



*Slovenske splošne knjižnice*

*Srečevanja z znanjem in domišljijo*

**Slovenian public libraries**

**Encounters with knowledge and imagination**

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Srečevanja z znanjem in domišljijo.

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# KNJIŽNICE – OSREDNJE OBČINSKE KULTURNE INSTITUCIJE

Knjižnice, institucije z večstoletno tradicijo, nedvomno sodijo med najstarejše storitvene dejavnosti na področju kulture, izobraževanja in znanosti. Sodobne slovenske splošne knjižnice s svojim gradivom v papirni ali drugačni, tehnološko bolj moderni obliki, s svojim tradicionalnim delovanjem ali aktualnimi storitvami skrbijo, da ima vsak prebivalec Slovenije možnost izvedeti ali se naučiti kaj novega, kaj prebrati ali se sprostiti, se družiti ali se zgolj udeležiti, sodelovati ali samo uporabiti enega ali več iz nepregledne množice številnih domačih in tujih avtorskih dosežkov.

Tako knjižnice, predvsem pa splošne knjižnice, že dolgo niso več zgolj tradicionalne izposojevalnice knjižničnega gradiva, saj so s svojim raznolikim in razvojno naravnanim delovanjem postale informacijska in neformalna izobraževalna središča, postale so osrednje občinske kulturne institucije in osrednja krajevna središča branja, ki s svojo družbenorazvojno vlogo prispevajo tudi k izenačevanju kulturnih in izobraževalnih, v zadnjem času pa vse bolj tudi različnih socialnih možnosti.

Splošne knjižnice danes tako niso več le posrednice in predstavjalke stoletne tradicije povezovanja in distribucije znanja, saj so v svojem okolju tudi nadvse pomembna socialna stičišča. Da bi dosegle oba cilja in uresničile tako izobraževalno in informacijsko kot tudi kulturno in socialno funkcijo, so načrtovalci prenov in novogradenj poskrbeli, da so številne knjižnične stavbe tudi na zunaj zanimive, odlično arhitekturno in tehnološko urejene in so kot take

uporabnikom postale prijazen in primeren tretji prostor, tako za pridobivanje znanja in informacij kot za preživljanje prostega časa ali druženje.

Za vse to imajo velike zasluge vsi tisti, ki številne, velikokrat žal še vedno pretesne stavbe napolnjujejo z vabljivostjo in v njih poskušajo z vso spoštljivostjo ohranjati dragocenosti iz preteklosti, negovati domačnost in ljubezen do branja ter spodbujati zvedavost. Zasluge imajo vsi, ki si prizadevajo, da pretesne stavbe postajajo prijetna in funkcionalna mesta za vse, kar morajo splošne knjižnice ponuditi ne samo članom, pač pa slehernemu uporabniku, ki hote ali zgolj slučajno zaide vanje. Slovensko splošno knjižničarstvo, ki je ustrezno normativno urejeno in upošteva sodobne izsledke organiziranosti knjižnične dejavnosti ter se ravna po uveljavljenih strokovnih standardih poslovanja, je vedno bolj učinkovito in se kot tako lahko primerja s tradicionalno knjižničarsko dobro razvitimi državami. In prav ta primerljivost je eden od dokazov, da smo, kljub številnim novim medijem, v Sloveniji še vedno zelo povezani s knjigami. Prav s tistimi knjigami, za katere je že Francesco Petrarca dejal, da »odpirajo duri k vsem umetnostim in znanostim«. Prav je, da splošne knjižnice s prostim dostopom do knjig in drugega knjižničnega gradiva na tradicionalnih ali sodobnih nosilcih zapisa to povezanost vsem prebivalcem po načelu enakega dostopa omogočijo tudi v bodoče.

*Majda Širca,*  
*ministrica za kulturo RS*

# LIBRARIES – CENTRAL MUNICIPAL CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS

Libraries, institutions with centuries-long tradition, undeniably belong among the oldest service activities in the field of culture, education and science. With their material in book or different, technologically more advanced form and their traditional activities or current services, modern Slovenian public libraries ensure that every citizen of Slovenia has the opportunity to discover or learn, read or relax, socialise or merely take part, participate or simply use one or more of the multitude of domestic and foreign writing achievements.

Libraries, and in particular public libraries, have thus for a long time been not only a traditional place to borrow library material, but have also become, with their diverse and development-oriented activities, information and informal education centres, central municipal cultural institutions and crucial local centres of reading, which, through their role in development of society, contribute to equalisation of cultural and educational and in recent times more and more different social opportunities.

Public libraries today are therefore no longer simply intermediaries and representatives of centuries-long tradition of integration and distribution of knowledge, and now represent also extremely important social meeting points in their environment. To fulfil both purposes and execute both the education and information as well as cultural and social functions, designers of renovations and new buildings ensured that numerous libraries are attractive also from the outside, that they are architecturally and technologically

complete and have as such become a friendly and appropriate place for users to acquire knowledge and information as well as to spend their free time or socialise.

All this is in large part due to those who fill numerous – unfortunately often still overcrowded – buildings with allure and endeavour to preserve valuables from the past in them with all their respect, to sustain familiarity with and love of reading and to encourage curiosity. This is due to all those who endeavour to transform these overcrowded buildings into friendly and functional places for everything the libraries must offer not only to their members but to every user who visits them intentionally or by chance. Slovenian public librarianship, which is appropriately normatively regulated, takes into consideration current findings on organisation of library activities and complies with established professional operational standards, is becoming more and more effective, and can as such be compared with countries which are traditionally well-developed in terms of library activities. This is a proof that, despite numerous new media, Slovenians still have a very close relationship with books. With those very books, for which Francesco Petrarca said »in a word, they open the door to all the arts and sciences«. By providing free access to books and other library material on traditional or modern media, public libraries should foster this relationship in accordance with the principle of equal access for every person also in the future.

*Majda Širca,  
Minister of Culture of the Republic of Slovenia*

## BLIZU DESET MILIJONOV OBISKOVALCEV

Skoraj deset milijonov obiskov beležimo slovenske splošne knjižnice v letu 2009. Velika je ta številka in velika je odgovornost nas, knjižničarjev, do vseh, ki potrebujejo in pričakujejo naše storitve. Namen in poslanstvo splošnih knjižnic je zadovoljiti potrebe in želje naših uporabnikov vseh starosti pri vključevanju v družbo na vseh področjih.

Vsebinsko bogata in raznolika je ponudba, pomoč in podpora, ki jo knjižnice nudimo posamezniku od njegovih prvih korakov do tistega obdobja njegovega življenja, ki mu pravimo tretje: sodelujemo pri njegovem formalnem izobraževanju in podpiramo njegovo vseživljenjsko učenje; pomagamo vzgajati mlade bralce in že oblikovanim ljubiteljem besede odstiramo svetove leposlovja in kulturnih dosežkov civilizacije; prostemu času dajemo smisel in kvaliteto; gradimo identiteto lokalne skupnosti, ki jo imenujemo domoznanstvo, in s tem negujemo nacionalno zavest in pripadnost; delujemo kot informacijska središča in učimo, kako informacije učinkovito poiskati in jih uporabiti; za dostop do storitev informacijske družbe imamo na razpolago vso sodobno informacijsko komunikacijsko tehnologijo; zagotavljamo tudi posebne storitve, ker delujemo po načelu pravičnosti in enakega dostopa za vse člane naše družbe; povezujemo se med seboj in tako svojim uporabnikom zagotavljamo tudi tisto gradivo, ki ga same ne hranimo, hkrati ob vsem naštetem pa ves čas raziskujemo nove potrebe naših obiskovalcev in zanje razvijamo nove storitve.

Vsaka slovenska občina ima svojo knjižnico, ki ji specifična lokalne skupnosti vdahne njej lastnega duha. Tako tudi

celotno slovensko splošno knjižničarstvo odraža duha naroda in mu sočasno odpira druge svetove, s tem pa nove možnosti. Pestrost vsebin v knjižnicah omogoča raznolikost njihovih poslanstev, ki na široko odpirajo podlage za razvoj posameznika in ustvarjajo pogoje za njegovo tvorno vključevanje v družbo.

*Vesna Horžen,  
predsednica Združenja splošnih knjižnic*





## CLOSE TO TEN MILLION VISITORS IN THE PAST YEAR

The number of visitors recorded by Slovenian public libraries in 2009 is almost ten million. This is a large number and we, librarians, bear a large responsibility to those that need and expect our services. The purpose and mission of public libraries is to satisfy the needs and wishes of our users of all ages regarding active participation in society in all areas.

Our offer, help and support for individuals from their first steps until the age we call the third age is rich and diverse: we participate in their formal education and support their

lifelong learning; we help educate young readers and reveal worlds of fiction and cultural achievements of civilisations to already established booklovers; we give meaning and bring quality to free time; we build the identity of local communities, calling it local studies, and thus sustain national consciousness and belonging; we function as information centres and we teach how to search and use information effectively; we offer every bit of modern information and communication technology to provide access to services of information society; we also provide special services because we work in accordance with the principle of fairness and equal access for all members of our society; we collaborate and thus provide our users also those materials that we don't have ourselves; and in addition to all of this we continuously study new needs of our visitors and develop new services for them.

Every Slovenian municipality has its own library and the spirit of each library is inspired by idiosyncrasies of the local community. In the same manner, the entire Slovenian librarian profession reflects the spirit of the nation, while it simultaneously opens new worlds and consequently new opportunities to it. Diversity of library contents enables diversity of library missions, which open great possibilities for development of individuals and create conditions for their active participation in society.

