

Kazalo
Contents

ZGODBA DREVESNE HIŠE

The Story of the Tree House



*Mir. Spokojnost.
Tako, navznoter,
vleče slap dreves
v amfiteater tišine.*

*Mir. Spokojnost.
Tako skrivnostno prostrana
je ta pokrajina.
Prostor za vstopanje.
Prostor poslušanja.
Prostor mojega bitja.*

*Tudi srca.
Bijem in sem.
V bitju gozda.*

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The Story of the Tree House

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VIR SPROSTITVE, IZOBRAŽEVALNEGA IN USTVARJALNEGA NAVDIHA

10 let Drevesne hiše v Celju



Prva »desetletka« Drevesne hiše in njen okrogel jubilej prinašata veliko razlogov za zadovoljstvo. Drevesna hiša se je uveljavila kot velika pridobitev za mesto in nanjo smo lahko upravičeno ponosni.

Matija Kovač, župan Mestne občine Celje

S svojo edinstveno arhitekturo in videzom, v celoti narejena iz lesa domačega gozda, je v minulih letih z zanimivimi vsebinami in dogajanjem privabila na ogled na tisoče obiskovalcev. Za prebivalce Celja je postala ena od oblik preživljanja prostega časa in rekreacije v mestnem gozdu, za obiskovalce od drugod pa mikavna oblika izleta ob koncu tedna. Prav tako je že stalnica na izobraževalnih dogodkih, ekskurzijah vrtcev, šol in drugih ustanov. Na ogled privablja strokovnjake gozdarske in lesarske stroke iz domačega in mednarodnega okolja, ki se želijo seznaniti s tem edinstvenim objektom in z izkušnjo z njim.

Razvila se je v prvovrstno turistično zanimivost, ki je ob ogledu našega mesta skorajda ni mogoče prezreti. Je vir umetniškega navdiha, saj gosti zanimive glasbene dogodke, kot so na primer Prisluhi v mestnem gozdu s koncerti klasične glasbe.

Verjamemo, da bo Drevesna hiša tudi v prihodnje uspešno uresničevala svoje poslanstvo, ga nadgrajevala ter bogatila z novimi zanimivimi vsebinami in pestrim dogajanjem.

Ob čestitkah za jubilej gre zahvala celjski enoti Zavoda za gozdove Slovenije in upravljavcu Zavodu Celeia Celje za zgledno vzdrževanje objekta in pripravo programov ter vsem, ki sooblikujejo vsebine v Drevesni hiši.

Δ SOURCE OF
RELAXATION, AND
OF EDUCATIONAL
AND CREATIVE
INSPIRATION

*The Celje Tree House
celebrates its tenth birthday*

/ Matija Kovač,
Mayor of Celje

The Tree House is celebrating its first decade, a nice round number that gives us many a reason to feel happy, since it has proven itself to be a fine asset to the city, a city feature we can justifiably take pride in.

Made entirely of wood from local forests, with unique architecture and a unique appearance, as well as fascinating features, the Tree House has attracted tens of thousands of visitors these past years. For the residents of Celje, the Tree House has become a place where we can enjoy our free time and partake in sports and recreation in the City Forest. For visitors from beyond Celje, the Tree House makes for an attractive weekend excursion. The Tree House has also become a tried-and-true destination for educational events, for field trips for kindergartens, schools, and other institutions. It attracts forestry and woodworking experts from Slovenia and abroad who want to learn about and experience this unique building.



The Tree House has evolved into a first-rate tourist attraction, one that is virtually unmissable for those visiting our city. A source of artistic inspiration, the Tree House has played host to such fascinating musical events as “Prisluhi v mestnem gozdu” (Listening in the City Forest) with its classical music concerts.

We are confident that also in future the Tree House will continue to successfully carry out its mission, building upon and enriching that mission through new, interesting features and various events.

In commemorating this anniversary, we would also like to thank the local Celje unit of the Slovenian Forest Service and the managing Celeia Celje Institute for their commendable maintaining of the structure and for carrying out programmes, as well as all those who have participated in the shaping of the various Tree House features.

ZGODBA O DREVESNI HIŠI JE ZGODBA O MESTNEM GOZDU CELJE



/ **mag. Robert Hostnik,**
gozdar in pobudnik Drevesne hiše

Gozdovi na robu Celja so prvokrat pritegnili mojo pozornost še kot študentu gozdarstva. Ko sem jih začel podrobneje raziskovati, sem bil presenečen nad njihovo nedostopnostjo in slabo prehodnostjo, čeprav so v neposredni bližini mesta. Kljub dolgoletnemu industrijskemu onesnaževanju pa so bili dokaj ohranjeni in biotsko zelo pestri. Redke gozdne poti so bile večinoma zaraščene, gozdove je obiskovalo le malo ljudi. Poznali jih niso niti stari Celjani.

