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# Folklore

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## NOTE FROM THE EDITOR



A year ago, in Chamony - France, during the IGF General Assembly, we established a series of activities of great interest for world folklore. We did not think then that after a year we would be stopped by the invasion of the killer virus Covid 19. Now, while looking back, nostalgia overwhelms us. A couple of months passed and we couldn't see each other. I had planned a big meeting in Satu Mare (Romania) where in addition to the soloists from the IGF Caravan, a series of television stations from several countries would have been present, to promote our event. Unfortunately, we had to postpone this meeting and we really went on alert seeing the huge increase in diseases in Italy, Spain, France. It didn't take long and the virus spread to other countries. Our last IGF activity in 2020 was carried out at the

beginning of March through the visit of the Belarusian Federation in Bistrita, Romania. Even this meeting took place with worries, considering that the borders were going to close. From then until now, we have tried to keep in touch with all IGF members in order to encourage each other and to hope for the end of this cruel pandemic. Our joy is that among our colleagues, among our artists, there were no health problems.

Tobecloseto each other, we initiated an online IGF meeting through the Zoom application. It was a real pleasure to see most of my colleagues and wish them health. After this meeting we will continue the online meetings and we will even initiate some events. With this in mind, we enthusiastically accepted the challenge of IGF Vice President Antonio Vinasto organize the first international online folklore festival. In the pages of the current issue you will find information about this event and I invite you to actively participate. Soon we will communicate an online regulation for the IGF Caravan in which I also ask you to participate.

The pages of the magazine include a series of events that we organized in 2019 and activities from the life of some Federations that wanted to make them public. We are still waiting for information from the life and work of all the Federations, which we will publish both in our magazine and on the IGF website.

Let's hope that soon this dark period in human history will pass and we shall hear music and dance of the peoples all over the world.

*Dr. Dorel Cosma*  
*I.G.F. President*

## ENERGY AND WEALTH OF COSTUMES IN GRAN CANARIA - SPAIN



Between 29<sup>th</sup> to 31 March in Las Palmas - Gran Canaria – Spain, took place the I.G.F. Board Meeting 2019. The host of the meeting was Mr. Jose Antonio Vinas, Vice president of I.G.F. and representative of Spain in World Folklore Union I.G.F.

After a superb reception by the hosts in which the treasures of the island were presented to us, the meeting began by one minute of silence as a tribute to M. Zenon Kolobich who passed away a few months before. President of I.G.F. - Prof. Dr. Dorel Cosma - made a speech reminding that Zenon Kolobich was a very famous choreographer and a friend. Following the meeting, Mr. Jose Antonio Vinas made a speech to welcome

the members of the IGF board to come to Las Palmas. He was very happy to speak of Folklore in this very big world federation that is IGF. He was much honored that the president of I.G.F. trusted him to organize the meeting.

An important series of events, to follow, were discussed during the meeting including I.G.F. Gold Stars / World Folklore Stars and that will take place (with 12 countries) in the end of July in Bistrita and where all I.G.F. members are invited to attend. It was also discussed about I.G.F. General Assembly which will take place in Chamonix, France on October 4, 5 and 6<sup>th</sup> 2019. The meeting in Le Puy du Fou is no more possible as the dates





were asked to be changed by the president from September to October.

In the course of the meetings, two important moments stand out with regard to Canarian folklore, on the one hand the exposure to the I.G.F. international leaders of the “El Salitre del Faycan” International Festival by its director, Mr. Gustavo Hernandez, in which emphasize the importance of both at a national and international level and its growth in recent years, at which time he appreciated the institutional support received from the institutions such as the Government of the Canary Islands, the City Councils of Valsequillo, Mogan, San Bartolomé, etc., and especially of the Telde City Council that became the festival’s reference center.

On Saturday evening, the international I.G.F delegations were received at the

Hermitage of San Pedro Martín by the authorities of the City Council of Telde, Valsequillo and the Swedish consul. Act of great sentiment in which the World Folklore Federation awarded a diploma to the City Council of Telde for its great involvement in the development of the “El Salitre de Faycan” International Festival and its commitment to the promotion and dissemination of Canarian folklore.





Canary Islands to Galicia. The president of the World Folklore Union, Prof.Dr. Dorel Cosma also took advantage of the event to grant public recognition through a special distinction to the Vice President , Mr. Antonio Vinas, for his hard work in promoting world folklore. The dance part of this act was chaired by the Erasmo Hernández Dance Corps, who with their energy and wealth of costumes caused a sensation among the members of the international delegations.

The event was enlivened by the musical group “Las Esencias”, which were artistically premiered and surprised the vice president of the I.G.F. Mr. José Antonio Viñas, naming him godfather of the group, a commission that he picked up excitedly and with great affection thanking him for the honor and responsibility placed on him, who also had the pleasure of listening to a dedicated habanera from the

The I.G.F.Board wants to convey its thanks to all the people, and public and private entities that made it possible for Gran Canaria to become the center of International Folklore these days, hoping to continue cooperating in the future with the development of common projects and helping to spread the Island’s Folklore worldwide.

*Puşcaş Adrian*



## THE PEOPLE'S ARTIST OF THE UKRAINE



The President of the IGF World Folklore Union, Dorel Cosma, was in Lviv, Ukraine, at a special event dedicated to one of the greatest choreographers - Zenon Kolobyci, former president of the National Folklore Federation in the neighboring country.

The event took place at the National Theater, in the presence of over 500 spectators who paid tribute to the one who throughout his life collected a lot of trophies and distinctions, including Artist of the People from Ukraine and the Oscar in folklore.

The three groups from the Gorytsvit Ensemble presented dance suites from several folk areas of Ukraine, interspersed with film moments from the artist's life and work. Impressive was the presence on stage of the artist's two sons - Zenon and Adrian - who from now on prove to be professionals in dance.



On behalf of the IGF World Folklore Union and the Bistrita Palace of Culture, President Dorel Cosma was present, along with Prof. Pahone Pop. The event, with the generous support of the choreographer's wife, Maria Kolobyci, presented in the foyer of the theater an exhibition with the most important moments in the choreographer's life.

