

AMBASSADOR FROM SERBIA AND MONTENEGRO VISITS CALIFORNIA



FIRST VISIT OF SERBIAN OFFICIAL FROM SERBIA AND MONTENEGRO TO SAN FRANCISCO ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH IN THE LAST 50 YEARS.



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BEING HEARD IN WASHINGTON



Nenad Vukicevic

On May 21, 2003 the US House of Representatives Committee on International Relations held a hearing on the "Future of Kosovo" and a proposed non-binding resolution HR28 calling on the Bush administration to support independence for Kosovo, co-authored by Tom Lantos, the ranking Democrat and Henry Hyde the Republican chairman of the International Relations Committee. In addition to Janet Bogue, Deputy Assistant Secretary for European and Eurasian Affairs, Daniel Server of the non-governmental USIP and several representatives from the previous administration, only witnesses affiliated with the Albanian lobby were invited to testify - despite active efforts, among others, by members of both houses of Congress, the Office of External Affairs, and the Serbia-Montenegro Embassy, to create a more balanced and representative panel. This did not go unnoticed, as Mr. Server, at the end of his constructive presentation, observed that "it would have been useful to have a Serb perspective at this hearing, because otherwise the intent of Congress--or at least of some members--may be misunderstood". This was coupled by a strong and principled stance voiced by the State Department representative. However, we must realize that the event in question is but the first in many political battles to come regarding this sensitive and important issue.

This hearing, as many in the past, presents us again with the obvious fact. We need a continuous professional presence in Washington D.C. Without such a presence the Serbian point of view is absent and issues affecting the future of Serbs continue to be addressed and policy formulation dominated by interests and political groups that have agendas at odds with fundamental Serbian national interests such as the future of Kosovo. As in the past, these political groups continue to be extremely active in this arena, and they will no doubt be drawing their lessons from this hearing as well.

Another recent event faced by SUC echoes the same problem of the continuation of offensive tactics by interests that run counter to our own. In recent months, Congressmen Lantos and Hyde of the House International Relations Committee tried (in an indirect and an ethically questionable manner) to close down an e-mail account that the Office of External Affairs, OEA, uses (with our assistance) for its news distribution. We resisted, finding no legal or moral grounds for such a move. We are exploring this issue further in order to determine if this was a deliberate attempt to shut down one of the most vocal opponents of Kosovo independence, the Serbian Orthodox Church. This is just one incident of which we happened to be aware. It is reasonable to assume that this was not the only incident of its kind.

It has been the consensus of our membership for some time that there is a desperate need for a presence of a representative office in Washington. While groups such as those above spend fortunes on giving visibility and prominence to their perspective on issues, our efforts have been minor. The problem has always been money and to some extent the tendency by many in our community to underestimate the importance of a Washington presence. The impact of such a presence on policy formulation of the greatest power on earth, which drives all other policy affecting the future of Serbs back home, cannot be underestimated.

We have been fortunate to have the Office of External Affairs, OEA, in Washington for the last few years. The OEA is an office of the Serbian Orthodox Church, directed by Father Irinej Dobrijevic. Under Father Irinej's very professional and effective directorship Serb grievances and perspectives are now received more openly. Unfortunately, as many of you might be aware, the Serbian Orthodox Church has decided to close the OEA office and transfer its responsibilities to the Standard Conference of Canonical Orthodox Bishops in the Americas, SCOBA. It is imperative that we, the Serbian Unity Congress, seize this moment and capitalize on it. We are working on transitioning the OEA office space into a Washington, D.C. office of the Serbian Unity Congress (and potentially to that of the Serbian American Diaspora). In just two weeks our major donors have pledged 25% of the first year's budget to run this office. We will need the support of our remaining membership to effectively put this into effect. Next month will be a busy one for all of us and we will be contacting you with more specific information on this project in the very near future.

Work on the Washington front has become enhanced and the arduous task of informing and educating the public and policymakers in DC and beyond is being made easier by continued close cooperation with the revived Embassy of Serbia and Montenegro. The recent visit to California by the Ambassador, Dr. Ivan Vujacic, was another step in the development of successful cooperation between our community and Matica. We were able to organize many meetings and receptions for him in San Francisco, San Jose, Berkeley, Los Angeles, San Diego - both with relevant political and academic figures, as well as a broad cross-section of the Serbian Diaspora. Our chapters in both Northern and Southern California came through with diligent and hard work on this occasion.

