



ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT
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**The Seat of the Foundation**

16-500 Sejny, ul. Piłsudskiego 37

Foundation Office

16-500 Sejny, Krasnogruda 14

tel. 87 5650369

e-mail: fundacja@pogranicze.sejny.pl

www.pogranicze.sejny.pl

Bank and Account of the Foundation

PKO SA II O/Suwałki

16-400 Suwałki, Kościuszki 72

nr konta: 95 1240 3363 1111 0000 2800 3579

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Foundation Management Board

Krzysztof Czyżewski – President

Bożena Szroeder – Member of the Board

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**THE INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR DIALOGUE IN KRASNOGRUDA.
A PROGRAM IMPLEMENTED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE CENTRE
“BORDERLAND – OF ARTS, CULTURES AND NATIONS” IN SEJNY**

KRASNOGRUDA STUDIOS

The Krasnogruda Art and Education Studios are a constellation of artistic and educational workshops active year round at the International Centre for Dialogue in Krasnogruda. The Studios refer in their activities to the local matter, memory of the place and the creative inventiveness of local residents. The participants of these workshops, children, teens, and adults, are residents of Sejny and the villages near Krasnogruda, including Poles, Lithuanians and Russian Old Believers. The workshops have been conducted for the last four years by animators from Borderland who also invite for cooperation outstanding artists, culture animators and educators all with many years of experience of conducting long-term artistic work in multicultural environments.

Word and Tale Studio

The Studio organizes meetings with authors, workshops, seminars and lectures. Its activities, conducted by Krzysztof Czyżewski, are dedicated to two important archetypes-symbols of our culture, the concepts: Bridge and Alien – Other – Own. In 2017, studio participants sought to create their own story of “The Invisible Bridge” by recalling personal experiences of the moment of transition and exploring elements of the ritual. The meetings concerned family stories of the participants of the Studio. There was also a trip to Georgia. The Studio organizes meetings with authors, workshops, seminars and lectures. Hosted by Krzysztof Czyżewski, the events are dedicated to two important archetypes-symbols of our culture, the concepts of: Bridge and Alien – Other – Own. In 2017, the studio participants tried to create their own story of “The Invisible Bridge” by recalling personal experiences of the moment of transition and exploring elements of the ritual. The meetings concerned family stories of the Studio participants. There was also a trip to Georgia (23-30 September) organized for nine members of the Studio. Its itinerary was inspired by the ancient myth of Medea and the Argonauts’ voyage in search of the Golden Fleece. The journey to Georgia included discovery of various incarnations of the myth in culture, architecture and literature. The guide was Archil Kikodze – Georgian writer, actor, mountaineer and ornithologist. The trip was the culmination of the first four-year phase of the Word and Tale Studio project.



Nature Studio

The groups of active and regular participants of this Studio include children aged nine to sixteen from Sejny and Giby and senior citizens from Sejny and Puńsk, students of the University of the Third Age. The activities within the Studio are arranged along two tracks. The youth group meets once a week, their classes consist of a “practical-scientific” part conducted by the ornithologist Marcin Siuchno, usually in the open air – inside the Krasnogruda Park (learning about trees, insects, birds, listening to owls in the evening, watching birds with telescopes, and the like.) and an artistic-creative part during which children consolidate the acquired knowledge using various artistic techniques (constructing kaleidoscopes, making sculptures of birds, building a model of the Krasnogruda Park). The meetings with senior consist in development of a publication related to nature and connected with it memories. Some of the meetings take also place in the Krasnogruda Park and are run by the ornithologist, Marcin Siuchno.

In 2017, both groups worked on a new publication titled: *The Atlas of Krasnogruda Park – Trees*. Through October, the participants got the direct knowledge of individual species of trees growing in the Krasnogruda Park. They researched various books and nature atlases for information about trees and compiled them into their own texts. The texts included the most important information concerning the trees. The planned publication is to preserve the format introduced by the first publication in the series: *The Atlas of Krasnogruda Park – Birds*: this time it is the trees which are going to tell their stories. Each of the texts will be accompanied by illustrations performed using various art techniques.

A guest of the Nature Studio was the Finnish animator and director Heta Jääliñoja, who stayed here until March 21 under her Erasmus programme scholarship. The result of cooperation with the director, was a short animated film (in Polish and English) made by the children basing on the texts of the published two years ago *Atlas of Krasnogruda Park – Birds*.





