

Anyák Napjára

Palócz Endre

Tavaszi zeng a friss májusi szél,
és vígan zöldül erdő, rét, berek.
Új életre támad minden ami él,
s nyárban remélnék már az emberek.

Boldog a vén Föld. A május kacag.
Szellő űzi a fűrgé felleget,
s tavasztól bomlott öreg fák alatt,
nyiladoznak a kis virágszemek.

S mikor a lélek már boldog nagyon,
mert feledte a fagyot, zuzmarát,
egy vidám, kedves szép vasárnapon
köszöntünk minden édesanyát.

Köszöntünk téged, ki a szép élet
célját s értelmét büszkén hirdeted.
s ki két szemednél drágábbnak becézed
az óvott-féltett csöppnyi gyermeket

E boldog ország boldog fiai
mosolyt, virágot visznek most neked.
S hogy érthetné meg azt ma valaki:
egy szál virág aranyánál több lehet?

A mi mosolyunk halványabb egy csöppet;
a mi örömünk fáradtabb kicsit.
De mit adhatna ennél szebbet, többet,
ki hazátlanul, árván bujdosik.

Boldog a Föld. S egy szomorú ország
magányos fűszálnál árvább fia
csak keserű szívét viheti el hozzád,
mit másnak nem szabad mutatnia.

És te, kinek már senkije sincs itthon;
kinek már a gyász is régen tiltva van.:
Az elesettet megsíratod titkon,
s szíved hitével él a hontalan.

Hős magyar anya! ki állhatna melléd,
ki napjaidat örömtelen éled?!Bús magyar anya! Ki verhetné melléd,
hogy áldozatban versenyre kel véled?

A bujdosó bújja a szivedbe hat;
a megkínzott kínja vérzi lelkedet.
Feléd sóhajt mindég, egyre csak a rab,
s örök gyászt hagyott rád, aki elesett.

Így lett boldogságodból a mártírok hite,
s az örömből tán halk vigasztalás,
De az igazi hit nem veszhet semmibe,
s valljuk veled együtt: "Lesz Feltámadás!"



Syracuse, USA 1958 május

*Motherhood/Anyaság
Herend porcelain figurine*

MEMORIAL DAY

On the last Monday of May, we remember all our servicemen and women who gave their lives for this country. It is a time to pause – to remember – and appreciate our blessings for which so many made the ultimate sacrifice.

*Photographs were taken by
Zita Balogh, member of MNO.*

*Flags were displayed at the lawn of
Trumbull Congregational Church,
Trumbull, CT.*



The Legend of the White Stag/A Csodaszarvas

Erika Papp Faber

The story of the White Stag is a legend of the origins of the Hungarian people. It tells of the two sons of the great hunter Nimród (or Menrót), who dwelt in the East. Like their father, Hunor and Magor lived for the hunt. They set out, riding west, on a hunting expedition, each with 50 men, to find game.

One day they saw a gorgeous White Stag, such as they had never seen before, and immediately began to chase it. They wanted to catch it live, and bring it back to their father. However the stag was very fast, and eluded them until sunset. Next morning, it was there again, and they followed it, for days, until one evening it disappeared into a swampy area – sometimes pinpointed as the Maeotian Marshes where the Don River empties into the Sea of Azov – where they could not follow. When Hunor and Magor awoke the next day, they saw that they were on a beautiful island, with forests and flowered meadows and rivers full of fish.

The brothers decided to settle there, if their father gave his blessing. So after a seven-day ride, they returned to their father, whom they found on his deathbed. They told him of their plan and asked his blessing, urging him to leave his principality to his other sons. Nimród blessed them, and died.



Stained glass windows in the stairwell of the Gellért Hotel, Budapest, depicting the legend of the White Stag

After the funeral, Hunor and Magor set forth to return to that beautiful island to which the White Stag had led them. On their way, they found a bevy of beautiful girls dancing in a circle, with two girls in the middle. In the twinkling of an eye, Hunor and Magor swung the two girls into the saddle with them, and the one hundred men followed their example with the rest. Then they galloped off.

As it happened, Hunor and Magor had grabbed the two daughters of the Alan Prince Dulna. They and their men celebrated a group wedding. Hunor became the father of the Huns, and Magor the father of the Magyars. After a while, they became so numerous that they needed more space, so they rode west, and found a new homeland, eventually in the Carpathian Basin.