On other fronts, you probably noticed the new look of our Bulletin - which we will continue to refine until it reaches the format with which we are satisfied. Your feedback in this process is indispensable, and our editorial board kindly invites you to send us your comments and suggestions.

Nenad Vukicevic

**KOSOVO: ALBANIAN LOBBY PERSISTENT
SERB RESPONSE**

The Albanians arranged a Congressional Hearing on My 21, 2003. The following witnesses participated: Joseph and Shirley DioGuardi, Daniel Serwer (US Institute of Peace), William Walker, James O'Brien, Martin Vulja (National Albanian American Council). There were no Serbian representatives on the panel.

AMBASSADOR VUJACIC WELCOMES ADMINISTRATION STAND

Speaking after the hearing, the Ambassador of Serbia and Montenegro, Dr. Ivan Vujacic, welcomed the State Department's clear and constructive approach to the Kosovo issue that supports the UN benchmarks including rule of law, freedom of movement, return of refugees, dialogue with Belgrade etc. and opposes the Resolution before the Committee that calls for Kosovo's independence. "However, the hearing which, apart from the Administration and US think tanks, gives voice only to narrowly Albanian interests, gives a distorted picture of the situation in the province. This is in nobody's interest. It shows the pressure and the influence that the Albanian lobby is exerting in parts of the US Congress", ambassador Vujacic added. "We shall appeal to other members of Congress to call for more balanced hearings on Kosovo in the future that will enable them to fully grasp the situation in the Province. We shall also continue to point out the destabilizing effect that resolutions on Kosovo independence have on Serbia and Montenegro and the region of Southeastern Europe" Ambassador Vujacic concluded."

SERB VIEW ENTERED INTO CONGRESSIONAL RECORD

The following letter and Commentary (page 4) were read in part by Congressman Dan Burton, and placed in the official record of the Hearing in its entirety.

May 19,2003

The Honorable Henry J. Hyde
Chairman, House of Representatives
Committee on International Relations

Dear Chairman Hyde,

I understand that your Committee will hold an open hearing on "The Future of Kosovo."

Apparently, by selection of four witnesses on Panel II which include a married couple of Albanian lobbyists with extremist views, and a biased member of a non-governmental institution, the hearing is obviously heavily skewed to a pro-Albanian, pro-Kosovo independence stance.

We sincerely regret this.

At least, for the sake of fairness and a modicum of objectivity, I respectfully ask that the enclosed statement be read and entered into the official record of the Committee's session on "The Future of Kosovo."

Sincerely,
Michael Djordjevich
President
Studenica Foundation

COMMENTARY FOR THE RECORD

**THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES INTERNATIONAL
RELATIONS COMMITTEE HEARING ON MAY 21,
2003
"THE FUTURE OF KOSOVO"**

In February of 2001, after two months of intensive work by 6 scholars and experts, our Foundation completed a study, "The Balkans: A Road Map of American Interests." In it, we anticipated the current problems with the Albanian relentless quest for independence and eventually establishment of a "Greater Albania," and inevitable resulting threat to stability and peace in the entire region.

Personally, I have been intimately and seriously involved in the problems arising from the 1990 dissolution of Yugoslavia to the present. Together with a group of like-minded Serb-Americans, I first tried to help in preventing the civil war, and then to stop it once it broke out.

My knowledge of issues and contacts with leaders on both sides of the ocean strongly compel me to write to you now, and urgently caution you and the honorable members of the International Relations Committee to resolutely, and once and for all, resist the secessionist movement of Albanians in Serbia, Macedonia and eventually Greece as well.

The Balkan inheritance from the Clinton Administration is highly unsatisfactory. Its Balkan policy suffered from chronic indecision, confusion of motives, downright illogicality and appalling double-standards.

I regret to say that this hearing is now in effect perpetuating this policy.

To declare Kosovo an independent state would be incompatible with UN Resolution 1244. For Serbs, an outright grant of independence to Kosovo by the international community would establish an irredentist claim that would haunt the region for decades. It would also signal to Serbs and Croats in Bosnia that their demands for separate, ethically-based sovereignties should be honored as well, thus putting further pressure on an already fragile situation in Bosnia. Regarding the Albanians, independence for Kosovo would suggest international endorsement of their long-held ambition of a Greater Albania, comprising Kosovo, parts of Serbia proper, Albania, and parts of Macedonia, a southeastern part of Montenegro, and possibly Greece (see Appendix I for a synopsis of the

Greater Albanian question). The risks to regional stability are manifest.