Weaving Studio

The activities of the Weaving Studio include systematic work on the loom frames organized for several groups of children and one group of seniors. We organized for the latter group a special workshop of weaving on frames and of embroidery on prepared nets. This year began with learning of a new technique known as frame-tying. It is an ancient Lithuanian technique mastered by senior artists who make a separate group under the Weaving Studio (supervised by the folk artist Anna Budzejko from Puńsk).

The new project which started this year under the Weaving Studio was titled "Love and Harmony – Home's Pride. Tapestry Sejny Land." The project includes interactive activities – meetings with folk artists, documenting original fabrics, and designing contemporary fabrics according to old designs. The project participants are young people who produce their own tapestries guided by folk artists. The works prepared using modern printing techniques are very modern in character and have become the main element of a large tapestry exhibition titled: "Love and Harmony – Pride of Home. Tapestry Sejny Land (ca. 300 tapestries)". The Studio trainer, Urszula Wasilewska, took part in a two-week summer weaving workshop organized by the Provincial Center for Culture Animation in Białystok. Under the guidance of master weaver Irena Ignaciuk, she learnt the techniques of multi-harness textiles, known in Podlaskie as "perebory". She brought with her the first sample of fabrics woven using this technique.

Deep Song Studio

The Deep Song Studio gathers around 40 adults, inhabitants of the Polish and Lithuanian villages from the environs of Krasnogruda. It is popularly known as the "Neighbours" Choir from Żegary. The choir is conducted by Wojciech Szroeder. This year's programme was based on May songs. The 4th Meeting of Church Choirs "Giesmių pynė Marijai" was held on May 20, organized by the Lithuanian St Casimir Society. Among participants were choirs from Suwałki, Sejny, Puńsk, Marijampolė and the "Neighbours" Choir. The members of the choir are important co-participants of many projects organized by Borderland, they have contributed for many years to all events connected with Czesław Miłosz, such as this year's "Remembering Miłosz" event.

Art Studio

This studio implements a number of programs for various regular groups as well as those benefiting from other Borderland projects. Regular, weekly activities are dedicated to children and youth. Activities for adults and senior citizens are held twice a month.

This year, the children's and youth studio prepared projects based on Jerzy Ficowski's book of poetry *A Reading of Ashes* (projects including a model book, illustrations – linocuts, prints, book sewing, design and creation of covers). Altogether, 15 small books were produced. Work started on a new project cycle: "Canvas painting: Krasnogruda Manor and Park". Cyclical workshop meetings with senior-students of the University of Third Age were dedicated to design a book, building a family story based on archival photos of the participants.

Throughout the year, the Studio hosted numerous organized groups and study visits (schools, universities, groups of educators and cultural animators) for whom classes and presentations of the studio were conducted.



Music of the Place Studio

The program is dedicated to young people from Sejny region, and refers to the musical traditions of the region. During the winter holidays, the Music of the Place Studio ran open workshops, whose product was the sound production for the spectacle titled "Souvenirs". The program consists of cycles of regular workshops conducted twice a week. Classes are conducted at the Music Studio in Sejny and at the International Center for Dialogue in Krasnogruda.

Krasnogruda Pantry Studio

It worked in two groups: high school students, and adults and seniors. The studio began a new program devoted to the preparation of a book which is to record culinary and feasting customs of families according to the rhythms of the natural world and the liturgical calendar. Over a dozen of the held meetings were recorded using various media, and collected during them materials will be used to prepare the Calendar.

THE "SONG OF PORCELAIN" LITERARY CAFÉ

The program of meetings with authors at the "Song of Porcelain" Literary Café has been conducted in Krasnogruda for five years. The meetings held under the programme have a form of a literary café enriched with readings of fragments of literature, film screenings, and music and multimedia presentations. There have been 18 such meetings this year. The "Song of Porcelain" Literary Café when arranged for events can seat well over a hundred people. These meetings, which attract guests not only from the region but from all over Poland and Lithuania, are major cultural events.

- 11.02 – *Pope Francis and spirituality at the beginning of the new millennium* – a meeting with Rev. Tomasz Dostatni – a Dominican priest, publicist and translator, engaged in the ecumenical movement, dialogue with other religions, and social dialogue.