*Vesna Horžen,  
President of the Public Library Association*



# SLOVENSKE SPLOŠNE KNJIŽNICE – LOKALNA VRATA DO ZNANJA

*Splošne knjižnice omogočajo državljanom uresničevanje demokratičnih pravic in aktivno vključevanje v družbo z zagotavljanjem osnovnih pogojev za vseživljenjsko učenje in samostojno sprejemanje odločitev. Tako prispevajo k udeležanju temeljnih človeških vrednot: svobode, blaginje in razvoja posameznika ter družbe. S posredovanjem knjižničnega gradiva in storitev zadovoljujejo potrebe prebivalcev po izobraževanju, informacijah in razvoju osebnosti.*





## SLOVENIAN PUBLIC LIBRARIES – LOCAL DOOR TO KNOWLEDGE



*Public libraries offer citizens the opportunity to exercise their democratic rights and to actively participate in society by providing basic conditions for lifelong learning and independent decision-making. In this way they contribute to fostering fundamental human values: freedom, prosperity and development of individuals and society. By providing library material and services, they satisfy the needs of citizens for education, information and personal development.*

## Mreža in dostopnost gradiva

Slovenske splošne knjižnice omogočajo enakovreden dostop do knjižničnega gradiva in storitev za vse prebivalce lokalne skupnosti. Kot samostojne javne zavode jih lahko ustanovi ena ali več občin. V Sloveniji deluje 58 **osrednjih knjižnic**, vsaka na svojem določenem območju. Na ta način je zagotovljena kar največja dostopnost čim večjemu številu potencialnih uporabnikov.

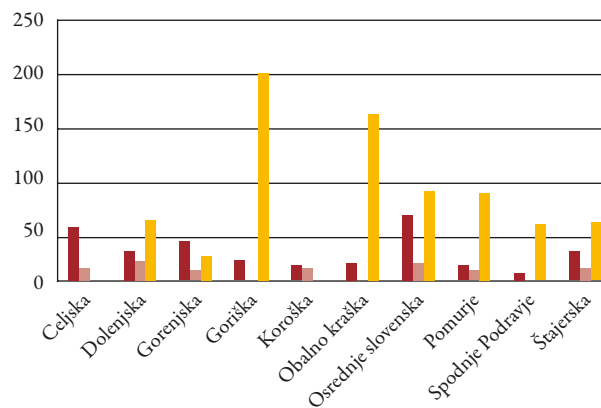
Vsaka osrednja knjižnica na tem območju organizira mrežo enot. V večjih krajih delujejo **krajevne knjižnice**, ki jih je bilo v letu 2009 po vsej Sloveniji 261. V manjših krajih ali posebnih ustanovah (npr. domovih za starejše občane) pa osrednje knjižnice organizirajo **postajališča premičnih zbirk**, ki praviloma nimajo stalne zbirke, večja izbira naslovov se zagotavlja z menjavami naslovov znotraj zbirke večkrat letno. Takšnih postajališč je bilo 81 v letu 2009. Prebivalcem bolj oddaljenih naselij, zlasti na podeželju, pa zagotavljajo dostop do knjižničnih storitev **bibliobusi**. Teh je bilo v Sloveniji 12, ki so se ustavljali na 671 postajališčih v 589 krajih. Tipičen postanek traja približno uro, postajališče pa bibliobus običajno obišče enkrat do dvakrat mesečno. Nekaj postajališč je celo zunaj meja Slovenije.

Posebno vlogo v mreži slovenskih splošnih knjižnic ima deset **osrednjih območnih knjižnic**, ki za osrednje knjižnice svojega območja zagotavljajo povečan in zahtevnejši izbor gradiva ter informacij, strokovno pomoč knjižnicam, koordinacijo domoznanske dejavnosti in usmerjanje izločenega gradiva.

Prostori splošnih knjižnic so bili v letu 2009 za uporabnike odprti 378.093 ur, **ali 4,6 ure od ponedeljka do vključno sobote**. Neto uporabna površina, namenjena uporabnikom, je

obsegala 97.079 m<sup>2</sup>. Knjižnice so lahko uporabnikom ponudile 5856 čitalniških sedežev in 1293 računalniških delovnih mest. Na 1614 sedežih, kar pomeni 28 odstotkov vseh sedežev, so knjižnice uporabnikom omogočile brezžično povezavo njihovih računalnikov s svetovnim spletom. Uporabniki so lahko poleg osebnih računalnikov uporabljali 280 tiskalnikov, 79 skenerjev in 33 LCD-projektorjev.

### KNJIŽNIČNA MREŽA



- št. krajevnih knjižnic
- št. postajališč premičnih zbirk
- št. postaj bibliobusa

## Network and access to material

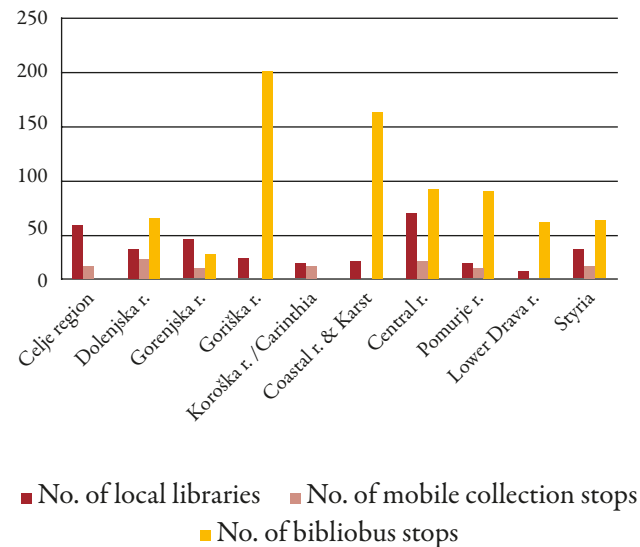
Slovenian public libraries offer equal access to library material and services to all members of local communities. They can be established by one or more municipalities as independent public institutes. There are 58 **central libraries** in Slovenia and each library is active in its designated area. This ensures unlimited access to as many potential users as possible.

Each central library organises a network of branch libraries in its designated area. **Local libraries** operate in larger towns and in 2009 there were 261 local libraries in Slovenia. In smaller towns or special institutions (for example in nursing homes for the elderly), central libraries organise **mobile library collection stops**, which generally don't have a permanent library collection, and ensure a larger selection of titles in the collection by changing the titles several times a year. In 2009, there were 81 such stops. Access to library services for residents of more remote towns and villages, particularly in the countryside, is provided by **bibliobuses**. There were 12 library buses and they stopped at 671 stops in 589 towns. A typical stop lasts an hour and the bibliobus usually visits the stop once or twice a month. Some stops are located even outside the borders of Slovenia.

A special role in the network of Slovenian public libraries is occupied by ten **central regional libraries**, which provide central libraries of their area with a more extensive and demanding selection of material and information, professional assistance, coordination of local studies and guidance regarding discarded material.

In 2009, total opening time of public libraries amounted to 378,093 hours **or 4.6 hours from Monday until Saturday**. Net usable area available to users covered 97,079 m<sup>2</sup>. Libraries offered users a total of 5,856 reading room seats and 1,293 computer workstations. Libraries provided wireless internet connection for 1,614 seats or 28 per cent of all seats. Apart from personal computers, 280 printers, 79 scanners and 33 LCD projectors were available to library users.

### LIBRARY NETWORK





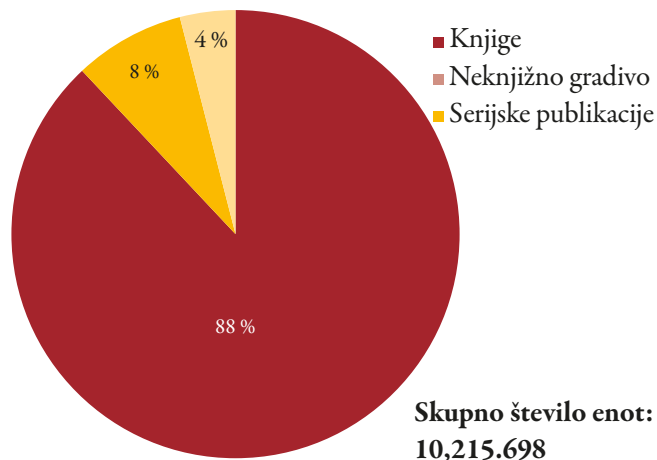
## Na Slovenca pet enot

Izbor, nabava, obdelava, hranjenje in posredovanje knjižničnega gradiva predstavlja osnovno dejavnost splošnih knjižnic. Slovenske splošne knjižnice imajo za svoje uporabnice in uporabnike skupaj 10.215.698 inventarnih enot gradiva. Po tipu gradiva obsegajo največji delež v knjižnični zbirki knjige (88 odstotkov), sledijo jim neknjižno gradivo (8 odstotkov) in serijske publikacije (4 odstotke). Med neknjižno gradivo štejemo avdio-vizualno gradivo, ki ga je po deležu 65 odstotkov vsega neknjižnega gradiva, elektronski viri obsegajo pet odstotkov, ostalo tiskano gradivo (drobni tisk, razglednice, zemljevidi itn.) pa znaša 30-odstotni delež. **Na prebivalca Slovenije imajo splošne knjižnice v povprečju na voljo pet enot knjižničnega**

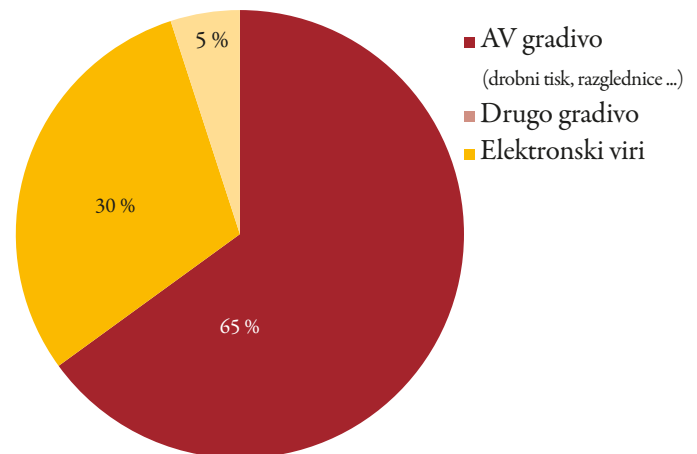
**gradiva.** Pri kazalcu velikosti knjižnične zbirke slovenske splošne knjižnice v povprečju že dosegajo Standarde za splošne knjižnice.

