

# Belgrade Metropolitan

Issue No. 319

Belgrade  
June 24 - July 1, 2010  
metropolitan@bizinfo.co.rs

The most comprehensive culture and entertainment guide to the Serbian capital

## TopStory

### Eagles Fly Home

The Aussies hushed Serbia last night. The national football team lost to Australia 1-2 and failed to advance to the Top 16 at the FIFA World Cup.

It was a sea-saw display of the Eagles in South Africa. After losing the opener 0-1 to Ghana (the goal scored from the penalty after

from the shock, another ball came from nowhere netted behind Stojković. That's two goals in four minutes.

The Eagles continued to fight, though. In the 84th minute, Marko Pantelić was productive, giving his squad a grain of hope, as a 2-2 score would book a place in the Top 16. In the 90th minute, the referee didn't call a penalty for Serbia after a handball in the Aussies' box; and Pantelić missed a great chance



Zdravko Kuzmanović's handball), Serbia found the courage and skill to confront one of the strong title favorites – Germany. In a thriller with many promising and missed chances on both sides, and the penalty for Germany (another handball, this time by Nemanja Vidić), saved by goalkeeper Vladimir Stojković, Serbia, fortune smiling on her, prevailed over *Die Mannschaft*.

The entire country, which stood still during the match, went into a frenzy. The Eagles were in a position to decide their own fate. They needed a win to march on and no one doubted a history-making success.

Serbia opened the game against the Aussies brilliantly, dominating the field, attacking and creating one chance after another. Yet they failed to convert any of them. In the second half, Aussies came on stronger and scored in the 69th minute. Before Serbia could recover

only seconds before the final whistle.

Serbia goes home as the last ranked team in Group D, with two defeats and one win, albeit a big one against the Germans.

"Football was unfair to us," commented Coach Radomir Antić. "We played well, had numerous chances.... This team has deserved more."

Captain Dejan Stanković was devastated. "We staged probably the best game thus far, but the punishment comes when you least expect it."

The nation is in disbelief; the press emotional: "Debacle," "Immense Grief," "Thank You, You Did Fight," "From Eagles to Pigeons," "Shame," "The Referee Robbed Us" – these are some of the front page titles.

There's some truth in each. What cannot be denied by anyone, however, is the fact that the Eagles fly back home, wings crushed.

## MetroFlash

**Philharmonic tours Italy in July.** The Belgrade Philharmonic concluded the 2009-10 season last Friday, but will still have a rather busy summer.

From July 21 to 24, the orchestra will perform in three Italian towns. After performances in Modena and Bassano Del Grappa, they will take the stage at the prestigious Ravello Fest, performing with violin virtuoso Uto Ughi and under the direction of Canadian conductor Michel Brousseau. The upcoming 2010-11 season, under the theme of "We Understand Each Other" will be divided into six sections: "Autumn," "Winter," "Spring," "Strings," "Anniversaries" and "Black and White," the latter requiring a black and white dress code. The Philharmonic has signed a three-year contract with renowned Chinese conductor Muhai Tang, who will premiere with the orchestra in Belgrade at the opening concert on October 29. Promotional ticket sales for subscribers will last until June 30. A first class seat package costs RSD 21,000; second class, RSD 15,000; and third RSD 9,000. Regular ticket sales begin September 1 and last until October 15.



**Milica Jelić is Serbia's most beautiful.**

Twenty-year old journalism student Milica Jelić was elected Miss Serbia on Sunday. The first



runner-up was 21-year old Anja Šaranović from Vrnjačka Banja and second, Jelena Milosavljević of Jagodina. "I'm still not aware of what happened," said Jelić upon winning.

"I'm in shock. This is a fantastic experience that I'll remember for the rest of my life." Milica, who is also Miss Capital City, will represent Serbia at the Miss World in Vietnam this fall.

(cont. page 4)

## MetroVox

### Ivan Brkljačić

Composer



**You also compose for the theater. Is that an attempt to step outside classical music?**

Some 13 years ago, when I was making my first theater steps, theater got under my skin. Event today when I compose for the theater, I feel a special excitement

and sentiment. I very much like to attend theater and particularly to compose the music for it. Fortunately, in this domain I occasionally have engagements...

(cont. page 6)

## RAVE

### Road rage.

A Croatia tore apart his car in order to snake out a snake, writes the Croatian Times, an English language



online daily. Boris Dimitrovski of Zagreb was told by neighbors that a serpent had slithered into the engine of his SEAT Ibiza. That's when Dimitrovski did what anyone would've done in his place - take apart the engine. The snake was found eventually. It turned out to be non-poisonous and was returned to the wild. Boris had better be good at jigsaw puzzles.

