



The American Frontier

Tu ni najemnikov **Gospodarica na svoji zemlji** **Land in Her Own Name** and
There are No Renters Here



Razstava predstavlja bogato pionirsko zgodovino ZDA skozi fotografske zbirke Državnega zgodovinskega društva v Nebraski in Državne univerze Južne Dakote, utrinke le nekaterih mož in žena od mnogih tisočev, ki so za vekomaj spremenili lice tega skrajnega roba ozemlja na zahodu ZDA.

Razstava sodi v *SEMOV pomladni dialog s kulturami* v letu 2010, in v okvir prireditev **Ameriški dnevi 2010**, ki jih v Sloveniji že četrtič organizira Veleposlaništvo Združenih držav Amerike.

The exhibition presents the rich pioneer history of the United States through the photographic collections of Nebraska State Historical Society and North Dakota State University, glimpses of just a few men and women of the thousands who forever changed the face of the American frontier.

It is part of this year's *Slovene Ethnographic Museum events dedicated to intercultural dialogue*, and of the celebration of **America Days 2010**, organised for the fourth time in Slovenia by the Embassy of the United States.

Kaj je American Frontier?

American Frontier je ime za skrajni rob poseljenega ozemlja na zahodu ZDA, ki ima močan romantični pridih, in ki je nekoč označevalo *Veliko ameriško pustinjo* - sušna, negozdnata območja Velikih planjav, ki se raztezajo po zveznih državah Montana, Severna in Južna Dakota, Kansas, Nebraska, Oklahoma in na vzhodu Kolorada. Z namenom naseliti ta območja je Ameriški kongres leta 1862 sprejel Zakon o zemlji priseljencev (*Homestead Act*). Zakon je dovoljeval, da je vsak priseljenc lahko na tem območju dobil 160 juter geodetsko izmerjene državne zemlje. Za ljudi, ki so se tja preselili sami ali z družino, se je uveljavilo ime *homesteaders* (gospodarji domačij). S tem zakonom so mnogi Američani, ki nikoli prej niso posedovali zemlje, dobili možnost, da ustvarjajo novo življenje zase in za svojo družino. Priseljenci so si obetali novih priložnosti, novega začetka in finančnih koristi. Z zakonom so dobili več kot 270 milijonov juter zemlje, kar je prispevalo tudi h kulturni, socialni in gospodarski razvitosti Združenih držav, kakršne so danes.



What is the American Frontier?

A popular and highly romanticized concept, the "American Frontier" included the "Great American Desert", or the arid, forestless regions of the Great Plains, covering Montana, North and South Dakota, Kansas, Eastern Colorado, Nebraska, and Oklahoma. To assist in the cultivation of these regions, Congress passed the Homestead Act of 1862, and declared that any American citizen could claim 160 acres of surveyed government land in the above region. Citizens who settled there, either by themselves or with their families, became known as "homesteaders". The act allowed many Americans who had never owned land before an opportunity to create a new life for themselves and their families. Settlers were drawn by the promise of new opportunities, new beginnings, and financial gains. As a result of the Homestead Act, over 270 million acres of land were made available to American citizens that contributed to the cultural, social, and economic development of the United States as it is today.

Gospodarica na svoji zemlji, Severna Dakota, ZDA

Na začetku 20. stoletja so se poleg moških tudi mnoge ženske odzvale na obete novega začetka in se podale na pot proti ravninam Severne Dakote. Te pogumne ženske, ki so jim rekli homesteaders (priseljenke, ki so dobile zemljo od države), so izhajale iz različnih kultur in okolij. Med njimi so bile Yankees (iz Nove Anglije in severnih zveznih držav), Skandinavke, Nemke, črнке, Židinke in Arabke, kar je le majhen izsek izredno pestre sestave priseljenk. Bile so mlade in stare - nekatere skoraj še najstnice, druge stare čez 60 let - a vse so se pogumno lotile novega življenja na goli zemlji in odprtih ravninah. Nekatere so vse svoje življenje ostale na tej zemlji, druge so zemljo uporabile kot jamstvo za finančne posle ali v izobraževalne namene.

H. Elaine Lindgren, sociologinja in avtorica knjige *Land in Her Own Name*, naslov, ki ga nosi tudi zbirka fotografij na razstavi, je po vsej državi raziskovala zemljiške knjige in tako zbrala veliko podatkov o teh

izrednih ženskah ne samo iz njihovih dnevnikov, pisem in fotografij, ampak tudi v pogovorih z mnogimi ženskami, ki so pripovedovale svoje zgodbe in posredovale življenjske zkušnje iz življenja na *American Frontier*.



Land in Her Own Name

In the early part of the 20th century, many women trekked alongside men towards the promise of a new beginning on the North Dakota plains. These courageous women, known as "homesteaders", came from various cultures and backgrounds - Yankees, Scandinavians, Germans, Blacks, Jews, and Arabs were only a small fraction of the diversity exhibited. They were both young and old - some barely past their teens and some in their 60s - and yet all were there to embrace a new life on the open land. Some women lived on the land their entire lives, while others used the land as collateral for financial or educational purposes. By conducting a statewide search through land records, author H. Elaine Lindgren was able to collect information regarding these extraordinary women not only from within the pages of diaries, letters, and photographs, but also through the actual voices of many women who lived to share their stories and experiences of life on the American Frontier.

Tu ni najemnikov, Nebraska State Historical Society, ZDA

Na prelomu 20. stoletja je na tisoče ljudi zapustilo domače okolje in se podalo na pot proti ravninam Nebraske, kjer so jih čakala nova ozemlja, polna negotovosti, vsakodnevnega boja in težaškega dela. Kljub vsem težavam, s katerimi so se soočali, je boj za preživetje zbliževal te pionirje, da so z izjemno vztrajnostjo uspeli za svoje družine ustvariti spodobno življenje in pogosto bili tudi zelo uspešni.

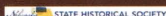
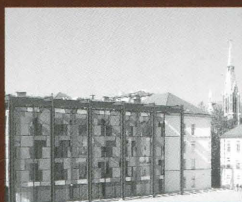
Na fotografijah so Mattie Oblinger, njen mož Uriah in njuna hči Ella, njihov dom, kmetija in življenje.

There are No Renters Here

Leaving behind a familiar world, thousands of people migrated to the plains of Nebraska in the late 19th and early 20th century to travel to new territories filled with uncertainty, daily struggle, and hard toil. Yet amidst the difficulties they faced, the struggle to survive brought these pioneers closer to one another, and through perseverance, many established a decent, and often successful, living for their families.

The exhibited photographs show Mattie Oblinger, her husband, Uriah, and their daughter, Ella, their home, their farm, and their lives.





Slovenski etnografski muzej Slovene Ethnographic Museum

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Odprto / Open

torek - nedelja /
Tuesday - Sunday
10.00 - 18.00

Zahvala / Acknowledgement:

Veleposlaništvu združenih držav Amerike v Sloveniji
Nebraska State Historical Society
North Dakota State University

Razstava je na ogled ob **Ameriških dnevih 2010** v Sloveniji, ob praznovanju ameriške kulture in zgodovine (12. - 24. april). / The exhibition is on view on the occasion of the **American Days 2010** in Slovenia, a celebration of American culture and history (12 - 24 April).

www.slovenia.usembassy.gov
http://slovenia.usembassy.gov/ev_2010.html
<http://slovenia.usembassy.gov/index.html>