Splošne knjižnice svojim uporabnikom zagotavljajo dostop do 7931 naslovov elektronskih virov; dostop je omogočen tudi s poljubne lokacije, ne samo v knjižničnih prostorih. Gradnja lastnih elektronskih virov je nova vloga, ki jo pridobivajo splošne knjižnice v elektronskem okolju. Predvsem na področju domoznanstva splošne knjižnice gradijo lastne podatkovne zbirke (npr. biografske leksikone regije), poleg tega digitalizirajo dragoceno gradivo (npr. starejše letnike regionalno pomembnih časnikov, zbirke razglednic ...).

### ŠTEVILO ENOT GRADIVA



### NEKNJIŽNO GRADIVO



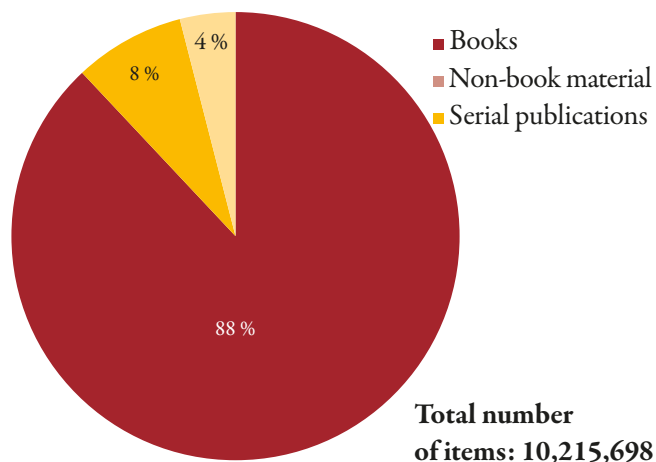
## Five items per one Slovenian

Main activities of public libraries include selection, purchase, processing, storage and dissemination of library material. Slovenian public libraries offer their users a total of 10,215,698 inventory items of material. According to the type of material, the biggest share in the library collection is represented by books (88 per cent), followed by non-book material (8 per cent) and serial publications (4 per cent). Non-book material includes audiovisual materials, representing 65 per cent of all non-book material, electronic sources with 5 percent and other printed material (smaller publications, postcards, maps, etc.), representing a 30 per cent share. **On average, public libraries offer five items of library material per inhabitant**

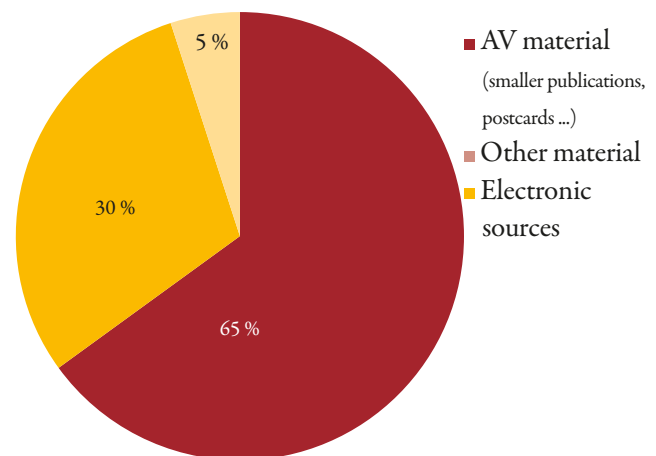
**of Slovenia.** In terms of library collection size, Slovenian public libraries on average already achieve standards for public libraries.

Public libraries offer their users access to 7,931 electronic sources; access is possible from any location and not just from the library premises. Creation of own electronic sources represents a new role acquired by public libraries in the electronic environment. Public libraries are building own databases particularly in the field of local studies (e.g. biographical lexicons of regions), and in addition they are digitizing valuable materials (e.g. older volumes of regionally important newspapers, postcard collections ...).

### NUMBER OF ITEMS



### NON-BOOK MATERIAL

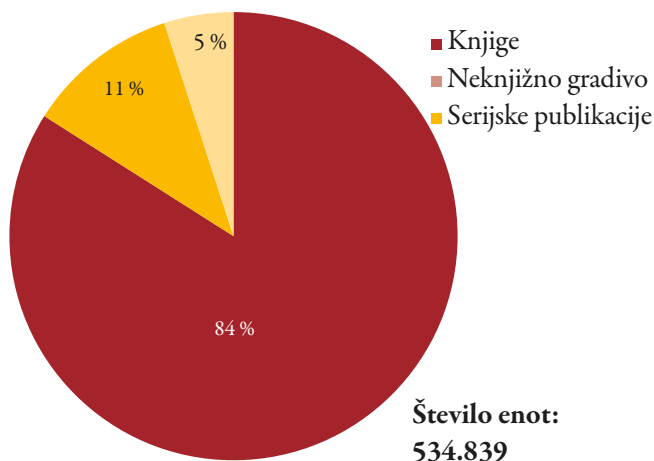


Te elektronske vire objavljajo bodisi na lastnih spletnih mestih ali pa na portalih **Kamra in dLib – Digitalna knjižnica Slovenije**. V letu 2009 so tako gradile 51 naslovov lastnih podatkovnih zbirk ter pri tem pripravile 8862 digitalnih dokumentov s 138.249 stranmi. Število v zadnjih letih narašča.



Izgradnja knjižnične zbirke pomeni predvsem skrb za njeno aktualnost, ki pomembno prispeva k relevantnosti gradiva za uporabnike. Splošne knjižnice so v letu 2009 nabavile 534.839 izvodov knjižničnega gradiva, od tega 84 odstotkov knjig, 11 odstotkov avdio-vizualnega gradiva in

#### NAKUP GRADIVA V LETU 2009



5 odstotkov serijskih publikacij. Nakup, izražen v naslovih, pomeni 220.890 naslovov knjig in 19.208 naslovov serijskih publikacij. Za nakup knjižničnega gradiva so porabile v celoti 8,697.839 evrov, **kar pomeni v povprečju 19,82 evra na izvod in 4,25 evra na prebivalca**. Izgradnja knjižnične zbirke pa pomeni tudi izločanje neaktualnega in poškodovanega gradiva, ki bi po nepotrebnem bremenilo knjižnično zbirko in zmanjševalo njeno relevantnost. Knjižnice so zato v letu 2009 odpisale 240.176 inventarnih enot gradiva.

Splošne knjižnice omogočajo uporabnicam in uporabnikom dostop do gradiva v prostem pristopu. Tako je na policah na voljo kar 7,714.739 izvodov gradiva, kar pomeni 76 odstotkov vsega gradiva.

Vse splošne knjižnice so vključene v **nacionalni bibliografski sistem COBISS**, ki kot sistem



za avtomatizacijo poslovanja podpira postopke nabave, obdelave in izposoje gradiva. Praktično vse gradivo v lasti knjižnic je obdelano po strokovnih načelih v vzajemnem bibliografskem sistemu, izraženo v deležu to predstavlja 94 odstotkov. Katalog omogoča članicam in članom tudi vpogled v izposojevalno stanje gradiva, prav tako pa tudi pregled izposojenega gradiva, rezervacije, podaljševanje, obveščanje itn. Da bi poenostavile poslovanje za uporabnike in razbremenile strokovne delavce, splošne knjižnice že nekaj časa uvajajo knjigomate. V 21 knjižnicah jih deluje 38 in v letu 2009 so opravili 927.163 transakcij.



These electronic sources are published either on library websites or on the web portals **Kamra and dLib – Digital library of Slovenia**. In 2009 public libraries created 51 own databases and prepared 8,862 digital documents with 138,249 pages. The number has been increasing in recent years.



Library collection development involves mainly ensuring the collection is up-to-date, which contributes significantly towards relevance of material for users. In 2009, public libraries purchased 534,839 items of library material; 84 per cent of these items were books, 11 per cent audiovisual

material and 5 per cent serial publications. In terms of titles, this indicates 220,890 titles of books and 19,208 titles of serial publications. Purchases of library material amounted to a total of 8,697,839 Euros or **on average 19.82 Euros per item and 4.25 Euros per inhabitant**. Library collection development involves also discarding of out-of-date and damaged material, which would unnecessarily burden the library collection and decrease its relevance. In 2009, libraries therefore wrote off 240,176 inventory items of material. Public libraries offer their users free access to material. As a result, there are as many as 7,714,739 items of material available on the shelves, representing 76 percent of all material.

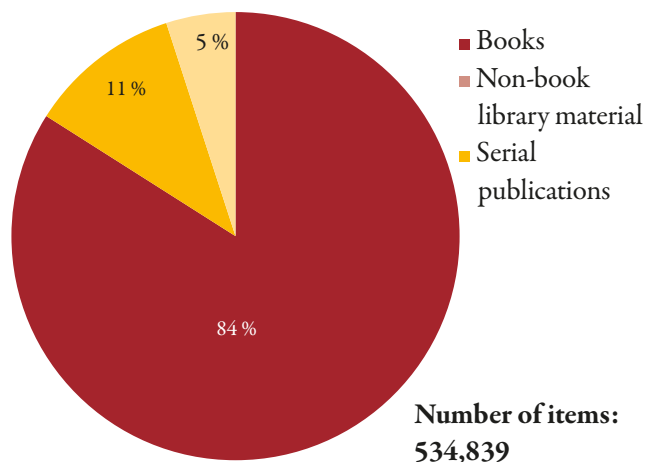
All public libraries are a part of the **national bibliographic system**



**COBISS**, which supports

the processes of purchase, processing and borrowing of material as a business automation system. Practically all material owned by libraries is processed in accordance with professional principles in the cooperative bibliographic system; expressed in percentage this represents 94 per cent. The catalogue enables users to check the availability status of material as well as to check what material they have borrowed, to check their reservations, to extend the loan period, to receive information, etc. To facilitate library operations for users and relieve their staff, public libraries have been introducing automated book borrowing dispensers. There are 38 such devices in 21 libraries and in 2009 they carried out 927,163 transactions.