In addition, the province is riddled with crime and corruption and terrorism; extremists of all sorts freely roam and intimidate or kill their opponents as they have ethnically and culturally cleansed Kosovo of non-Albanians; Kosovo Albanians have no democratic tradition, nor institutions so indispensable for democracy to take hold and grow. Thus, Kosovo is far from being ready for independence. Aware of this, the United Nations and the International Community have set forth two requirements which must be met before the matter of the final status of Kosovo can be addressed. These are embodied in UN Resolution 1244 and a set of standards promulgated by Mr. Michael Steiner, Head of the United Nations Mission in Kosovo.

In the past two years, by UNMIK official numbers, there were 6,360 terrorist attacks in Kosovo. Not a fraction of the 250,000 Serbs, Romas and other minorities expelled and cleansed was allowed to return to their lands. Over 100 Christian churches and medieval monasteries have been destroyed. Even the non-Albanian dead were not left alone as cemeteries have been vandalized or wiped out.

"The fact that Serb return is being hampered by extremism, and in some cases by attack on international security forces, illustrates that a number of Kosovo Albanians and their political representatives didn't realize two facts - that UNMIK didn't arrive in the province to give them independence, and that there was a change of government in Belgrade requiring the opening of a new dialogue." UNMIK/United Nations Interim Administration, Mission in Kosovo - August 2002 - page 4.

Indeed, the Clinton Administration left a host of intricate but unresolved issues in the Balkans. Today, I believe, new circumstances in the region, together with a 10-year perspective of events and experience, offer promising prospects of self-sustaining democratization and reform. Nonetheless, the region is still in flux. Any support for independence of Kosovo no matter how well-disguised and sugarcoated is a huge step backwards into the Balkan morass of yesteryear.



Michael Djordjevic
President
Studenica Foundation

MEMBERS' VOICES

ACTIVATING OUR MEMBERS
THE FUTURE OF KOSOVO: What Do You Think?

This issue of the Bulletin has highlighted one aspect of the international effort to push through the Kosovo Albanian objective of separating Kosovo from Serbia toward the ultimate goal of creating an Albanian Kosovo - hearings in Congress where the Albanian viewpoint is guaranteed. The sentiment in government regarding Kosovo has changed. Albanians' behavior has been so abominable that they have lost many supporters. However, their lobby is extremely strong, their objective clear and most importantly, they put big money behind this -- the very rich and the not so rich give. They put us to shame.

Our voice needs to be heard as well and it will be heard. Our membership has been clear on the priority of this issue. We are developing a plan for an SUC program on Kosovo. Our programs will be geared to making us more proactive as citizens communicating to our respective governments as taxpayers and voters that we expect the civil and human rights of Kosovo Serbs to be protected. This kind of effort requires money and voices. Do we care enough?

The issue of the future of Kosovo is an emotional and complicated one without a simple solution. The reality on the ground is daunting for any practical solution. There are numerous scenarios possible with pros and cons for each. Our goal is to activate as much of our membership as possible. We want to know what you think and we are soliciting your opinion.

Members Dialogue on Kosovo

We are introducing this project to facilitate expression and understanding of members' views on this topic. Of the various scenarios for a solution in Kosovo there are few that have received the most serious consideration internationally. Some of them are:

1. INDEPENDENCE means a referendum in Kosovo that would allow Albanians to secede from Serbia and to become sovereign by either joining Albania or forming their own state in Kosovo.
2. SELF DETERMINATION/BORDER ADJUSTMENTS means that both Serbia and Bosnia agree to adjust Tito's established borders with the end result that (a) Republika Srpska also has a referendum and, if majority votes support it, either joins Serbia or forms its own state and (b) Kosovo too has a referendum and Serbia and the EU/USA agree to its independence.
3. PARTITION would call for division of Kosovo between Serbia and the Kosovo Albanians.
4. FULL REINTEGRATION OF KOSOVO INTO SERBIA would also imply some sort of autonomy for Albanians to be negotiated.

