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News from Hungary...



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The foundation of the Hungarian Accordion Association, is a coalition of music teachers, concert organizers, instrumentalists, instrument distributors, performing artists/bands, composers, supporters and fans of this instrument.

To celebrate Hungarian Accordion Music, the Hungarian Accordion Association recently released a CD profiling its history in their country.

It is the first time that recordings embracing a very important decade of the Hungarian Accordion Music are issued. It presents the accordion music of Hungary in the 1040's and 50's through an archive CD: all the stars of the heroic age of the accordion are presented on one CD. Today's young generation and the general public can hear original recordings that are no longer available. This CD is also the first part of a series. Besides the recordings of the two great masters of the instrument Mihály Tabányi and Pál Herrer, Lajos Bobula, Ottó Kállay, Béla Hlasznyi and Vera Auer also contribute to the CD.

This work-of-art we are about to introduce to the general public is the result of the research work of Simon Géza Gábor, a Jazz historian.

Our long-term goals include cherishing the Hungarian accordion music, trying to acquire worthy appreciation for it and introduce it to the public.

We wish to support valuable artistic productions, ensure young, talented artists the opportunity to perform and to acquaint the public with the best national and foreign accordion artists.

We wish to motivate the development of the accordion music by organizing master's courses, meetings and festivals.

Highlights of the Magyar Harmonika Társaság (MHT) Hungarian Accordion Association include:

- 1998: Accordion Festival
- 1999: International Accordion Gala Broadcast by the Hungarian Television (Magyar Televízió) organized by the President of the HAA and the UMPA Culture Management Agency.
- 2000: December – founding of the HAA. There are music teachers, concert organizers, instrumentalists, instrument distributors, performing artists and bands, musicographers, composers, supporters and fans of the Accordion from around the world.
- 2001-2002: Concert series presenting the best national and international soloists and bands including: Sonja Marinkovic Orkestar Harmonika – Novisad, Hungarian Accordion Ensembles, Tibor Rácz – Bratislava, Che Tango Band – Argentina, Mihály Tabányi, Zoltán Orosz, Klezmer Dávid Quintet and the 'Kolo' Southern Slavonic Band.
- 2002: December - Accordion Show featuring the accordion in Hungary from 1940-1950.
- 2003: October - 56th CIA Coupe Mondiale World Accordion Championships attracting contestants, delegates, jury and guests from around the world.