#### PURCHASE OF LIBRARY MATERIAL IN 2009

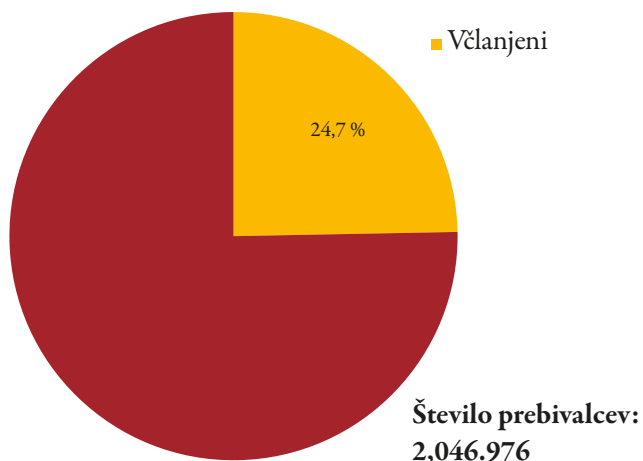


## Obisk, izposoja gradiva in prireditve

Splošne knjižnice so namenjene vsem prebivalcem lokalne skupnosti, ki jih je bilo leta 2009 v Sloveniji 2,046.976. Določene osnovne storitve splošnih knjižnic lahko uporablja vsakdo brezplačno: uporablja gradivo v knjižnici, dobi odgovor na informacijsko poizvedbo, poišče gradivo v katalogu, se udeleži prireditev itn. Če pa si uporabnica ali uporabnik želi izposojati gradivo na dom, se mora včlaniti v knjižnico. Slovenske splošne knjižnice so imele leta 2009 506.599 članic in članov.

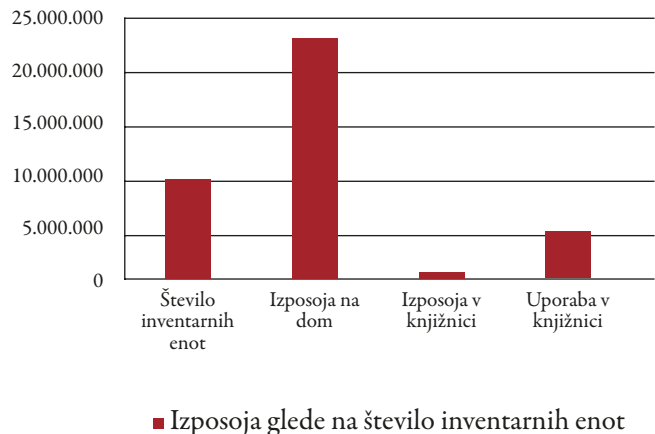
Delež včlanjenega prebivalstva znaša 24,7 odstotka. Pri mladih članih do 15. leta starosti je ta delež kar 56 odstotkov, pri prebivalstvu nad to starostjo pa 20 odstotkov. Splošne knjižnice je v letu 2009 obiskalo 9,200.197

### DELEŽ VČLANJENEGA PREBIVALSTVA



obiskovalk in obiskovalcev, pri čemer to število pomeni samo fizični obisk, ne pa obiska spletnih strani in elektronskih virov na daljavo. **Vsak prebivalec Slovenije je tako povprečno obiskal splošno knjižnico 4,5-krat v letu.** Izgradnja knjižnične zbirke ima gotovo cilj v čim večji in čim širši uporabi gradiva. V letu 2009 so si članice in člani na dom izposodili 23,112.109 inventarnih enot gradiva,

### IZPOSOJA V LETU 2009



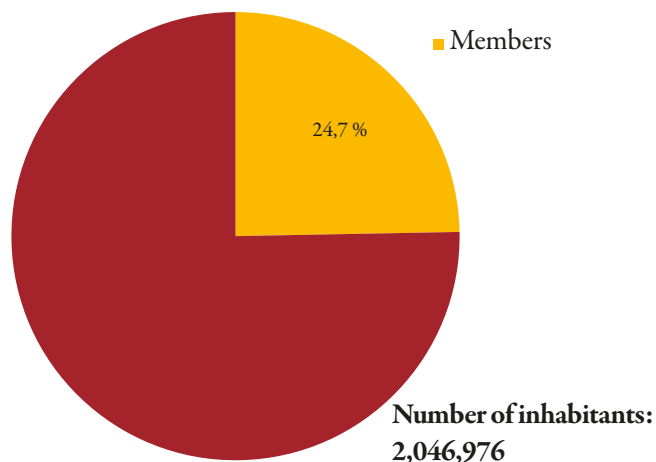
v knjižnici pa 846.544 enot. V knjižnicah so uporabili še 5,788.997 enot različnega gradiva.

Število gradiva, izposojenega na dom, stalno narašča že daljše obdobje, tudi v letu 2009, ko se je glede na leto poprej povečalo za 1,2 odstotka. **Član slovenske splošne**

## Visits, loans and events

Public libraries focus mainly on residents of local communities and their number amounted to 2,046,976 in 2009. Certain basic services of public libraries may be used by everyone without charge; these include use of material in the library, obtaining an answer in regard to a query, finding material in the catalogue, attending events, etc. If a user wishes to check out material, they must become a member of the library. In 2009, Slovenian public libraries had 506,599 members. The share of inhabitants who are members of libraries amounts to 24.7 per cent. Among young people up to 15 years of age the share amounts to as many as 56 per cent, whereas among people older than 15 it is 20 per cent. In 2009, public libraries recorded 9,200,197

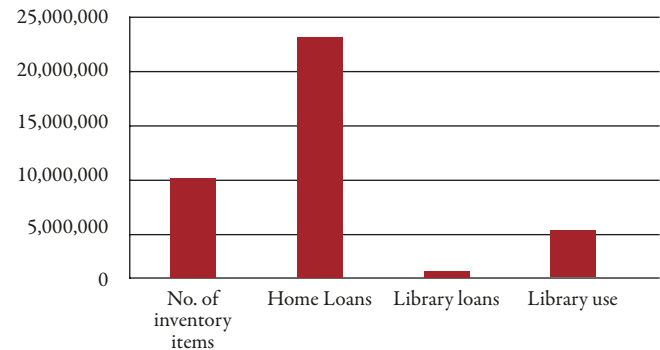
### SHARE OF LIBRARY MEMBERS



visitors, however this number indicates only people who actually visited the library and doesn't take into account long-distance visitors of websites and electronic sources.

**On average, each inhabitant of Slovenia thus visited a public library 4.5 times per year.** The purpose of library collection development is to allow extended and wide use of material. In 2009, members checked out 23,112,109

### LOANS IN 2009



Loans compared to inventory items

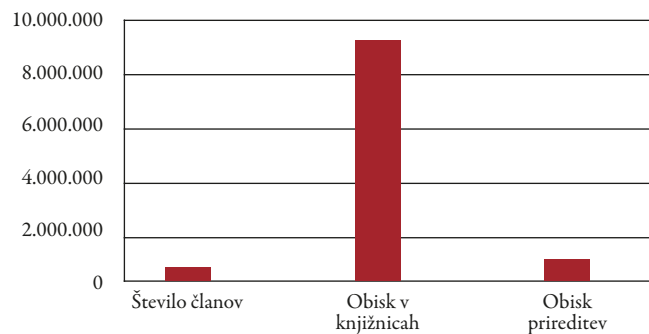
inventory items of material and borrowed 845,544 items to use in the library. They used a further 5,788,997 items of material in the library.

The number of home loan items has been increasing constantly for a longer period of time, including in 2009



**knjižnice si je na dom v povprečju izposodil 45,6 enote knjižničnega gradiva, od tega 57 odstotkov leposlovja in 43 odstotkov ostalega gradiva.** Če knjižnica nima gradiva, ki ga potrebuje uporabnik, ga lahko pridobi od drugih knjižnic v Sloveniji ali tujini preko medknjižnične izposoje. Splošne knjižnice so v letu 2009 na ta način za svoje uporabnike pridobile 9622 enot gradiva. Splošne knjižnice organizirajo za svoje uporabnike različne prireditve z namenom razvijanja bralne kulture, vseživljenjskega učenja, promocije itn. Skupno so v letu 2009 organizirale 19.570 prireditev, ki se jih je udeležilo 749.824 obiskovalcev.

### OBISK V SPLOŠNIH KNJIŽNICAH V LETU 2009

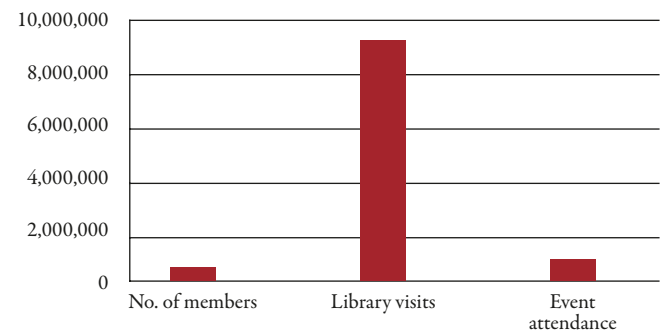




when it increased by 1.2 per cent in comparison with the year before. **On average, a member of a Slovenian public library checked out 45.6 items of library material; 57 per cent of these items were fiction and 43 per cent other material.** If the library doesn't have the item the user needs, it can obtain it from other libraries in Slovenia and abroad through interlibrary borrowing. In 2009, public libraries obtained 9,622 items of material for their users in this manner.

Public libraries organise different events for its users to develop reading culture, lifelong learning, promotion, etc. In 2009, they organised a total of 19,570 events, which were attended by 749,824 people.