HOW DO I PARTICIPATE?

Please write a **commentary** in which you (a) select one of the four alternative scenarios above that you think will be the most successful and desirable solution for Kosovo and (b) comment on how the pros outweigh the cons. The commentary is to be no **longer than 800 words**. Please mail this in to the Central Office or email to jelena@serbianunity.net **by June 20**. We will review all submissions and select the strongest for each option. These will be published in the *Bulletin*.

The Future of Kosovo will be a major topic at our next convention. This is a serious subject requiring serious discourse. You will definitely not want to miss this convention program.



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TRAVEL: If you need assistance in booking your flights call TARGA TOURS 1 800 756-7957

An important feature at each convention is the SUC Ad Book. Every year our members take the opportunity to express good wishes and congratulations and to advertise their businesses. Please consider taking out an ad of your own this year and simply fill out the information below and mail to the SUC Central Office with your payment.

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EC ADOPTS PROPOSAL NEW PARTNERSHIP WITH BALKANS

ZAGREB, May 21 (Hina) - On May 18 the European Commission (EC) adopted a new proposal for partnership relations between the European Union and the Western Balkans whose purpose is to better assist the region in its bids to draw closer to the European Union. The proposal is to be adopted by the European Union's Council and the European Parliament.

The EC states that the Stabilization and Association process (SAP), the current framework for relations with the region, will remain the cornerstone of policy towards the countries of the Western Balkans (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Serbia and Montenegro), but it will be given a new dimension through the addition of elements that have proved successful with candidates for EU membership.

"The map of the European Union will not be complete until the countries of the Western Balkans are included in it. There is a great deal of work to do: reforming the economies, standards of governance and democracy of the region remain major challenges - alongside the constant battle to tackle corruption and organized crime," the Commissioner for External Relations, Chris Patten, said, adding the EC wanted to prove to countries in the region it really wanted to see them as its members.

The Technical Assistance Information Exchange Office (TAIEX), that was set up as part of the pre-accession strategy to provide targeted technical assistance to candidate countries on bringing their system in line with Community legislation, should start operating in the Western Balkans.

Euro Agency to Reconstruct 20 Serbian Hospitals

CACAK - May 30 - (B92) Coordinator Maja Vuckovic-Krcmar announced that the European Agency for reconstruction is to begin the reconstruction of 20 hospitals in Serbia with the financial assistance of the European Investment Bank.

Speaking at a press conference in the Cacak hospital, Vuckovic-Krcmar said that negotiations between the Agency and the Bank are underway and that she hopes the bank will approve a 50-million euro loan for realization of the project.

The reconstruction should begin in the next few months.

IMF: Serbia Must Continue Tight Wage Fiscal Policies

BELGRADE - May 30 - (Reuters) The delegation of the International Monetary Fund advised Serbia to persist with tight wage and fiscal policies as the key to achieving a number of economic goals set for 2003. The advice came at the end of a two-week IMF visit to the state union as part of the second review of the 2002-2005 extended financial facility, which should pave the way for the next \$70 million summer installment of their loan.

Serbian authorities and the delegation agreed on most aspects of economic policies and goals for the rest of 2003, aimed at achieving growth of 3.5-4.5 percent, a further cut in inflation and a strengthening of external accounts. The IMF statement said: Serbia would have to focus more on enterprise restructuring in the mid-term. On the whole, the Fund praised Serbia's economic performance in the first quarter with inflation in line with a 9-11 percent target for the year, and "fiscal and external targets observed". The IMF added: "While officially measured industrial output has fallen in Serbia, the performance of exports and fiscal revenues does not indicate an economic slowdown - despite risks to growth, particularly should investment falter".

SERBIA-MONTENEGRO: The State Union Gets 6 Projects at Value of EUR 682.5 mm

May 30 - (seeeurope.net) - Out of the 51 approved and internationally financed infrastructure projects in South-East Europe at the total value of 3.82 billion euros, Serbia and Montenegro has been granted six, at the value of 682.5 million euros, national coordinator of the South-East Europe Stability Pact Jovan Ratkovic said on Thursday.

Speaking at a news conference on the occasion of the Cavtat regional conference of the South-East Europe Stability Pact of May 26-27, where Serbia and Montenegro also took part, Ratkovic said that some of these projects were already under way and that the realization of the others will start by the end of this year.

