

ETNOVEMBER 2015

The Festival *Etnovember 2015*, a project financed yearly by the City Council of Brasov, is organized by the students of the Faculty of Wood Engineering of *Transilvania* University and is dedicated to the Brasov community. The festival is part of the cultural agenda of the municipality and reached this year its 17th edition. *Etnovember 2015* developed and presented 23 events in 3 days, most of them interactive.

The Arts Gallery

The first day, Saturday 14 November, the Arts Gallery at the Aula of *Transilvania* University started with the opening speeches of the hosts, professor Ioan Vasile Abrudan, rector of the University, Ms. Adina Durbață, deputy mayor of Brasov, and professor Mihai Ispas, dean of the faculty of Wood Engineering. Their kind words were followed by those of Ms. Bernadette van Damme, leader of the Belgian delegation whose members had a substantial contribution at the founding of this cultural tradition.

The Arts Gallery then opened its colorful exhibitions: architecture, design, photography, restoration, ceramics, painting and graphics. The integrative concept of the Arts Gallery belonged to our colleague, dr. designer Ioan Muscu. Prestigious professionals and shy beginners in several artistic fields exhibited their works side by side - one of the aims of *Etnovember* is to put them together and start a creative dialogue.

The lovely old room put on display by professor Maria Cristina Timar and her colleagues, dr. E. Beldean and dr. A. Varodi, was meant not only to show the students' restoration works, but to re-create the quiet, intimate atmosphere of a 19th century home, with flowers, laces and old portraits. One could sit comfortably at the table and look into an 1891 touristic guide of Brasov, wondering at how decent and handsome the attractions of our home city were at that time. This exhibition was justly called *Yearning for the good old days...*

Another attractive exhibition, displayed with rustic simplicity, invited the public to enjoy the outcome of the international project *Metamorphosis of a Rural Household*. The project, a partnership of the New Design University St. Pölten, Austria, *Transilvania* University of Brasov and the University of Architecture and Town Planning *Ion Mincu* Bucharest, brought together teams of students and teachers to build up their visions for the future of a traditional household of the village Dealu Frumos.

Yet another exhibition, *Design: Arts and Crafts*, presented and explained the noble art of forging, of the blacksmiths and their apprentices working the iron at the Țibănești manor. A *Booklet of Forging* was available, showing the beautifully crafted candleholders, candelabra, lanterns and also furniture, like chairs, tables, benches, whose concepts belong to the well-known architect Șerban Sturdza, the owner of the Țibănești manor.

Other major visual attractions were offered by the spectacular designs of automobiles and furniture proposed by the students of Chișinău (Republic of Moldavia), coordinated by their famous teacher, professor Valeriu Podborschi, and also by the exhibition *Closed architectural clusters specific to the old quarters of Bucharest* presented by the young architects Miruna Stroe and Irina Colan.

Design students of our faculty, coordinated by dr. I. Muscu and students of the faculty of Interior Architecture in Bucharest, coordinated by professor arch. D. Onescu Târbujaru had also the opportunity to present their creative vision.

All invited artists structured an international mosaic of visual arts, joining various visions coming from Portugal, Moldavia, Belgium, Sweden and Romania. The visual interest of the exhibitions was enhanced by a little concert of six young musicians playing classical guitar, who offered a welcomed Spanish and South American intermezzo in the turmoil of a day perhaps excessively rich in events.

Towards the end of the afternoon the much expected design prizes were offered by KRONOSPAN Company, the major sponsor of the festival, to the winners of the furniture design competition held at the Faculty of Wood Engineering: the awards went to Petruța Ioana and Robert Niculescu (master students), to dr. Ramona Dumitrașcu (postdoctoral researcher) and to Alexandru Popa and Claudiu Iacob (students).

