

Stream in the Heart of Zagreb - Alongside the Medveščak Stream from the Spring to the Mouth

Exhibition in the Museum of the City of Zagreb, July 2005 - February 2006

An exhibition titled *Stream in the Heart of Zagreb – Alongside the Medveščak Stream from the Spring to the Mouth* by Nada Premerl, the counsellor of the Museum of the City of Zagreb, was opened on July 28, 2005. The author of the artistic and spatial side of the exhibition was the architect Željko Kovačić. The exhibition was situated at the redecorated attic space of the Museum, and it was scheduled to last until November 2005. Due to increased interest and a large number of visitors, this was extended several times, so it was possible to see it until February 5, 2006.

Taking into consideration the fact that the stream had been in memory of Zagreb's inhabitants as a very old border between two neighbouring medieval towns, the free and royal Gradec and the episcopal and capitular Zagreb, the author's wish was to revive and return to memory the Medveščak stream, which flowed through the centre of the city for centuries. The interdisciplinary exhibition with more than 500 exhibits in about 20 themes presented the life and urban development alongside the Medveščak stream from prehistory to these days, from its spring atop Kraljičin zdenac to its mouth into Sava at Žitnjak. The goal of the exhibition was to represent all kinds of life alongside the Medveščak stream valley. The entwining of various content through the history – craft, trade, beginnings of manufacture and industry – and culture of life and residence of various layers of society was that which made that city valley specific. Craftsmanship, working people and petty bourgeois Zagreb mentality were sociological factors of the residential part of the stream valley.

In order to explain the flow of the stream, most of which cannot be seen today because it was moved and sinks into the city drainage system, the authors used the cadastre plans of *Slobodni i kraljevski glavni grad Zagreb* (Free and Royal Capital of Zagreb) from the first cadastral survey 1862-1864, on which the whole stream can still be seen. According to Ž. Kovačević's idea, those plans were glued onto the floor, put together and harmonized in scale, with scale gradations (1:100, 1:250, 1:1000), in line with the exhibition interests. Images of the Tkalčićeva street facades from 1963, magnified to 1:100 scale and put above their ground-plan projections served as a representation of life alongside the stream, urban development, small-town architecture, picturesqueness of urban landscape. Below the facade front-views, house owners from the end of the 18th to the beginning of the 20th century are listed. Changes in the appear-

ance of the street are represented with photographs, especially the beginning of the street, where small craft two-story buildings were replaced with new multistory buildings. Slides, which are in parallel arrangement and represent the past and today's state of the *Potok* street, from 1913 *Tkalčićeva* street, contributed to the better understanding of the theme along with several documentaries. In order to represent the richness of water, about fifteen streams sinking from Medvednica into the city valley, there was an introductory scale model representing lots of streams, creating the landscape of Zagreb and its surroundings. Rich, interesting and important material was gathered from Zagreb's archives, and of special interest is the documentation about mills, which was shown and published for the first time. Located mills, bathing-places, manufacture and industrial objects that used the water from the stream to operate are marked on cadastral plans on the floor. Ž. Kovačić made the exhibition amusing by installing several humorous ideas. He put the mobile marks (small scale models for mills, blue ring for bathing-places, chimney for manufactures) in such a way that they point to particular object locations. Water as a source of life was represented by a murmur sounding from the picture of the Medveščak stream falls on Medvednica, projected on the floor at the entrance of the exhibition area. A reconstruction of the Mrzlice bathing-place with open pool was a special attraction and visitors were interested in it. For the purposes of the exhibition, Goran Vranić photographed the stream from its spring to its sinking into the city sewer. The photographs confirm that the stream still flows naturally with lots of falls from the spring atop Kraljičin zdenac to the retention system at the *Šestinski lagvić* restaurant, continuing with a regulated open concrete bed to Mihaljevac, where it sinks into the channel below the Ksaver road. This shows that the stream with its meandering flow and murmur contributes to the mood and beauty of the *Park of Nature Medvednica*.

After setting the exhibition, a richly illustrated catalogue of the exhibition was prepared, featuring 148 A4 pages. In the *Preface*, written by Vinko Ivić, director of the Museum of the City of Zagreb, it is stressed that the exhibition is a result of the author's several years worth of systematic research of Zagreb's urban history, not only museum, archive and library materials, but also field research. After that, there is a detailed study by Nada Premerl *Potok u srcu Zagreba* and brief complements by her collaborators:

Potok u srcu Zagreba - Uz potok Medveščak od izvora do ušća

Izložba u Muzeju grada Zagreba, srpanj 2005. - veljača 2006.