Senta Tobacco Industry Opens New Plant, Manufactures New Cigarettes

May 25 - (Tanjug) - In one of its newly opened plants, the construction and equipping of which cost over 2.5 million euros, Senta Tobacco Industry in Senta will soon begin manufacturing four new types of cigarettes.

The cigarettes include Gaben, Asent, Legal and Pan, the production of which will begin as soon as corresponding legalization permits are issued by the republic Finance Ministry.

Serbia and Montenegro Ambassador Visits California

During May His Excellency Ambassador Ivan Vujacic visited the San Francisco, Los Angeles and San Diego areas. With exceptional pride and honor we welcomed the Ambassador and his wife Mrs. Jelica Vujacic to California. SUC chapter members helped organize these visits and hosted the Ambassador during their stays.

In San Francisco the Ambassador held many meetings with SF officials including Mayor Willie Brown and media representatives. He made a number of presentations at the University of California, Berkeley. As mentioned by SF church president, Milorad Golubovic, this was the first time in the last 50 years that an Ambassador has visited the church. A private dinner was organized in Berkeley at the home of Mirjana Stevanovic and Vladimir Ilic. The Ambassador and Mrs. Vujacic also attended services at the St. John Church in San Francisco followed by a reception for the congregation. Another special reception was also organized for the Ambassador in the South Bay Area hosted by the Vukicevic family attended by many young professionals from the area who came to welcome the Ambassador. Miroslav and Marie Djordjevich hosted a special dinner for the Ambassador, Mrs. Vujacic and SUC Board members of the SF Bay Area.

While in Southern California the Ambassador's agenda included an official visit to the Chancellor of UCLA, lunch and speech at the prestigious California Club and an interview with the LA Times.

Events involving the Serbian community included a private dinner hosted by Jelena and George Kolarovich. In San Marcos many members attended a dinner and presentation at Serby's restaurant. In San Gabriel the Serbian community held a special reception at the St. Sava Church, attended by about 120 people. During the Q&A period Dr. Vujacic discussed the situation in Serbia and Montenegro, his vision about the future of the union, issues about citizenship, investments etc. A short reception followed at the parochial home of V. Rev. Petar Jovanovic. The Ambassador and Mrs. Vujacic also attended the 100th anniversary of the oldest Serbian organization, The Serbian Benevolent Society *Jedinstvo* at St. Steven's Cathedral in Alhambra. Dr. Vujacic was pleased to know that many of the founders of *Jedinstvo* came from his hometown, Grahovo in Montenegro.



A special thank you to our members Jasmina Vujic, Jelena Kolarovich and Ljiljana Pantovich who successfully coordinated these events that allowed Ambassador Vujacic to meet a wide and diverse cross-section of the Serbian California Diaspora and gain an appreciation for the love and the sincerity with which we share his goals for a better future for our homeland.

BLAGO Fundraising in Southern California



April 22 - As part of the on-going efforts to raise funds for future BLAGO projects, the President of the Serbian Unity Congress, Nenad Vukicevic, visited the San Diego chapter and St. Steven's church in Alhambra. A special presentation on BLAGO accomplishments attracted some new and old members. Many thanks to Ljiljana Pantovich for organizing the meeting in San Marcos church, where people also had a chance to hear from Dr. Vojin Joksimovic about the latest developments in Washington and Serbia. Father Nick Ceko from St. Steven's cathedral in Alhambra, L.A., was instrumental in organizing the event and presentations for over 200 people. Many people expressed their interest in BLAGO future projects.

Annual San Francisco Chapter Picnic

May 17 - As customary every year, our San Francisco chapter prepared another wonderful picnic, this time in the middle of the SF peninsula. A nice crowd of over 150 people, many kids and elderly, were welcomed by our organizing committee with hot-from-the-grill cevapcici, sausages, and a variety of refreshments. Continuous volleyball socializing and just plain fun were enjoyed by all on lovely picnic grounds in the shades of pine and oak. Thank you Savo, Nena, Rasa, Boba, Nevena, and many others who helped on this occasion.



