



REGIONÁLNE OSVETOVÉ STREDISKO  
V LEVICIACH

**TAKÍ SME 2021**

**THIS IS US 2021**



NITRIANSKY  
SAMOSPRÁVNÝ  
KRAJ

*International Folklore Festival*

***“The international folklore festival Takí sme (This is us) is specific and unique in the Nitra region. It is one of the festivals in Slovakia, which is organized under the auspices and with status of C.I.O.F.F, which guarantees its high artistic level and organizational quality”.***

In the twelve years of its existence, the festival has grown quantitatively, but especially qualitatively. Every year it offers an interesting programme structure to the audience and performers. Since 2016, the main partner of the event has been the Slovak Arts Council. Since 2008, the main organiser has been the Regional Education Centre in Levice (hereinafter referred to as ROS). The Fund for the Promotion of National Minority Culture or Nitra Self-governing region also contributes to the financing of the festival, as the Levice district is a mixed nationality region. The director of the festival is Alžbeta Sádovská and the programme director this year is, for the first time, Mária Mészárošová, ROS methodologist.

We firmly believe that culture is extremely important at regional level. It is one of the most important pillars of our lives. It is in regional culture that we can see our strength. Continuous efforts to improve the quality of the programme offer, an increasing number of interesting and stimulating side events for all ages are paying off in the increasing attendance at the festival. High-quality organization and staffing, and extensive promotion contribute to the stability and improvement of the festival and, consequently, to increasing public awareness of its importance and value. Each year we try to organise the festival in a different village or town of our district. Our intention and goal is to bring traditional folk culture to the awareness of all inhabitants of our region, to deepen international relations and friendships, to spread awareness of the regions of Tekov and Hont. However, the most important and significant role of the festival is that it connects. It connects the modern with the traditional, entertainment with education, culture with art, but above all it connects people from different countries with different interests.

The event will be attended by folklore groups mainly from the V4 countries:  
SLPT Žerotín from Strážnice/CZ  
FS Bihari Janos/HU  
FS Miqesia Tirana/AL  
Zespół Regionálny Mystokwianie/PL

A large space in the dramaturgy of the event is left to local folklore ensembles or groups. They are given a dignified space to present their vision of local folklore as they have experienced it since their childhood in their village.

Co-organizers of this year's XIIIth festival are villages and towns of our district: **Ipeľský Sokolec (September 8), Šahy (September 8 and 11), Veľké Kozmálovce (September 9), Levice (September 10), Čankov (September 11), Pukanec (September 12)**, where the festival takes place during the five days of the event. Without the willing and professional cooperation of villages and towns, an event of such a dimension as the festival Takí sme (This is us) undoubtedly is, could not be organized.

During the five days there will be six galas, two educational concerts, one folk costume parade, a show of gastronomic specialties, a traditional fair of folk craftsmen combined with creative workshops, a solemn holy mass, two live invitations. In the detailed programme you will find out which programmes we will bring online, as the situation and measures regarding covid 19 could still change. But we will ensure a good presentation of international participants in the form of gala programmes, which we are already working on. They will be broadcast according to the schedule on Levice TV, YouTube and FB ROS. We believe that the home ensembles will be presented as planned face-to-face 😊.

***"Our goal is to bring fully-fledged folk ensemble programs to the people. We will contribute to the revival of cultural centres in the villages and make traditional folk culture accessible to people of different social classes."***

***we look forward to your attendance.***

30/7/2021 in Levice

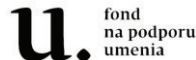
**u.** fond  
na podporu  
umenia

 **KULT  
MINOR**  
FOND NA PODPORU KULTÚRY NÁRODNOSTNÝCH MENŠÍN

**WEDNESDAY**

**September 8**

**Ipeľský Sokolec and Šahy**



**9:00 EDUCATIONAL CONCERT** in a Primary School with Hungarian language

instruction in Ipeľský Sokolec

performers: DFS Tekovanček and LH DFS Tekovanček, DFS Kyjovánek CZ (online)