There are some variables in this folklegend. According to one, the girls they found turned into fairies and flew away if the men were not fast enough in catching them. (This is depicted in one of the stained glass windows from the Gellért Hotel in Budapest.) Since they were all beauties, this may explain why Hungarian girls are so good-looking!

Erika Papp Faber is editor of Magyar News Online.

And the White Stag Lives On ...



In 2007, Volvo celebrated its 80th birthday by issuing a limited series of its product, equipped with all kinds of conveniences, and distinguished by its silver paint job. Horváth Tihamér, of Hosszúpereszteg in Vas County, wanted to buy a Volvo tractor trailer cab, but he did not want it to be silver. The Hungarian dealership was able to procure one for him in black, which he then had decorated with early Hungarian motifs.

Among these is the hunting of the *csodaszarvas* (White Stag) by Hunor and Magor (see the article “Legend of the White Stag” elsewhere in this issue); the mythical *turul* bird; the seven chiefs of the Hungarian tribes; and the prayer included in the 10th century litanies of Western Europe: “From the arrows of the Hungarians deliver us, o Lord!” This is inscribed in Hungarian as well as in the Szekler-Hungarian *Rovás*. Wherever he drives in Europe, Horváth’s cab is definitely noticed! But today, it is people with cameras

who are hunting the White Stag! (Photos are used by permission. See the full original article at http://www.vasnepe.hu/ero/20110121_rege_a_csodakamionrol/)

EPF



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Beef Tenderloin game style (Pácolt vese pecsenye)

- 1 ½ lbs. beef tenderloin, sliced
- 2 large onions
- 3 bay leaves
- 15 whole black peppers
- 2 Tbsp lard
- ½ cup water
- 3 Tbsp vinegar
- 1 Tbsp salt
- ½ tsp paprika

Place tenderloin into a large mixing bowl. Place 1 sliced onion, bay leaves and black pepper on top of meat. Bring

to a boil ½ cups of water, vinegar and salt. Pour this over meat and let stand for about 8 hours.

Remove meat from brine. Brown 1 sliced onion in lard, add paprika. Place meat into browned onions, add ½ cup water and simmer until tender. Serve with white sauce.

Hungarian white sauce

- 2 Tbsp flour
- 4 Tbsp sour cream
- ½ cup cold water

Mix flour with water until smooth, add sour cream, mix and pour over meat.

Simmer for 5 minutes. Serve with dumplings.

Dumplings

- 3 eggs beaten
- 3 cups flour
- 1 Tbsp salt
- ¼ cup baking powder
- ½ cup cold water

Mix all ingredients and beat with a spoon. Drop by teaspoonful into boiling water, cook until dumplings rise to top. Drain, rinse in cold water. Serve with tenderloin.

First "Brain Prize" Awarded to 3 Hungarian Researchers



Buzsáki György



Freund Tamás



Somogyi Péter

Called the "Nobel Prize of brain research", the first "Brain Prize" of the Danish Grete Lundbeck European Brain Research Foundation will be awarded to three Hungarian scientists on May 2nd in Copenhagen.

Buzsáki György, Freund Tamás and Somogyi Péter will share the one million euro prize for their exploratory research on the neurological network within the brain, which plays a key role in the memory process.

All three were born in Hungary, studied and began their research careers in Hungary. Today, however, Freund Tamás is the only one of the three who works in Hungary. He is head of the Department of Functional Neuroanatomy at the Institute of Experimental Medicine of the Hun-

garian Academy of Sciences in Budapest. Somogyi Péter is director of the Medial Research Council Anatomical Neuropharmacology Unit at Oxford University in Britain. Buzsáki György is Professor at the Center for Molecular and Behavioral Neuroscience at Rutgers University in Newark, NJ.

Although working in three different countries, the three scientists have collaborated and have jointly published articles for the last 25 to 30 years.

The charitable, non-profit Foundation is backed by a large Danish pharmaceutical company that focuses particularly on research of drugs for diseases of the central nervous system.