At the end of the show, following the decision of the IGF Executive Bureau, Dorel Cosma awarded the family the distinction and the title of post-mortem senator of the World Folklore Union for Zenon Kolobyci.

The representative ensemble for Ukraine received the distinction of the Palace of Culture and the latest issues of the magazine Connections.

The next day, the artist's grave was visited, where flowers were laid and a candle was lit in



his memory.

The ensemble that the master choreographer coordinated for many years, taking him on the international stages of the world will receive his name.

The message of thanks from Mrs. Maria Kolobych, the wife of the master choreographer, who will now coordinate all the activity of the Ukrainian folklore federation, was sent on a social network being addressed to the entire World Folklore Union, but especially to the president, prof. Dr. Dorel Cosma:

On behalf of Zenon Kolobych National Folk Dance Ensemble Gorytsvit, I Marya Kolobych want to express the gratitude to the president of IGF, prof. dr. Dorel Cosma for visiting the Memorial Concert and delivering to Zenon Kolobych an honorable title of IGF senator!

It is hard to overestimate the importance of Dr. Dorel Cosma's support and attention. We understand how hard it had been for him and his team to be spare time in their schedules to come to Ukraine.

Thank you all the IGF Board for your appreciation in the memory of Zeno!

*Doris Nedelea*



## ZAMFIRA'S WEDDING WILL REMAIN IN THE MEMORY BISTRITA'S INHABITANTS



The 24th edition of the Zamfira's Wedding International Folklore Festival has opened its season for 2019. Delegates from 24 countries were present in Bistrita between July 26-31. For the first time, exotic countries such as Panama and Chile have joined Georgia, Mexico, Lithuania, Serbia, Turkey, Spain, Poland, Ukraine, Greece, France and, of course, Romania.

For the first time, Romania hosted the IGF Oscar event in folklore, the president of

the World Folklore Union, Dr. Dorel Cosma, promised events that the people of Bistrita will not forget.

Asked why he made the announcement that it is the last edition, Prof. Dr. Dorel Cosma said: "There are several reasons that contribute to this decision, one of them being the evolution of society, for years this festival was meant to bring people closer, to make them better, to feel the energy that folklore gives you."





I think that now the optics of the shows are changing and I don't think we have to impose a way of working. There were 24 editions in which this festival made many admirers both in the country and abroad. I think that

the Zamfira Wedding Festival has ended this mission, this 24<sup>th</sup> edition being a culmination of the activities. I have invited our guests and thought the wording of the event completely differently than before.





The presentation of the festival brought on stage Doris NedeleaCosma together with MihaiBerbunshi and the conception and direction was a concept of Dorel Cosma.

Thanks to everyone who was with me, especially the artists. I am convinced that Zamfira's wedding will remain in the memory of the people of Bistrita as well as the famous poetry of George Coşbuc.

*Doris Nedelea*



## HISTORY OF DIONYSOS - CYPRUS -



„DIONYSOS” Cultural & Dancing Group of Limassol was founded in the town of Limassol in August of 1991, by people with strong and genuine interest in the cultural tradition of the island. The desire of the Group’s founders was the preservation and spreading of the folkloric wealth of the island of Cyprus, by placing their emphasis on the traditional dances of Cyprus and the wider Hellenic dominion.

The Group still maintains until this day the same laborious targets amongst which are the teaching to young people the Greek and Cypriot folk dances, the support and promotion of cultural activities, the organizing of different seminars with experts in the field of the Cypriot folk art and tradition, and the support of practically any event which lies along the same parameters as the Group’s targets.

Today, „DIONYSOS” maintains a well-organized group of over 80 dancers, all of whom – under the supervision of the well-known instructors Andreas and Michalis Lanitis – have the ability to perform a wide range of folk dances from the entire Greek dominion. This group is followed by many others with hundreds of keen dancers of all ages (from age

6 onwards as the Group runs its own Dance School) all of them being brought-up to learn and respect the visions, customs and moral values of Cyprus.

The Group counts several representations of our island overseas, having appeared in Europe, America and The Middle East. As an indication one may refer to countries like Italy, Greece, Switzerland, Germany, France, Belgium, Russia, Gr.Britain, Lebanon, Canada, China, Malta, Portugal, Belarus, Romania, Austria, Sardinia, Denmark, Estonia etc.





The Group is equally active in Cyprus as well, as further to its regular appearances; it participates in Festivals, Symposiums, Television programmes and practically any event which promotes the Cypriot tradition to Cypriots and foreigners. During the «First Pan Cyprian Competition of Cypriot Folk Dances» which took place in Nicosia in 1999, «DIONYSOS» was awarded first prizes in all dance categories, and specifically:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Prize in the Category of „Best Dancing Group”
- 1<sup>st</sup> Prize in the Category of „Most Traditional Dancing Group”
- 1<sup>st</sup> Prize in the Category of „Group with the Most Traditional Costumes”
- 1<sup>st</sup> Prize in the Category of „Best Dancer”

Also in the International folklore festival and competition that take place in Malta (March 2002 ) at the AMITEX (Air Malta Trade Exhibition) we have won 2nd prize in traditional dancing and 3rd prize in traditional costumes and 3rd prize in traditional singing in 2003.



Also the president of “DIONYSOS” Antreas Lanitis has awarded with the OSCAR MUNDIALE DEL FOLKLORE from the IGF (UNION INTERNATIONALE DES FEDERATIONS DES GROUPES FOLKLORIQUES EUROPEAN AND

EXTRAEUROPEAN) in Italy (may 2008) for the many years of work carried out in the subject of traditional dancing and culture of Cyprus.

*Michalis Lanitis*



## THE OSCAR IN FOLKLORE, FOR THE FIRST TIME IN ROMANIA.



For the first time, Romania hosted the IGF Oscar Awards in Folklore, awarded by the President of the World Folklore Union, Dr. Dorel Cosma, together with the IGF Steering Committee. Antonio Greco (Italy), Roberta Maceliene (Lithuania), Cipriano Almeida (Spain), Luka Tesanovic (Serbia), Małgorzata Broda (Poland), Nicolai Doinov (Bulgaria) and SalihShami (Israel) were honored at the Oscar award ceremony.



