

**JOURNAL OF THE
ACADEMIE INTERNATIONALE
DE LA PIPE**



Edited by
Anna Ridovics and Peter Davey

**VOLUME 3
2010**

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Académie Internationale de la Pipe
Liverpool
2010

INVITATION

The Gift of the White Goddess

Meerschaum carvings from the Pipe Collection of the National Museum

The exhibition has been organised to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the International Pipe Academy, on the occasion of its annual conference held in Budapest, October 2009.

Date: 8th of Oct. 2009 at 18.30

Place: Hungarian National Museum, Banquet Hall

Greetings:

Dr. Tibor Kovács

General Director of the Hungarian National Museum

Dr. Peter Davey

President of the International Pipe Academy

Opening address:

Mr. Ben Rapaport

Founding member of the International Pipe Academy

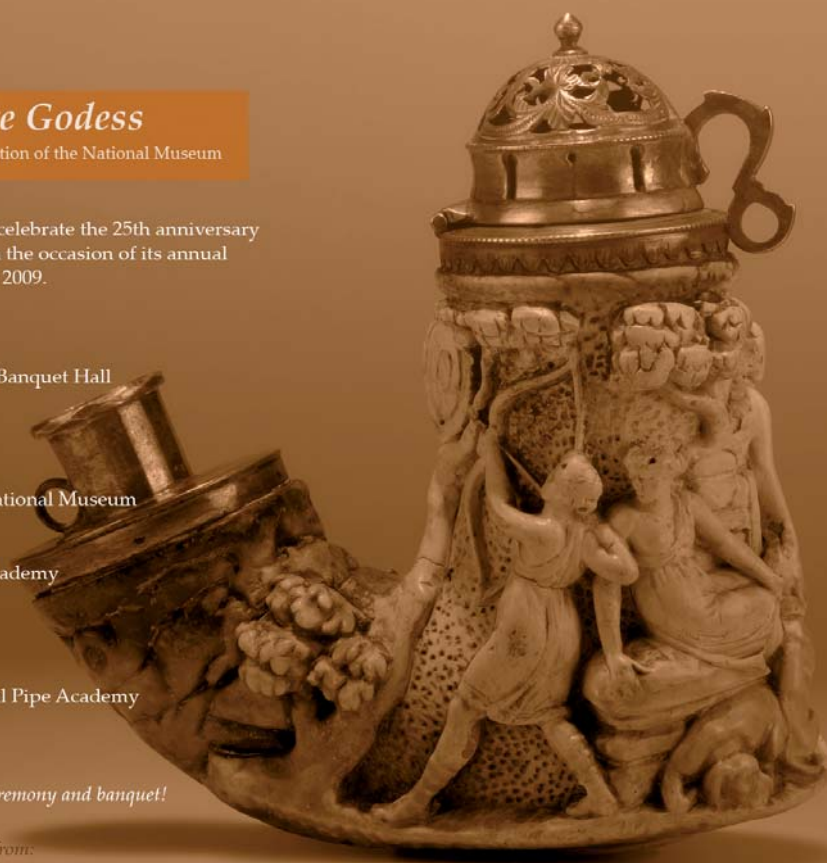
Music: Istvan Csörsz Rumen

You are warmly invited to the opening ceremony and banquet!

The exhibition will be open to the public from:

17th Oct to 31st Oct 2009.

Organiser: Dr. Anna Ridovics



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Editorial

This third volume of the Journal of the Académie Internationale de la Pipe commemorates a successful conference in Hungary. We hope that it will mark the beginning of a new tradition for the Academy and that in the future it will be possible for us to publish academic papers from our conferences in every volume.

In October 2009 the International Pipe Academy celebrated the twenty-fifth anniversary of its foundation and held its annual conference and general meeting in Budapest. The conference which was based at the Hungarian National Museum, took as its theme 'Between East and West, Pipes and Smoking in Eastern and Central Europe: From early excavated clay-pipes to the culture of artistic meerschaum-carving'. The conference attracted more than 40 participants from 16 countries to listen to ten scientific presentations about this topic. They were also able to study three poster displays and pipe masterpieces in a variety of materials saved in the Museum's stores. A special exhibition entitled 'The Gift of the White Goddess: Meerschaum carvings from the Pipe Collection of the Hungarian National Museum' was opened to coincide with the conference.