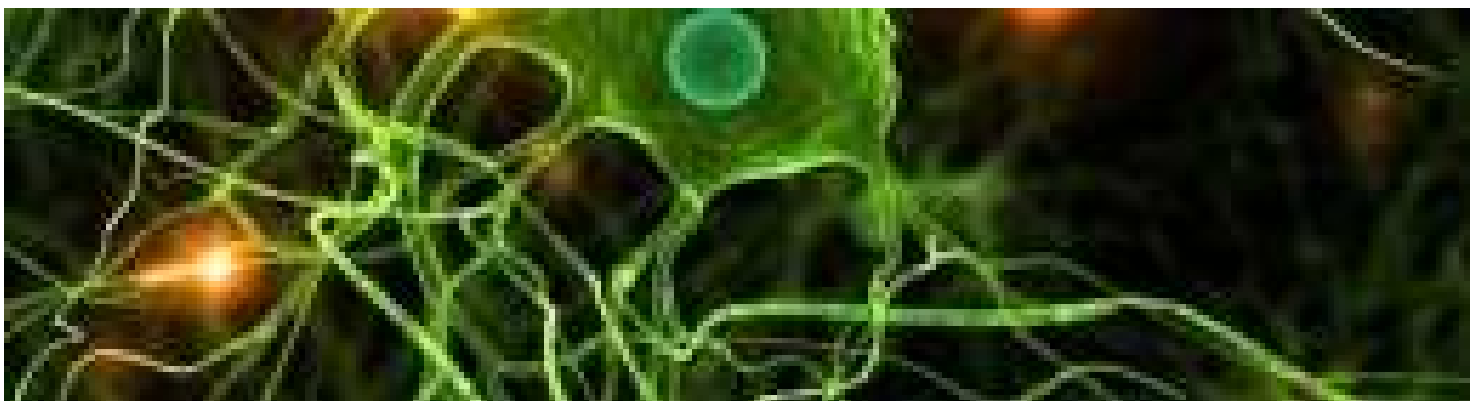
The prize is being awarded not for any one great discovery, but

in recognition of their life's work centering on the hippocampus, a ridge along each lateral ventricle of the brain. This area governs learning and memory, and this is where epilepsy, anxiety and Alzheimer's Disease originate.

The Selection Committee referred to the "wide-ranging, technically and conceptually brilliant research" of the three men. It continued: "They epitomize the remarkable quality of Hungarian science, which was sustained through periods of challenge and privation."

Congratulations to Buzsáki György, Freund Tamás and Somogyi Péter! The Hungarians have done it again!

EPF



Interview with Márta Eggerth March 23, 2011

Martha Matus Schipul

We are fortunate to be able to bring you Martha Matus Schipul's interview of a living legend of operetta: Márta Eggerth, two weeks before her 99th birthday.

It is such an incredible honor to talk with you! You know, I was named in honor of you. My parents always played your records; I especially remember the "Csárdás Princess". I was just listening to you sing "Sárbogárd, Dombóvár" on the internet.

Ms. Eggerth singing: "Sárbogárd, Dombóvár" ... I always sing at least one Hungarian piece in my concerts.

Our readers would love to hear an update from you. You have had such remarkably long musical career. Since our audience is largely of Hungarian origin, we'd love to hear about your childhood in Hungary. Where were you born? Tell me about your family.

I was born in Budapest. My mother was a fantastic singer. She studied in the Budapest conservatory, which now is called the Franz Liszt Conservatory. She had the most beautiful voice, but she gave her career up to be a wife and mother. I started to sing at age eleven. Paul Abraham was a fantastic composer. He heard me sing and gave me a child's part in his opera. I was the biggest success because I was a child. I sang all over the world, only classical music – the great arias. I toured all over Europe before the age of seventeen.

What were some of your favorite foods?

Gulyás, but I'm not eating it anymore. I don't eat meat anymore.

What languages do you speak? Hungarian, Polish, German, French, Italian, English.

In which language do you think?



Márta Eggerth - The Merry Widow New York 1943

I think in the language of whatever country I am in. It is much simpler that way.

Why did you decide on operetta versus opera?

Grand opera is very nice, but the light operetta is best for me because I have the temperament for it. You can play a role every day. Opera, you sing it twice a week, then maybe once every two months. Operetta can show love, but never MURDER! My husband was the most wonderful opera singer. His *La Bohème* was really something beautiful. I saw him in Turandot when I was 17. I told my mother I'm going to marry him. She said, "You're going to make him marry you."

What was your favorite role to play? Your favorite venue?

I made 38 films in four languages. In Hungary, only operetta and opera. When I was 17, I left Hungary. I lived in Italy, Paris, Vienna, but I lived in

the US the longest. It was our steady address.

Were you friendly with Lehár and Kálmán? There is that great picture you sent me of the three of you together.