The *Best Organizer* Diplomas were awarded to the members of the team of students, and the best team leaders, Vlad Barchizeanu, Flaviu Dobrean and Ioana Cînduleț were rewarded with *Diplomas of Excellence* for their good skills, responsible decisions and strong team spirit.

The *Best Design* Diplomas were awarded to the most creative furniture design students, who displayed their designs and prototypes in the exhibition they called *Form, Color, Concept*.

Our first year student Adi-Marian Brumă was awarded with a special debut prize for his photo exhibition *Granny's courtyard*.

The Medieval Market

On Sunday, 15 November, the Medieval Market was opened by the solemn sound of the Heralds' trumpets at the Weavers' Bastion, a well preserved tower of the ancient city fortifications. The Bastion is always a good place for the colorful display of the history and ethnic and cultural diversity of Brasov. In the fresh atmosphere of late autumn, evolving through the market decors of bretzels, pumpkins, pepperoni and red apples, dancers, musicians, knights and archers were cheerfully interacting with children, youngsters, parents and grandparents. Brasov, like a typical Transylvanian city,

is home not only for Romanians, but also for the Greek, German, Hungarian, Jewish and Italian communities, and Etnovember offers good opportunities for their interaction. Artisans were also present, with wood, pottery, weaving and knitting crafts. The joyful atmosphere was, as usually, generated by our students, dressed in their red and black tunics.

This year the 17th edition of the *Etnovember* Festival was dedicated to the safety of life. A scientific project competition called *A Vision of Safety* was released, aiming at drawing up a Guide of Materials recommended for the interior furnishing of youth music clubs. The funds donated at the Medieval Market added to a substantial contribution of the University will belong to the winning project.

After the market closed, all organizers and participants descended in a silent procession through the narrow streets of the old city center, to the central place, the heart of the city, where again the heralds sounded, this time to call the public for a moment of silence dedicated to the memory of the young people who died in the terrible fire of the Bucharest club and to the French citizens who were killed in the horrifying terrorist attacks in Paris. The Braşov public demonstrated again its strong human solidarity with discretion and commitment.

Poems and improvisations

The 3rd and last festival day, Monday, was dedicated to the 14th edition of the Marathon of Poems, 10 hours of chain poem reading by 10 poets at the Faculty of Letters, and to an extraordinary musical event.

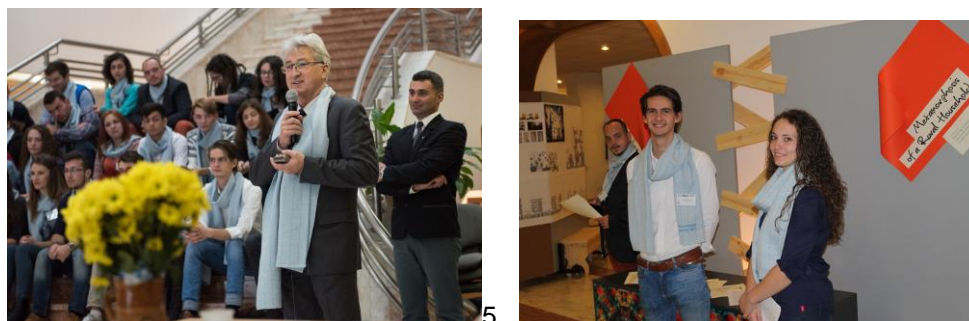
The concert of the ensemble *Impro-viziók 2.2* (two violins, cembalo and double bass), where old and new music generated amazing improvisations, raised the enthusiastic audience from their seats and closed the festival in an optimistic key: beauty, truth and goodness prevailed. Again.

