

## **„Erasmus+“ – Slovenia, Ljubljana 2016**

We set off on our journey from platform 9 at 11:30am on 17 September. At that time we still did not know much about what awaited us. The train we were travelling on was not the newest one, but we knew we would transfer to another train once we get to Belgrade and were convinced that the couchette waiting for us was one of those shiny new European-style ones. Well, it was neither any newer, nor was it any cleaner, nor European... The Serbian railways though were kind enough to gift us with “bubici”: something like bed bugs, which we are especially grateful for because now we have another great story to tell. At the end we arrived safely.

We fell in love with Ljubljana at first sight: beautiful torches and fences of wrought iron, fountains, antiquarian book stores, small cafes near the river. During the day the town looked cosy and romantic. At night it was festive and magical.

Our motivation to take part in this project was the will to meet a different culture and atmosphere, the thirst to get to know something new.

The stop-motion animation workshop started on Monday, 19 September. During four days each of us had to work in a pair with a Slovenian. Each partner had to draw a flipbook to present the other partner in the pair. The last day we split into groups and took pictures of ourselves moving around the streets of Ljubljana. Our mentors were very responsive, helpful and friendly. We got acquainted with the basics of this kind of animation and learned that even a one-minute film takes a lot of effort and requires a good crew.

The next workshop in the program was the T-shirt design one. Our job was to create our own image for screen printing, which we stamped later on the T-shirts we had coloured using the “Tie-dye” technique. Despite being short, the workshop was really amusing. The results were interesting and original. We learned the basics of screen printing and “Tie-dye”.

The one-day trip to Prekmurje was next. The bus ride allowed us to enjoy the beautiful sights of Slovenia. The pottery workshop took place at a local school. The person in charge was an ancestral potter. He showed us a more than 100-year old technique passed from generation to generation. We rounded off the day with a barbeque.

The final workshop was the porcelain one. It was held in a young artistic couple’s studio. Although small the studio was very well equipped. We decorated already molded cups. After that we spent the few remaining hours to our voyage home on preparing our luggage and buying souvenirs. At 9:00pm we set off for home charged with positive emotions and thousands of ideas.

Despite the inconvenience of the long journey the friendships we made, the experience we gathered from all the workshops and the inspiration from all the sights we visited left a beautiful memory.

### **Prepared:**

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