OUR MEMBER RECEIVES GOLDEN TOURIST HEART AWARD



Belgrade -- Edita Kronic, SUC VP and President/owner of tour company, Select International, was awarded the "Zlatno Turisticko Srce" (Golden Tourist Heart) for 2002 by Serbia's International Center for Promoting Hospitality and Tourism and Ministry of Tourism. The award is traditionally given to individuals

for their contribution to the development of Serbian tourism.

In the presentation of the 2002 award, the Center explained that "this award is being given to a representative of the Serb Diaspora, for her exceptional contribution to the promotion of Serbia, Montenegro and Republika Srpska as tourist destinations, active participation in the work of institutions involved in the development and advancement of tourism, wholehearted professional assistance and concrete development of programs that would secure a better position for these Serbian areas in the world of tourism".

"Enormous enthusiasm, positive energy and a sincere wish to help her people with her knowledge, work and professional network make Mrs. Kronic a true ambassador of our tourism in whom truly beats a 'golden touristic heart'. These are the reasons why this recognition logically goes to her."

The awards ceremony was held at the Budva International Tourism Fair on April 24, 2003.

Congratulations Edita!

Serb Endowment Fund University of Toronto

The Serbian Brother's Help of Canada, one of the most respected humanitarian Serbian organizations, established a special endowment fund at the University of Toronto for undergraduate students who major in Serbian language and culture. They were motivated to do so, as Mr. Rajko Radojevic pointed out, because our future depends on the Serbian youth. They are hoping to raise more money and also establish a stipend for the post-graduate level.

"PULS SRBA" - A NEW SERBIAN JOURNAL FOR MODERN TIMES

One of the most respected Belgrade journalists, Radivoje Petrovic, known to us by his writings in *Politika*, established a new monthly journal *Puls Srba* (Serbian Pulse), with the goal of contributing to more needed understanding, proper attention and deserving importance to the Serbian Diaspora. Radivoje Petrovic, the founder and its chief editor is very well acquainted with the Serbian Diaspora and has written extensively about Diaspora members, issues and activities. The proclaimed slogan of the magazine is "to be a part of the global Serbia" -- a noble and worthy task. Given Mr. Petrovic's track record we expect that the magazine will be an independent, objective, analytical and positive voice of Diaspora as well as Matica. The main focus of the journal is the question of the Serbian national interest, not as a theoretical problem, but as a question of the very survival of the Serbian nation, now disunited and dispersed throughout the world. Such a publication is badly needed, long overdue, and can definitely play a very important and influential cultural and political role.

We, the members of SUC, welcome this new publication as a new vehicle of communication worthy of our Diaspora's attention, cooperation and support. The success of this worthy effort faces numerous obstacles and seeks and will need Diaspora's input. Thus the management of PULS invites you the Diaspora to try the publication and participate by contributing your opinion, sending reports from your communities, subscribing and accepting this journal as your own voice.



To get more information contact the Editor at
pulssrba@eunet.yu

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One of the first official web sites
in Cyrillic.

“PORTRAITS OF SERBIAN ACHIEVERS”

by George Vid Tomashevich. Toronto, Serbian Literary Company, 2000. 178 pp. Hardbound.



This very important and exciting book is a welcome and timely contribution to the literature on Serbian culture in the English language. In the words of Dr. Zora Devrnja Zimmerman, this publication by Dr. Tomashevich, "the eminent and prolific scholar and writer, offers a collection of essays concentrating on

selected, major Serbian intellectuals within the arts and sciences. Following a page of acknowledgements and a poignant preface in which the author refers to the disturbing and tragic events surrounding the violent breakup of the former Yugoslavia, twelve elegantly written essays provide the serious student of Serbian culture and history with fascinating biographical information on ten prominent historical figures."

The portraits include: Vuk Stefanovic Karadzic (1787-1864), famed lexicographer, folklorist, language reformer and ethno-historian; Petar Petrovic Njegoš (1813-1851), Poet, Prince and Bishop of Montenegro; Michael Idvorsky Pupin (1884-1935), Columbia University professor of physics and electro - mechanics, widely known discoverer and Renaissance man; Nikola Tesla (1856-1943), brilliant Serbian-American scientist and inventor of electromagnetic motors, the AC system for the transmission of energy, radio technology, laser and many other crucially significant modern devices; Paja Jovanovic (1859-1957), master painter and internationally renowned dean of European academic realism, who visited and worked in the United States; Bozidar Knezevic (1862-1905), philosopher of history, sparkling aphorist, moralist and stylist; Mihajlo Petrovic Alas (1868-1943), famous mathematician, philosopher and early computer scientist; Branislav Petronijevic (1875-1954), paleontologist, mathematician, hyper-methaphysician and corrector and further developer of Bruno's discrete geometry; Milutin Milankovic (1879-1958), astronomer and internationally acclaimed paleoclimatologist; and Ksenija Atanasijevic (1984-1981), classical philologist, philosopher, feminist and fighter for democracy and human rights.