The opening address by Ben Rapaport can be read in this volume introducing not only this high quality pipe display, but also the last ten years of Hungarian pipe research and exhibitions. He paid tribute to the famous Hungarian Pipe collector, Irnák Osskó who lived in Germany but worked for the rediscovery of the Hungarian pipe-making culture. During the conference Academy members, at the invitation of its director Mrs. Csilla Móró neé Gócsa, were able to visit the Blaskovich Museum to see its splendid displays of tobacco pipes and to enjoy the warm hospitality. The final visit was to Debrecen, the well known historical pipe-making town, where a special exhibition on Debrecen clay-pipes in Déri Museum and the exciting 'Pipe smoking World Cup' competition by CIPC awaited the participants.

Pipe making is a traditional, internationally well known representative of Hungarian craft and decorative art. The Hungarians became acquainted with the habit of pipe smoking through contact with the Turks and western mercenary soldiers. Hungarian potters took Turkish stub-stemmed clay pipes as a model for their products and developed new forms from them. Important clay-pipe manufacturing centres were born and prospered in Debrecen, Selmezbánya (present-day Banská Štiavnica, Slovakia) and in the region of the Transdanubian town, Körmend during the eighteenth and nineteenth century. In the last 10 years of archaeological excavations more and more attention has been paid to the seventeenth to nineteenth century clay pipes that have been unearthed in Hungary. These Turkish and Hungarian products are the chief early modern period finds from excavations and it is possible to infer from them processes of cultural

interaction, commercial relationships and the development of crafts. This material is of international significance.

Legends link Hungary with the birth of the first ivory-coloured, artistically-carved, meerschaum pipes. Talented pipe-carvers worked at Pest-Buda especially during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Their work sometimes also made a significant contribution to the foundation of new types which became popular all over of Europe. The most artistic pieces are valuable treasures of museums and private collections.

This international pipe conference was the first of its kind to be held in this east and central region of Europe. The presentations and posters were organised around two main topics. First, comparative research on Ottoman-Turkish finds in the context of Hungarian and international excavations and the birth of Hungarian clay-pipe making; secondly, the importance of international relationships to Hungarian meerschaum-carving in the Habsburg Empire and in Europe.

The core research papers contained in Volume 3 of the Academy's journal are founded on the texts of the lectures and posters presented in Budapest. There were two papers read at the conference which, unfortunately could not be published in this or the subsequent volume: Martin Vyšohlíd (Archaeologist, Archaia, Prague, Bohemia) on 'Prague pipes between east and west (tobacco clay pipes from archaeological excavations' and St. John Simpson (Archaeologist, The British Museum, London, United Kingdom) on 'Ottoman pipes from the Near East'. On the other hand a number of other authors were invited to contribute papers to the volume, as their fields of research were close to the conference theme. But the picture is not complete. Studies of pipe making in Slovakia, Bohemia, Poland, Romania and Russia are absent from this volume. It will be important to attempt to examine pipe-making in these regions as the subject matter for future conferences.

This third volume of the Academy's journal consists of three main parts. The papers in the large first section introduce Hungarian pipe history from the seventeenth to the twentieth century through the writings of archaeologists, art historians and ethnographers. There are wider overviews of the clay-pipe making craft, discussions of possible typo-chronological issues at different periods and analyses of excavated finds from specific sites such as the Eger Fortress, the Ottoman palanka-type fortress at Szekszárd and the nineteenth century Transdanubian Körmend. A short, but very interesting article presents and discusses a unique pipe burning pot from Debrecen. One paper is dedicated to meerschaum pipes with new data about the early use of *pipas marinas albas* in Hungary. The second main section consists of archaeological papers from neighbouring countries or countries in central or south-eastern Europe such as Croatia, Serbia, Ukraine,

Bulgaria and Austria. The final part of the volume is a review of a new book on the history of the clay pipe industry in Schoonhoven in the Netherlands

The conference in Budapest and the production of this volume would have been impossible without the whole-

hearted support and encouragement of the Director of the National Museum, Dr. Tibor Kovács (Fig. 1), to whom the Academy is especially grateful.

*Anna Ridovics
Peter Davey*



Figure 1: Former Director of the Hungarian National Museum, Dr. Tibor Kovács.