*Antonio Greco (Italian Republic)*



*Nicolai Doinov (Republic of Bulgaria)*



*Malgorzata Broda (Republic of Poland)*





*Salih Shami (State of Israel)*



*Roberta Maceliene (Republic of Lithuania)*



*Luka Tesanovic (Republic of Serbia)*



*Cipriano Almeida (Spanish Republic)*

The mayor of Bistrita, Ovidiu Teodor Cretu declared on stage, in front of thousands of spectators

” I want to take this opportunity to tell you that our city, Bistrita, has a great chance, through people of great quality, who made the name of our city to be known in the world. Thousands or maybe tens of thousands of young people came to the XXIV editions of the Zamfira’s Wedding Festival. I am convinced that all these Europeans, Americans, Mexicans or others, will remember Bistrita. To have such a festival means to have an organizational capacity, a formidable leader. Mr. Dorel Cosma has demonstrated these things throughout his career. I want to tell him on behalf of you, everyone, that we appreciate him, that we

are proud of him. It is not easy to become the president of the World Folklore Union, it is not easy to bring so many people here, in Bistrita. In the 11 years since I have been mayor, I have instituted the Golden Badge of Bistrița municipality, which I have offered eight times so far, because anything that multiplies a lot loses its value. I wanted to offer this badge, as mayor, as your representative, to those citizens who have exceptional merits and results. I would like to invite Dorel Cosma on this red carpet to hand over the patent and the Golden Badge of municipality of Bistrița, with gratitude from the citizens. This Golden Badge is one of the surprises for Mr. Dorel Cosma. Congratulations and thank you, Mr. Cosma ”

*said Mayor Ovidiu Cretu.*



The World Folklore Gala brought on stage the professional ensemble The Wreath from The Somes of Bistrița (conductor Alexandru Demeter, choreographer: Teodor Pușcaș), Nikomediahalkdanslari top. gsk - Turkey, the Vilnius University Song and Dance Ensemble - Lithuania, Quahuitl Ballet Folklórico de Saltillo - México, RzpitŚwiniarsko from Chelmiec - Poland, Roudeletfelibren - France, Ballet Folklórico de Padre las Casas - Chile, College

Dance Ho Chi Minh - Vietnam, Gorytsvit - Ukraine, Folklore ensemble SvetiĐorđe - Serbia, Tsu-Flying Georgians Kazbeguri - Georgia.

The presentation of the festival brought on stage Doris Nedelea Cosma together with Mihai Berbunschi and the conception and direction was a concept of Dorel Cosma.

*Doris Nedelea*

## The 49<sup>th</sup> edition of the International Folklore Festival SerataAntica - ITALY




**ASSOCIAZIONE FOLKLORICA "LA SPIGA ROSSA"**  
PETINA (SA) ITALIA

**49°**  
**FESTIVAL INTERNAZIONALE DEL FOLKLORE "SERATA ANTICA"**

**Petina**  
**6 AGOSTO 9° Sagra**  
**2019 "Antichi sapori"**  
**ore 19.30**

**Con la partecipazione di:**

- \* Associazione Folklorica "A' Spiga Rossa" - Petina (SA)
- \* Gruppo Folkloristico "Margherita" - Boscand'Ono
- \* Gruppo Folkloristico "Li Muscatascor" - Pignola (PZ)
- \* Gruppo Folklorico "Seeti Djondje" - Serbia
- \* Comunità "Desde el Alma" - Argentina
- \* Gruppo Folklorico "Comandante" - Bolivia
- \* Gruppo Folklorico "Yanar chichir" - Peru
- \* Ensemble "Polisjanka" - Ucraina

**Con l'assegnazione del premio:**  
**"SPIGA ROSSA 2019"**  
*Dorel Cosma*

Hosted by the city of Petina in Italy, the International Folklore Festival SerataAntica, was held under the auspices of the IGF with the participation of artists from Serbia, Argentina, Bolivia, Peru, Ukraine, but also from the host country. The event, which has been taking place for almost 50 years, presents the



beauties of international traditions, and for 10 years an award has been given to a personality of the cultural world.

This year, the SpigaRossa award was given to Prof. Dr. Dorel Cosma, President of the World Folklore Union. In the presence of an audience of 3000, the award was offered by the organizers to the one who promotes the traditions at international level, in fact a real business card being presented in front of the Italians.

In his speech, Dr. Dorel Cosma spoke about the peace and beauty that folklore promotes, while on giant screens were projected images with the city of Bistrita, the Palace of Culture, but also the International Festival Zamfira's Wedding, introduced as a model for one of the most beautiful events from Europe.

A religious service was celebrated at the Central Cathedral to bless all the formations,



with President Dorel Cosma saying a few words about the joy of being together under the sign of faith and art.





The international distinction in Italy is added to the cultural history of Bistrita, where Dr. Cosma is an Honorary Citizen, likewise in cities such as Voiron-France, San Giovanni Rotondo - Italy, Karditsa - Greece and the list can continue with localities in the country and abroad, holder of the Northern Cross of Denmark, Oscar in folklore, member of the Romanian-Australian Academy in Sydney, holder of awards and medals in the farthest corners of the world, a writer and professional journalist.

In Italy, the president of IGF - Prof. Dr. Dorel Cosma - was accompanied by the master choreographer Teodor Pușcaș, vice president of the National Folklore Association of Romania and Adi Pușcaș, advisor to IGF president.

*Adrian Pușcaș*

**IGF TURNS 70!  
FIRST OFFICIAL ANNIVERSARY IN THE HISTORY OF THE ORGANIZATION!**



The 24th edition, on July 27, 2019, of the International Folklore Festival “Zamfira’sWedding”, addressed the board meeting of the IGF World Folklore Union among others. Meetings of this kind take place twice a year, the location being established in advance, precisely so that all the representatives of the member federations can take part.

Since the end of 2018, the members of the IGF Executive Board have decided that this event will take place this year in Romania, in Bistrita, during the great international festival Zamfira’sWedding. At the same time, the 70th anniversary of the founding of the IGF World Folklore Union was organized during the festival. At the same time, it was decided to organize the IGF Oscar Awards in folklore.

