

A close-up photograph of a marble sculpture. The sculpture depicts a hand holding a flute. The hand is positioned at the top left, with fingers wrapped around the instrument. The marble has a light, veined texture. The lighting is soft, highlighting the contours of the hand and the flute. The background is a blurred, light-colored surface.

Concert 4

Monday, 24 October 2016, at 10.30 pm  
Slovenian Philharmonic, Marjan Kozina Hall

# A Tale of Voice and Flute

**Bor Turel (b. 1954) , Gregor Pirš (b. 1970)**

Bone Piece

Sound projection

Zvezdana Novakovič – voice

Ljuben Dimkaroski – Moustérian flute

Franci Krevh – percussion

Marko Hatlak – accordion

Luka Juhart – accordion

Bor Turel – electronics

Gregor Pirš – electronics

**Realisation:** Radio Slovenia, Bor Turel's Private Studio, Yellow Room Studio

In a small Slovenian cave in the Archaeological Park Divje Babe, beneath the Šebrelje Plateau, a Stone Age man, most likely a Neanderthal, some 50,000 years ago intentionally drilled some identical well-considered holes with a stone tool in the thighbone of a young cave bear and from the resulting object enticed a simple melody. With the sounds that reverberated through the cave, he is thought to have “crossed the border between animal instincts and higher consciousness, thus paving the way to creative spirituality”. The cave is therefore frequently referred to as “the cradle of world music”.

Based on the authors' *Ars Acustica Arts'* Birthday Party 2011 project *di ba baab di ya beu*©, the composition is a surrealistic attempt to reconstruct the ritualistic environment that led our ancestors to extend their communication from within the primal cave of vocal articulation to the external, instrumental, abstract sonic reality based on a hollow piece of bone. The material used consists of various recordings of Slovenian caves and environments, as well as the female voice and “natural object” percussion.

The sound projection is dedicated to the memory of our friend the multifaceted artist Ljuben Dimkaroski, who recently passed away. Without his persistent research, our cultural space would be the poorer for an important artistic initiative, one that was a catalyst for the creation of the radiophonic work *A Piece of Bone – A Tale of Voice and Flute*.

Ljuben dedicated part of his life to creating replicas of the Mousterian flute, which was excavated by a group

of archaeologists led by Dr Ivan Turk in 1995 in the archaeological site Divje Babe I. He raised this prehistoric artistic relic, made by a Neanderthal from the bone of a cave bear, to the level of a modern concert instrument. He enthusiastically revealed the instrument's technical and expressive possibilities and, on concert stages and at professional conferences around the world, demonstrated that our current conception underestimates the art from this period. Ljuben succeeded where science had failed. With the power of artistic intuition, he delved deep into the psyche of a time that today seems unimaginably distant.

*Bor Turel, Gregor Pirš*

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