Absolute fabulous people! I was 17 when Mr. Kálmán discovered me for an operetta. Adele Kern was a lovely Austrian singer. She looked seventeen, but I WAS really 17. Kálmán called me to come to Vienna, for an audition. I went with my mother. They all thought she was the singer, but she said, "No, it is my daughter (who is auditioning)." I sang for them, and instantly they signed me as understudy for "*Das Veilchen von Montmartre*" (The Violet of Montmartre). The main character was a violet seller. Adele caught a cold. She struggled through six performances. She was not very good, so this was very sad. The critics wanted to know what was wrong with her. Mr. Kálmán asked if I could sing for the seventh performance. I didn't know the German language, but I learned the whole part in two days and two nights. They asked the critics to come again, and they gave me a fantastic review. I then traveled to Hamburg to play Adele in Max Reinhardt's version of *Die Fledermaus*, still only age 17. And then came famous producers who wanted to put me in the movies.

What was the most thrilling moment in your career?

There are hundreds. There were thousands of concerts. Every one was the same effort, same work. When I am there, I belong to the production, to the process. It's not all about me. What is important to me is that you (the audience) can remember that one perfect gesture. Then I achieved what I wanted to achieve.

What is your favorite place to work?

My favorite place to work is the world!

Our audience would love to hear about your courtship with the renowned Polish tenor Jan Kiepura. How did you meet? In what language did you converse?

German at first, later Polish and Hungarian.

How did you escape from Europe before WWII?

My husband had a contract with Metropolitan.

Did you have a difficult time getting here?

No, I was always adjusting all over the world. I felt home here. At first we lived in California. I had contacted MGM. I made Me and My Gal with Judy Garland and Gene Kelly. Judy Garland was no primadonna. Gene Kelly was adorable, lovely, and very, very talented. I appeared with Gene Kelly previously on Broadway in the musical, Higher and Higher. He



Marta Eggerth & Jan Kiepura
in *The Merry Widow*

wasn't even mentioned in the program. My husband said he would become a star. He was modest, a sweet lovely man.

What was Hollywood like in the 30's and 40's? Was there

a Hungarian community there that you could socialize with? Lugosi, Lorre, Lukács, Szakáll?

There was Szakáll. I did my work. I was a professional. I had no time for parties. Hollywood was not what I liked, but I loved California. It was so beautiful! Such weather!

What about your son, Marjan?

He is a pianist. We give concerts together — the most decent, honest, modest man.

When was your latest concert?

Eight months ago.

What do you do to protect your amazing voice?

If somebody lived intelligently, not stupidly, she can preserve her voice. I'm a very simple person. I never drank a drop of alcohol. I am allergic - I cannot drink, ever.

How do you keep yourself busy nowadays?

I'm studying a new repertoire. I teach some people interpretation. Many just sing and don't understand the emotion behind the music. The real talent wants to find the feeling. I know some fine young singers who can do anything.

Köszönöm szépen, Miss Eggerth!

To purchase Marta Eggerth's latest CD, *My Life, My Song*, go to

<http://www.amazon.com/Marta-Eggerth-My-Life-Song/dp/B0007PIH2Q>

You might also enjoy Marta singing Hungarian folksongs and doing the czardas in

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-Mqu2YSdPpQ&feature=related>

and singing "Sarbogard, Dombovar"

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T9DgHttf7gE&feature=related>

Martha Matus Schipul



Marta Eggerth between Franz Lehár and Emmerich Kálmán, 1933.

This is the only known photograph in the world of these two composers together.

It's a Small World!

This is a different kind of Kicsi a világ, described by the poet Áprily Lajos (1887 - 1967). He spent some time in France, in 1923, but was overcome with homesickness and dread that he might never see his aging parents again. Here he describes seeing a Hungarian name on a French memorial to (presumably) World War I war dead.

Találkozásom Farkas Gabriellel

Áprily Lajos

Repkényes kőfal, csorgó kút, kis utca,
estére váró francia falucska.

Haladtam halkán és nagyon magamban
a hulló napból csillanó aranyban,
s mint végtelen sétákon, otthon, ősszel,
itt sem találkozhattam ismerőssel.

Csak a halál ... a dombokról leszállna,
az utca-fordulónál rám találna...

S fogyott a fény és messze volt a párom,
s a Mont-Blanc s a halál a láthatáron.

Kis templom-térre értem. Rajta árván
friss oszlop állt: aranyírású márvány,
fölötte két sötét sas-szárny ível:
„Morts por la France”, nevek, Jean ... Jacques ...
Pierre ...
s közöttük egy név: Farkas Gabriel.

