



# Betlehemy

Keramične jaslice iz Slovaške  
Ceramic crèches from Slovakia

Gostujuča razstava, Slovaška | Itinerant exhibition, Slovakia  
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Keramične jaslice iz Slovaške

Slovaške keramične jaslice, prikazane na razstavi, so ustvarili znani ljudski umetniki - Viliam Bažlik, Ignáč Bižmayer, Drahoslav Chalány, Jozef Franko, Maria in Oskar Hanusek, Ferdiš Kostka, Júlia Kováčiková-Horová, Dagmar Kratochvílová, Marián Liška, Peter Lužák, Ján Pečuk, Kornélia Püsssová, Jana Randušková in Leopold Velan - so zelo pisane in izrazne. V nekaterih jaslicah figurice prosto stojijo, v drugih so pritrjene na okvir. Nekateri umetniki prikazujejo božično zgodbo pod slavnato streho, pri drugih je ves prizor na keramičnem pladnju s širokim robom. Nenavaden izdelek je triptih z božično zgodbo v oltarni niši.

Po svetopisemski zgodbi o stvarjenju je Bog naredil človeka "iz prahu zemlje" (Stvarjenje 2:7 1 Mz 2,7). Cerkev obeleži stvarjenje Adama in Eve, prve moškega in prve ženske, 24. decembra. To je dan pred božičem, ko cerkev praznuje rojstvo Kristusa. Po krščanski veri je Ježusa Kristusa, božjega sina, Devica Marija neke noči rodila v blevu gostilne v Betlehemu.

Šega izdelovanja jaslic in njihovega postavljanja v božičnem času je nastala iz očaranosti ljudi nad tem, da lahko vsako leto podoživljajo dogodek svete noči. Jaslice izdelujejo iz različnih materialov, med drugim tudi iz keramike. Adam in Eva pa sta žavretnika lončarjev in keramikov.



Krščanstvo ima na Slovaškem dolgo tradicijo. Oblikovalo je življenje ljudi in njihovo materialno kulturo, ki se kaže zlasti v verski ljudski umetnosti. Med kiparskimi upodobitvami dogodkov v krščanskem letnem koledarju imajo jaslice posebno mesto. Reforme cesarja Jožefa II. ob koncu 18. stoletja so jaslice izgnale iz cerkev in ljudje so jih začeli postavljati doma.

Od srednjega veka naprej so lončarji izdelovali figurice, posodje in ploščice iz žgane gline. Od 17. stoletja naprej so nekaj figuric izdelovali tudi v tehniki fajanse. Z njimi so Habani (prekrščevalci) zapolnili prazen prostor v lončarskih pečeh. V 19. stoletju je iz teh prakse nastala posebna keramična obrt. Tovarna majolike v Modri je bila ustanovljena 1883, tj. v času, ko so industrijski izdelki in novi materiali tradicionalne lončarje spravili v hudo stisko. Šola, ki je bila priključena tovarni, je številne slovaške keramičarje usposobila za izdelovanje fajanse.

Glavni liki tradicionalnih slovaških jaslic so sveta družina, trije kralji, pastirji in včasih tudi koledníčki. Trije pastirji, Fedor, Stacho in Kubo, oblečeni v tradicionalne slovaške noše in opremljeni z valaško (pastirska sekirica), hodijo od hiše do hiše in s sabo nosijo lesene ali papirnate jaslice. Pripravljajo zgodbo o Kristusovem rojstvu, pojego in plešejo ob ritmu udarcev s palicami in v dar dobijo posebne kolače.

Tako kot v drugih evropskih državah so bile jaslice središče božičnega praznovanja, dokler jih ni v 19. stoletju zamenjalo božično drevo. Sodobni keramiki še vedno ustvarjajo tudi božične motive in like.



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Ceramic crèches from Slovakia

Ceramic crèches from Slovakia presented at the exhibition are made by well known folk artists like Viliam Bažík, Ignáč Bižmayer, Drahoslav Chalány, Jozef Franko, Maria and Oskar Hanusek, Ferdiš Kostka, Júlia Kováčiková-Horová, Dagmar Kratochvílová, Marián Liška, Peter Lužák, Ján Pečuk, Kornélia Püssová, Jana Randušková, and Leopold Velan are both colourful and expressive. In some crèches the figures stand separately; in others they are connected to a frame. Some ceramic artists show the Christmas story playing under a straw roof; others make a stage out of the base of a wide-rimmed plate. There is also an unusual triptych showing the Christmas story in an altarpiece.

According to the biblical creation story man was formed “from the dust of the ground” (Genesis 2:7 NRSV). Adam and Eve, the first man and woman are remembered by the church on December 24th. This is the day before Christmas on which the birth of Christ is remembered. According to Christian belief, Jesus Christ, the son of God, was born of the Virgin Mary one night in the stable of an inn in Betlehem.

The fascination of seeing the events of the holy night come alive again every year is behind the custom of creating crèches and setting them up at Christmas time. Crèches are made of different materials, e.g. of ceramic. And Adam and Eve are the patrons of potters and ceramists.

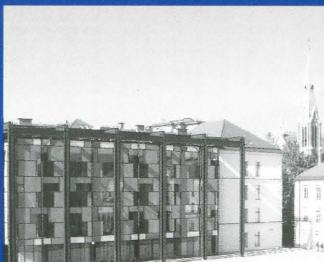


*Christianity has a long tradition in Slovakia. It shaped the life of the people and their material culture, particularly showing in religious folk art. Among sculptural portrayals of the events of the Christian year, crèche scenes have a special place. The reforms of Emperor Joseph II at the end of the 18th century banished the crèche scenes from the churches, and people began to set crèches up in their homes.*

*Since the middle ages, potters have been making figures out of fired clay well as crockery and tiles. Since the 17th century some of these small figures have been made using faience techniques. They filled up empty spaces in the kilns of the Haban community. During the 19th century they were developed into a distinct ceramic craft. Modra's majolica factory was set up in 1883, at a time when industrial products and new materials were creating difficulties for the traditional potters. The school attached to the factory trained many Slovak ceramic artists in making faience.*

*The most important figures in a traditional Slovak crèche are the holy family, the three kings, shepherds, sometimes also the kolednici (Slovak carollers): The three shepherds, Fedor, Stacho and Kubo, in traditional Slovak dress including the shepherd's axe valaška, go from house to house carrying a wooden or paper crèche. They tell the story of Christ's birth, dancing and singing to the rhythm of beating sticks, in return for special cakes.*

*As in other European countries, the crèche was the centre of Christmas celebrations until it was displaced by the Christmas tree during the 19th century. Modern ceramic artists continue to devote time to Christmas themes and figures even today.*



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