Sodobne vloge gozdov

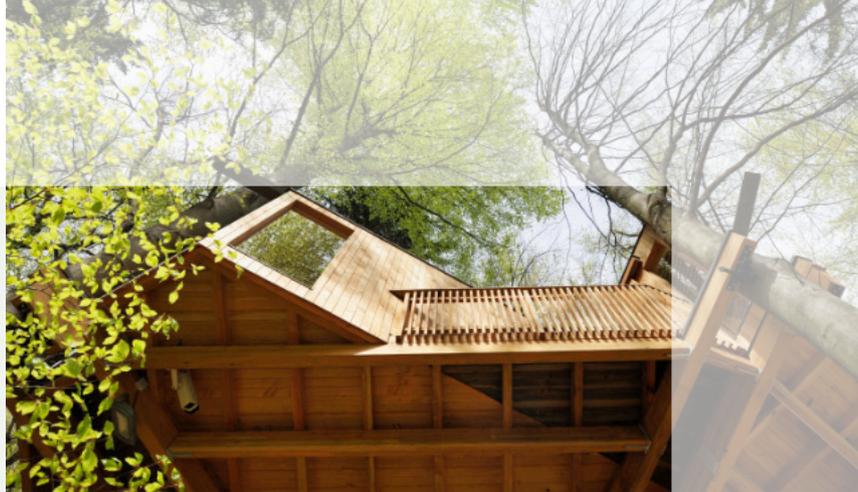
Ti gozdovi pa so predstavljali odličen potencial za mesto in njegove prebivalce. Leta 1993 sem v svoji prvi gozdarski službi dobil podporo za predlog razvoja socialnih funkcij celjskih »mestnih« gozdov. Urbano gozdarstvo je takrat v Evropi začelo dobivati zagon in celjski gozdarji smo hitro zaplavali s tokom sodobnih pogledov na vloge gozdov. Ko smo k sodelovanju uspeli pritegniti še občino, je sledil razvoj, ki si ga takrat nismo mogli predstavljati.

Mestnogozdni preobrat

V na novo ustanovljenem Zavoda za gozdove Slovenije sem leta 1996 pripravil prve strokovne osnove za razvoj mestnih gozdov, na njihovi osnovi pa predlog odloka o zavarovanju gozdov v okolici mesta. Odlok, ki ga je občinski svet s konsenzom sprejel naslednje leto, je bil prvi tovrstni v Sloveniji. V naslednjem desetletju je občina na naš predlog začela odkupovati zasebne gozdove na območju Anskega vrha in Miklavškega hriba, sočasno pa smo začeli razvijati in graditi nove gozdne poti. Do leta 2008 je bila odkupljena večina zasebnih gozdov. Nastalo je zaokroženo, dobrih 100 hektarov veliko območje javnih gozdov na robu mesta, današnji Mestni gozd, ki jih je prepredalo 15 kilometrov dolgo omrežje opremljenih sprehajalnih in večnamenskih poti. Celje je postalo širše znano po inovativnem razvijanju svojih gozdov in skrbi zanje, Mestni gozd pa vedno bolj priljubljen med Celjani.







Preblisk za postavitve hišice na drevesu

Obiskovalcem Mestnega gozda smo želeli ponuditi še več možnosti za doživljanje naravnega okolja in rekreacijo v njem ter jim povedati kaj več o gozdu, ki ga obiskujejo. Jasnila se mi je pobuda, da Mestni gozd potrebuje nekakšno izobraževalno in informacijsko središče. Ideja, da bi takšen objekt lahko bil »hišica na drevesu«, arhetip izvirnega otroškega hrepenenja in stika z naravo, je bila prisotna že od leta 2004. Takrat sem iskal vsebino za logotip Mestnega gozda Celje, ki bi krepil njegovo prepoznavnost. Preblisk, da bi to lahko bila hiša na drevesu, se je pojavil povsem spontano. Hiša kot simbol mesta in drevo, kot simbol gozda. Drevo varuje hišo s krošnjjo, z deblom pa jo podpira. Ta simbol je kasneje dobil tudi grafično podobo v obliki logotipa, ki ga je oblikoval Iztok Skok. Uporabljamo ga od leta 2005. Seveda pa se takrat nisem zavedal, da se bo čez dobro desetletje simbol mestnega gozda manifestiral tudi fizično.

Novo središče gozda

Navdušujoča ideja o »drevesni hišici«, ki bi lahko (in kasneje tudi je) postala izjemna prepoznavnost Mestnega gozda Celje, njegov »landmark«, me je močno spodbudila, da sem zasnoval prvi projektni predlog, imenovan

Foresity. S sodelavkami na MOC smo ga dodelali in se z njim od leta 2008 potegovali za sredstva na različnih evropskih razpisih. Uspelo nam je konec leta 2013 s projektom *Gozdovi za mesta - Green4Grey*. Za projekt Drevesne hiše, otroškega gozdnega igrišča in novih tematskih poti v Mestnem gozdu je Evropska unija prispevala 85 % sredstev, država jih je primaknila 10, občina pa manjkajočih 5.