admission free

**11:00 EDUCATIONAL CONCERT** in a Primary School of Janko Král in Šahy

performers: DFS Tekovanček and LH DFS Tekovanček, DFS Kyjovánek CZ (online)

admission free

*Children folklore ensemble Tekovanček from Starý Tekov has been working under the leadership of Veronika and Jakub Oťázik since September 2012. Currently, about 80 children are part of the ensemble. Since 2013, the ensemble has grown to include children's folk music. At present, the ensemble features the second generation of young musicians, who have been working together since 2017, with Zuzana Brezánska as the principal musician and Daniel Herc as the artistic director and double bassist. The ensemble is attended not only by children from Starý Tekov but also by children from the surrounding area.*

*Children ethnographic ensemble Kyjovánek (CZ) was founded in 1998 under the direction of Hana Vašulková. Today, more than seventy children aged 3 - 25 play, dance and sing in it. The leaders are Adéla Klingelová and Naďa Klimešová. The author of the choreographies and the head of the music is Pavel Růžička. The ensemble mainly processes children's folklore material from the region of Kyjovské Dolňácko.*

**18:00 ONLINE GALA PROGRAMME**

performers: **SLPT Žerotín from Strážnice/CZ**

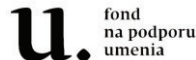
(FB and YouTube ROS Levice, Levická televízna spoločnosť s.r.o. (Levice television company))

*The history of the Žerotín Folk Song and Dance Ensemble began in August 1969, when the group Slovácký krúžek was first established. Jozef Vajčner became the first artistic director. In the 70's the cooperation with Mirek Menšík's cimbalom music began and the first programmes were created. A new artistic director came, who brought his vision and dramaturgy and the group was renamed SLPT Žerotín. Under the baton of Honza Loutchan, new programmes are created, the repertoire is expanded with new dances from other regions. They didn't have to wait long for the first foreign festival. The ensemble could present the folklore of Strážnice in Bergen, Norway. Later, tours in the former Yugoslavia, Greece, Turkey, Hungary, Romania, Russia, the Netherlands, Belarus, Sardinia and also in Slovakia were added. Today the ensemble has about 25 members aged 15-35. The artistic director is Vitězslav Hořák.*

# THURSDAY

## September 9

### Veľké Kozmálovce



#### **10:30 LIVE INVITATION** in the shopping centre CS Dituria Levice

performers: LH DFS Tekovanček and FS Tekovan

admission free

#### **17:00 GALA PROGRAMME** in the Cultural centre of Veľké Kozmálovce

Opening ceremony of the festival, welcome speech of the village mayor Mgr. Tomáša Báťu

performers: FSS Veselí chlapi, FS Vatra Seniori

admission voluntary

#### **18:00 ONLINE**

performer: **Folklore ensemble Bihari Janos/HU**

(FB and YouTube ROS Levice, Levická televízna spoločnosť s.r.o. (Levice television company))

*The male singing group **Veselí chlapi** from Veľké Kozmálovce was formed spontaneously in the 1990s under the leadership of Dušan Tariška. It mainly participates in the events of the village, the most important of which is the Village Day. They also performed in Bratislava at the Christmas markets, the Grand Prix of Svetozar Stračina. Most of the performances, however, consist of participation in local events, especially within the district, such as Christmas at the castle in Levice, Tekov Folklore Festival, IFF Takí sme, etc.*

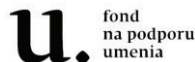
*Folklore group **Vatra senior** from Tlmače - the senior section of FS Vatra was created quite spontaneously during a meeting of former Vatra members. And so in February 2010 they started to meet and train regularly. They cooperate with the folk music band of Vatra, perform mainly in their home environment, but also at various events and festivals in Slovakia (Folklore festival in Myjava, International Folklore festival Takí sme (This is us), Christmas markets in Bratislava, ...). The leader of the ensemble is Ľubo Káčer from Tlmače.*