As soon as the date of July 27 and 28, 2019 was set, the IGF representatives, from different corners of the world, announced their presence in Bistrita and their participation in the entire program that would include the organizational effort.

The meeting organized in a dream location, in a summer garden, managed to bring to Bistrita presidents of Folklore Federations from: France, Italy, Spain, Israel, Serbia, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Switzerland, Lithuania , Poland, Ukraine, Vietnam, Croatia and of course from the host country. On July 27, the people invited to the meeting had the opportunity to enjoy a warm, welcoming atmosphere outside the city, away from the hustle and bustle of the day. For this year, the organizers wanted a more relaxed meeting, still keeping the casual style in terms of outfit.

The meeting began with a welcome message from the president, Prof. Dr. Dorel Cosma, but also a small surprise for those present. Each participant received as a gift a diploma in gratitude for the entire activity carried out during the month within the IGF and also the logo of the Palace of Culture, as a sign of gratitude and remembrance at the same time, for the effort to be present in Bistrita.





The plans regarding the next period were discussed, each of those present having allocated a time of 3-5 minutes to include both future plans and a brief description of the events already organized with the support of IGF members. New invitations have been launched to be part of the large IGF family of countries such as: Mexico, Georgia, Turkey, Panama, Chile, proposals to be voted on at the next IGF meeting in October - France, a meeting that was important election, by vote, of the new chairman of the IGF and of the Board of Directors.

One of the purposes of this meeting was the celebration of the 70th anniversary of the founding of the World Folklore Union. Towards the end of the meeting, all those who held the presidency during these years were mentioned, as well as a brief history of the Union and of course the words of praise and thanks were not forgotten, they were addressed to the whole board, which for more than For 10 years he managed to bring this organization to a higher level, thanks to all the events organized around the world under the auspices of the IGF.



The end of this meeting was one on musical rhythms, all those present having a glass of champagne and singing the well-known Happy

Birthday to You! However, the day did not end at that moment, as the evening of July 27 was dedicated entirely to all IGF members.



The anniversary party took place in an elegant location, all those present being asked to present themselves with an outfit specific to such an event. There was dance, singing, each country having at its disposal both the microphone and the internet to feel good and spend in the spirit of a real family of world folklore. There was also the 70th anniversary cake that was brought on special musical chords, thus registering the first official anniversary

Adviser to the President of IGF.

*Doris Nedelea*



## DR. DOREL COSMA, HONOURED IN ITALY

Folk ensembles from eight countries (Botswana, Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chechnya, China, Peru, South Africa and Italy) attended the 34th edition of the World Folklore Festival in Castrovillari, Italy. Every night, international traditions were presented on the downtown stage. A special attraction was the awarding of the prize for the entire career in the field of international culture for prof.dr. Dorel Cosma, President of the World Folklore Union during the event.

The event was organized by the National Folklore Federation of Italy, chaired by Antonio Notaro, municipal councilor and president of the EIF association, with which Bistrita has a special relationship, the Wreath from the Somes ensemble took part in this festival a few

years ago, and the Citta ensemble (director and choreographer Antonio Notaro) from Castrovillari has been awarded the prize at Zamfira's Wedding in Bistrita.

From the agenda of the debated projects we mention the intention of the Italian ensemble to be present in Bistrita, when collaboration between the authorities is desired, a discussion with Mayor Domenico Lo Polito and Mayor Ovidiu Cretu on December 1, Romania's National Day. For his activity in the service of Italian folklore, Antonio Notaro was proposed by the president of IGF, Dr. Dorel Cosma, for the award of the Oscar in Folklore in 2020, receiving the approval of the Italian federation in this respect.





We also emphasize the fact that during the same period there was a meeting with the Romanian community who were also present at the festival in the Historic Center, where Romania presented a stand rich in traditional products, including bacon and onions, cakes, brandy in the city center, which caused a sensation among the citizens of Italian origin present at the event.

The delegation from Bistrita joined the choir together with the Romanians who had left home for many years, and who showed that they have not forgotten their origins and that they proudly promote them.



Discussions were also held with the two Romanian priests who serve in the church in Castrovillari, and collaborations of the religious bonds will also be promoted.

*Adrian Pușcaș*



## IGF GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN CHAMONIX - MONT BLANC, FRANCE

The General Assembly of the IGF World Folklore Union was held in Chamonix - Mont Blanc in France, to elect the president for the next four years of the well-known forum that brings together folk ensembles from around the world.

In front of his colleagues, the incumbent president Dorel Cosma presented a report of the Union from the last four years, drawn up in a new way, surprising everyone through the film that recounted the important events of this period. The chief treasurer Renee Souriseau and the deputy chief treasurer Pahone Pop, presented the financial report of the Union.

Discussions on the presentations were made with reference to the presence of IGF groups in different parts of the world.

The second part of the meeting dealt with the election of the president and the new bureau. Unanimously, Prof. Dr. Dorel Cosma



was voted for the presidency during the next four years, this being his third term.



The Executive Bureau and the Board of Directors have the following membership:



*I.G.F. President Prof.Dr. Dorel Cosma – Romania;*



*Adjunct president Nicolas Charlety - France;*



*Adjunct president Benito Ripoli – Italy;*



*Vice President Ameen Kassem – Israel;*



*Vice President Jose Antonio Vinas Mira – Spain;*



*Vice President Vladan  
Tesanovic – Serbia;*



*Vice President Franco  
Megna – Italy;*



*Secretary General - Rosen  
Bogdanov – Bulgaria;*



*Deputy Secretary General  
Zelida Stulesatz – France;*



*Treasurer General Renne  
Sourisseau – France;*



*Deputy Treasurer Pahone  
Pop – Romania;*



*Law Expert Nidal Kassem –  
Israel;*



*Asia's special delegate -  
NghiemXuan Dong;*



*I.G.F. Board member  
Akelatiene – Lithuania;*



*I.G.F. Board member  
Michalis Lanitis – Cyprus;*



*I.G.F. Board member  
Giorgios Cutsak – Greece;*



*I.G.F. Board member  
Johannes Schmidt Kunz –  
Switzerland;*



*I.G.F. Board member  
Małgosia Broda – Poland;*



*I.G.F. administrative -  
financial adviser of the  
president Tobias Rinaldo –  
Italy;*



*Coordinator of the scientific-  
artistic commission  
Khmialkou Aleh Fedorovich  
- Belarus*



*I.G.F. Board member Josef  
Revak – Slovakia*

de fondation



“I can only rejoice that I received the endorsement of my colleagues for another term unanimously, proof that I did good things in the previous two terms. During these terms, there was a constant public presence of the IGF. We won a place at the top of world folklore, knowing everywhere about the traditions and values of international folklore, promoted by our Union” said Prof. Dr. Dorel Cosma.