Prostor za Drevesno hišo

Načrtovanje in sodelovanje z arhitekti je potekalo skoraj vse leto 2014. Za Drevesno hišo sem s pomočjo kolegov dolgo iskal primeren prostor. Moral je biti v središču Mestnega gozda ob obstoječih sprehajalnih poteh in zavarovan pred vetrovi, nosilna drevesa pa pravih vrst, zdrava, primerno stara ter ustrezno razporejena. Za gradnjo smo želeli les lokalnega izvora iz Mestnega gozda. Odločili smo se za odporen les duglazije, drevesne vrste, ki je posebnost Mestnega gozda v Pečovniku. Posek skrbno izbranih dreves je bil izveden konec januarja 2015 na pravi zimski dan s sneženjem. Les se je potem naravno sušil naslednjih nekaj mesecev. Ko smo dobili še izkušene lokalne tesarje, mizarje in krovcje, se je maja leta 2015 gradnja lahko začela. Drevesno hišo smo slovesno odprli 19. septembra 2015.

THE STORY OF THE TREE HOUSE IS THE STORY OF CELJE'S CITY FOREST

/ **Robert Hostnik, MSc,**
forester and initiator of the Tree House

The wooded areas on the edge of Celje first caught my eye when I was still a student of forestry. On exploring them more closely, I was surprised by how inaccessible and hard to traverse these forests were, even though they are in the immediate vicinity of the city. However, despite having been exposed to many years of industrial pollution, the forests were relatively well preserved and very biodiverse.

The sporadic forest paths through the trees were mostly overgrown, and few people walked those paths. They were unfamiliar even to the older residents of Celje.

The modern role of forests

But these forests presented excellent potential for the city and its residents. In 1993, in my first forestry job, I received support for creating a proposal to develop Celje's "urban" forests. Back then, urban forestry was just beginning to gain momentum in Europe, and we Celje foresters were quick to embrace the contemporary changes in how the roles of forests are viewed. When we managed to get the municipality to cooperate, developments that we could not have imagined followed.

A turning point in urban forestry

In 1996, within the framework of the newly founded Slovenian Forest Service, I prepared the first professional guidelines for the development of urban forests and used them as the foundation for a proposed directive for the protection of forests in the vicinity of the city. The directive, which was consensus by the consensus the Municipal Council the following year, was the first of its kind in Slovenia. Over the next decade, following our proposals, the municipality began to purchase privately owned forests in the Anški vrh and Miklavški hrib areas of Celje. We, in the meantime, had begun planning and making new forest paths. By 2008, most of the private forests near Celje had been purchased. The result was today's City Forest, a connected area of public forests on the edge of the city that covers over 100 hectares and is criss-crossed by a 15-kilometre network of equipped hiking and multi-purpose trails. Celje has become widely known for its innovative development of and care for its forests, and the popularity of the Celje City Forest continues to grow among the people of Celje.

The Tree House idea is born

We wanted to offer visitors to the City Forest even more opportunities for experiencing and for engaging in recreation in a natural environment; we also wanted to tell them more about the forest they were visiting. What the City Forest needed, I realized, was some sort of education and information centre. The idea that this could take the form of a tree house, that archetype of a child's longing for contact with nature, had been percolating since 2004. I had been looking for an image for the Celje City Forest logo that would make it immediately recognizable. The thought that the logo could contain a tree house came to me spontaneously, out of the blue – the house symbolizes the city, while the tree symbolizes the forest. The tree's canopy shelters the house and its trunk supports the house. This symbol later received a graphic image in the form of the logo, designed by Iztok Skok. It has been in use since 2005. At the time, however, I didn't realize that in just over a decade, the symbol of the City Forest would also manifest itself physically.

A new forest centre

The exciting idea of a tree house that might (and later did) become a landmark par excellence of the Celje City Forest convinced me to design the first project proposal: Foresity. We worked on the idea with our colleagues at the municipality and,

starting in 2008, applied for funding through various European calls for proposals. We succeeded at the end of 2013 with the project Forests for Cities – Green4Grey. The European Union contributed 85% of the funding for the Tree House, Children's Forest Playground, and New Themed Trails in the City Forest project, while the Republic of Slovenia contributed 10%, and the Municipality of Celje contributed the remaining 5%.

Where to put it?

The architectural planning and revising took almost all of 2014. My helpful colleagues and I spent ages looking for the right location for the Tree House. It had to be in the centre of the City Forest, near existing walking trails, sheltered from the wind, and with trees to support it that were of the right species, healthy, of the right age, and that were in the right position for keeping the Tree House aloft. Because we wanted to use local wood from the City Forest to build the Tree House, we chose the durable Douglas fir, a tree species that is only present in the City Forest in Pečovnik.. We cut down the carefully selected trees at the end of January 2015. It was a typical snowy winter's day. The wood was then left to dry naturally over the next few months. After having sought out experienced local carpenters, joiners, and roofers, we could begin building, in May 2015. September 19, 2015, saw the official opening of the Tree House.