Dr. Marina CIONCA, professor

Photos by: Ionelia BREBEANU, Cătălin PRICOPE and Antónia CZIKA



The opening of the 17th edition of the *Etnovember* festival: professor Ioan Vasile Abrudan, Rector of *Transilvania* University (1), Ms. Adina Durbacă, deputy mayor of Brasov city (2), Ms. Bernadette van Damme, leader of the Belgian group (3) and professor Mihai Ispas, dean of the Faculty of Wood Engineering (4)



The team of students together with dr.designer Ioan Muscu, the author of the exhibitions concept, and dr. Alin M. Olărescu, coordinator of the festival (5). Students, welcoming the visitors (6)



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Metamorphosis of a Rural Household, a project with an international partnership: the *New Design University* St. Pölten, Austria, *Transilvania University* of Brasov and the *University of Architecture and Town Planning Ion Mincu* Bucharest (7,8)



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Dr. I. Muscu presenting the creators arch. Șerban Sturdza, president of the National Chamber of Architects, and Marion and Dan Pătrașcu from Bucharest. Old and new techniques for making chairs: the exhibition *Design: Arts and Crafts* (9-14)



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Yearning for the good old days, an exhibition of the the restoration skills of the students of the Faculty of Wood Engineering (15,16). Traditions from the village Vârghiș, chair design by András Sütő, MSc.(17)



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Dr. Ramona Dumitrașcu, postdoctoral researcher (20), recipient of 3 furniture design awards in 2015: 2 awards at the National furniture Design Competition, organized by the Romanian Association of Furniture Manufacturers (18) and another one at the design competition organized by KRONOSPAN Company (19)



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Visitors at the KRONOSPAN Company stand (21). The chair that gathers in a box, designed by Robert Niculescu, Master student, awarded at the KRONOSPAN Design Competition (22). Arch. Biborka Bartha, Design Ambassador of KRONOSPAN and dr. Alin M. Olărescu during the awards ceremony (23)



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Embroidery patterns from the Brasov area, an original presentation of Antonela Lungu and Melinda Puskás, both graduates of our faculty (24). Professor arch. D. Onescu Tărbujaru from Bucharest and professor Valeriu Podborschi, design professor at the Technical University of Moldavia in Chișinău, talking about their students' creative visions (25)



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The exhibition of the design students of Bucharest coordinated by professor arch. Dorina Onescu Tărbujaru (26)
The concert of the young classical guitar players (27)



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A long-awaited ceremony: A new chair for the Modern Classics Collection, coordinated by the Belgian partners (28, 29). The thirty-second chair for the famous collection of our faculty (30): *Cherner Chair*, 1958, designed by Norman Cherner (USA, 1920-1987)



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Preparations of the medieval decors for the Weavers' Bastion (31,32). Bretzels, shields and flags (33)



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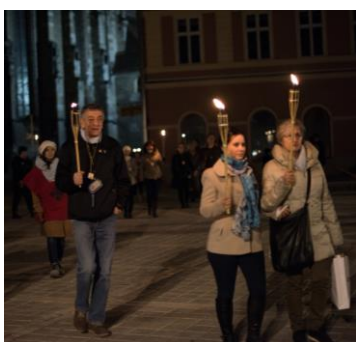


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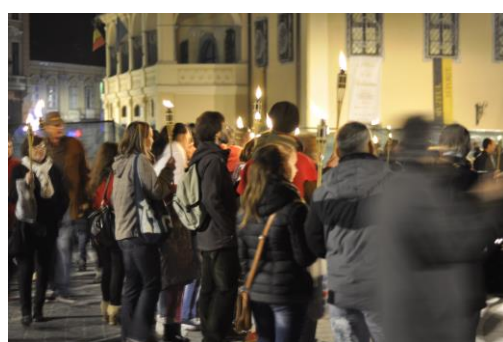
Red and black tunics at the entrance of the Bastion – our cheerful students (34). Traditional German dances with *Korona* ensemble (35) and *Korona Edelweiss* (36)



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Planning the procession (37). The procession arrives in the medieval city center and stops to keep a moment of silence (38, 39) dedicated to the memory of those who recently departed in better world: the young people who died in the fire at the music club of Bucharest and the French citizens who died in the terrorist attacks of Paris