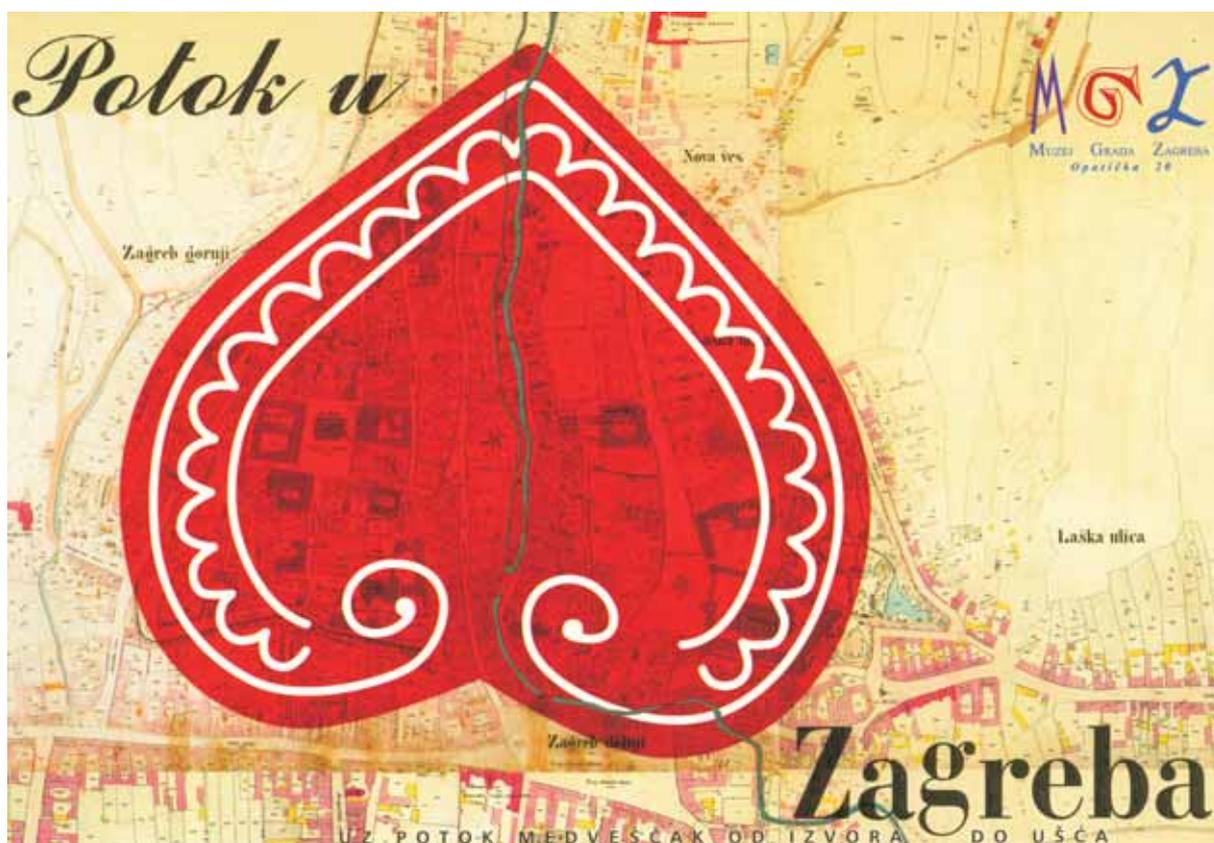
U organizaciji Muzeja grada Zagreba otvorena je 28. srpnja 2005. godine izložba *Potok u srcu Zagreba – Uz potok Medveščak od izvora do ušća* autorice Nade Premerl, muzejske savjetnice. Autor likovnog i prostornog postava bio je arhitekt Željko Kovačić. Izložba je bila postavljena na preuređenu tavanskom prostoru Muzeja grada Zagreba, a njezino je trajanje bilo predviđeno do studenoga 2005. godine. Zbog povećanog zanimanja i velikog broja posjetitelja, trajanje je izložbe nekoliko puta produživano, tako da ju je bilo moguće razgledati do 5. veljače 2006. godine.