ARHITEKTURA DREVESNE HIŠE: MED NARAVO IN ČLOVEKOM, KONCEPTOM IN SIMBOLOM, IDEJO IN REALIZACIJO

/ Aleksander S. Ostan,
arhitekt in odgovorni projektant

Pred več kot desetimi leti nismo natančno vedeli, v kaj vstopamo, ko so nas z Mestne občine Celje in Zavoda za gozdove Slovenije povabili k udeležbi pri natečaju na temo hišice na drevesu v Celjskem mestnem gozdu. Kljub neoptimalnim časovnim in finančnim pogojem je pretehtal argument, da moram/-mo to storiti za "svojo dušo", hkrati pa tudi za Celje, njegove prebivalce vseh starosti, Celjski mestni gozd in njegove vestne čuvaje gozdarje, ne nazadnje pa tudi za naš planet, za demonstracijo principov vzdržne, sonaravne gradnje. Bili smo izbrani med petimi projektanti.

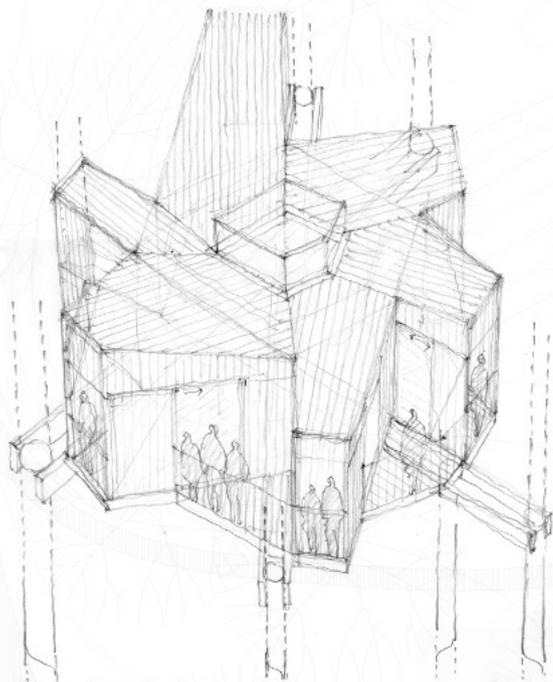
Intenziven proces snovanja se je tako pričel: hišico, ki meri 60 kvadratnih metrov, smo umestili na presečišče gozdnih poti, konstrukcijo na višini šestih metrov vpeli med šest obstoječih dreves in tam s sproščeno heksagonalno geometrijo vzpostavili osnovno ploščad. Nanjo smo položili še razigrano kompozicijo šestih volumnov oz. "prstov", med katerimi so terase, ki iz osrednjega prostora segajo proti gozdu. V slednjem se kot na vertikalni osi sveta ("axis mundi") srečata praprincipa kreacije – sonce in zemlja: skozi »kupolo« vstopa svetloba, ki sega do kamnitega

praga hiše. Ta arhetipska podoba nas s svojo poetiko oblik nagovarja kot univerzalni simbol, tesno povezan z naravo na eni in pomeni iz slovenske ter splošne zgodovine človeštva na drugi strani.

Pred hiško smo oblikovali zunanji prireditveni prostor z amfiteatrom in odrom, ob dostopni cesti pa še zanimivo arhitekturo za sanitarije. Večina objektov je iz lesa duglazije, pridobljene v Mestnem gozdu.

Arhitektura Drevesne hiše v Mestnem gozdu Celje je prejela mnogo domačih in tujih strokovnih priznanj, tudi evropsko za izjemno stavbo kot simbiozo izvirne arhitekturne zasnove in nizkega ogljičnega odtisa.

Brez gozdarjev Roberta Hostnika in Boštjana Hrena, ki sta aktivno sodelovala pri projektu, Polone Barič in Alje Založnik z MOC, ki sta vestno bdela nad postopki, kakovostnih statikov iz CBD ter pogumnih izvajalcev družine Mraz pa hišica ne bi bila to, kar je danes. Lahko smo veseli in ponosni, da so jo Celjanke in Celjani lepo sprejeli ter da se po desetih letih še tako dobro drži.









THE ARCHITECTURE OF THE TREE HOUSE: BETWEEN NATURE AND MAN, CONCEPT AND SYMBOL, IDEA AND REALIZATION

/ **Aleksander S. Ostan,**
architect and project lead

Who would have imagined, over ten years ago, just what we were getting ourselves into when the Municipality of Celje and the Slovenian Forest Service invited us to enter a competition on the theme of a tree house in the Celje City Forest. Despite the tight timeline and financial conditions, the prevailing argument was that we had to do this for “our soul,” as well as for Celje, for its residents young and old, for the Celje City Forest and its diligent guardians – the foresters – and, last but not least, for our planet; we had to demonstrate the principles of sustainable, nature-friendly construction. Of the five design proposals submitted, it was our conceptual drawing that was ultimately selected.

