

46th ESTA Conference Cremona 2019

REPORT

After such a wonderful time in Cremona, it is very pleasing to write a report about it. I am only afraid that I will omit something, because there were so many events. I got the financial help from Solidarity Fund (of course, I am very grateful for that), but I decided to share it with two of my colleagues and we went there as a team. That proved to be a really good idea, because me alone was not capable of conceiving and inhaling everything that was going on, and we tried to follow most of the activities that were “on the menu”.

First of all, it is worth noting that the setting of the Conference was a treat in itself: the beautiful city and its ancient atmosphere, the local string shops, the venues like the concert hall in Museo di Violino that took our breath away, and why not mentioning the ongoing Festa dei fiori (Festival of Flowers) along the city streets. The organization was perfect and I envy the Italians on this.

From the first minute, I sensed the warmth and empathy from the participants from other countries – I met so many dear people and exchanged contacts. I have spoken to professionals all over Europe and found out many interesting topics. That was elaborated further during the Round table: Educational System in European countries, when we had the opportunity to listen to many esteemed colleagues who described the organization of the music schools systems in their countries of origin (like Finland, Portugal, Slovenia, UK, Italy, etc.)

I, personally, was most impressed by the talk of Katharina Baker from Ireland about her music school and their endeavor at creating chamber music opportunities for very young string players. She gave us all a lot of material to think about and lot of ideas one can use. Also, talks by Louise Lansdown from Royal Birmingham Conservatoire – Project Arco (Birmingham/Soweto), Cristina Bellu from France about the need of enhancing the interpretation from very early age and Masha Lankovsky about the Russian Violin School and its probably most important figure Yuri Yankelevitch were extremely inspiring.

The demonstration of Diego Collatti on Argentinean Tango was invigorating and energetic.

We truly enjoyed the evening concerts given by Il Suonar Parlante and Nuovo Trio Italiano d'Archi, which showcased mastery and dedication of the musicians. Mr Vittorio Ghielmi, the founder of Il Suonar Parlante chamber group, gave us the next day a very comprehensible talk, yet proved himself a completely dedicated researcher in his field of expertise.

I wish to thank Mr Mark Lambrecht, Mrs Clarien Zetsma and Mr Kristian Kolman for taking the time to communicate with me and ask me a lot of questions regarding ESTA Montenegro.

Also, a big Thanks to Kristian Kolman and Slovenian delegation, who were in charge for after parties and fun.

Instead of a conclusion me and my colleagues who went to Cremona with me, but also the others who didn't attend the Conference but to whom we expressed our delight after coming back home, agreed that the next one in Porto is not to be missed.

Kind regards to everybody,

Ana Perazic

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