S obzirom na to da se potok dugo vremena očuvao u sjećanju Zagrepčana kao stoljetna granica između dvaju susjednih srednjovjekovnih gradova, slobodnoga i kraljevskoga Gradeca te biskupskoga i kaptolskoga Zagreba, želja je autorice bila da potok Medveščak, koji je stoljećima tekao središtem grada, ponovno zaživi i ostane u sjećanju njegovih stanovnika. Interdisciplinarnom izložbom s više od 500 eksponata kroz dvadesetak tema prikazan je život i urbani razvoj uz potok Medveščak od prapovijesti do današnjih dana, od njegova izvora povrh Kraljičina zdenca do utoka u Savu na Žitnjaku. Izložbom

se nastojala prikazati raznolikost života uz dolinu potoka Medveščaka. Isprepletanje različitih sadržaja tijekom prošlosti – obrta, trgovine, početaka manufakture i industrije – te kultura života i stanovanja različitih slojeva društva, učinilo je tu gradsku dolinu specifičnom. Obrtništvo, radništvo i malogradske purgerski mentalitet sociološki su obilježili stambeni dio potočne doline.

Da bi se što bolje objasnio vodotok potoka koji danas većim dijelom nije vidljiv jer je premješten i ponire u sustav gradske odvodnje, poslužili su katastarski planovi *Slobodnog i kraljevskog glavnog grada Zagreba* iz prve katastarske izmjere 1862–1864. godine na kojima je potok još vidljiv u cijelome toku. Prema zamisli autora postava izložbe Ž. Kovačića, ti su planovi zalijepljeni na pod, spojeni i usklađeni u mjerilu, uz gradacije mjerila (1:100, 1:250, 1:1000) sukladno interesima izložbe. Snimke pročelja Tkalčićeve ulice iz 1963. povećane u mjerilo 1:100 i postavljene iznad svoje tlocrtne projekcije poslužile su za prikaz života na potoku, urbanog razvoja, malogradske arhitekture, pitoreskosti urbanog pejzaža. Ispod nacрта razvijenih pročelja navedeni su vlasnici kuća od kraja 18. do početka 20. stoljeća. Promjene u izgledu

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Aleksandra Muraj: *Dom obitelji Ginald, Rinner i Scholz na Potoku/Tkalčičevoj br. 68* (Home of the Ginald, Rinner and Scholz families in Potok/Tkalčičeva no. 68)

Goran Arčabić: *Manufaktura i industrija uz potok Medveščak* (Manufacture and Industry at the Medveščak Stream)

Ljudevit Tropan: *Odnos prema potoku Medveščaku* (Relation to the Medveščak Stream)

Željko Kovačić: *Nekoliko kapi uz postav izložbe* (Several Drops at Exhibition Setting)

The summaries in English and German are followed by the *Catalogue* that follows the exhibit order at the exhibition through twenty thematic wholes with corresponding catalogue units. Brief introductions to particular themes were written by Nada Premerl, except the theme *Manufacture and Industry*, by Goran Arčabić. The authors of catalogue units are: Maja Alilović, Zvezdana Antoš, Goran Arčabić, Dubravka Balen, Zdenka Dukat, Nerina Eckhel, Srećko Leiner, Boris Mašić, Ivan Mirnik, Nada Premerl and Želimir Škoberne. At the end of the exhibition catalogue, there is a list of references and abbreviations.

cadastral survey at the scales of 1:1440 and 1:2880 executed about 1864 around the flow of the Medveščak stream by applying various scales, and added a current map for the upper part of the stream.

The importance of the exhibition and the catalogue can be seen from following sentences:

“One of the goals of this exhibition was to stimulate thinking about finding a more permanent solution for protecting the Tkalčičeva street and its preserved values. This implies a thorough project and special attention of the public and professions. It would be a logical extension of the exhibition. The stream had a history, and the Tkalčičeva Street should have a future – those were the main thoughts which arose inevitably during the exhibition preparation.” (Nada Premerl: Ending Note, page 54)

