

PROGRAMME

11th ŽIVA AWARD

Echoes of Heritage and
the Future of Museums



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Date: 8 – 12 October 2025

Location: Trebinje

Organized by:

International Foundation Forum of Slavic Cultures (FSK)

City of Trebinje

Museum of Herzegovina in Trebinje

Museum of Contemporary Art of the Republic of Srpska





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WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2025

- Arrivals to Trebinje
- Organized transfer by shuttle from Dubrovnik airport to Trebinje

Venue: **Museum of Herzegovina**, Stari Grad 59, Trebinje

17.00 – 19.00	Jury meeting
19.30 – 20.00	Registration & Information for the participants
20.00 – 22.00	Cocktail Reception
20.00	Welcome addresses by: Ivana Grujić , Director of Museum of Herzegovina and Sarita Vujković , Director of Museum of Contemporary Art of Republic of Srpska Andreja Rihter , Director of Forum of Slavic Cultures (FSK) Mirko Ćurić , Mayor of Trebinje
20.30	Guided tour of the permanent exhibition of the Museum

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2025

Venue: **Museum of Herzegovina**, Stari Grad 59, Trebinje

8.30 – 9.00	Registration & Information for the participants
9.00 – 9.30	Opening of the ŽIVA Award 2025
	Opening speaker: Ivana Grujić , Director of Museum of Herzegovina Addresses: Andreja Rihter , Director of Forum of Slavic Cultures (FSK) Mirko Ćurić , Mayor of Trebinje
9.30 – 10.30	Keynote Speeches: <i>The Past in Museum Futures</i> Sandro Debono , Museum Thinker and Consultant



10.30 – 11.00	Coffee break
11.00 – 13.15	<p>Presentations: The Živa Award 2025 Museum Nominees</p> <p><i>Candidates and Jury Presentation</i> Branislav Panis, Chair of the Živa Award Jury 2025, Slovakia</p> <p>Session 1 Lidija Nikočević, Member of the Jury, Croatia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Museum of Ukrainian Culture in Svidnik, Slovakia• National Open Air Museum – Wallachian Open Air Museum, Czech Republic• Ethnographic Museum of the Pilsen Region (West Bohemian Museum in Pilsen)• Museum of Folk Culture in Kolbuszowa, Poland• Ethnographic Museum in Belgrade, Serbia• Notranjska Museum Postojna, Slovenia <p>Session 2 Andreja Rihter, Member of the Jury, Slovenia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Memorial Museum at Mrakovica, Bosnia and Herzegovina• Ploština National Cultural Monument, Czech Republic• Lety u Písku. Memorial to the Holocaust of the Roma and Sinti in Bohemia, Czech Republic• The Sybir Memorial Museum, Poland• The Fortress of Knin Interpretation Center, Croatia• Armory Museum in Liw Castle, Poland
13.15 – 14.30	Lunch break
14.30 – 16.30	<p>Presentations: The Živa Award 2025 Museum Nominees</p> <p>Session 3 Dirk Houtgraaf, Member of the Jury, Netherlands</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Croatian Natural History Museum, Croatia• Natural History Museum, Serbia• Žitomislčić Museum, Bosnia and Herzegovina• Boris Christoff Museum, Bulgaria• The House of the World Tree Interpretation Center, Croatia <p>Session 4 Neda Knežević, Member of the Jury, Serbia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• House of the Halubje Bell Ringers, Croatia• Zenica City Museum, Bosnia and Herzegovina



	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Little Carpathian Museum in Pezinok, Slovakia• Regional Museum of Pljevlja, Montenegro• NI Archaeological Museum of the Republic of North Macedonia – Skopje
16.30 – 17.00	Coffee break (optional)
17.00 – 19.00	<p>Presentations: The Živa Award 2025 Museum Nominees</p> <p>Session 5: Pavel Douša, Member of the Jury, Czech Republic</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fisheries Museum of the Trieste Littoral, Italy• Museum of the People of the Resia Valley, Italy• Kanizsai Dorottya Museum, Hungary• National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library, USA <p>Session 6: Elia Vlachou, Member of the Jury, Greece</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gallery of Milena Pavlović Barilli, Serbia• Museum of Contemporary Art Vojvodina, Serbia• PI Museums and Galleries of Podgorica, Montenegro• PI Museum and Gallery Tivat, Montenegro• NI Institute for Protection of Monuments of Culture and Museum – Ohrid, North Macedonia• The Pavle Beljanski Memorial Collection, Serbia
19.30	Departure by bus to Crkvina (subject to weather conditions)

Venue: **Hercegovačka Gračanica**, Crkvina bb, Trebinje

20.00	Cocktail Dinner at Crkvina – panoramic viewpoint above Trebinje
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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2025

Venue: **Museum of Herzegovina**, Stari Grad 59, Trebinje

8.30 – 9.00	Registration & Information for the participants
9.00 – 10.30	<p>Opening speakers:</p> <p>Andreja Rihter, Director of Forum of Slavic Cultures (FSK)</p> <p>Siniša Šešum, Head of UNESCO Office in BiH</p> <p>Keynote Speeches:</p> <p><i>Relational Waters: Ecologies in Mediterranean Cultural Institutions, Mapping Transnational Practices and Art Networks</i></p> <p>Roberto Zancan, Professor of History and Theory of Architecture at HEAD-Geneve (HES-SO)</p> <p><i>Genius Loci – The Museum That Speaks (and Listens)</i></p> <p>Alessio Mazzolotti, President and CEO of Ice Cubes Srl, Founder and Creative Director of Fishbone Creek Sas</p>
10.30 – 11.00	Coffee break
11.00 – 11.30	<p>Presentation of Živa Award Winners 2024</p> <p>Moderator: Andreja Rihter, Founder of the Živa Award</p> <p>Živa Award for Best Slavic Museum 2024:</p> <p>Nikolay Nenov, Director of Rousse Regional Museum of History, Rousse / Bulgaria</p> <p>Živa Award for Best Slavic Heritage Site 2024:</p> <p>Lea Ferjan, Director at Bled Culture Institute, Bled Castle, Bled / Slovenia</p>
11.30 – 11.45	ŽIVA Award 2026 – Coming Next Year in Bled, Slovenia

Venue: **Plateau in front of the Museum of Herzegovina**, Stari Grad 59, Trebinje

12.00 – 14.00	<p>Marketplace – Promote & Connect</p> <p>The Marketplace is a dedicated exhibition space at the conference, where all nominated institutions will have the opportunity to showcase their work, materials, and activities.</p>
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14.00 – 15.00

Lunch

15.00 – 17.00

Tour of the city of Trebinje (optional)

Venue: **Trebinje Cultural Centre – Theater hall**, Trg palih boraca 1, Trebinje

19.00 – 21.00

ŽIVA 2025 Award Ceremony

Venue: **Kukurića Gardens Restaurant**, Obala Mića Ljubibratića, Trebinje

21.30

Gala Dinner

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2025 – EXCURSION DAY

Tour guides: Certified Museum Curators and Guides –
Jelena Pujić and Simo Radić from Museum of Herzegovina

9.00

Departure by bus from the Cultural Centre Square

10.00

Zavala Monastery

11.00

Vjetrenica Cave – UNESCO World Heritage Site

12.30

Radimlja – Stećak Necropolis – UNESCO World Heritage Site

14.00

Žitomislić Monastery

15.00 – 16.00

Lunch at Žitomislić Monastery

16.30 – 19.00

Mostar – Old Bridge, UNESCO World Heritage Site

21.00

Return to Trebinje

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2025

- Arrivals to Trebinje
- Organized transfer by shuttle from Dubrovnik airport to Trebinje