liteň / 24. 6. 2021

The lightness and certainty with which she creates tones, intelligible articulation, lyricism, fragility and kindness on one hand, strength, determination and drama on the other hand characterize her concept of Rusalka. Her way harmoniously combines singing and acting You believe in her speech, she enchantes you, you admire her tenderness, suffering and determination. Kateřina (Kněžíková) illuminated the iconic aria of the opera "Měsíčku na nebi hlubokém" with the brightness and glitter of her voice, embodying all the fervor of the world. Her voice rang from silent tones to dramatic power her concentration was a concentration of love and determination to pursue her dream."

KlasikaPlus / Alena Sojková about the concert "Rusalka in the Park" / 29. 8. 2021

.Over the decades of her work, Ivana Leidlová, the founder of the organization and the festival, has demonstrated many times her extraordinary ability to connect brave projects with the enthusiasm of great artistic personalities. For this year, she prepared an unusual and beautiful meeting with Rusalka in which as a role Jarmila Novotná also gained success."

Harmonie Online / Marta Tužilová about the concert "Rusalka in the Park" / 31. 8. 2021

"I would not want to be in the shoes of the organizers this year. Uncertain covid situation and in the end changeable weather with gloomy prospects - this is very nervous for every organizer. Especially when it comes to action of this size. However, the absolute professionalism of the organizers, taking into account every detail, worked this time again. And as always, in the end, Jarmila held a protective hand up there," and the rain held back for the two magical hours.

.But even the strictest critical ear had to surrender before Kateřina Kněžíková's performance in the title role. A lot of well-deserved praise has already been written on her Rusalka, she is ideal as an actor and a voice, and at the same time her own. It's a performance that makes the fleeting art of the moment a lasting experience."

Opera + / Dita Hradecká about the concert "Rusalka in the Park" / 31. 8. 2021

"Dvořák's Rusalka, however shortened, was a good choice for the jubilee tenth anniversary of the Jarmila Novotná Festival. The park of the Chateau Liteň with beautiful trees, a lake, grotta and salla terrain is perfect for this opera. However, the author of the project, Ivana Leidlová, was not satisfied with only a concert performance, but, as is characteristic for her, she set out a very ambitious plan - a multimedia rendition. Opera + / Helena Havlíková about the concert "Rusalka in the Park" / 29. 10. 2021

ORANGERY















The Orangery is a traditional part of the castle gardens.

It was originally used as a greenhouse. During the time of the vocational school, it changed into a workspace for masons.

We have prepared a project of renovation of this building and we have launched a fundraising campaign for its' reconstruction. The aim of this project is to create an art studio and facilities for holding art, sculpture and other art workshops and courses for students of art and their professors. The total reconstruction has a budget of 5 million Czech crowns. The fundraising campaign will run until 31. 3, 2022.

We would be very happy if you decide to support this project. Please contact us for more information by email: info@zamekliten.cz or ivana.leidlova@zamekliten.cz.

Thank you!

The non-profit organization the Association of Chateau Liteň has set itself the goal of restoring and uplifting the name, musical and moral legacy of the world-famous opera singer, famous personality and great patriot Jarmila Novotná and the Czech aristocratic family – the Daubeks who once administered and inhabited the manor in Liteň. Their names have been almost forgotten due to the historical circumstances in our country, which they loved so much and for which they did so much. The Association of Chateau Liteň tries to achieve this goal through the following initiatives:

- establishment and organization of the multi-genre Jarmila Novotná Festival
- collection, preservation and presentation of valuable artifacts associated with Jarmila Novotná and the Daubek family
- initiation of new works in various cultural areas
- support for young artists across different artistic genres
- rescue, restoration and presentation of cultural monuments of the chateau Liteň complex
- support and involvement in community projects



OUR TEAM

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Michaela Tučková Team support, Production

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