Several future projects were exhibited in this context, including the continuation of the two events, the Oscars in folklore being established in the countries where the Gala will take place in the next four years as well as the road show IGF Folk Stars, the only event with folk music soloists from around the world. The first stage of the road show will take place

in Spain, in the first part of the year, and the second stage in Romania, in Târgu Mureş, in the second part of the year.





The following three federations from Mexico, Turkey and Argentina, that did not have activity and did not pay the current membership fee were excluded, and other federations from Costa Rica, Mexico (Santillo city with 30 groups) and a new federation from Turkey. with 20 groups were co-opted.

The initiation of an international festival called Folklore and skiing was discussed together with the town hall and the groups

from the French area, and the Vietnamese embassy in Paris is ready to provide free space for an IGF office, where information about the activity can be displayed, and where folklore events can take place. The dinner given by the mayor's office, attended by important cultural personalities ended the events, and by 2023 the IGF leadership will offer special projects to folklore lovers.



The new president-elect of the IGF, Prof. Dr. Dorel Cosma, is an Honorary Citizen of his hometown, Bistrita, Honorary Citizen in cities such as Voiron-France, San Giovanni Rotondo

- Italy, Karditsa - Greece, Năsăud, Sântana de Mureş and the list can continue with localities in the country and abroad.



ensemble “Balada”, the initiation of the first international folklore festival in Romania - “Zamfira’s Wedding”, director of the cultural institution in Bistrita, author of over 25 books, member of the Committee of the European Poetry Association in Paris.

We congratulate Prof. Dr. Dorel Cosma and wish him success in his new term, being convinced that the world folk movement is in trustworthy hands.

*Adrian Pușcaș*

He is the holder of the Danish Northern Cross, the Oscar in folklore, a member of the Romanian-Australian Academy in Sydney, awards and medals in the farthest corners of the world, Spain, USA, Malaysia, Israel, professional writer and journalist, founder of the Popular Art School in Bistrița, obtaining the Grand Prize “Golden Necklace” in Dijon-France, as director of the House of Culture of Trade Unions, the establishment of the folk





## I.G.F. AT THE BULGARIAN PRESIDENCY

Dr. Dorel Cosma, President of the World Folklore Union, was received at the Bulgarian Presidential Palace by Vice President Iliyanalotova. The discussions were related to the promotion of culture and tradition at the international level, Dr. Cosma being accompanied, by the president of the Bulgarian Writers' Union, Peter Anghelov, the president of the Bulgarian National Folklore Federation - Secretary General of I.G.F, Mr. Rosen Bogdanov - and the president of the Association of Houses of Culture.

Vice President of Bulgaria, Iliyanalotova congratulated IGF President Dorel Cosma on the results, awarding him a special award for promoting the Bulgarian culture in the world given by the presidency.

Future projects were also discussed in this context, in 2020 Bulgaria will host the Oscars in folklore, and Vice President Iliyanalotova was invited to present the respective awards.

The writer Dorel Cosma also offered the "Monograph of the Palace of Culture" and his poetry book *The Shores of Silence*, translated into Bulgarian.

On the same day, at the Press House in Sofia, *The Shores of Silence* was presented in a successful Bulgarian translation.

The president of the Bulgarian Writers' Union, Peter Anghelov, spoke about Dorel Cosma's poems, as well as a literary critic, and an actor recited in Bulgarian.



It is interesting that, along with writers and professors from the University of Sofia, students from the Romanian department were also present, the entire speech being translated directly into Bulgarian by a Romanian student. The book, which has the inscription of the National Library of Bulgaria, includes verses written by the manager of the Bistrita Palace of Culture over time, most of them inspired by the countries where he was present with his own creation. Along with this book, Dorel Cosma authored books published by publishing houses in ten countries, being translated into as many languages.





In anthologies, but also in author books, Dorel Cosma is the most translated writer from Bistrita (French, English, Bulgarian, Italian, Spanish, Greek, German, Russian, Turkish, Albanian) and his books were presented in the presence of the author in Malaysia , Vietnam, America, all of Europe, Egypt, Argentina many others.

President Peter Anghelov presented President Dorel Cosma with the Golden Badge of the Bulgarian Writers' Union, a distinction currently held by only 15 writers from the neighboring country.





From the category of official meetings, the visit to the Bulgarian Ministry of Culture could not be missed, where future projects were also discussed, Bulgaria will host in 2020 the Oscars in folklore. As a sign of appreciation for the promotion and capitalization of culture but also for future collaborations in the artistic and

cultural field, President I.G.F awarded a special badge to Minister Boil Banov.

*Adrian Pușcaș*



## INTERNATIONAL FOLKLORE SYMPOSIUM IN MOGHILEV-BELARUS



In Moghilev, in the Republic of Belarus, was held the International Folklore Symposium dedicated to the 80th anniversary of the National Institute of Ethnographic and Folkloric Research in the above-mentioned locality.

The Moghilev Institute is the largest folklore research institute in the Republic of Belarus.

Led by director Oleg Fedorovici, the institute marked outstanding successes both nationally and internationally, in addition, he is also a member of the Scientific Commission of the I.G.F.





Delegates from Russia, Azerbaijan, Yacuția, Romania and the host country participated in the symposium. The presentations and discussions focused on the usefulness of the folklore in the contemporary period as well as on the measures needed for a wider adherence of the youth to the folklore movement.