“After the exhibition leaves, this book remains permanently – a catalogue with the character of a complete monograph based on scientific research. In an interesting way, the author thoroughly analyses life near the Medveščak stream. The book that remains is a must-read for every reader interested in cultural-historic themes from the rich life of Zagreb. In the same way, catalogue

units offer a lot of additional information, therefore the catalogue also has educational character. I believe this book and its author are going to be a model and a stimulation for new researchers of rich and still not enough researched history of the city of Zagreb.” (Vinko Ivić: Preface, page 7)

The rich, heterogeneous and interesting material presented at the exhibition is one of the reasons why the exhibition lasted longer than it was anticipated. This representation can remind those of us, who saw the exhibition of an attractive exhibition, and to those who did not I recommend to browse the catalogue, which can provide lots of data about the Medveščak stream, and the photographs in it are going to conjure up a part of the exhibition

The conception of this exhibition continues the permanent exhibition of the Museum of the City of Zagreb, for the realization of which the Museum was awarded the *Award of the City of Zagreb*, and for its design the architect Željko Kovačić was awarded the *Bernardo Bernardi Award*. The museum counsellor Nada Premerl was awarded the *Award of the City of Zagreb* of 2005. We would like to congratulate them!

Ivka Kljajić



A detail from the exhibition

Detalj s izložbe

The exhibition catalogue is illustrated with a large number of black and white and new colour photographs, and numerous cartographic representations that show the Medveščak stream. Miljenko Gregl gave the catalogue its graphic and artistic form, and the cover was designed by Željko Kovačić, who is at the same time the author of artistic and spatial side of the exhibition. The cover features a red gingerbread heart. Kovačić designed the back side of the cover by putting together cadastral plans of *Free and Royal Capital of Zagreb* from the first

ulice prikazane su fotografijama, posebice na početku ulice, gdje su male obrtničke jednokatnice zamijenjene novim višekatnicama. Dijapozitivi koji se nižu usporedno i pokazuju nekadašnje i današnje stanje ulice *Potok*, od 1913. *Tkalčičeve ulice*, uz nekoliko dokumentarnih filmova pridonijeli su boljem razumijevanju teme. Da bi se prikazalo bogatstvo vode, petnaestak potoka koji se s Medvednice slijevaju u gradsku nizinu, na samom je početku izložbe postavljena uvodna maketa koja pokazuje mnoštvo potoka čiji su vodotokovi stvarali krajolik Zagreba i njegove okolice. Iz zagrebačkih arhiva prikupljena je bogata, zanimljiva i bitna građa, a posebno je zanimljiva dokumentacija o mlinovima koja je prvi put prikazana i objavljena. Na katastarskim planovima apliciranima na podu označeni su locirani mlinovi, kupališta, manufakturni i industrijski objekti kojima je voda iz potoka služila za pogon. Ž. Kovačić učinio je izložbu zabavnom instalirajući nekoliko duhovitih dosjetki. Mobilne oznake (male makete za mlinove, modro obojeni kolot za kupališta, dimnjak za manufakture) postavio je tako da s krovništa označuju pojedine lokacije objekata. Zvučno ilustriranim žuborom koji je ozvučavao sliku slapova s potoka Medveščaka na Medvednici, projiciranu na pod na ulazu u izložbeni prostor, prikazana je voda kao izvor života. Posebnu atrakciju i zanimanje posjetitelja izazvala je rekonstrukcija kupališta Mrzlice s protočnim bazenom. Da potok još uvijek od izvora povrh Kraljičina zdenca teče prirodnom vodotokom s mnoštvom slapova do retencijskog sustava kraj restorana *Šestinski lagvić*, nastavljajući reguliranim otvorenim betonskim koritom do Mihaljevca, gdje ponire u nadsvedeni kanal ispod Ksaverske ceste, prikazano je fotografijama Gorana Vranića, koji je za tu izložbu snimio potok od izvora do njegova poniranja u gradsku kanalizaciju. Time se pokazuje da potok svojim krivudavim tokom i žuborom pridonosi ugođaju i ljepoti *Parka prirode Medvednica*.