(cont. page 7)

## InSide

- ☞ SavaCentar ..... 2
- ☞ MetroSport ..... 2
- ☞ MetroKids ..... 2
- ☞ ComingUp ..... 3
- ☞ MetroMovies ..... 4
- ☞ RAVE ..... 7
- ☞ Theater ..... 7



**What's your music choice outside the classical genre?**  
 My music choice is what's generally called Rock 'n' Roll. I grew up in a time when the Rock 'n' Roll scene in the world and here was very strong, meaningful and versatile. It was unconsciously uploaded on my hard disk when I was a child and teenager and now, some 20 years later, it surely reflects on what I do. As for concrete influences, it was work by John Lennon with and after the Beatles. There are also other musicians. But every time I listen to the Beatles I find something new that I haven't before. Their songs are so multi-layered and complex. I think it's safe to say at this point that their music is everlasting, just like music by Mozart, Tchaikovsky and Stravinsky.

**What do you do in your spare time?**  
 I very much like to be close to the water, so I love to spend time near our rivers. Further, I like to explore the many qualities of our country, which we are unfortunately not aware of. Then I love the Adriatic Sea. I hope that in the future I'll have more time to devote to these interesting and beautiful things. As for other forms of art, I'm primarily drawn to the theater scene – be it classical or avant-garde theater, even modern ballet – which reflects on the musical expression that I try to shape. Then of course, there's film.

As for other artistic forms, it changes and depends on the spare time I have and my interest in a particular work.

**In only a month, "Jinx" was performed in Sidney and Bucharest. Will any of your other works be presented internationally?**

On June 26, my composition "Na brzinu" ("In a Hurry") for voice, flute and double bass will be on stage in The Hague. It will be performed by a mixed trio. The singer's a Spanish lady who will sing in the Serbian language, and that will be a curiosity. The double bassist is Israeli, while the flautist is Dutch. I hope that this piece will be as accepted abroad as "Jinx" has.

*Ivan was born 1977 in Belgrade. He started piano lessons at the age of five at the Dr Vojislav Vučković music school. In 1994, he enrolled into the Belgrade Music School, composition and orchestration department. Ivan earned his masters degree in 2005. His piece "For Two" represented the University of Art at the 1997 Student Festival in Timisoara, Romania. Ivan's music has been performed at a number of domestic festivals and internationally in France, Germany, Italy, Austria, Poland, Slovenia, the Czech Republic, Brazil, Sweden, Romania, Hungary, Macedonia and recently in Australia.*



...It's not my attempt to exclusively expand the spectrum of my composing work, but it's more my desire to explore and research what a theater for music would be. This year's composers' conference is actually devoted to musical theater. I find very interesting the connecting points between the arts; the way they infuse each other. Though not in a traditional way, but in a manner where music is displaced from its initial concert podium to a more intriguing scene – a theater stage.

**You wrote music for the theater performance of "Amadeus" directed by Alisa Stojanović. What was it like to compose music for a piece about one of the greatest composers ever, W. A. Mozart?**

It was one of the biggest challenges of my career. I had to juggle that which doesn't jeopardize Mozart - that doesn't open room for any arrogance or placing me in some competition with Mozart - and the need to be in a way authentic yet distant from the undisputed quality of Mozart's music. I have to mention the infusion of two angles of the work – dramatic and musical, as well as communication with Alisa. Together we decided that Antonio Salieri's informers, who would tell him everything related to Mozart, should not only be dramatic actors, but actually a bridge connecting the music and drama. After that, my job was much easier. We decided that Mozart's music in its authentic form will be played without any interventions from my side, while my comments on the plot and my point of view of the developments on stage is actually the music I composed. It doesn't invade Mozart's music at any moment. That's actually the music, which through the informers penetrates into the dramatic plot on the stage. I think that this has produced nice results, as "Amadeus" has been performed around 70 times at the Belgrade Drama Theater for five seasons now.

**Do you have a role model among the great composers?**

I'm rather bound to compositions than composers. And there's a huge array of compositions from early music, via Bach, Handel, Beethoven, Romanticism, all the way to the popular music of the second half of the 20th century. From each era or music style I have a composition that I'm really bound to. From all those styles of music that I listen to in different situations, I take something from, some energy and material from my own musical poetics.

**Would you like to compose film music?**

I sure would like to compose for film. But at the moment I'm not thinking about it. It may or may not happen. It doesn't concern me for the time being.

**What're your ambitions at the moment?**

What I'm currently doing is for the theater, but on a higher academic level, it's also my doctorate artistic project, which is linked to the music theater. I hope to finalize it this year.