- 13.03 – *Zuzanna or beige, black and orange*. A meeting on the 100th birthday of Zuzanna Ginczanka – a meeting with Jarosław Mikołajewski (poet and essayist, translator from Italian, author of books for children, long-time director of the



Polish Institute in Rome). During the meeting, Ginczanka's poetry was read by Maria Dębska.

- 29.04 – The Forgotten Refugees of Podlasie – a meeting with the participation of Aneta Prymak-Oniszk on her book *Bieżeństwo 1915. Zapomniani uchodźcy*, hosted by Krzysztof Czyżewski.
- 12.06 – *To Forgive and to Create the Future is a Duty of the Living* – a meeting with the participation of Irena Veisaitė (Lithuanian theatre researcher, intellectual and activist for human rights) 68 and Aurimas Švedas – author of the book *Irena Veisaitė. Life should be transparent*.
- 17 VI – *What does a man have to do with earthquakes* – a meeting with Jarosław Mikołajewski about the book *Terremoto* – a poetic reportage about tragic earthquakes that affected Italy at the turn of 2017.
- 7.07 – Irena Klepfisz – a poet of borderlands. A meeting with a New York poet, translator of Yiddish literature, and an activist for women's rights.
- 10.07 – Borderland Cinema – *Bruno Schulz* directed by Adam Sikora.
- 12.07 – Catalin Dorian Florescu – a borderland writer. A meeting with the writer from Banat (Romania), now living in Switzerland, author of the book *Jacob Decides to Love*.



- 19.07 – *Joseph Roth* – a borderland writer. A meeting with the participation of Elżbieta Jogała, editor of a series of works by Joseph Roth and their publisher, Wojciech Ornat (Austeria).
- 24.07 – *Ryszard Krynicki* – poetic traditions of the borderlands. An evening with the author. Screening of the film "Still Return. Portrait of Ryszard Krynicki", directed by Adam Sikora.





- 26.07 – *Timothy Snyder – an engaged historian*. A meeting with Yale professor and author of *On Tyranny*.
- 02.08 – *Central Europe – a living borderland*. A meeting with Weronika Parfianowicz-Vertun, author of the book *Europa Środkowa w tekstach i działaniach. Polskie i czeskie dyskusje* (Central Europe in texts and action. Polish and Czech discussions).
- 03.08. – *Donbas – a Ukrainian Lesson*. A meeting with Paweł Pieniążek, author of the book *Wojna, która nas zmieniła* (A war that changed us) Hosted by Marci Shore.
- 07.08 – Borderland Cinema – *Wiera Gran* directed by Maria Zmarz-Koczanowicz.
- 09.08 – *Borderland – Ethos and Action*. A meeting with Krzysztof Czyżewski, author of the book *Małe centrum świata. Zapiski praktyka idei* (The small centre of the world. Notes of a practician of idea) Hosted by Timothy Snyder.
- 19.08 – *South Africa – a lesson in human rights versus new immigrants*. A meeting with Prof. Elżbieta Matynia from New School University in New York and director Dick Adams, screening of his movie *Sanctuary*.



- 29.08 – A poetry evening dedicated to Nijole Miliuskaitė. Presentation of the volume of poetry *Pokój bez wstępu* (Room without Entry) published by Wydawnictwo Pogranicze. A meeting with the translators Alina Kuzborska and Agnieszka Rembiałkowska, hosted by Małgorzata Kasner.
- 30.08 An evening of Lithuanian poetry with the participation of Lithuanian writers and translators: Irena Aleksaitė, Paulina Ciucka, Birutė Jonuškaitė, Alina Kuzborska, Zuzanna Mroziakowa, Agnieszka Rembiałkowska, Agnė Žagrakalytė, Eugenijus Ališanka, Sigitas Birgelis, Tomasz Błaszczak, Vladas Braziūnas, Almis Grybauskas, Antanas Jonynas, and Kazys Uscila. The meeting was hosted by Birutė Jonuškaitė, Eugenijus Ališanka and Krzysztof Czyżewski.
- 03.10 – A meeting with Arczil Kikodze – traveller, writer, author of the book *The Story of a Bird and a Man* published by Wydawnictwo Pogranicze, a screening of the film *Blind Dates* (Georgia, Ukraine 2013).



