



REPORT
ICOM GLASS MEETING 2013
BRATISLAVA – LEDNICKÉ ROVNÉ, SLOVAKIA
OCTOBER 28-31, 2013



The GLASS 2013 Annual Meeting held in Slovakia and Lednické Rovné was really a wonderful event. We had 21 attendees from 12 different countries.

Our GLASS colleague Katarina Benova, from the Slovak National Gallery, organized an exciting programme including one day of lectures followed by four days of visits, offering a deep insight in the development of glass collections and contemporary glassmaking in Bratislava.

Before the Meeting, on Saturday 26th October, a small number of participants took the opportunity to visit Vienna, where Leonid Rath of J. & L. LOBMEYR had arranged a visit to the (closed) shop at Kärntnerstraße 26. Lobmeyr, which was founded in 1823, is one of the oldest and most famous design and retail firms still in operation. We had an opportunity to see their latest exciting designs, as well as an impressive selection of historic pieces in the firm's private museum. We then left the shop to visit the workshops for glass engraving and for chandeliers. The workshop was not operating at the time, but Leonid explained everything in great detail. He finally took us to the firm's archive, where he showed us a selection of highlights from this very rich collections, including order-books, design and production drawings.

The welcome reception of the Meeting took place at the Municipal Gallery, located in the historical centre of Bratislava, by Dusan Buran, Chair of ICOM Bratislava, Katerina Benova, head of the Meeting, and Paloma Pastor, Chair of GLASS. We had the chance to host our lectures in a really beautiful room with very interesting chandeliers and

pictures. The topic of the meeting were: *What is the future for contemporary studio glass and new discoveries in Slovakia glass.*

After the lectures we had the opportunity to visit, an extraordinary exhibition of the work of Jan Zoricak in the upper floor of the building, followed by the opening ceremony of an exhibition of two of the most important glass artists from Bratislava, Zora Palová, and Stepán Pala, “The Synergy”. We finished the day tasting wines of the Slovak and Moravian region.

The following day we visited the Gallery Nova, the oldest private gallery in Slovakia. Its main focus is presenting and supporting glass artist from Slovakia. We continued at the Municipal Museum of Bratislava, where the curator Zezana Francóva gave us a tour of the permanent collection as well as the storage rooms with a really interesting glass collection. Then, we went to the Gallery Nedbalka, which offers a fairly comprehensive overview of the XXth century Slovak art scene as well as a special exhibition of the glass artist, Asot Haas.

In the afternoon we had the opportunity to visit the studios of Slovak glass artists Pavol Hloska and Oliver Lesso. They use optical glass, often coated with thin layers of precious metals and bonded together using UV glue, which they cut and polish to an astonishing perfection. We were able to discuss the work with the artists, providing us with an insight of their artistic concepts, inspiration and highly specialised techniques. In the evening we were invited by the Chair of ICOM Bratislava to the opening ceremony of the extraordinary exhibition, *French gothic art*, at the Bratislava Castle.

On Wednesday, we had a full day tour by bus to Lednicke Rouné. Halfway we visited the glass studio of Palo Macho and then, we visited the glass factory and glass museum of RONA. The director of the factory gave us a comprehensive tour through different areas of production: hand- and machine- blowing, engraving, cutting and other decorative techniques. Many could not resist buying some beautiful glasses at extraordinarily low prices at the factory shop.

The last day, on Thursday, we held our General Assembly at the Slovak National Gallery where we voted for the new members of the ICOM Glass Board.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY- MINUTES

The Assembly was called to order by Paloma Pastor from 09:00 to 11:00 am., on Thursday morning. At the beginning of the meeting, Regina Lara and Elvira Schuartz made a briefly report of the 23rd ICOM General Conference and Joint meeting held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, during the 10th and 17th of August, 2013. Regina spoke about the lectures and Elvira about the scheduled visits. This provided an interesting overview for those who did not attend this meeting in Brazil and a wonderful memory for those who did.

Paloma presented the agenda and showed information about the second issue of the "Reviews on Glass" and thanked the partners for their support and effort especially to Jane Spilman and Teresa Medici. We are currently waiting for the texts of several authors in order to edit the thirds issue with the report of USA Meeting. Paloma reported that we printed 100 Journals, 50 of the first issue, and 50 of the second. We decided to give these journals only to Institutions and museums with relevant dedication to glass, or as special gifts of our committee at the discretion of our Board Members. We decided to include the articles of the Brazilian lectures in the next issue if the review if there is sufficient space.

Paloma Pastor shows the Karin Ruhl's Treasurer's report of 31 December 2012

■ Total cash of 31 December, 2011: 14.410,14 Euro

Amount paid/received in 2013 related to the previous activities, 2012:

■ Amounts received: 11.371,41
■ Amounts paid: 13.400,13

■ **Total cash of 31 December 2012:** **12.381**

- **INCOME:**
- Total: 11.371

- **EXPENSES**
- Total: 13.400

TOTAL amounts: of five years (capital held at the end of each year):

2008: 5.559,65
2009: 7.346,84
2010: 10.176,24
2011: 11.083
2012: 12.381

After this information, we discussed the venue for our next Annual Meeting in 2014. Our colleague, Simona Gheorghe, invited GLASS last year to hold the its 2014 meeting in Romania. She informed us that her museum will have support and funding to arrange

this meeting. She explained the program and promised to send an official invitation to the Chair of GLASS this year.

An alternative proposal came from Sven Hauschke, who informed us about the activities organized by his museum next year, the exhibition of the Coburg Glass Prize, which is presented for the fourth time since 1977. The Coburg Glass Prize aims to show current trends and developments in International contemporary glass art in a comprehensive exhibition organized by the Kunstsammlungen der Veste Coburg in combination with the Alexander Tutsek-Stiftung.

The two proposals were applauded by all. Having previously been invited by Romania and as we never held any GLASS Meeting in this country, it was decided to hold the meeting next year in Romania, provided that the Chair of ICOM Rumania, and the director of the museum send an official invitation to the Chair of GLASS within the coming few months.

Finally, we held the voting for the new executive committee. The results of the voting were as follows:

President: Reino Liefkes
Secretary: Teresa Medici
Treasurer: Sven Hauschke
Vocals: Ane Vanlatum (elected in 2007)
Kaisa Koivisto (elected in 2007)
Milan Hlaves
Katerina Benova
Elvira Schuartz
Paloma Pastor