Nakon postavljanja izložbe pripremljen je i objavljen bogato ilustrirani katalog izložbe na 148 stranica formata A4. U *Predgovoru* što ga je napisao Vinko Ivić, ravnatelj Muzeja grada Zagreba, ističe se da je izložba rezultat autoričina višegodišnjega sustavnog istraživanja urbane povijesti Zagreba, kako muzejske, arhivske i knjižnične građe, tako i istraživanja na terenu. Slijedi opširna studija autorice Nade Premerl *Potok u srcu Zagreba* te kraći prilozzi njezinih suradnika:

Aleksandra Muraj: *Dom obitelji Ginald, Rinner i Scholz na Potoku/Tkalčičevoj br. 68*

Goran Arčabić: *Manufaktura i industrija uz potok Medveščak*

Ljudevit Tropan: *Odnos prema potoku Medveščaku*

Željko Kovačić: *Nekoliko kapi uz postav izložbe*

Iza sažetaka na engleskom i njemačkom jeziku slijedi *Katalog*, koji prati redoslijed postava izložbe kroz dvadeset tematskih cjelina s pripadnim kataloškim jedinicama. Kratke uvode u pojedine teme sastavila je Nada Premerl, osim uvoda teme *Manufaktura i industrija*, koji

je napisao Goran Arčabić. Autori su kataloških jedinica: Maja Alilović, Zvezdana Antoš, Goran Arčabić, Dubravka Balen, Zdenka Dukat, Nerina Eckhel, Srećko Leiner, Boris Mašić, Ivan Mirnik, Nada Premerl i Želimir Škoberne. Na kraju kataloga izložbe nalazi se popis literature i kratica.

Katalog izložbe ilustriran je velikim brojem starih crno-bijelih i novih fotografija u boji, te mnogobrojnim kartografskim prikazima na kojima se vidi potok Medveščak. Miljenko Gregl grafički je i likovno oblikovao katalog, a omot je dizajnirao Željko Kovačić, koji je ujedno i autor likovnog i prostornog oblikovanja izložbe. Na naslovnici se nalazi crveno licitarsko srce. Stražnju stranu korica Kovačić je dizajnirao tako da je spojio katastarske planove *Slobodnog i kraljevskog glavnog grada Zagreba* iz prve katastarske izmjere u mjerilu 1:1440 i 1:2880, provedene oko 1864. uokolo toka potoka Medveščaka, primjenjujući različita mjerila, a za gornji dio vodotoka Medveščaka dokolažirao današnju kartu.

Važnost izložbe i kataloga može se sagledati iz sljedećih rečenica:

“Jedan od ciljeva ove izložbe je da potakne na razmišljanje o trajnijem rješenju zaštite Tkalčičeve ulice i njezinih očuvanih vrijednosti. To pretpostavlja temeljit projekt i posebnu pažnju javnosti i struka. Bilo bi logično da uslijedi nakon sadašnje izložbe. Potok je imao prošlost, a Tkalčičeva bi trebala imati svoju budućnost – bile su glavne misli koje su se neizbježno nametale tijekom pripremanja izložbe.” (Nada Premerl: Završna napomena, str. 54)

“Nakon izložbe koja odlazi, trajno ostaje ova knjiga – katalog koji ima karakter cjelovite monografije utemeljene na znanstvenim istraživanjima. Autorica na zanimljiv način iscrpno razlaže život uz potok Medveščak. Ostaje nam knjiga kao nezaobilazno štivo za svakog čitatelja kojeg zanimaju kulturno-povijesne teme iz bogatog života Zagreba. Jednako tako, kataloške jedinice pružaju obilje dodatnih informacija, pa katalog ima i edukativan karakter. Vjerujem da će ova knjiga i njena autorica biti uzor i poticaj novim istraživačima bogate i još nedovoljno istražene povijesti grada Zagreba.” (Vinko Ivić: *Predgovor*, str. 7)

Bogata, raznovrsna i zanimljiva građa koja je predstavljena na izložbi jedan je od razloga produženja trajanja izložbe. Ovaj prikaz može podsjetiti na atraktivnu izložbu one koji su ju razgledali, a onima koji nisu, preporučam da pogledaju katalog koji im može pružiti puno podataka o potoku Medveščaku, a fotografije koje se u njemu nalaze dočarat će djelić izložbe.

Ova se izložba koncepcijom nastavila na stalni postav Muzeja grada Zagreba. Za njezinu je realizaciju Muzej dobio *Nagradu Grada Zagreba*, a za njezino oblikovanje arhitekt Željko Kovačić *Nagradu Bernardo Bernardi*. Muzejska savjetnica Nada Premerl dobitnica je *Nagrade Grada Zagreba* 2005. godine. Čestitamo!