*Folklore group **Bihari Janos from Budapest/ HU** began writing its history in 1954. At that time there were 22 members in the ensemble; now, together with the junior ensembles, there are more than 250 dancing and singing members. They have participated in festivals in Canada, Mexico, Algeria, Thailand, China, Italy, etc. They have won several major awards in the field of folk dance and choreography. The leader of the ensemble is Mr. Sándor Boross.*

# FRIDAY

## September 10

### Levice



#### **15:00 LIVE INVITATION** at the Námestie hrdinov Square

performers: Spojené huky Slovenska, FS Tekovan

admission free

*Spojené huky Slovenska - the first bagpipe orchestra, and so far the only one of its kind in Slovakia, was founded in 2009 by a group of mostly young people who wanted to try out what our traditional bagpipe music would sound like in a performance similar to Scottish military bagpipe bands. The band Spojené huky Slovenska have a successful track record of performing at festivals in Slovakia, the Czech Republic, Poland, Croatia and Asturias in northern Spain.*

#### **17:00 GALA PROGRAMME** in CK Junior (cultural centre) in Levice

performers: Spojené huky Slovenska, FSS Trnky, UFS Mladosť

admission voluntary

*Folklore choir Trnky is ~~a part~~ but a very distinctive part of the folklore ensemble Vatra from Tlmače. Trnky focuses mainly on songs from the Tekov region, but they do not omit songs from other regions of Slovakia. They perform as part of a dance ensemble, but mainly in cooperation with folk music ensemble or solo in between dance numbers. Distinctive singing personalities are especially Majka Páleníková, Jarka Lehocká and Renáta Kotorová, who are also engaged in preparation of the dramaturgy of the singing numbers.*

*Art Folklore Group Mladost is the representative body of Matej Bel University in Banská Bystrica, which celebrated its 55th anniversary in 2017. The members of the ensemble are both the offspring of the folklore ensembles in Bystrica and students of UMB, who receive regular credits for their participation in the ensemble. Thanks to the members from different regions of Slovakia, the ensemble also gains diversity, which is then reflected in its creative activity and atmosphere. Under the artistic direction of Martin Urban and dance teachers or external choreographers, it is finding its way through the world of folklorism. In 2013, they became laureates of the Akademicka Zvolen festival. They have performed for audiences in Sicily, Mexico, Borneo, Taiwan, the Philippines and Australia.*

#### **20:00 ONLINE**

(FB and YouTube ROS Levice, Levická televízna spoločnosť s.r.o. (Levice television company))

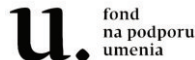
performers: **international participants from Hungary (Bihari Janos), Poland (Zespół Regionálny Mystokwianie), the Czech Republic (Kyjovánek, Strážnica, SLPT Žerotín Strážnica) and Albania (Friendship Tirana)**

**/see information about the international participants above/**

# SATURDAY

## September 11

### Šahy and Čankov



#### 10:00 TRADITIONAL FAIR OF FOLK CRAFTSMEN AND CREATIVE WORKSHOPS

Hlavné námestie square in Šahy, Days of Culture in Hont, Šahy

*Traditional accompanying events will be the Šahy fair and craftsmen's market on the Main Square, folk games, creative craft workshops and different other attractions will be available in the children's courtyard.*

#### 13:30 GALA PROGRAMME Hlavné námestie square in Šahy

performers: **FS Romalo Jilo, FS Briežok**

*admission free*

#### 17:00 GALA PROGRAMME in Čankov

performers: **FS Romalo Jilo, FS Briežok**

*admission voluntary*

#### 18:00 ONLINE

performers: **FS Friendship Tirana/AL**

(FB and YouTube ROS Levice, Levická televízna spoločnosť s.r.o. (Levice television company))

*Ensemble **Romano jilo** was created together with the community center on April 1, 2015. In the ensemble, children are introduced to the choreography of Russian, Romanian and Hungarian Roma. Of course, they also learn the dance elements of Slovak Roma. The leader of the ensemble is Peter Kačica. The little Roma folklorists have already given several performances. For example, at the folklore festival in Považská Bystrica, in Zvolen, they also took part in an event aimed at presenting Roma culture in the natural open-air museum in Martin, or at Roma festivals in Myjava and Krupina.*

