

upcoming events

October 9, 18:30 – Screening of
“Bubblegum,” ByTowne Cinema (free
admission)

October 13, 11:00 – Folk and Food fest,
Bronson Centre Theatre (free admission)

October 13, 18:30-23:00 – Horoteka,
Bronson Centre, Mac Hall

October 20, 19:30 – Concert, Meden Glas,
Shenkman Art Centre, Richcraft Theatre

For more information, visit <http://bgottawa-gatineau.ca>.



Bulgarian *folk* costumes *exhibition*



For the first time in Canada, Shenkman Arts Centre is presenting an exhibition of Bulgarian folk costumes. Bulgarian folk costumes are reflection of Bulgarian history and diversity of its regions. Each folk costume represents the unique evolution and tradition of a particular region. In this exhibition, you will be able to see several regional costumes and read about their history. The costumes are family treasures that have been passed from generation to generation.



exhibits list

1/ Woman's winter dress from the village of Ropot, Godech county, north-west Bulgaria, circa 1930s

The dress is well preserved because the young woman it belonged to married in a distant area (Trunsko), where such dresses were not customary and she kept it in a cedar chest along with her dowry. Courtesy of Mrs. Biana Gordon, who received it as a gift from her grand-aunt, related to the original owner.



2/ Woman's casual summer attire from the region of Vidin, north-west Bulgaria

All parts are loom-woven and decorated by hand. Courtesy of Mrs. Biana Gordon



3/ Woman's traditional festive costume from the area of Stara Zagora, south-west Bulgaria

The colourful handcrafted decorations and embroidery are typical of the ethnic region of Thrace. Courtesy of Mrs. Biana Gordon

4/ A young man's vest from the Shopluka region, today's Bulgaria's capital region

Courtesy of Mrs. Biana Gordon



5/ Woman's Summer Dress, from the village of Gornoslav, Asenovgrad county, south-east Bulgaria, circa 1930s

All parts are loom-woven and crafted by hand. The dress belonged to Rayna Zaprianova, born 1909, who played a big role in instigating the love and passion for Bulgarian folk dances, songs and traditions of her grand-daughter Mrs. Rayna Stamatova. Courtesy of Mrs. Rayna Stamatova

6/ Woman's festive winter dress (Litak) from the village of Yardzhilovtsi, Pernik county, Sofia region, south-west Bulgaria, circa 1930

Graovski Litak is worn only at special occasions and on holidays – at Christmas, Easter and Bogorodica (Dormition). All parts are loom-woven and crafted by hand. The dress belonged to Nadka Kovacheva, born 1913. Courtesy of Mrs. Nadia Grozdanova



7/ Bride's dress from the Dobrudja region, north-eastern Bulgaria

Hand embroidered by Angelina Atanassova from Plovdiv. Courtesy of Mrs. Eli Simova



8/ Woman's wool dress from the village of Raduvene, Lovech region, north-central Bulgaria, circa early 20th century

The dress belonged to Tsona Minkova, born 1916. Her initials are hand woven on the belt. Courtesy of the Minkov's Family



9/ Woman's festive wool dress from the Stara Zagora area, Thrace region, south-east Bulgaria

Hand woven and decorated, with a hand woven linen embroidered under-dress and a silver "p a fta" (belt buckle). The dress was collected in Bulgaria by the Canadian ethnographer, Philip V. R. Tilney in the 1960s. Donated to the Ottawa Region Bulgarian Foundation by Mrs. Andrée Juneau



10/ Wedding apron with hand embroidered initials of the bride and the groom. Thrace region, south-east Bulgaria

Collected in Bulgaria by the Canadian ethnographer, Philip V. R. Tilney in the 1960s. Donated to the Ottawa Region Bulgarian Foundation by Mrs Andrée Juneau.



11/ Woman's festive wool dress from the Stara Zagora area, Thrace region, south-east Bulgaria

The authentic dress is about 100 years old and was

worn at formal occasions. The apron is embroidered by hand and the dress is hand-woven and decorated. Courtesy of Mrs. Stela Totev, who received it as a gift by her brother, Dr. Radoslav Kostov



12/ Woman's festive skirt and apron from the town of Gabrovo, north-central Bulgaria, circa early 20th century

The skirt and apron belonged to the great, great grandmother of Mr. Tihomir Totev. The skirt and apron have been kept within the family and were passed from one generation to another to the youngest girl in the family. They were part of the trousseau (cheiz), the clothes collected by a bride for her marriage. These two items were given to Ms. Maya Totev by her grandmother, Mrs. Maria Toteva. Courtesy of Mrs. Stela Totev



13/ Woman's festive dress from the village of Shiroka Luka, Western Rhodope Mountains, southern Bulgaria

This festive dress has been made for formal occasions. It comes with a matching top, which has the same intricate decorations as the dress. The dress and top were purchased in by Mrs. Stela Totev, who brought it to Canada to popularize Bulgarian folk costumes and tradition. Courtesy of Mrs. Stela Totev



14/ Woman's festive dress from the Kjustendil region, south-west Bulgaria, circa early 20th century

Courtesy of Mrs. Elsa Mileva



15/ Traditional city green dress from the Plovdiv region, circa early 20th century

Traditional city dress with long sleeves used for social events. Courtesy of Mrs. Elsa Mileva



16/ Traditional Bulgarian men and women's shoes (tsarvul)

Tsarvuls, light and easy to wear, were made from pig skin and were best suited to the rural way of life and the characteristics of the Bulgarian climate. Courtesy of Mrs. Rayna Stamatova