MIŁOSZ PROGRAMME

The International Center for Dialogue in Krasnogruda organizes annual events dedicated to the memory of the Nobel-prize winning poet and essayist Czesław Miłosz, whose family had roots in our region. In June, the month of his birth, these are meetings in the cycle JUNE MIŁOSZ. On August 14, the anniversary of the poet's death we hold meetings and artistic events under the title REMEMBERING MIŁOSZ. Both cycles of events are related to the work of Czesław Miłosz, as well as his life, the circle of family and friends.

This year's JUNE MIŁOSZ event was held on June 30, his birthday. The celebrations were composed of three parts. They started with a retreat themed on Czesław Miłosz's *Theological Treaty* conducted by Rev. Tomasz Dostatni and Krzysztof Czyżewski. The evening was filled with a meeting with Łukasz Chwałko entitled *Jakob Böhme – a Borderlander* combined with a screening of the film *Jakob Böhme Life and Creativity* directed by Chwałko. Jakob Böhme – German mystic, gnostic and philosopher of religion, living at the turn of the 17th century, is an important reference point for the reading of Miłosz's "Theological Treaty". In his *Treatise*, the poet refers directly to the theosophic concepts of the mystic from Görlitz. Finally, there was a collective reading of *A Theological Treaty* by Czesław Miłosz, issued on this occasion by Wydawnictwo Pogranicze, in the amphitheatre of the Krasnogruda park (within the space of the Invisible Bridge). The first part of the *Treatise* was read by Antoni Miłosz, other parts by numerous invited guests. The evening event was hosted by Krzysztof Czyżewski. The reading was accompanied by music performed by Mikołaj Poncyłjusz. The retreat was also continued on June 31 with the show of the movie *Miłosz*, directed by Katarzyna Gondek.

Wydawnictwo Pogranicze commemorated the Poet's birthday by a new publication. The bibliophile, Polish-Lithuanian publication includes Czesław Miłosz's *Theological Treaty* with its Lithuanian translation by Almis Grybauskas, and Krzysztof Czyżewski's essay *Another Faithfulness of Miłosz* with its Lithuanian translation by Kazys Uscili. The limited edition bears the stamp of the Miłosz's Manor and the date of the event – 30 June 2017.

On August 14, the twelfth anniversary of the death of Czesław Miłosz, the annual "Remembering Miłosz" cyclical meeting was held in Krasnogruda and Żegary.





The meeting traditionally began with a Holy Mass for the Poet, reading of the Holy Scriptures in Polish and Lithuanian in the church in Żegary. The evening meeting in the Song of Porcelain Café titled *Joseph Conrad's and Czesław Miłosz's Treatises on Morality* with the participation of Joanna Zach and Andrzej Franaszek was hosted by Krzysztof Czyżewski. The meeting was followed by joint reading of *A Treatise on Morality* in the Krasnogruda Park.

FESTIVAL OF THE BRIDGE



An open air theatrical performance of the *Mystery of the Bridge* in the open-air amphitheatre at the Miłosz's Manor in Krasnogruda had its première on August 22, 2015, crowning the art workshops of the Village of Bridge Builders project. The day of August 22 found a permanent place in the calendar of events on the Polish-Lithuanian borderland – it is a day on which people of different cultures, nationalities and generations become common hosts of the “festival of the bridge”. The “Mystery of the Bridge” of 2017 was prepared by the Borderland team and the Orchestra of the Invisible Bridge. The musical and theatrical mystery play in the amphitheatre of the International Center for Dialogue was based on the world première performance of *The Guardians of Fire*. The main structural parts of the work were composed by world-renowned musicians: Kathleen Tagg (piano, South Africa) and David Krakauer (clarinet, USA). They were then creatively developed during intensive music workshops in Krasnogruda with the participation of the Klezmer Orchestra of the Sejny Theatre under the direction of Wojciech Szroeder and special guests: Shadi Al Maghrabi (oud, Syria-Germany), Jihad Jazbeh (violin, Syria-Germany), Youssef Nassif (kanun, Syria-Germany), Mykhaylo “Manu” Balogh (saxophone, Ukraine-Poland). The text of the Introduction came from *The Path of the Borderland* by Krzysztof Czyżewski (excerpt).