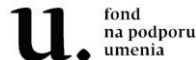
***Folklore ensemble Briežok** is a group of young enthusiastic folklorists, coming from Jedľové Kostolány. The basis of their repertoire is made up of bag piper traditions of their region. The folklore group was named after the name of a part of the village Briežok, and was founded in 2013, when young people and children, passionate about folklore, decided to build on the bag piper and folklore traditions of Jedľové Kostolány and the surrounding area. In that short time, they have performed at many festivals and festivities all over Slovakia, as well as abroad. Danka Kellnerová is the head of the folklore ensemble Briežok.*

*The **Miqesia (Friendship)** ensemble from Albania is based in the capital Tirana. It was founded in 1995. With a group of 83 members (mainly children and youth), it has participated in many national and international festivals. It has performed to audiences in Italy, France, Croatia, Poland, Greece, Turkey, Serbia, etc. The repertoire of the ensemble reflects the great diversity of Albanian culture. It presents music and dance from all Albanian regions. The artistic director of the ensemble is Mr. Hidajet Horta.*

# SUNDAY

## September 12

### Pukanec



#### 9:30 SOLEMN HOLY MASS

Evangelical church in Pukanec

*admission free*

#### 10:00 FOLK COSTUME PARADE of local folklore groups and ensembles

DFS Lisna, FSS Bazalička, FS Volosan

*parade from the evangelical church to the catholic church*

*admission free*

#### 10:45 SOLEMN HOLY MASS

Parish church of St. Nicholas in Pukanec

*admission free*

#### 15:00 GALA PROGRAMME

opening ceremony, speech of the village mayor Ing. Ján Rievaj

performers: **DFS Lisna, FSS Bazalička, FS Volosan**

*show of gastronomic specialties, exhibition of fruit and vegetables "Thanksgiving for the harvest"*

*admission voluntary*

#### 17:00 ONLINE

performers: **Zespół Regionalny Mystokwianie/PL**

(FB and YouTube ROS Levice, Levická televízna spoločnosť s.r.o.(Levice television company))

*The vocal-dramatic group **BAZALIČKA** was founded in 2007. Its repertoire includes folk songs, seasonal songs, national songs, religious songs, carols and various funny sketches. It performs at cultural events organized by the municipality of Pukanec, the District Organization of the Slovak Unity of Pensioners in Levice and in the surrounding villages. Every year it takes part in the district festival "Parade of Folk Songs". The group has 12 members. The leader is Mária Struhárová. The artistic director Mgr. Miroslav Slivka.*

*The folklore ensemble **Volosán** from Pukanec continues the long tradition of the folklore group Smrečinár and the folklore group Vajrab. Its aim is to preserve and develop the traditions of folk art mainly from the surroundings of Pukanec, Hont and from all over Slovakia. The activities of the folklore ensemble include establishing a relationship to folk culture among children through the Lisna Children's Folklore Ensemble. Members of the Volosán Folklore Ensemble have already performed at various events in the Hont and Tekov regions, in the Central Slovak mining towns, as well as for foreign Slovaks in Serbian Vojvodina.*

*Folklore group **Zespół Regionalny Mystowianie** from Poland has been in existence since 1984, at first it was formed as a children's folklore ensemble, which grew up over time, and as a folklore ensemble in this form it has been operating independently since 2014 under the auspices of the Municipal Cultural Centre in Kamionka Wielka and the Mystkowan Association. It is based in the Folk House in Mystków. The group presents authentic dance, songs and music of the Lachy Sądeckie folklore from the Lachów-Pogórze border region in the*

*form of dance and ceremonial folklore. The Mystkowan dances are dominated by melodies and group dances based on the rhythm of the waltz of a lyrical character, as well as lively dances with background music for double bass and clarinet. The majority of the repertoire is unique, being dances discovered during field research or directly obtained from the oldest members of the ensemble, who are over 80 years old (polka with a leaf, hola waltz, left polka, mystkowska mazurka, polka sumionka, an archaic form of the ancient waltz). The artistic director and choreographer is Patryk Rutkowski.*