

Euro Fest for Kid

Interview with Igor Stankovic, Kombank Dvorana Multiplex (Belgrade, Serbia) by Stefano Radice



Kulturni centar Gornji Milanovac © Nebojša Gojković



Euro Fest for Kids © Kombank

Dvorana Dom Sindikata (literally the Trade Union Hall), is a non-residential, multi-purpose building in downtown Belgrade, the capital of Serbia. Finished in 1957, it became, by the 1970s, the most popular entertainment venue in the city, nicknamed the Belgrade Olympia and was later adapted into the city's first multiplex cinema. After the 2017–2018 reconstruction and its grand re-opening on 27 April 2018, it was officially renamed Kombank dvorana ("Kombank Hall"). After a change in sponsor, it was renamed mts Dvorana ("mts Hall") on 29 April 2022. The short and documentary film festival, which is the oldest international film festival in the former Yugoslavia, was established and has been held in the theatre for years. The golden years and development of Belgrade International Film Festival - FEST is intrinsically linked to the mts Dvorana, with Elizabeth Taylor, Sophia Loren, Ingmar Bergman, Vittorio de Sica, Kirk Douglas, Marcello Mastroianni, Sergei Bondarchuk, Jiří Menzl, Roman Polanski and many other famous names from the world of cinema having graced its auditoria. More recently, mts Dvorana has become host to well-known film festivals such as Auteur Film Festival, Free Zone Film Festival, Magnificent Seven, Belgrade International Festival FEST, #DOK, Kids Film Festival and is hosts numerous premiers of domestic titles.



Leskovački kulturni centar © Nikola Dimitrijević



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Why did you choose the Euro for Kids project and how does it fit into your entrepreneurial philosophy?

The project was created with the aim of promoting European films for children and educating young people in the field of film animation and dubbing. Considering that we have organized the Children's Film Festival for 19 years and that we are extremely dedicated to the children's films that we distribute, the idea of the project came as an upgrade of an existing one, but also as an insight into the world of processing and dubbing films for children by younger generations. How something is created and who actually does it further informs the wider aims of such a project, which, here, is to promote the viewing and availability of children's films.

Please can you describe the project?

In the first part of the workshop, the participants go through the theory of the basics of film dubbing, and then the most successful attendees actively participate in the dubbing process and voice tests. The workshop includes a two-day lecture with practical work on the dubbing of the film. The most important, practical element of the workshop is understanding the process of dubbing and how to produce optimal audio recordings, which then serves as the basis for the division of roles for producing the final dub itself.



Kombank Dvorana © Marina Pešić

What was the need for this in your country?

The workshop aims to bring an indispensable element of children's and family films – which is the voice – closer to secondary and elementary school children in such a way that the children themselves participate in the creative process of synchronizing and giving voice to characters or even actors themselves.

What are your expectations?

Today's world is full of movies that are available to everyone in different forms. We enjoy movies without thinking about who, how and the ways in which individuals have participated in the various elements of their creation.

What impact could it have at a local and national level?

In addition to specific knowledge about dubbing and the experiences that attendees will gain, the workshop helps participants recognize the importance of film and cinema-going itself. It also has the potential for them to one day find themselves in and define their future profession within the wider film industry.

Partner cinemas:

Kombank Dvorana, Belgrade
(Coordinator)

Bioskop Leskovackog kulturnog centra, Leskovac

The Cultural Center Gornji Milanovac, Gornji Milanovac