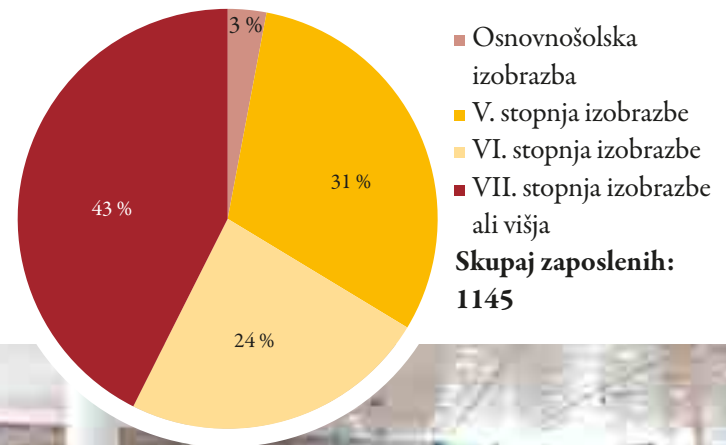
#### PUBLIC LIBRARIES VISITS IN 2009



## Zaposleni v knjižnicah

V slovenskih splošnih knjižnicah je bilo v letu 2009 zaposlenih 1344 oseb, od tega 1145 za polni delovni čas. Velika večina (78 odstotkov) je strokovnih delavcev, ki imajo opravljen bibliotekarski izpit. V izobrazbeni strukturi prevladujejo višje in visoko izobraženi delavci, saj je zaposlenih z osnovnošolsko izobrazbo tri odstotke, s srednješolsko 31 odstotkov, z višjo 24 odstotkov, z vsaj visoko pa 43 odstotkov vseh zaposlenih.

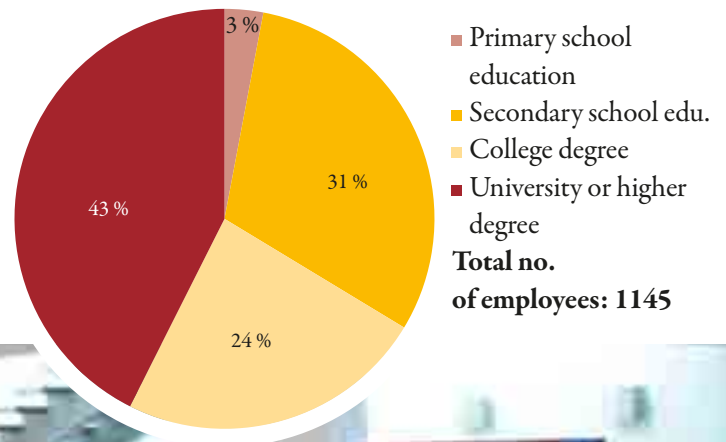
**ZAPOSLENI V SPLOŠNIH KNJIŽNICAH**



## Library employees

In 2009, Slovenian public libraries had 1,344 employees, of which 1,145 were employed full-time. The majority of employees (78 per cent) are professionals who are certified as professional librarians. For the most part employees have college and university degrees; 3 per cent of employees finished primary school, 31 percent finished secondary school, 24 per cent finished college and 43 per cent of all employees finished at least university.

**PUBLIC LIBRARIES EMPLOYEES**

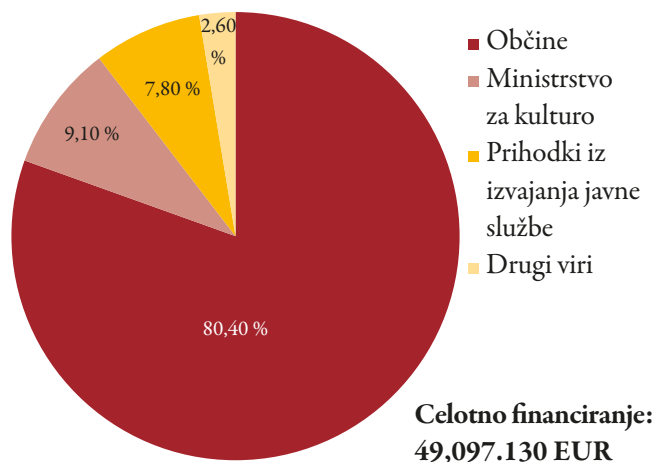




## Financiranje

Skupno so splošne knjižnice prejele za financiranje svoje dejavnosti v letu 2009 49,097.130 evrov. **Preračunano na prebivalca Slovenije je ta v povprečju prispeval 23,99 evra za dejavnost splošnih knjižnic. Največji delež so prispevale ustanoviteljice – občine, delež je znašal 80,4 odstotka.** Po velikosti deleža sledi država oziroma Ministrstvo za kulturo, ki je prispevalo 9,1 odstotka prihodkov. Prihodki iz izvajanja javne službe so knjižnicam prinesli 7,8-odstotni delež prihodkov, od tega predstavljajo nadomestila za včlanitev 4,1 odstotka (članarine, vpisnine in stroški izkaznice). Najmanjši delež prihodkov pa so knjižnice pridobile iz drugih virov (2,6 odstotka).

### VIRI FINANCIRANJA SPLOŠNIH KNJIŽNIC



*Vir podatkov o splošnih knjižnicah je Center za razvoj knjižnic pri Narodni in univerzitetni knjižnici, ki vsako leto izvaja statistične meritve knjižnic. Podatki se nanašajo na leto 2009 (stanje 31.12.), dostopni so preko spletne strani BibSiSt (<http://bibsist.nuk.uni-lj.si>).*

*Gorazd Vodeb,*

*Center za razvoj knjižnic pri Narodni in univerzitetni knjižnici*





## Financing

In 2009, public libraries received a total of 49,097,130 Euros to finance their activities. **Per inhabitant of Slovenia, this indicates that on average each inhabitant contributed 23.99 Euros for activities of public libraries. The largest share was contributed by founding institutions – municipalities, and their share amounted to 80.4 per cent.** They are followed by the government or the Ministry of Culture,

which contributed 9.1 per cent of income. Income from performance of the public service of libraries amounted to 7.8 per cent; fees related to membership (membership fees, enrolment fees and costs of membership cards) represent 4.1 per cent of this share. The smallest share of library income came from other sources (2.6 per cent).

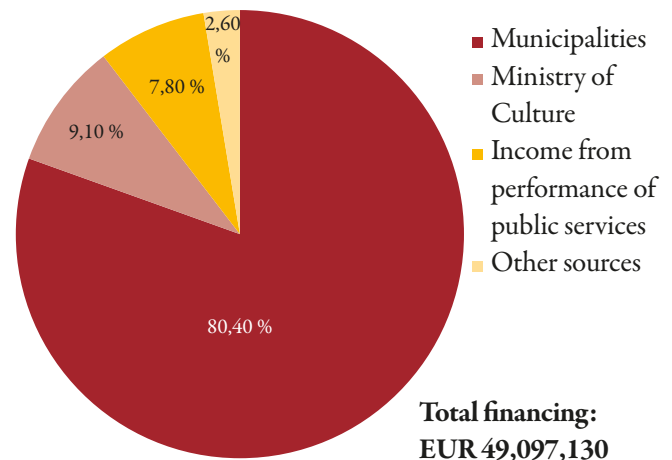
*The source of data on public libraries is the Library Development Centre at the National and University Library, which carries out statistical observations of libraries each year. Data refers to 2009 (status on 31.12.) and is available on the website BibSiSt (<http://bibsist.nuk.uni-lj.si>).*

*Gorazd Vodeb,*

*Library Development Centre at the National and University Library*



### SOURCES OF PUBLIC LIBRARIES FINANCING



## O NAŠIH SREČEVANJIH

### **BREZ KNJIŽNICE NE GRE**

*Vse plasti mojega življenja so povezane s knjižnico. Samo najbolj revni ljudje imajo doma vse knjige, ki jih potrebujejo, sam pa grem včasih v knjižnico celo po knjigo, za katero vem, da jo imam, a ne vem natanko, kje – v knjižnici jo najdem hitreje. Kot pisec in urednik zahtevnih knjig sem vesel, ko vidim, da se je knjiga, ki se je – razen knjižnicam – prodala v nekaj deset izvodih, izposodila nekaj stokrat. Kot raziskovalec sem zadovoljen, da lahko po spletu spremljam, kaj se izposoja – le včasih me ob tem prime, da bi nehal pisati in urejati. Kot bralec pa vem, da bi brez knjižnice prebral precej manj – ne le, da do veliko knjig ne bi mogel, tritedenski izposojevalni rok daje prednost branju knjig iz knjižnice, tiste kupljene lahko čakajo. Enako velja za filme in glasbo. Kakorkoli obračam pogled, zmeraj pogledam v knjižnico. Brez knjižnice ne gre.*

*dr. Andrej Blatnik, pisatelj in založnik*

### **NAJTI PRAVO ZGODBO V PRAVEM TRENUTKU**

*Starši so mi kupovali knjige, tudi sami so jih imeli za nekaj knjižnih polic. Srečanje s knjižnico mi je odstrlo kraljestvo knjig v vsej njegovi veličini. Tukaj lahko najdeš vse zgodbe tega sveta. Začasno lahko postaneš njihov lastnik, vstopiš v neskončno vrsto njihovih bralcev. Ure pravljic v Mariborski knjižnici, šolska knjižnica in nato knjižnica v mojih Hočah. Romanje med policami, postopno odkrivanje vse bolj kompleksnih svetov. Če sem do petnajstega leta prebiral pustolovske, kriminalne, zgodovinske in druge žanrske romane, sem kasneje strastno segal po tako imenovani visoki literaturi. Moj odnos do knjižnice temelji na izkušnji temeljne demokratičnosti: vsem je dostopno skorajda vse. Ta širina omogoča vertikalo: v isti vaški knjižnici, koder sem še včeraj našel Karla Maya in Edgarja Wallacea, so se mi kmalu razkrili tudi mojstri zbirke Sto romanov, Kafka, Kundera, Borges, Kovačič ... Ne širine in ne globine pa ni brez občutljivih knjižničark in knjižničarjev, ki skozi pogovor uganejo, kdo si, in katera knjiga je zate tista prava. Najti pravo zgodbo v pravem trenutku je privilegij. Pa čeprav sem moral sinu ondan na vprašanje, ali je pomembnejše življenje ali knjiga, odgovoriti, da življenje, si ga brez knjig ne znam predstavljati.*