These achievers are part of our Serbian heritage and our national pride. Check your own knowledge, discover many new and fascinating details of their lives, teach the younger generations, and share this with your friends. There should be no Serbian intellectual or a person of Serbian descent who does not know about these great contributors to the modern world. We join Professor Dimitrije Djordjevic in a message to Professor Tomashevich: "Thank you for this present to Serbdom." *By Sofija Skoric*

The book is available for \$35.00 US (Includes S&H)

Send your order to: Serbian Literary Company,
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SUC MEMBER OPENS ART EXHIBIT IN BELGRADE

Among our many exceptional members who have achieved prominence in their field as well as contributed with their caring and talent to the efforts of the Serbian Unity Congress is our long-standing member Dusica Savic Benghiat. She was born in Belgrade, Serbia in 1947 and acquired her Master of Arts degree in Archeology, from the University of Belgrade. After moving to Santa Monica, California in 1974, she devoted herself exclusively to painting, and developing her own unique artistic style and techniques. Dusica now resides with her family in France.



On May 15th one more in a long line of highly successful exhibitions of Dusica's works in many countries opened at the Multicultural Centre in Belgrade. The Exhibition "Art in Books - Books in Art" was presented to the public by the renowned art historian Katarina Jovanovic. This collection represented paintings inspired by stories of our world famous writer, dramatist and academician Milorad Pavic, as well as art for her own book "Heracles' Dream" (published by the Serbian Literary Company).

Milorad Pavic has been a great and constant inspiration for Dušica for some time as was represented by beautiful portraits of characters from his stories at previous exhibits. Dusica has illustrated many of Pavic's books (published by Dereta) to date. The union of Pavic's mythological and imaginative storytelling and Dusica's fantastic visual presentation of his characters, with their unique, enigmatic, mythological beauty has been very successful and extraordinary. This winning collaboration will be seen again in Pavic's new book "Novel for Children and for Others," dedicated to his five-month old granddaughter, which Dusica will also illustrate. Dušica's other works inspired by exceptional literature include illustrations of the key personages in Višeslav Simic's book "Of Love Earthly and Heavenly".



"Vanesa" (Bronze)

Dušica has exhibited her works of art at a number of SUC functions, namely the SUC Blago Gala Banquet in San Francisco in 1998 and the SUC Toronto Convention in 2000 (where the Simic book collection sold out immediately). In both cases Dušica donated a generous part of the sale proceeds to SUC. We are thankful to Dusica for her generosity and the opportunity to enjoy her art.

Today we can have the double pleasure of bringing into our homes and dreams the writings of Milorad Pavic and the art of Dušica Savic Benghiat.

MEMBERS OF SUC BE PROUD OF WHAT YOU HAVE MADE POSSIBLE

TAKING PRIDE IN YOUR SERBIAN HERITAGE
HELPING OUR PEOPLE TOWARD A BETTER FUTURE

You made this possible, your membership, your contributions of love, time and money.
TO WHAT CAN WE ATTRIBUTE OUR SUCCESS? WHAT MAKES US SO UNIQUE?

- ▶ BREADTH OF OUR PRESENCE -- BELGRADE (9 YEARS) AND VIENNA (1 1/2 YEARS)
- ▶ THE FOCUS AND RELEVANCE OF OUR PROGRAMS (Here are just a few examples)
 - Preserving our Heritage and Promoting Our Culture
 - Proactive Role in Policy
 - Vision and Recognition of Key Future Issues for Serbs
- ▶ AND MOST IMPORTANTLY, THE QUALITY OF OUR PEOPLE, **YOU**

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DONATIONS: You can donate your time and/or your financial support

- ▶ Donate Monthly for one year, or
- ▶ Donate a one-time sum
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Check enclosed to the amount of \$____ or please charge my VISA____ or Master Card____

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