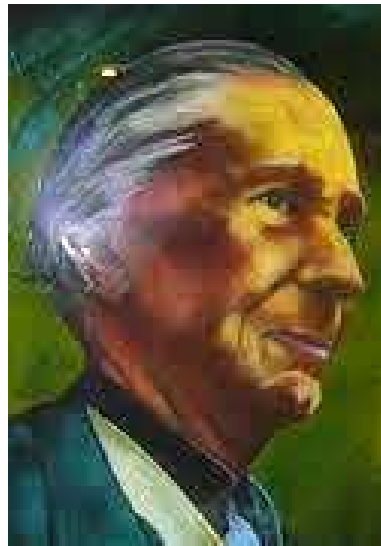
Az ismeretlen arcu holt,
találgatom, vajon ki volt?
Határán túl szakadt magyart
milyen szeszélyű sors zavart
hullatni távol drága vért
e más hullámu halmokért?
Mogorva sas nem válaszolt.

S ahol az árnyék óriásra nőtt,
leültem a szomszéd kis bár előtt
és nemsokára édes aromát
kínálgatott a hűvös citrónád.

Harangcsendítő, langyos este lett,
szellő indult a templomtér felett,
s az arcán semmi túlvilági jel,
halkan mellém ült Farkas Gabriel.

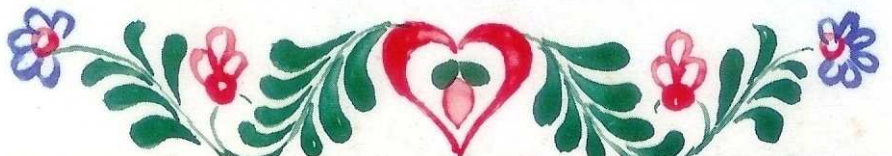
Fejünk felett kíváncsi csillag égett,
úgy kezdtünk csendes esti párbeszédet.
A Mont-Blancról, melynek hideg fehére
hóval mosolygott kurta életére.
Az ősről, aki – mig hadak bomoltak –
burgundi ég alatt maradt fogolynak.
Magáról és a vágyról, mely hiába
csalogatta az ősi pátriába.

S szelid szavából úgy áradt a béke
– csillagvilág az elcsitul vidékre –
hogyan én sem féltem, leljen rám akárhol,
a mindenütt-jelenlevő haláltól.
Csak hallgattam, fakó ajkát figyelve,
sírból kiszállt Farkas Gabrielre,
amíg a hang lágyan símult a csendbe:
„Olyan mindegy, melyik kapun suhanunk át a vég-
telenbe.”



Áprily Lajos

(Brasso 1887—
Budapest 1967)



Did you know...

... that a Hungarian artist is considered the "national painter" of the country of Georgia?

Wedged between Russia, Turkey, Armenia and Azerbaijan on the east end of the Black Sea, the country was home to Shota Rustaveli, a 12th century poet whose "Knight in the Panther's Skin" is the Georgian national epic. This was illustrated by a Hungarian painter and graphic artist, Zichy Mihály (1827-1906). A sample from that epic is seen here. His illustrations had significant influence of Georgian artists. The first Hungarian edition of this work, translated by Vikár Béla, was published in 1917, with 26 illustrations by Zichy. A more recent translation by Weöres Sándor, containing 25 full-page Zichy illustrations, was published in 1954.

Zichy is considered an important representative of Hungarian romantic painting. While studying law in Pest, he also studied art there, before moving on to Vienna to become a student of the Austrian painter and

writer Ferdinand Georg Austro-Hungarian Monarchy. Waldmüller. On Waldmüller's recommendation, Zichy became an art teacher in St. Pe-



Shota Rustaveli presents his poem to Queen Tamar

tersburg, Russia. He rose to become court artist to the Russian tsar. He helped down-and-out painters through a society he established for that purpose. In 1868, he painted a work titled "Autodafé" on the horrors of the Spanish inquisition. On commission, he painted "Queen Elisabeth Laying Flowers on the Coffin of Ferenc Deák", the architect of the Compromise of 1867 which established the Dual

pled in Paris in 1874. A painting for the Paris Exhibition was banned by the French authorities because of its "daring antimilitarist message". Restless, he left Paris, and traveling via Nice, Vienna and Zala in his homeland, he returned to St. Petersburg where he devoted himself mostly to illustrations.

A street in Tbilisi, the capital of Georgia, has been named for Zichy Mihály, and a statue has been erected in his honor. An exhibit of his works opened there in March of this year.



Zichy Mihály