*Mitja Čander, urednik*

### **KNJIŽNIČNO SOŽITJE STAREGA IN SODOBNEGA**

*Kako svojemu življenjskemu okolju vdahniti dušo, je stalno, zahtevno vprašanje, ki si ga zastavlja vsak župan. Kako v občinskem okolju združevati, kako zadovoljiti potrebe vseh generacij po druženju, znanju? Odgovor na vse to ponuja sodobna knjižnica. Vedno bolj se je kazala potreba po organizaciji institucije, ki bo skrbela za čedalje večje potrebe mladih in starih po obšolskem študiju in znanju, enostavnem dostopu do strokovne literature, zagotavljanju pogojev za učenje na sodobnih elektronskih in multimedijskih pripomočkih, uvajanju najmlajših v svet knjige ali preprosto čudoviti svet pravljic. V občini smo pogrešali prostor – dvorano za elitne*

## ABOUT OUR ENCOUNTERS

### *WITHOUT LIBRARIES IT JUST WOULDN'T DO*

*All layers of my life are connected with libraries. Only the poorest people keep the books that they need at home, while I go to the library to borrow a book even though I know that I have got it, but am not sure where it is – I can find it faster in the library. As an author and editor of demanding literature, I am pleased to see that a book of which several tens of copies have been sold – excluding libraries –, has been borrowed several hundred times. As a researcher, I am satisfied to be able to follow on the internet what books are a popular loan material – except that it sometimes makes me feel I should give up my job of a writer and editor. However, as a reader I know, that without libraries I would read much less – not only I would not have access to many books, due to the three-week loan period the books borrowed from the library must be read first, and those I have bought can wait. The same goes for films and music. Wherever I turn or look, I always look into a library. Without libraries it just wouldn't do.*

*dr. Andrej Blatnik, writer and publisher*



*kulturne, politične in družabne dogodke na najvišjem nivoju, potrebovali smo galerijski prostor. Že desetletja je živa tudi tradicija zapisovanja dogodkov iz preteklega časa. To, v širšem okolju redko, a za nas pomembno domoznansko dejavnost, smo morali umestiti v primerno okrilje strokovne institucije.*

*Ni bilo lahko, saj smo se v ne ravno ekonomsko ugodnih časih znašli pred pomembno dilemo - graditi prepotrebne objekte družbenih dejavnosti: šola, vrtec, zdravstveni dom ali knjižnico. Imeli smo prostor, široko podporo javnosti, predvsem pa strokoven in ambiciozen kolektiv, to je imelo odločilno težo.*

*Objekt knjižnice danes predstavlja arhitekturno zanimivo sožitje starega in sodobnega. S svojim izgledom poudarja staro tradicionalno jedro naselja in nosi zapis preteklosti v prihodnost, nanjo se navezuje ekstravagantno in provokativno oblikovan novi trakt. Nova Mestna knjižnica je danes ena najpomembnejših institucij, ki diktira, povezuje in sooblikuje kulturno-umetniško, vzgojno, družabno in domoznansko dejavnost ter zavest med našimi občani in širše.*

*Janez Lesjak, župan občine Grosuplje*



### **TO FIND THE RIGHT STORY AT THE RIGHT TIME**

*My parents have always bought me books and they also own a few shelves of them. The library opened up a book kingdom in all its grandness to me. All stories of this world can be found there. You can become their temporary owner, and join the endless line of their readers. First, there were story-telling hours at the Maribor Public Library, then the school library, followed by the library in my home village, Hoče. Browsing the shelves, gradual discovery of more and more complex worlds. By the age of fifteen I had read mostly adventure, crime, history and other genre novels, but later I developed a passion for the so-called high literature. My attitude toward the library is based on the experience of fundamental democracy: everybody has access to almost anything. This width enables the vertical: in the very same village library, where yesterday I found Karl May and Edgar Wallace, I soon discovered the masters included in the Hundreded Novels (Sto romanov) collection - Kafka, Kundera, Borges, Kovačič ... However, there is no width or depth without sensitive librarians who just by talking to the visitor guess who you are and what book is the right one for you. It is a privilege to find the right story at the right time. Although the other day, in reply to my son's question what is more important – life or a book, I had to opt for the former, I cannot imagine life without books.*

*Mitja Čander, editor*

### **LIBRARY – A HARMONY OF THE OLD AND MODERN**

*A constant and demanding question that is set by any mayor is how to give a soul to their environment. How to achieve unity within the municipality, how to satisfy the needs of all generations to socialize, to learn? A modern library can provide solutions for all of the above. There was a growing need to establish an institution that would meet the ever increasing demand by the young and adults to study and acquire knowledge outside the school system, to have free access to reference literature, to learn by means of modern electronic and multimedia tools, to introduce the youngest to the world of books or the wonderful world of fairy tales. In our municipality we missed a venue – a hall for elite cultural, political and social events on the highest level. We also needed a gallery space. For decades there has been a tradition of recording past events. The local studies, vital for the local environment and quite rare in the wider space, had to be assigned to a suitable qualified institution.*

*It was not easy since in not exactly favourable economic times an important dilemma had to be faced – what badly needed public building should be built: a school, kindergarten, local health centre or library? We had the space as well as strong public support, but most of all, there was a qualified and ambitious team, and that decided in the end.*

*Today the library building represents an architecturally interesting symbiosis of the old and the new. In its final shape it emphasizes the old traditional centre of the town and carries the records of the past into the future, which is alluded to by the extravagant and provocative new wing.*



## **BEREM, DA LAŽE RAZUMEM SVET**

*Kadar sem dobre volje in srečna, se spomnim na Brvarjeve »vrčke piva, ki se potijo v trebuščke« in se jim hudomušno nasmehnem.*

*Kadar moji mali pacienti jočejo, jim pripovedujem o Župančičevi Čebeli, njenem bridkem želu in Cicibanovem trdem čelu, pa je vsem takoj lažje. Kadar smo vsi malo zaskrbljeni, pride Pedenjped, včasih pri nas v kotu sedi Piki Jakob in včasih zdravimo tudi z »Zelišči male čarovnice«. Naši najlepši trenutki pa so Muce Macini in Murjjevi.*

*Življenja brez knjig si sploh ne znam predstavljati in pravzaprav ga tudi nikoli ni bilo. Vedno so bile še knjige: male, velike, tanke, debele, žalostne, vesele.*

*Prva Pika Nogavička je prišla k nam domov z mamo iz knjižnice. Potem jo je morala mama brati in brati, vedno le prvi dve strani. Kadar se je zmotila, jo je njena triletnica vestno popravljala, saj je besedilo že zdavnaj znala na pamet.*

*Nato je šla z mamo v knjižnico še majhna deklica v dokolenkah, ki z nosom še ni segla niti do pulta za knjige. Je pa doseгла tiste spodnje police, kjer še sedaj najraje išče knjige, čeprav dokolenke že dolgo niso več del njene garderobe.*

*Tudi majhen deček, ki je zrasel v fanta, in je sin tiste majhne deklice, je rasel s knjižničnim pultom.*

*Vedno sva imela v knjižnici svoje gospe Alenke, Francke, Branke, Monike, Dragane, Barbare, Sabine, Slavice, Maje in tiste, katerih imen ni več v najinem spominu, podobe pa so ostale.*

*Vedno so brale pred, ali pa z nama.*

*Upam, da jih bo tudi mladi mož znal najti, kamorkoli po svetu bo šel. Zato, da mu bo življenje lažje in lepše, zato, da*





*The new Town library is today one of the major institutions; it dictates, links and co-creates cultural and artistic, educational, social and local studies activities as well as the awareness of inhabitants of the town and other people.*

*Janez Lesjak, mayor of Grosuplje municipality*

### **BY READING I UNDERSTAND THE WORLD BETTER**

*When I am in a good mood and happy, I remember Brvar's »mugs of beer that sweat into the bellies« and smile at that. If my little patients cry, I tell them about Župančič's Bee, its sharp sting and Ciciban's hard forehead, and everybody immediately feels better. When we are a bit worried, Pedenjped joins us, sometimes Piki Jakob sits in our corner, and occasionally patients are treated also with »the Little Witch's Herbs« (»Zelišča male čarovnice«). But our best moments are those with Muca Maca and Muri.*

*I cannot possibly imagine life without books – actually there never was life without books. There have always been books: small, big, thin, thick, sad, happy.*

*The first Pippi Longstockings came to our home from the library with my Mum. Then Mum had to read it again and again, always only the first two pages. Whenever she made a mistake, her three-year-old daughter checked her, as she had learned the text by heart a long time ago.*

*Then Mum visited the library together with the little girl who wore kneesocks and was not even tall enough to see over the reception desk. However, she was able to explore the lower shelves where she still likes to look for books, despite the fact*

*bo v njem manj sam. Jaz zato berem. Da lažje razumem svet, ljudi in sebe, pa tudi zato, da mi je lepo, da se veselim.*

*Vseh knjig ne morem imeti doma, zato jih nekaj mora ostati v knjižnici. In ker je knjižnica vedno bila del mojega življenja, mora ostati tudi ona.*

*dr. Polonca Seme Ciglencečki, pediaterinja*

### **BREZ RAZLIK ZA BOLJŠO SEDANJOST IN PRIHODNOST**

*Ustvarili smo si družbo, v kateri sta največji vrednoti materialno bogastvo in delo. Nihče več ne verjame pravljicam, v katerih sebično nakopičeno bogastvo njihove lastnike ob smrtni uri potegne v globine pekla. In kljub grozljivemu zgodovinskemu kontekstu vse bolj verjamo, da delo osvobaja. Čeprav je popolnoma očitno, da nam hiperprodukcija uničuje okolje, ko meče na trg proizvode, ki se že naslednji dan spremenijo v odpadke, s katerimi je vse bolj preplavljen naš svet. Delat samo dobro, hkrati pa imet čas za počitek, užitek in premislek, je vredno veliko več od proizvodnje za vsako ceno. Cilj družbe bi morali biti zadovoljni in izobraženi ljudje, ne pa stopnja gospodarske rasti, ne glede a njeno kvaliteto in posledice.*

*Danes marsikomu marsičesa primanjkuje, hkrati pa je na svetu vedno več stvari. Tudi knjig je toliko, da celo ljudje, za katere niso predrage, nimajo ne prostora ne razloga, da bi kopičili vse, kar si želijo prebrat. Za družbo, v kateri živimo, je to, da v javnih knjižnicah lahko vsakdo pride v stik z viri informacij in zabave, tako neprecenljivo, da ne bi smel nihče niti pomisliti, kako bi tudi njih podredil logiki navideznega profita. Knjižnice so namreč ene redkih ustanov, ki brez socialnih razlik skrbijo za boljšo sedanjost in prihodnost.*