... and the intensive design process was underway: we placed the 60 m² house at the intersection of forest paths, anchored the structure, at a height of six metres, between six existing trees, fixing a basic platform that was roughly the shape of a hexagon. On top of this, we placed a playful composition of six volumes or “fingers” (between which are terraces) that extend into the forest from the central space. There, as on the vertical axis of the world (“axis mundi”), the primordial principles of Creation (that is, the sun and the earth) meet. Light enters through the “dome” and extends right down to the Tree House’s stone threshold. This archetypal shape with its poetics of forms speaks to us as a universal symbol that is closely linked to nature

on the one hand and, on the other, with ideas from Slovenian and the general history of humanity.

In front of the Tree House, we designed an outdoor event area with an amphitheatre and stage. The road leading to the Tree House, meanwhile, has an architecturally interesting outdoor toilet. Most of the structures are made of Douglas fir wood sourced from the City Forest itself!

The Tree House in the Celje City Forest has received many Slovenian and international awards for its architecture, including a European award for being an exceptional building that is a symbiosis of original architectural design and that has a low carbon footprint!

But without the foresters Robert Hostnik and Boštjan Hren, who actively participated in the project, without Polona Barič and Alja Založnik from the Municipality of Celje, who capably oversaw the project, without the fine structural engineers from Contemporary Building Design (CBD), and without the courageous contractors from the Mraz family, the Tree House would not be what it is today! We can all be happy and proud that it has been so well received by the people of Celje and visitors alike, and that it continues to stand strong after ten years!

DREVESNA HIŠA KOT UČILNICA NA PROSTEM

/ **Boštjan Hren,**
revirni gozdar, gozdni pedagog

Drevesna hiša je kot smaragd Mestnega gozda postala središče največje javne zelene površine Celja. Z gozdnim igriščem Tretja jasa skupaj vabita otroke, mladino in druge obiskovalce v gozd po doživetja in nova spoznanja.

V času, ko nam digitalno in virtualno ponujata neslutene možnosti, pa nam gozd ponuja svojo enciklopedijo in možnost uporabe tistega, kar je elementarno: da (ob)čutimo, se igramo in raziskujemo. Mestni gozd Celje z Drevesno hišo predstavlja čudovito možnost drugačnega podajanja učne snovi in pridobivanja znanja. Je dodana vrednost v vzgojno-izobraževalnem procesu otrok in mladine.

Gozdarji Zavoda za gozdove Slovenije z metodami bogatega čutno-doživljajskega učenja posredujemo znanje o pomenu gozda in gozdnega ekosistema. Po načelih gozdne pedagogike, ki temelji na dejavnostih v gozdu smo s celjskimi vrtci, osnovnimi in srednjimi šolami razvili izobraževalne programe, kot so Razigrani gozd, V gozd po modrost ter Ekologija Mestnega gozda.

Ti programi predstavljajo odlično možnost za vzgojo in izobraževanje otrok ter ozaveščanje prebivalcev mesta o delovanju in ohranjanju naravnih ekosistemov.

“Prihodnost je svetla in zelena.”

Drevesna hiša v Mestnem gozdu Celje je pravzor, ki pušča sled v otroški domišljiji. Zaradi svoje bližine je za vrtce in šole še posebno primerna kot **“učilnica na prostem”**, ki širi obzorja ter védenje o poznavanju in razumevanju gozdov, njegovih zakonitostih, okolju ter skupnosti, v kateri živimo.

Nekega dne bodo danes še mladi obiskovalci Mestnega gozda Celje naši javnomnenjski voditelji ter odločevalci, ki bodo na podlagi znanja in izkušenj, pridobljenih v avtentičnem okolju, lahko vodili bolj skladno z naravo, kar pomeni prijazno človeku. Njihove odločitve bodo lahko izhajale iz prijetnih izkušenj, pridobljenih med njihovim odraščanjem in zasidranih v njihovem spominu.

Draga Drevesna hiša, hvala, ker kljubuješ vsem vremenskim razmeram, nam daješ zavetje vsak trenutek, neodvisno od letnega časa in temperature, predvsem pa hvala, ker si naša učilnica med krošnjami v našem Mestnem gozdu. Z željo po trdnem in vitalnem zdravju, izjemnih človeških in živalskih obiskovalcih ti kličemo na srečno, svetlo in zeleno prihodnost. Vse najboljše!



THE TREE HOUSE AS AN OUTDOOR CLASSROOM

/ **Boštjan Hren,**
district forester, forest educator

The Tree House, a veritable emerald in the City Forest, has become the focal point of Celje's largest public green space. Together with the forest playground at "Tretja jasa," the Tree House invites children, young people, and other visitors to the forest for new experiences and new discoveries.

In these times when the digital and the virtual offer unfathomable possibilities, the forest offers us its own type of encyclopedia and the possibility to come together with what is elemental: touching, feeling, playing, and exploring. The City Forest, with its Tree House, serves as a great alternative to the type of learning that takes place within the confines of classrooms, lecture halls, and school benches. It offers a magnificent supplement to the educational process of children and other young people.

