

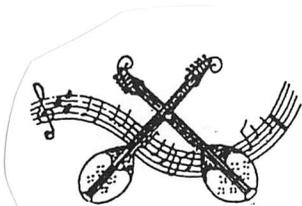
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Bibliography

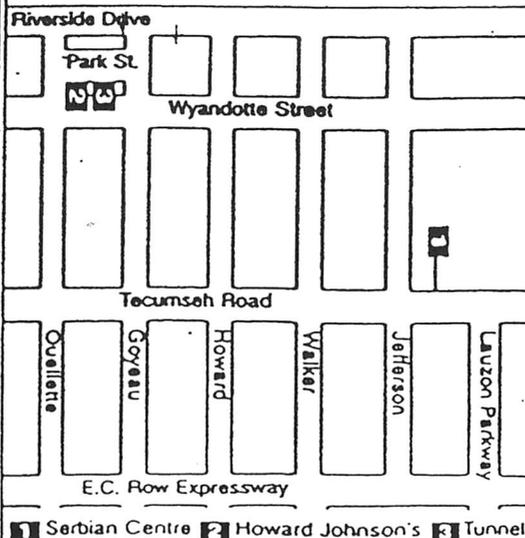
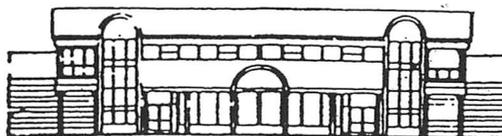
A Brief History of Serbian Music,
Completed & Produced by William
Dorich

Narodni Muzicki instrumenti,
Zagorka Markovic



SERBIAN COMMUNITY CENTRE
6770 Tecumseh Road East
Windsor, Ontario

From Highway # 401: Exit Essex Road
#19 to Tecumseh Road and left on
Tecumseh Road to # 6770



Serbian Heritage Museum of
Windsor



Presents
Exhibit:

**"MUSIC IN THE LIFE OF
THE SERBIAN PEOPLE"**

October 19, - Decembre 15,
2003

**“Haj, sto Srbin jos se drzi
Kraj svih zala.
Pesma ga je odrzala – Njojzi
hvala”!**

Jovan Jovanovic-Zmaj

In translation, the poet wonders how the Serb still exists in spite of all hardships he endured? Thanks to song which sustained him?

It is said that from all Slavic peoples, Serbs are the most poetic. During the 500 years of the Ottoman occupation, despite the pressure to subjugate the Serbs, the Turks did not succeed. In the deepest despair Serbian bards, called Guslars, sang of the Serbian kings and heroes and of the Golden Age of Serbian Medieval history. Generations of young Serbs had been brought up listening to these ballads, handed down orally. And so the song kept the spirit alive.

And so it is to the present time. Serbian people still sing and play on their favourite instruments. This exhibit entitled “Music in the Live of the Serbian People”, displays those instruments.

The history of Serbian music is very difficult to trace. The Turks destroyed all archival documents dealing with Serbian culture from the Middle Ages. Perhaps the only record was found in the Hilandar Monastery under the name of Kir Stefan Srbin who wrote a collection of psalms. It is also known that there were minstrels at the court of Tzar Dusan, who entertained their ruler, the courtiers and the visiting dignitaries. They accompanied their songs with Lira (Small Harp) and Lauta (similar to a mandolin). During the Turkish occupation Gusle were used to accompany the epic songs of the Serbian past.

Upon the final liberation of Serbia in the second half of the 19th century the talented composers, influenced by the European music, wrote patriotic music of the Romantic Period. While the classical music developed rapidly, the tamburitza became the favorite people’s instrument. Coming to the North American Continent, Serbian immigrants left behind their country, home and family, but they brought their instruments and their love of music with them. Similar to the Austrian Van Troop family

singers, fathers and their children formed several very successful orchestras.

Wherever Serbs settled on this continent, they built churches. Orthodox churches do not use instruments. They worship with signing of choirs. Today there are many famous Serbian choirs across Canada and United States. The reputation of our own Gracanica choir is gaining as the years go by.

- 1 Blind Guslar - gusle
- 2 Crljenica Brothers Orchestra
- 3 Tamburitza Primas & Brach
- 4 Bas, Brach, Bugarija
- 5 Accordion, Gajde, Frulas
- 6 Recorded Tamburitza Music
- 7 Gracanica Choir, Windsor
- 8 Bugarija, Brach, Brach
- 9 Orchestra “Srbija Toronto
- 10 Tambura Maker – Mr. Milan Opacic