*Andrej Rozman Roza, pesnik*



*kneesocks have long been gone from her wardrobe. Also a little boy who grew into a big boy and happens to be the son of the little girl mentioned earlier, visited the library and grew up with it.*

*We have always had our library ladies: Alenka, Francka, Branka, Monika, Dragana, Barbara, Sabina, Slavica, Maja and those whose names we no longer recall, but we still remember their faces. They have read either before or with us. I hope that the young man will know how to find his library ladies – wherever he happens to be. To make his life easier and better, and to be less alone in it.*

*That is why I read. To understand the world, people and myself, as well as to have a good time.*

*I cannot have all the books at home, therefore some must stay in the library. And because the library has always been part of my life, it should stay that way.*

*dr. Polonca Seme Ciglencečki, pediatrician*

### **WITHOUT DIFFERENCES FOR A BETTER PRESENT AND FUTURE**

*We have created a society where the highest values are material wealth and work. Nobody believes the fairy tales in which selfishly accumulated wealth drags its owners into the depths of hell at the final hour. In spite of the horrible historical context we increasingly believe that work makes man free, even though it is perfectly obvious that hyperproduction destroys our environment by daily launch of products that after only a day become garbage flooding our world. Doing only good things and at the same time having time to rest, enjoy and reflect, is worth far more than production at any cost. The society should strive towards satisfied and educated people, and not towards the level of economic growth, regardless of its quality and consequences.*

*Nowadays many people suffer shortage of many things while there are more and more things available in the world.*

*There are so many books that even those who do not find them too expensive do not have space or reason to accumulate all of those they would like to read. For the society which we live in, it is invaluable that in public libraries anybody can find sources of information and fun, therefore nobody should even think to suppress them with the seeming profit-driven logic. Libraries are among those rare institutions which ensure a better present and future, without social differences.*

*Andrej Rozman Roza, poet*



## **SREČEVANJA Z ZNANJEM IN DOMIŠLJIJO**

*Že kar nekaj let v svojem poklicno privatnem življenju (spretno?) vijugam med knjigami in filmi, in včasih mi vznikne vprašanje, kaj bi izbral, če bi se moral odločiti zgolj za eno. Po hitrem razmisleku se skoraj vedno odločim za knjige, saj mi te bolj razprejo domišljijo ali pa me tudi več in bolje česa naučijo. Podobna je tudi dilema: knjižnica ali kinodvorana? In tudi tu je odgovor nedvoumen; če bi bilo treba ohraniti zgolj eno javno kulturno institucijo, bi bila po mojem mnenju to ravno knjižnica, prostor neskončnega srečevanja z znanjem in domišljijo vsega sveta in vseh časov od takrat naprej, ko so začeli zapisovati govorjeno besedo. Ob tem, da notri najdem tudi filme.*

*dr. Samo Rugelj, urednik revij Bukla in Premiera ter založnik*

## **PRECEJ VEČ KOT KOMUNIKACIJSKO-INFORMACIJSKI SERVIS**

*Slovenske splošne knjižnice zame, najbrž pa tudi za večino drugih rednih obiskovalcev, pomenijo precej več kot zgolj javni komunikacijsko-informacijski servis. Za to uniformirano oznako, ki je odsev sodobne tehnizirane dobe, se v resnici skrivajo prijetni kraji za nabiranje novih znanj in izkušenj, kraji srečevanja in druženja, utrdbe aristokracije duha, ki nudijo zavetje in varnost vsem vedoželjnim. Zame so bile slovenske splošne knjižnice vselej ustanove široko odprtih vrat in prijaznih ljudi. Prav tam sem za svoje študije izbrskal marsikateri dragoceni podatek, ki ga drugod nikakor ni bilo mogoče najti. Hkrati sem pri obiskih splošnih knjižnic po vsej Sloveniji, od Prekmurja do Primorja, od Gorenjske do Bele krajine, od Goriške do Dolenjske in od Koroške do Brkinov, vselej dobil vtis, da so to živahna in vsakomur dostopna regionalna kulturna žarišča, ki odlično odsevajo duh svojega kraja in njegovih prebivalcev. To so kraji, kjer se znanje in izkušnje številnih preteklih rodov silovito prenašajo na nove generacije. Poimenovanje teh ustanov je kar nekoliko zavajajoče, saj nudijo bistveno več kot le hrambo in izposoje knjig. Ta njihova prvotna vloga je v zadnjih desetletjih povsod prerasla v vlogo središč, ki na enem mestu ponujajo možnost uporabe številnih podatkov in vsebin. Le kateri dijak, študent ali raziskovalec bi si danes mogel predstavljati svoje delo brez teh središč? Potem, ko se urnik knjižnične izposoje zaključi, ta središča pogosto dobijo novo vlogo prizorišč izobraževalnih večerov, ki s to ali ono temo vselej popestrijo kulturno dogajanje v kraju. Tako slovenske splošne knjižnice na nevsiljiv način pomembno prispevajo k izobraževanju, hkrati pa so ključnega pomena za varovanje in razvijanje regionalne identitete.*

*dr. Igor Sapač, umetnostni zgodovinar*







### **ENCOUNTERS WITH KNOWLEDGE AND IMAGINATION**

*For quite many years in my professional and private life I have (successfully?) zig-zagged between books and films, and sometimes a question is raised what I would choose if I had to decide for only one of them. After a brief reflection I almost always go for books, as they spark my imagination more or they teach me more and in a better way. There is another similar dilemma: library or cinema? Here, again, the answer is indisputable; if there was a need to preserve only one cultural institution, than in my opinion it should be the library, a space of limitless encounters with knowledge and imagination from all over the world and since the times when the spoken word was first written down. Besides, I can find films there, too.*

*dr. Samo Rugelj, editor of Bukla and Premiera magazines and publisher*

### **MUCH MORE THAN COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION SERVICES**

*To me and probably to the majority of other regular visitors, Slovenian public libraries mean much more than just public communication and information services. This uniformed terminology, which reflects our modern technicised age, actually hides pleasant venues for gaining new knowledge and experience, places for meeting people and socializing, fortresses of the aristocracy of spirit, offering a safe haven to anybody seeking knowledge. In my eyes, Slovenian public libraries have always been institutions with wide open doors and kind people. There I have gathered much of the precious data for my studies which I could not find elsewhere. At the same time, whenever I visited public libraries anywhere in Slovenia, from the Prekmurje to Primorje region, from Gorenjska to Bela krajina, from the Goriško to Dolenjska and from Koroška to the Brkini region, I found them to be lively regional cultural centres, open to everybody, and reflecting accurately the spirit of their location and community. They are places where the knowledge and experience of numerous past generations are powerfully transferred onto new generations. The definition of these institutions is somewhat misleading, as they offer considerably more than just book storage and loan. The primary function of libraries has in the recent decades developed into the major role – the local centres offering use of substantial data and contents. What high school or university student could imagine their work without libraries? When the daily library loan service is finished, these centres often turn into venues of educational evenings that complement local cultural life with various topics. In this non-intrusive way, Slovenian public libraries importantly contribute to education, while they continue to be of key importance for safe-guarding and development of the regional identity.*

*dr. Igor Sapač, art historian*

## **SNOVANJE NOVE MARIBORSKE KNJIŽNICE**

*Ob snovanju nove podobe knjižnice nas je usmerjala zavest, da s tako pomembno javno zgradbo oblikujemo enega od stebrov kulture mesta v prihodnosti. Arhitekturna zasnova se je torej poleg funkcionalne sheme ukvarjala predvsem s pojavnimi in pomenskimi vprašanji, saj smo želeli ustvariti nov mestni prostor, ki bo predstavljal zbirališče meščanov vseh starosti in socialnih pripadnosti. Torej izoblikovati zgradbo, ki bo tako navzven, še bolj pa skozi notranji prostor, govorila o splošnem nivoju kulture mesta in regije. Knjižnica namreč vedno bolj postaja prostor pomembnih družbenih, družabnih, izobraževalnih dogodkov, poleg tega pa združuje pomen branja ali drugačnega pridobivanja in zbiranja informacij s hrambo literature, dokumentov, torej nacionalnega bogastva. Če se knjižnica tudi prostorsko navezuje na samo središče mesta, v prostor mestnega trga, je njena vloga še pomembnejša, saj bo pomenila enega pomembnejših razvojnih impulzov celotnega mestnega predela.*

*Ob vsakem stiku z dragocenim historičnim tkivom, še posebno, ko gre za tako izgrajene ambience kot je mestni trg, si vedno zastavljamo vprašanje, koliko in na kakšen način ga obremenjevati z novimi posegi.*

*V projektu smo skušali razbrati elementa trga, ki predstavljajo njegovo današnjo prepoznavno sliko, ter na njih graditi njegovo novo programsko in oblikovno zaokrožitev, hkrati pa se vendarle ob vstavljanju novega v največji možni meri zadržati na čitljivem nivoju, ki bo kazal zapis našega časa.*

*Kot izrazito srečno potezo iz zadnjega razvojnega obdobja smo prepoznali trgu včrtano pravokotno tlakovano površino, in ga v novi kompoziciji opredelili kot konstanto, ki predstavlja vezni člen mesta in knjižnice. Ob njegovem obodu se zgodi vse potrebno: vhodi, nivojske razlike in svetlobniki.*

*Obstoječo tržno ploskev s tehnološko nadgradnjo tako preoblikujemo v novo fleksibilno urbano površino, podzemni odgovor tej površini pa predstavlja osrednji skupni prostor knjižnice, ki tudi primerno dnevno osvetljen, v harmonično celoto povezuje obstoječe objekte knjižnice in mestne hiše..*