Through sense-based experiential teaching methods, the Slovenian Forest Service's foresters impart knowledge about the importance of forests and forest ecosystems. Forest pedagogy is founded on activities that play out in the forest, and we have developed educational programmes such as Razigrani gozd (Playful Forest), V gozd po modrost (Wisdom in the Forest), and Ekologija Mestnega gozda (The Ecology of the City Forest) in collaboration with kindergartens, primary schools, and high schools in Celje.

"The future is bright and green"

These programmes are a superb way of teaching children and helping other residents of Celje realize how natural ecosystems function as well as how to preserve such ecosystems.

The Tree House in our Celje City Forest is an emblem that leaves traces within children's imaginations. Because it is so close to many local kindergartens and schools, the Tree House is particularly suitable as an **"outdoor classroom"** that broadens horizons and disseminates knowledge about understanding forests, their laws, the environment, and the community in which we live.

Someday these children and young people who have enjoyed the opportunity to uncover the secrets of the forest will become opinion-shapers (influencers, if you will) as well as decision-makers who will lead us with the knowledge and experience of something that inspired them to choose a profession, a mission – or perhaps the Tree House and its environs will simply remain deeply embedded in their memory as a pleasant place where they fell in love with the forest.

Dear Tree House, thank you for braving all weather conditions, for giving us shelter no matter the season, no matter the temperature, and, above all, thank you for being our classroom among the treetops in the Celje City Forest. We wish you robust and hearty health, and hearty health, exceptional human and animal visitors, and a happy, bright, and green future. Happy birthday!

PRISLUHI V MESTNEM GOZDU

/ **Luka Mlejnik Železnik,** glasbenik in umetniški vodja festivala

Kadar stopimo v gozd, se naši čuti na novo prebudijo. Zvoki, oblike, barve in vonji gozda nas preplavijo in izpolnijo naš notranji svet z vtisi in v nas nastane tišina – nov prostor brez misli, kakršnega potrebujemo za poglobljeno doživljanje umetnosti.

Festival Prisluhi v Mestnem gozdu je zgodba o tem prostoru, skupnosti in umetnosti, ki je začela rasti skupaj z zasnovo Drevesne hiše. Že v času projektiranja tega edinstvenega arhitekturnega objekta, umeščena v osrčje Mestnega gozda Celje, sem začutil, da prostor kliče po soustvarjanju – po koncertnem ciklu, ki bi glasbo ponesel v naravno okolje in poslušalcem ponudil drugačno, bolj poglobljeno izkušnjo.

V organizaciji zavoda Inštitut E-Art je tako že junija 2017 zaživela prva sezona festivala. Od takrat se je v devetih zaporednih sezonah oblikovala prepoznavna umetniška pripoved, ki vsako leto vabi vrhunske izvajalce in radovedne poslušalce k srečevanju z glasbo — v objemu dreves, ptičjega petja in spokojnosti gozdnega prostora.



Vsak koncert na odru pod Drevesno hišo je več kot le glasbeni dogodek. Je celostna izkušnja, v kateri zvok odmeva drugače – še bolj živo, še bolj prisotno. V prepletu umetnosti in narave nastaja posebna bližina med izvajalci, občinstvom in prostorom – tihi dialog, ki pušča sledove.

V zadnjih dveh sezonah dogodke dopolnjujemo s spremljevalnim programom, ki obiskovalcem ponuja dodatno izkušnjo prostora. V sodelovanju z društvom Mestni gozd pred posameznimi koncerti pripravljamo tematske sprehode, namenjene vsem generacijam. Skozi premišljeno vodeno raziskovanje okolja spodbujajo čuječnost, opazovanje in zavedanje zvoka — tistih tišjih plasti izkustva, ki pogosto ostanejo prezrte.

Festival Prisluhi v Mestnem gozdu ostaja prostor srečanja, kjer se umetnost in narava ponovno zlijeta v celoto, ki nas prebuja in navdihuje na povsem nov, svež način.



LISTENING IN THE CITY FOREST – THE “PRISLUHI” FESTIVAL

/ Luka Mlejnik Železnik,
musician and artistic director of the festival

Whenever we step into the woods, our senses spring to life. The sounds, shapes, colours, and scents of the forest engulf us, filling our inner world with impressions – a silence arises within us, creating that new space free of thoughts we need to experience art more deeply.

The “Prisluhi” Festival in the City Forest is a story about this space, about the community and art that grew together along with the Tree House’s genesis. Already back when this unique architectural wonder in the heart of the Celje City Forest was being designed, I sensed that the space was calling out for fellow creation – for a concert series that would bring music into the natural surroundings, offering listeners a different, more profound musical experience.

The Tree House was opened in fall of 2015 in June 2017, the E-Art Institute had already given birth to the festival’s first season. Since then, nine seasons in a row have developed into a unique artistic narrative, enticing leading performers and curious listeners to engage with music every year – under the treetops, surrounded by birdsong, and within the tranquillity of the forest.

Each concert on the stage under the Tree House is more than a musical event. It is an all-pervasive experience in which sound resonates in a different way – here, sound becomes even more vibrant, even more present. This intertwining of art and nature engenders an exceptional closeness between the performers, the audience, and the space, a silent dialogue that leaves an imprint.