The Orchestra of the Invisible Bridge is an artistic response to the challenges of the modern world, demanding a culture of solidarity acting in response to the threats of deepening social and cultural divisions. Its creative potential has its origin in the meeting of the Borderland team with creative musical explorations of David Krakauer who invited the outstanding composer and pianist from South Africa, Kathleen Tagg. It also owes it to the musical mastery of the artists who have experienced the fate of exile and displacement:



- **Jehad Jazbeh** – violinist, born in Aleppo. Formerly, a member of the Syrian National Symphony Orchestra and the National Orchestra of Arabic Music in Damascus. Since 2013 living in Germany. Founding member of the “String Quintet Damascus”, which presents the works of Syrian composers.
- **Shadi Al Maghrabi** – oud player, graduate of the Higher Music Institute in Damascus. During and after his studies he was a member of the Syrian Oriental Orchestra in Damascus and participated in many concerts in the Syrian Opera, in churches and old traditional houses. In 2015, he moved to Germany where he has played with various orchestras. He is currently a member of the “Ohrpheus”, a music project held in France with the Spanish musician Jordi Savall.
- **Mykhaylo „Manu” Balogh** is a well-known Ukrainian saxophonist and experimental musician.
- **Youssef Nasif** – kanun player and composer. He studied playing the kanun and the piano at the Academy of Music in Damascus. During his studies, he gave concerts in Syria, Tunisia, Lebanon, United Arab Emirates and Turkey. For 4 years now he has been living in Germany.





SILVA RERUM

The Silva Rerum (Home Bible) is composed of multi-generational, interdisciplinary activities bringing together inhabitants of four villages adjacent to the International Center for Dialogue: Krasnogruda, Dusznica, Żegary and Ogdoniki. The project participants were a group of 30 of both young and older residents of the places. Drawing on the legacy of the historic silvae chronicles, they created a book-diary of the history of these towns and their families. The Silva of Krasnogruda is a tale of common life; it records major events – births, funerals, notes and memories of the persons who passed away. The chroniclers of the Silva of Krasnogruda explored old documents and photographs that bear witness to the past and in a meticulous way tell about the old days: the history of the region, patriotic events, times of war, shifts of borders, religious life, common neighbourhood fates of the living here Poles, Lithuanians or Old Believers. The project included also workshops which gathered mainly the young participants of the programme. These were workshops of journalism, film-making, photography, literature and art. The project was composed also of meetings and interviews as well as trips to the places where participants could have access to rich collections of films, photographs and documents recording the history of Poland and its culture. A very important element of these activities was a meeting within the creative work of different generations. The eldest shared





their knowledge and experience, and the young drew on this knowledge by learning how to record and document a remembered past using film, photography and reportage. The project ended with a festive presentation of the Home Bible, combined with an exhibition, screening of films and an evening of story-telling.

History of project activities

For many years, the Borderland Foundation has been conducting artistic and educational work in Krasnogruda, inviting and involving residents of neighbouring villages. Before 2011, i.e. before the International Center for Dialogue was established, the devastated and forgotten manor once belonging to the Miłosz family had been a centre of many activities aimed at reinstating the manor within the fabric of the community life. The interiors of the former manor, park and farm buildings were restored in detail thanks to the memories of the oldest inhabitants of the surrounding villages. Participating in these activities were young people gathered around Borderland's artistic studios. This early stage marked the beginning of writing of the silvae of the manor and the surrounding villages, though without an awareness of composing a real Book.

Silva Chroniclers

The chroniclers of the Silva of Krasnogruda have been both the older residents of the villages located near the manor, as well and their grandchildren. The work started with meetings on the most important places and events related to the history of the villages. There were 10 meetings:

- Żegary church, legends and memories passed on by family traditions
- The Manor and its former, pre-war residents, documents, photographs, accounts, memories of the oldest
- The tragic fire of the wooden, historic church in Żegary and its rebuilding thanks to joint efforts of the villagers
- Home archives: documents, photographs and souvenirs
- About neighbours who have passed away this past year. Remembrance Day
- The history of the church in Żegary in diocesan documents
- A meeting with the historian, Rev. Adam Adukowski





- History of the church in diocesan documents
- A map of our villages
- Our houses and their stories

Chroniclers' meetings marked the paths of documenting and developing the video and audio recordings. Thanks to them, the Silva Archive, which collects and manages the material gathered during the project by its participants, was established. The archive contains also photographs documenting the course of the project, portraits of "story-tellers", as well as archival photographs that complement the collected stories – interviews.

Silva Trips

An important educational element, building the Silva Chroniclers' community, were trips.