The president of the World Folklore Union - prof.dr. Dorel Cosma, manager of Bistrița Palace of Culture, presented the activity of I.G.F. to those present, but also the folklore values promoted at the Bistrita Palace of Culture.

The Gala Concert was held in the presence of over 500 spectators who applauded on the open stage the evolution of professional and

amateur artists from Moghilev and Minsk.

For the activity performed, both nationally and internationally, the director of the Institute - Oleg Feodorovici was awarded with the gold medal - "I.G.F. - 70" officially presented by the president of the World Folklore Union.

The debates continued after the extraordinary concert, with wide discussions with the specialists of the Institute of Moghilev.

In this regard, an exchange of experience was established between the specialists of the institute and the Bistrita Palace of Culture at the beginning of next year.

*Adrian Pușcaș*



## THE ISRAELI FEDERATIONS ACTIVITIES SUMMERY FOR THE IGF 2019 - 2020



This year has been particularly challenging for the Israeli IGF, during which artistic content has been produced, festivals have taken place in the south and center, where 38 diverse groups have participated in. The producers have put an emphasis on content for all ages and a wide spectrum of populations.

In the annual Albadia Festival, which took place in 3 different towns, there were live heritage workshops that gave the audience a juicy taste of live folklore, alongside stage performances, dance routines full of movements and lively foot stamping, reviving folklore and making it great again. The young generation was very engaged during the festival.

The federation has worked hard on improving the content it provides, developing

new knowledge, thanks to its investment in local performances in Israel, in elements of sound, setting, choreography, acting and theatre.







Another innovation by the federation is inserting a new element of oriental folklore music, with its unique rhythms played on many stages throughout the year. What makes this special is the coherence between folklore and dance in musical sketches of local ensembles. Its success has been proven by the vast number of audiences who enjoyed these festivals.

### Folklore Under Covid - 19

The head of the Israeli Federations / I.G.F vice president in the Union Mr. Ameen Kassem points out that lately the situation facing the

Coronavirus is Challenging the the culture activities field , specially for the national and international prohibition of gathering and the need to stay safe , while the cultural stages are “Thirsty “ for Audience . Under these circumstances, he confirms that the Israeli section in the unionsucceed to encourage Folklore troupes to develop an alternative attitude for the special situation starting the digital / online computing , passing by any creative other suggestions which keeping the safe distance and insure continuously of the Activities in Israel and abroad .

*Nidal Kasem*



## ARTICLE FROM FRANCE FOLKLORE



France has been confined since march 17th 2020. From the very beginning Nicolas Charléty, as president of the French National Confederation and Adjunct President of I.G.F., invited all the musicians to play music every day at 18h30 from their homes and to broadcast it on facebook in order to share moments of friendship and solidarity. And every day there are several tens of musicians playing alive or singers singing on facebook!

Added to that a France Folklore channel on youtube was created :  
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC9VldyFBQ9TCqeldYmGDcTQ>

Indeed more than 150 folklorists were supposed to meet during one week from april 20th until april 26th for national courses in the themes of dance, music, song, patrimony, costumes, choregraphy, staging... Because this week was cancelled participants have been invited to send by mail a film showing them playing music or dancing or singing at home or in their garden ! You can find all these films in the daily program on the youtube channel France Folklore.

*Zélida Stuelsatz*



## THE INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF PERFORMING POPULAR MUSIC "PETRE SĂBĂDEANU" FROM TG. MUREȘ!



The performance was hosted by the Șoptoreanu Foundation in collaboration with the Palace of Culture from Bistrița and enjoyed a real success among the audience in Mureș.

For the first time in Romania, the organizers also thought about those who have passed away. Great performers of the Romanian folk song were commemorated in a memorial service officiated by His Eminence Archbishop Dr. Irineu Pop, Archbishop of Alba Iulia at the Orthodox Cathedral The Lord's Ascension downtown Tg. Mures. During the memorial

service, the artists: Petre Săbădeanu, Dumitru Fărcaș, Emilia Bubulac, Valeria Peter Predescu, Mariana Drăghicescu, Natalia Gliga, Lucreția Sînmihăian, Ramona Fabian, Ion Cristoreanu, Dumitru Sopon, Vasile Coțiu, Ioșif Crișan were commemorated.

The Appassionata Chamber Choir, the Vocal Group Longing of Tg. Mureș and the Crown ensemble from Solovăstru gave a special glamour to this unique moment from Tg. Mures.





*Constantina Cornelia Orleanu - Grand Prize*

The second day of the festival included the performance contest and guest recitals. Performers from different folk areas of the country presented their art during the competition, and this time the festival trophy went to Gorj, the Grand Prize going to the performer Constantina Cornelia Orleanu.

The special evolution of the representative of Bistrița-Năsăud county, Florina Bălan, who won first place, just a few tenths of the Grand Prix was notable.

The guests from France, Israel and Ukraine gave a special color to the event, offering the audience from Mureș the opportunity to admire and appreciate world folklore.



*Florina Bălan - I Place*



*France*



*Andra Gabriela Sâia – II Place*



*Israel*



*Elena Pătrăucean – III Place*



*Ukraine*



The Wreath from the Somes - the standard professional ensemble of Bistrița-Năsăud County performed an exceptional show, impressing the audience both by accompanying the entire festival (competitors, guests) and by the evolution of dancers and soloists Petre Petruse, Teodora Simionca, Marian Predescu and Mărioara Sigheartău, who also presented the entire event. The musical coordination belonged entirely to the conductor Alexandru Demeter, and the choreography to the master choreographer Teodor Pușcaș. The entire technical team from the Bistrița Palace of

Culture, led by Adrian Pușcaș, were also greatly appreciated, during the two days they ensured the live transmission of the entire event.

The festival director - Nelu Șopterean - publicly thanked all the artists, who were on the stage of the Palace of Culture from Tg. Mureș, and reaffirmed the undeniable value of Romanian and international folklore.

*Doris Nedelea*



## INTERNATIONAL POPULAR MUSIC FESTIVAL I.G.F. CARAVAN 2019 - SPAIN -



The International Popular Song Festival IGF Caravan 2019 took place in the province of Ourense in different localities, more specifically A Derrasa and Ourense. The popular music of countries such as Romania, Israel, Lituania, Italy, Portugal and Spain were the creators of illuminating the ears of viewers in the different performances of the same.