Over the past two seasons we have included an accompanying programme that offers visitors an additional experience of the space. Working with the City Forest association, we precede concerts with themed walks intended for all generations. These reflective, guided explorations of the area around the Tree House encourage mindfulness, observing, and an awareness of sound – of those quieter layers of experience that often go unnoticed.

The “Prisluhi” Festival endures as a place for coming together, where art and nature merge into a single entity that, in a completely new and fresh manner, awakens and inspires us.

OBISKOVALCI IN PROGRAMI

/ **Urša Dorn in Tina Huremovič,** Zavod Celeia Celje

Drevesna hiša Celje že desetletje trdno stoji na temeljih lesa iz Mestnega gozda, iz iste narave, ki obiskovalcem od blizu in daleč odpira prostor za pristna srečevanja, spokojno sprostitev in doživetja v objemu krošenj mogočnih dreves. Hiša, ki se dotika drevesnih krošenj, predstavlja točko stika – med rastlinstvom in živalstvom Mestnega gozda in starim mestnim jedrom, med naravo in družbo, med domačini in turisti od drugod. Stik se iz leta v leto utrjuje in postaja močnejši, zato so tudi vrata, ki odpirajo pot po stopnicah v hišo, odprta vse pogosteje, natančneje od srede do nedelje in ob praznikih.

Od leta 2018, ko je prevzel Drevesno hišo v upravljanje Zavod CELEIA Celje, je to celjsko turistično znamenitost obiskalo dobrih 25.000 obiskovalcev, v povprečju okrog 3.000 na sezono. Odrasle, teh je 65 %, in otroke (35 %), poleg izjemne arhitekture in trajnostne zgodbe, privlačijo tudi unikatni dogodki in edinstvena doživetja. V desetih letih se jih je od aprila do konca oktobra zvrstilo okrog 130. Zakonitosti narave ni mogoče spoznavati le v knjigah gozdne knjižnice Knjižni brlog (op. delujoče od leta 2024), ampak v zadnjih letih tudi preko interaktivnih razstav (2023: 4 elementi narave, 2024: Narava najboljša učiteljica in 2025: Podnebje – naš skupni izziv) in v izkustvenih

programih Šole preživetja v naravi, ob izdelovanju terarija in odkrivanju zvokov narave. Svojevrstna doživetja so glasbeni koncerti pod krošnjami dreves, razstave in predstave za vse generacije ter umetniške delavnice. Drevesna hiša je tudi prostor sprostitve in umika vase – ob jogi, meditaciji na prostem, ritualu čuječnosti, zvočni kopeli ob zvokih gongov in tibetanskih posod ter kraj za kulinarična doživetja, obarvana z »divjimi«, a obenem »domačimi« okusi.

Ni redko, da gozd in Drevesna hiša za nekaj ur postaneta igralnica ali učilnica na prostem za vrtčevske in šolske skupine. Sprehod z lovцем, športni dan s kančkom naravoslovja, individualne in skupinske delavnice ter gozdne dogodivščine so za otroke in mlade posebna izkušnja, ki prinaša drugačno črpanje znanja, obenem pa krepi njihovo zavest o pomenu doživljanja in ohranjanja naravnega ekosistema. Največja drevesna hiša v Sloveniji je iz leta v leto večji hit, predvsem med družinami. Je vedno bolj prepoznaven del identitete Celja in dokaz, da je pomemben tvorni element življenjskega prostora Celjank in Celjanov ter zgled, kako trajnostno povezovanje narave, kulture in ljudi bogati življenja domačinov, obenem pa ustvarja edinstvena doživetja za obiskovalce od blizu in daleč.

VISITORS AND PROGRAMMES

/ **Urša Dorn in Tina Huremovič,** CELEIA Celje Institute

Already for a decade now, the Celje Tree House has perched firmly on foundations made from wood from the City Forest, so it is made from the very same nature that offers visitors from Celje and beyond a space for hearty socializing, peaceful relaxation, and for experiencing things in the shade of lofty trees. Nestled among the treetops, the Tree House is a point of contact – between the flora and fauna of the City Forest and the old city centre, between nature and society, between Celje locals and tourists. This connection is growing stronger by the year, which is why the door to the Tree House is more frequently open, and its stairs can now be climbed from Wednesday through Sunday as well as on public holidays.

Since 2018, when the Celeia Celje Institute took over the management of the Celje Tree House, this local tourist attraction has been visited by an average of around 3000 people per year, for a total of over 25,000. Adults (65%) and children (35%) are drawn not only to the Tree House's outstanding architecture and to its story of sustainability but also by unique events and inimitable experiences. Over ten years, the months between April and October have seen some 130 events.