Trip One – Warsaw

During this two-day trip to Warsaw, the Silva Chroniclers visited the House of Meetings with History – an institution that deals with the history remembered and narrated from the perspective of an individual person. The participants got acquainted with the work of the Archives of Oral History and also for the first time had an opportunity to present their project – to talk about meetings, gathering of data, the beliefs that accompany their activities and how they create their "Home Bible – Silva Rerum". Another place visited by the Chroniclers was the Jewish Historical Institute. The subject of the workshop was search for forms of transmission of memory and transposition of this transmission into the language of presentation within the exhibition titled *What We Were Unable to Shout Out to the World* dedicated to a group of people active in the Warsaw Ghetto who documented the extermination of Jews by the Nazi. A visit to the Royal Castle in the Archives of Historical Records and Documents gave the opportunity to get acquainted with the oldest printed books stored in the Castle Library. Visiting these several institutions which in various ways dealt with history, remembrance, and preservation of the past, provided an opportunity to observe the work on the history of the place from a wider perspective of cultural activities related to the preservation of tradition and remembrance of the past, also as regards their own villages.

Trip Two – Vilnius

The second journey of a similar character, this time to Vilnius, was taken by a group of young people involved in the project. Along the way, they visited the reconstructed Tyszkiewicz Castle in Zatrócze with an interesting interior reconstruction and tale about the life of the last owners of the place, and visited the nearby Trakai (a town with a rich history of the Karaim community). In Vilnius, workshops were held at the Renovation Workshop of the University of Vilnius and in the Tolerance Center at the Vilna Gaon State Jewish Museum. The workshops included a presentation of the Silva Rerum project and the concept of its currently developed exhibition. The participants also analysed the ways and possibilities of presenting historical material in the exhibition space (sound, light, display of bilingual materials).



Both trips became important activities in the implementation of the project. They presented various contexts of dealing with history and the past, and at the same time showed various forms of presentation of the content and methods of historical narration.

Workshops

The project was accompanied by educational and artistic workshops in film, photography and journalism. Each meeting consisted of two elements: lecture-presentation and practical action. The Photographic Workshop was run by Radosław Krupiński, lecturer at the Podlaskie School of Photography and Entrepreneurship. He conducted a workshop of the portrait. The first workshop concerned the history of portraiture, the second the art of portrait. The Film Workshop was run by Beata Hyży – Czołpińska, an outstanding director of documentaries, who has been making films related to Podlasie for 20 years. The first workshop presented her film output and the story of her own adventure with film. The second workshop concerned the theme of “the hero” in the documentary and analysis of different approaches to the main character in a film. The journalist workshop was run by Izabella Kossakowska – radio journalist, reporter of Radio Białystok. The first workshop concerned presentations of author’s radio reportages. The second workshop was composed of journalistic exercises: on theme, interlocutor, art, and on asking questions. All workshops were aimed at introducing the tools that a Chronicler might find useful in his/her work of collecting materials.

“Silva Rerum” Exhibition

Part of the project activities were 30 meetings which took place in the homes of all participants of the project, as well as other local residents; as a result they gathered a collection of photographic documentation from the households of Krasnogruda, Dusznica, Żegary and Ogrodniki. Each house opened up with stories about the family, its inhabitants and the building itself. This is how the concept of the exhibition was born: a spatial map of several villages which are located along the axis connecting the manor in Krasnogruda and the church in Żegary. The exhibition in the interiors of the Krasnogruda-



da manor house is divided into three spaces: of story, photography and film. The key element of the exhibition is the Open Book (sculpture), sculpted here by artists invited from Ukraine: Vasyl Savchenko and Anastasia Lysyuk. The concept of the exhibition is based on the idea of producing in the visitors an impression of entering interior of the Book, itself being also a map. We move along map marked with lakes, roads and small scale models of the project participants' houses. We are surrounded by white walls with film stories, tales to be heard and read, and photographs.

In the hall, just before entering the exhibition, you can see a photographic reportage from the course of the project and watch a documentary film. All "written materials" of the exhibition – the names of villages and lakes, residents, stories placed on the walls – are bilingual, given in Polish and Lithuanian. The inhabitants of the Krasnogruda villages are of Lithuanian origin and speak Lithuanian at home and in church.