*Rok Žnidaršič, arhitekt*







## **DESIGNING THE NEW MARIBOR PUBLIC LIBRARY**

*When creating the new library design, we were guided by awareness that by designing this major public building we also shape one of the pillars of the city's cultural life in the future. Besides the functional scheme, the architectural design focused mainly on the issues of appearance and meaning, as we wanted to create a new urban space that would become a meeting place of the city people of all ages and social backgrounds. To sum up, we aimed at designing a building that would both externally and even more through its interior communicate the general level of culture in both the city and the region.*

*The library has increasingly become a venue for important formal and informal social, society and educational events, while at the same time it unites the importance of reading or any other method of acquiring and gathering information by storing literature, documents, in short, national wealth.*

*Since the library is located in the very centre of the city, in the main urban square, its role becomes even more important, as it will represent one of the major development impulses for the whole city area.*

*With any contact with precious historic tissue, especially when dealing with the ambience as complete as the city square, we always face the question to what extent and in what way we can burden it with new interventions.*

*From the project we tried to discern elements of the square that represent its current recognisable appearance, and used them as foundations for designing its new programme and design solutions. When inserting new features we strove to stay as far as possible on the discernible level that would display the features of our time.*

*The rectangular paved surface of the square was seen as a particularly fortunate feature from the last development phase and in the new composition this area is defined as a permanent link between the city and the library. Everything that is important is located at its edge: the entrances, different levels and light elements.*

*The existing surface of the square with the technological equipment and infrastructure is thus transformed into a new flexible urban area. The sub-terrain response*



## **PRISTNA OBČUTJA IN NOVA SPOZNANJA**

*Knjižnice so hrami učenosti. Slovenci imamo pri načrtovanju knjižnic mogočni vzor v Plečnikovi Narodno univerzitetni knjižnici v Ljubljani. »Renesančna« palača kraljuje v prostoru in obiskovalca sili v občudovanje, ponižnost in strogo spoštovanje. Resnost in disciplina namerno neudobnih stolov pa vsekakor nista več v koraku z družbenimi in medijskimi spremembami 21. stoletja. Prav presenetljivo je, da knjižnice še obstajajo. V tem presenečenju se skriva dejstvo, ki izpričuje, da knjižnice niso namenjene le shranjevanju in posredovanju različnih oblik medijev, ampak v sebi skrivajo globlje človekove potrebe in pričakovanja. Če nas knjiga popelje v sanjski svet iluzije, znanosti in razvedrila, je knjižnica »vesoljska ladja«, na kateri potujemo v daljne, neodkrите svetove. Včasih sicer potujemo sami, v varnem objemu blazin, odeje in nočne svetilke. A zdi se mi, da nam je danes, ko je prenosni telefon naš najboljši prijatelj in sovražnik obenem, ljubše sanjariti v diskretni družbi sopotnikov. Šarm železniške postaje in letališča, ko vsakdo nekam potuje, ko je še vse pred nami, se v knjižnici skriva v intimnem občutju prebiranja in listanja knjig, pogledih po čitalniškem »loungue«, v radovednem oprezanju, kam neki potujejo drugi.*

*Prav zato mora splošna knjižnica omogočiti tri ključne prvine. Knjižnično gradivo mora biti prosto dostopno. Čitalnica mora biti sestavni del knjižničnega prostora, dovolj velika in zračna, da lahko obiskovalci v njej najdejo svoj kotiček, a se vseeno čutijo kot del skupine. Nazadnje*





*to this surface is represented by the central common library area, which is suitably illuminated with daylight, and links the existing library buildings and the Town Hall into a harmonious unity.*

*Rok Žnidaršič, architect*

### **SINCERE FEELINGS AND NEW FINDINGS**

*Libraries are shrines of wisdom. When designing libraries, Plečnik's National and University Library in Ljubljana serves to us, Slovenians, as the ultimate ideal. The »Renaissance« palace dominates the area and its visitors cannot help feeling humbleness, respect and admiration. However, austerity and discipline of purposefully uncomfortable chair design is no longer in line with changes of the 21st century social and media landscape. It is surprising that libraries still exist. This surprise hides a fact proving that libraries are not intended to merely store and provide various types of media, but they incorporate our deeper needs and expectations. If a book takes us to the dreamworld of illusion, science and entertainment, the library can be seen as a »spaceship« by which we travel to remote and undiscovered worlds. Sometimes we travel alone, in the safe haven of cushions, our duvet and night lamp. Nevertheless, it seems to me that today, with the mobile phone being our best friend and worst enemy at the same time, we prefer to daydream in the discreet company of fellow passengers. The charm of a railway station and airport, where everybody is going somewhere and when all is still ahead of us, is hidden in the library in the intimate sensation experienced while reading and browsing books, looking around the reading room »lounge« and curiously investigating what other people's destinations might be.*

*pa mora vsaka knjižnica med policami nuditi tudi skrivne bralne koticke. Če želimo ustvariti kvaliteten socialni prostor, je vključitev teh prvin v zasnovno sodobne splošne knjižnice enostavno nujna.*

*Časi, ko se je redarju knjižnice zdelo, da nekdo z obračanjem listov v knjigi moti druge, so za nami. Šepet, pritajen smeh, telefon, ki po nesreči zazvoni, hoja po stopnicah in škripanje stolov so šumi, ki splošni knjižnici vlivajo sproščeno ozračje. Skupaj z vonjem po starem papirju in knjižnih policah pa sodobni družbi kljubujejo z ležernim tempom, pristnimi občutji in novimi spoznanji.*

*dr. Matej Blenkuš, u.d.i.a.*

## **KNJIGE – NAŠE ČAROBNE OČI**

*Iskriva, nesprenevedava misel je začetek govorice.*

*Knjiga je njeno domovanje. Je krona in srce skupnosti.*

*Veseli me, da je sistem slovenskih knjižnic dobro razvit. Knjižnice, založniki, avtorji, knjigarji in bralci ..., skupaj tvorimo tkanje temeljev narodove govorice, omike in kulture. Knjiga je znanilka in nosilka novega, globokega, še neslišanega, neotipanega in morda tudi nezaslišanega ... V sebi skriva neizmerne svetove znanj in izkušenj. Kakor knjiga nudi zavetje tudi najbolj krbki domišljiji, tako knjižnica nudi zavetje knjigi in človeku, ki se želi hraniti iz nje.*

*Lepo je, da je v Sloveniji knjiga prek knjižnic dostopna vsem, ki uporabljajo našo govorico; lepo je, da knjiga seže skoraj v vsako vas, saj si nakupa knjige danes marsikdo ne more privoščiti. Tudi zato ne, ker je slovenska knjiga zaradi skromnih naklad med najdražjimi na svetu.*

*Toda vse pogosteje se zdi, da gre zasluga za uspeh slovenskih knjižnic neke-mu času, ki ga ni več. Času, ko so se naši očetje in matere krčevito borili za obstoj in identiteto svoje govorice in ko je njihov spomin še živel. Zdi se, da smo današnji Slovenci zavrgli dediščino svojih očetov. Knjiga ni nosilka*







*Precisely because of that, three key elements should be ensured by any public library. The library material should be accessed freely. The reading room should be a part of the library space, big and airy enough to allow visitors to find their own spot and still feel as part of the group. Last but not least, each library should offer quiet reading corners hidden among its book shelves. These features should be included in contemporary public library design if a social venue of quality is to be created. Times when the librarian responsible for keeping order decided that turning book pages was an unwelcome distraction to other readers are over. Whisper, subdued laughter, a phone ringing because its owner has forgotten to switch it off, people walking up or down the staircase and squeaky chairs are noises that are part of a relaxed public library atmosphere. Together with the scent of old paper, book shelves as well as with the laid-back tempo, sincere feelings and new findings they defy the pressures of the modern society.*

*dr. Matej Blenkuš, architect*

### **BOOKS – OUR MAGIC EYES**

*A sparkly, sincere thought is the beginning of language.*

*The book is its home. It is the crown and heart of a community.*

*I am pleased to see that the Slovenian library system is well developed. Libraries, publishers, authors, booksellers and readers ... - all of us comprise the weave of foundations of the nation's language, education and culture. The book is a beacon and medium of the new, profound, unheard, untouched and perhaps also of the unheard of ... Within its covers endless worlds of knowledge and experience are hidden. Just like the book provides a safe haven to the even most fragile imagination, the library is a shelter for all, books and people who want to feed on them.*

*It is good that through the libraries in Slovenia books are accessible to anybody who use our language; it is good that books reach almost every village, especially as there are many who cannot afford to buy them. Partly also because Slovenian books are among the most expensive books in the world, due to modest circulation figures.*

*Yet it often seems that success of Slovenian libraries should be credited to the long gone times. The times when our fathers and mothers struggled persistently for existence and identity of their language, and when their memory was still alive. It seems that contemporary Slovenians have discarded the heritage of their fathers. Book is no longer a medium of limitless knowledge,*



*neizmerne znanja, izkušenj, tisočletnih zgodb, postala je zamenljiva reč za kratek, prosti čas, ena številnih igravk kapitalizma.*

*Vajeni služiti gospodarja, smo zdaj s čevljem pritisnili na lastno bit – na lastno materinščino. In čevlji sprejemamo nič manj ubogljivo, kakor smo onega, zaradi katerega so ne tako zelo davno naše družine pošiljale sinove v nepovratne sedemletne vojne. In zdi se, da prav nič ne pomaga, da je divje omajan ugled slovenskih gospodarjev - v preštevilnih nerazrešenih aferah in goljufijah in prevarah.*

*Knjige so naše čarobne oči. Odprimo jih, široko jih odprimo!*

*Rok Zavrtanik, Založba Sanje*





*experience, millenium stories; it has become a replaceable thing to help us spend our short past time, one of the many toys of capitalism. Used to serving our masters, we have crushed our own essence – our mother tongue – under our own boot. And we have accepted this boot just as humbly as the one that made our families send their sons to the recent seven-year wars without any hope of return. It seems that the seriously damaged reputation of Slovenian masters involved in too many unclarified scandals, frauds and deceits does not help at all. Books are our magic eyes. Let's open them, let's open them widely!*

*Rok Zavrtnik,  
Sanje publishing house*



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