At the Tree House, visitors can learn nature's laws through books in the forest library Knjižni brlog, or reading den, and, in recent years, through interactive exhibitions (2023: 4 Elements of Nature, 2024: Nature: The Best Teacher; and 2025: Climate: Our Common Challenge) and experiential programmes offered by the School of Survival in Nature, making a terrarium, and discovering the sounds of nature. Unique experiences include concerts under the leafy canopy, exhibitions and performances for all generations, and art workshops. The Tree House is, further, a place for relaxation and retreat – including yoga, outdoor meditation, mindfulness rituals, sound baths with gongs and Tibetan bowls, and a place to enjoy culinary experiences with food that is both wild and local.

The forest and Tree House often serve as an outdoor playground or classroom for kindergarten and school groups for a few hours. A walk with a hunter, a sports day that includes a pinch of science, individual and group workshops, and forest adventures make for a special experience for children and other young people, one that gives them an alternative way of learning while fostering their awareness of how important it is to experience and preserve the natural ecosystem.

POGLEDI NAPREJ

/ **mag. Robert Hostnik**

Mestni gozd Celje ima na osnovi inovativnega razvoja v preteklih treh desetletjih mednarodni ugled dobre prakse upravljanja, hkrati pa predstavlja velik potencial, da z nadgradnjo novih vsebin z mnogimi delavnicami in dogodki v gozdu, unikatnim pristopom prezentacije in interpretacije gozda ter narave postane še bolj prepoznano mesto obiska tako na lokalni kot tudi nacionalni in mednarodni ravni.

Mestna občina Celje pridobiva z Drevesno hišo in Mestnim gozdom novo prepoznavnost, saj poleg izjemne kulturne dediščine izpostavlja tudi njeno bogato zgodovino uspešnega upravljanja z naravnimi vrednotami, ki postajajo trend tako v zavesti in potrebah ljudi kot tudi v širšem kontekstu smernic Evropskega zelenega dogovora.

Vizija

Drevesna hiša v Mestnem gozdu Celje je mednarodno prepoznana in priznana interpretacijski center ter zgled nove in inovativne prakse upravljanja. Je mesto druženja, izobraževanja, kulture in ozaveščanja o trajnostnem razvoju ter pomenu naravnih ekosistemov. Je ena od posebnosti Mestne občine Celje, ki poudarja njeno naravnost k zelenemu razvoju mesta.

Cilji

- polno izkoristiti potencial Drevesne hiše;
- ustvariti unikatno prepoznavnost **Drevesne hiše kot sodobnega interpretacijskega centra dreves in gozda**;
- nadgradnja v centralno vstopno točko v Mestni gozd Celje, kjer obiskovalec dobi vse informacije in se lahko prijavi na dogodke;
- izobraziti in oblikovati stalno ekipo interpretatorjev;
- razviti in ponuditi dodatne programe/delavnice/dogodke za različne ciljne skupine s poudarkom na izobraževanju in umetniških pristopih;
- krepitev povezovanja in sodelovanja z različnimi deležniki;
- podaljševanje odpiralnega časa;
- krepiti vlogo Drevesne hiše in gozdne pedagogike pri rednem delu vrtcev in šol v Celju in državi;
- krepiti in osmisliti vlogo Mestnega gozda kot prostora s številnimi pozitivnimi učinki za javno zdravje;
- vsebinsko povezovanje s pristojnimi institucijami in razvijanje ustreznih programov gozdne terapije.



Foto / Photo: Aleksander Ostan

LOOKING AHEAD

/ **Robert Hostnik, MsC**

The Celje City Forest's capable management practice over the past three decades has earned itself an international reputation. At the same time, it still has great potential for becoming a distinctive destination locally, nationally, and internationally, namely, by providing new events, including various workshops and other happenings in the forest, as well as by ensuring a unique approach to the presentation and interpretation of the forest and nature.

The Tree House and the City Forest are making sure that Celje is being made recognizable in a new way, since they accentuate not only the city's exceptional cultural heritage but also its rich history of managing natural assets – a trend a trend reflecting both people's awareness and needs as well as the broader context of the European Green Deal guidelines.

Vision

The Tree House in the Celje City Forest is an internationally recognized and lauded interpretation centre as well as a fine example of new, innovative management practices. It is a place for socializing, educating, for culture and raising awareness about sustainable development and the importance of natural ecosystems. A unique achievement of the Municipality of Celje, the Tree House emphasizes a step towards green urban development.

Aims

- to make full use of the Tree House's potential;
- to create a unique identity for the **Tree House as a modern interpretation centre about trees and forests;**
- to spruce up the Tree House and make it a primary point of entry into the Celje City Forest, where visitors have access to all necessary information where they can sign up for events;
- to educate and form a permanent team of interpreters;
- to develop and offer additional programmes/workshops/events for different target groups, emphasizing education and artistic approaches;
- to strengthen networks and cooperation with various stakeholders;
- to have longer opening hours;
- to strengthen the role played by the Tree House and forest pedagogy within kindergarten and school curricula in Celje and throughout Slovenia;
- to strengthen and give meaning to the role of the City Forest as a space with numerous positive effects on public health;
- meaningfully connect with the relevant institutions and develop appropriate forest therapy programmes.