The IGF Caravan 2019 festival as usual in recent years has developed performances along three well-differentiated axes, first performances in nursing homes, second performances in spa hotels in both Lajas and Arnoia and then the big show in A Derrasa (Pereiro de Aguiar) Ourense,

Representing Rumania were four magical and unique voices that with a refined technique made the audience enjoy and be amazed by the Romanian popular music. Representing Italy, a group from Northern Italy with the Zampogna as a base instrument made us travel the imagination given its resemblance to the Galician bagpipe. Portugal presented some voices and instruments that made the Portugal public burst into tears, on behalf of

Israel a melodic music brought us closer to the lands of Israel, close to the desert and blew the imagination. Spain was represented by the Pandereteiras de Queixumes dos Pinos who, with their songs and music, made Galician songs share space with international music.

For the second time the festival had a musical show in the Galician Television program "Aquí Galicia"

The festival was also well received by the public we can not forget the large number of receptions by the institutions that brought about a greater enhancement of the importance of the Festival.

All the international delegations were really surprised by the Festival, the riches of Ourense and the space in which they were housed along it: The Balneario Lajas hotel, a 4 \* hotel in a beautiful place where they also enjoyed the gastronomy and the Balnearios spaces .

A special festival, with a large influx of public and which has become a reference in popular music internationally.

*Jose Antonio Vinas Mira*

## BEST GRADE AMBASSADORS



The folk ensemble The Wreath from the Someș went on a unique tour in Egypt. In Aswan, a city located on the famous river Nile, where the artists from Bistrita raised the Romanian tricolor again, managing to impress with the dance, the music and the costume from the Someș Valley.

As the I.G.F. President, Dr. Dorel Cosma, told us on the spot: the artists from Bistrita were very well received. We were always surrounded with a lot of goodwill and friendship by the organizers: hundreds of artists were present at this Festival of Dialogue for Peace. The members of the ensemble being the representatives of Europe, was a reason that has increased the interest of the spectators. The performances started that very day with a

unique parade on the Nile, where some of the invited countries had their own yacht in which they paraded on the water in folk costumes on the chords of country-specific music.





Brazil, Egypt, Sri Lanka, the United Arab Emirates, Palestine also took part in this competition of beauty. Those were unique moments that the people from the ensemble have never experienced before, although they have been in all corners of the world . A parade followed through the city center, in the bazaar area, where our artists were greeted with applause.

We met here with friends from Greece, led by Mrs. MeniPapanicolau with which we marked superb moments of promoting Romanian and Greek folklore.

Groups from Egypt, Sri Lanka, the United Arab Emirates, Palestine were also present with whom we gave performances on the stage and visited Cairo, Aswan, Abu Simbel etc.

It was a good mean of promoting the I.G.F. in this part of the world.

*Doris Cosma Nedelea*





## IN BERGAMO THE APPOINTMENT OF THE FATHERS OF FOLKLORE



It was emotion, pride and a lot of emotion that we read on the face of the eleven Fathers of Folklore appointed on Friday 10 January 2020 in Villa d'Almè (Bergamo).

The evening dedicated to FITP meritorious personalities anticipated the Festival of Music and Folk and Ethnic Songs, the competition in which 22 traditional music groups took turns on the stage of the Serassi Theater in Villa d'Almè. In the opening of the evening, presented by the Bergamo singer-songwriter Il Bepi, many authorities. In addition, of course, to President Benito Ripoli, the Mayor of Villa d'Almè Manuel Preda, the two regional councilors Giovanni Malanchini and Niccolò Carretta and Tino Manzoni, President of Spazio Autismo Bergamo.

Here are the names of the Fathers of Folklore for 2019: Lina Cabrini (Lombardy), Milena Medicina (Liguria), Bruno Malpassi (Emilia Romagna), Luca Mercuri (Marche), Lucio Carboni (Sardinia), Ivo di Matteo (Lazio),

Francesco Romanelli (Abruzzo), Mario Barile (Molise), Pierpaolo Albano (Basilicata), Fausto Rafeli (Calabria) and Orazio Grasso (Sicily).

The Fathers of Folklore are nominated annually upon indication of the Regional Committees and constitute a proper and just recognition that the FITP gives to the members of the groups that, in the past and still today, contribute to the research and conservation functions of local popular traditions.





News of the 2020 edition of the event is the presence of a small piece that hosted the Fathers of Folklore while reading the motivation of the appointment by Franco Megna. Also interesting, as always, are the videos that recounted the lives of the Fathers of Folklore at the theater, lives dedicated to singing, dancing, folkloric clothes, popular music, in search of a past that is unfortunately often forgotten.

As every year, the evening saw, in addition to the appointment of the Fathers of Folklore, the presence of some guests. At the opening, the Strings Section of the “La nota in più” Orchestra of Spazio Autismo Bergamo, the soprano Maria Luigia Martino, the Beatles cover band “Over Cover”, “Il Bepi and the Aghi di Pino”, a Bergamo band that proposes



the popular songs typical of the Orobic folk tradition.

And then Andrea Dellino, a very young rapper who sings in the Brescia dialect, the singer from Brianza Daniele Fumagalli and the “Rataplam”, a group that researches, enhances and re-proposes the Bergamo musical and singing tradition.





The nomination ceremony opened the thirteenth edition of the Festival of Music and Folk and Ethnic Songs, organized by the team formed by the Lombard Committee and the provincial one of Bergamo: the President of the Committee.

Lombardo Fabrizio Nicola, the national Vice President Fabrizio Cattaneo, the President of

the Bergamo Committee Francesco Gatto and his Vice President Laura Fumagalli, Ida Boffelli, of the president's staff, and the Duke of Piazza Pontida Mario Morotti Smiciatöt. The exciting moments of the appointments of the Fathers of Folklore are now visible on the YouTube channel of the FITP Folk Federation.

*Benito Ripoli*



## THE PRESIDENT OF THE BELARUS FOLKLORE FEDERATION - ALEH KHMIALKOV - ACCOMPANIED BY A DELEGATION OF CULTURAL PERSONALITIES HAVE VISITED THE PALACE OF CULTURE IN BISTRITA!



A delegation from Mogilev, Belarus, was present in Bistrita in early March. Aleh Khmialkov, director of the Cultural Institute, president of the Belarusian Folklore Federation and member of the IGF Executive Board, also present in July 2019 at the International Folklore Festival Zamfira's Wedding, was accompanied by leaders of cultural institutions and folklore musical bands.

Discussions about a possible meeting in Bistrita with representatives of cultural institutions in Belarus took place during the last meeting organized by the IGF Executive Bureau in October 2019 in France.

With the plans invoked for 2020, this event would be possible in March, a month not very busy in terms of cultural activities,

so the delegation from Belarus announced its presence in Bistrita with a number of 15 people, as mentioned above, directors, coordinators, accountants, instructors who play an important part in the cultural life of their country.





The delegation was received by the manager of the Palace of Culture in Bistrita, as well as the president of the IGF World Folklore Union, Prof. Dr. Dorel Cosma and by the entire team of the Palace of Culture, the first meeting aimed at getting to know all staff and of course socializing, exchanging opinions, experiences, working methods, projects, analyzes, etc.

Also at this first meeting, a short history of the events and of the interior of the institution, which they were going to visit, was presented to all those who took part in the meeting.

Because we wanted to be good hosts, we always proposed to participate in our activities, which we carry out in the afternoon and here I refer to the rehearsals of all ensembles and bands that operate within the cultural institution George Cosbuc.





Surprised by our idea and at the same time curious about the way the artistic department carries out its activity, we managed to establish meetings in the music, choreography, theater, literature departments for about four hours - these meetings of course considering the foundations of future common projects.

For four days, representatives of Belarusian culture also received visits. Florin Coșoiu's

collection was visited at the House Guarded by Lions - a Gallery - and the opening of the exhibition In a World of Images and Meaningful Words by the artist Lucian Dobârtă took place. Visits followed the Bistrita City Hall, the Evangelical Church Tower and the Documentary Center, located on Liviu Rebreanu Pedestrian Area.





Pleasantly impressed by everything they found in Bistrita, as well as large-scale activities that are organized over a year, and in terms of the beauty of the city, members of the delegation led by Aleh Khmialkov launched the invitation - for a visit, during the summer or autumn months, by a delegation from Bistrita

to the city of Mogilev, respectively in the cultural institutions in the city area, where like of those in Bistrita, the visitors carry out their cultural activity.

*Doris Nedelea*





## IN MEMORIAM



**ZDENĚK PŠENICA**

We found sadly about the death of our colleague and friend Zdeněk Pšenica – president of National Folklore Federation from Czech Republic

On behalf of the World Folklore Union I.G.F. Board, we sincerely express the regret for the rapid disappearance of us, of the culture man and international friendship, Zdeněk Pšenica.

*I.G.F. President,  
Prof.Dr. Dorel Cosma*

Année de fondation 1949



## FIRST INTERNATIONAL FOLKLORE - ONLINE CONFERENCE! I.G.F BRAND PLANS AND PROJECTS FOR 2020!

On April 30th , 2020, the first online meeting of the IGF board members, took place online.

With the help of the “Zoom Cloud meeting” application, 23 representatives of the member federations of the World Folklore Union discussed the topics proposed by the I.G.F. president, Prof. Dr. Dorel Cosma.

Each of them came up with a suggestion on the current situation, the intention being to resume, according to the current possibilities, the future activities regarding the promotion of world folklore, be it even through online media.

Representatives of the federations from: France, Italy, Spain, Israel, Serbia, Belarus, Bulgaria, Lithuania, Russia, Cyprus, Turkey, Ukraine, Costa Rica, Croatia, Switzerland, Azerbaijan and of course Romania participated.

Regarding the actions that will take place this year, some of the representatives have



already launched the offer to resume activities starting with November, this being possible only if the current situation will improve and we will be able to get rid of the panic and fear caused by this virus.

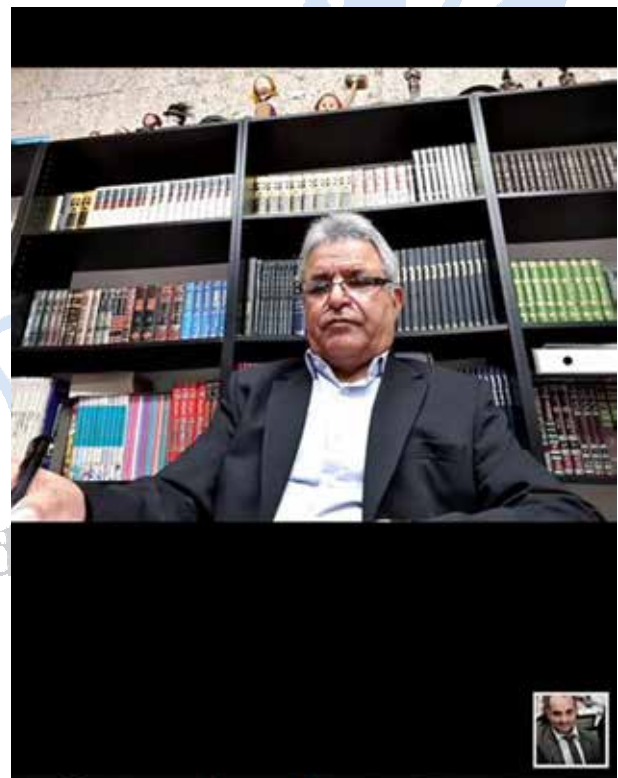




The safety and health of all IGF members is of course in the first place, which is why it was decided that the next online conference will take place somewhere in mid-May, after we will have news about the course of this pandemic.

At the end of the online meeting, all those invited to the conference conveyed beautiful thoughts of peace and tranquility to all those in this delicate situation caused by COVID 19.

*Doris Nedelea*



## THE NEW IGF TROPHY - STARTING WITH YEAR 2020



# IGF

I.G.F. ACTIVITIES DURING 2019





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