The New Year's Meeting

The summary of the project was the New Year's meeting titled "The Stories from the Past". It was attended by the Silva Chroniclers, members of their families, also other residents of villages and artists taking part in the project. All participants agreed that they have just started their chronicle work – there are still many stories to be told, people worth mentioning, many documents and photos to be found. It was solemnly decided that the project would be continued. The materials collected during the project became also a basis for an educational offer created for teachers and school groups. The offer will include lessons on the memory of family, home and places of birth, designed for various age groups based on the Book – Exhibition.



LOVE AND HARMONY – PRIDE OF HOME. TAPESTRY SEJNY LAND

The Tapestry Sejny Land is a project whose originator and patron is Urszula Wasilewska, who has for many years been running the Borderland Weaving Studio. Thanks to her initiative, young people had the opportunity to immerse themselves in the world of this extremely rich, though unfortunately, forgotten type of art. The aim of the activities was to present a widest possible spectrum of related phenomena including various weaving techniques and forms, not only the title tapestries, but also other utility fabrics, such as tray cloth, Gobelin or tablecloth.

Although the artisans and at the same time direct beneficiaries have been a group of twenty young people – students of Sejny schools, the project is inter-generational in character. The first meetings introduced young participants to the extremely rich history of Polish and Lithuanian fabrics – their characteristic designs, colour and unique techniques of their production. To deepen this knowledge, the group went to the Regional Museum in Puńsk, where they got acquainted with the largest regional collection of old textiles, costumes and sashes. The ethnographer, Aldona Wojciechowska, told them about history and about the museum exhibits which she had been collecting for many years.

An integral part of the project were intergenerational meetings with folk artists. To this end, the young participants visited houses of senior weavers in Żagary,

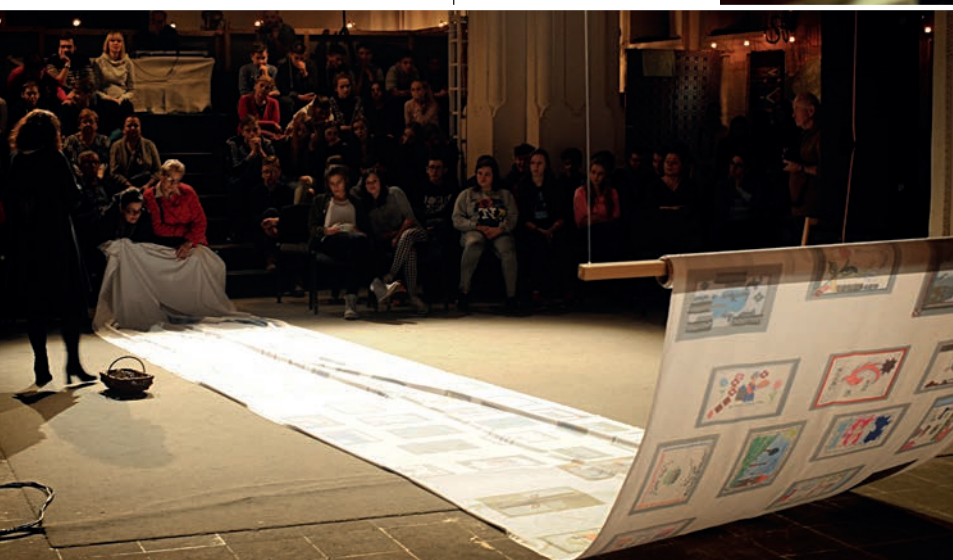




Krasnogruda, Radziuce, Bubele and Ogrodniki, where they received first-hand knowledge of how the seen by them fabrics were produced. The trips also had another aim. The older artists lent them many unique works made with various techniques that were professionally photographed to create an archive available for future generations. The participants of the Weaving Studio also shared their works with the members of the Weaving Studio for Adults and Seniors who have also been actively weaving, crocheting and embroidering for many years, and thanks to Borderland have an opportunity to learn about techniques unknown to them, such as tying on the frame.

Then the youth, who had already gathered theoretical foundations, learned to weave under the guidance of the weaving masters. This practical aspect is extremely important – the product is a fruit of a joint effort of people working together on a folk loom. The young people were able to try traditional methods and get acquainted with challenges connected with them. It is during such meetings that Weronika Wolańska taught them how to weave on historical wooden folk looms. Each of the participants tried to produce a Lithuanian sash. The artist and iconographer, Renata Gniady, guided the youth while working on contemporary interpretations of old tapestries. She helped them with a proper artistic design and ornaments. Using “family and neighbours” as a theme, the youth created forty beautiful, original designs of modern tapestries, which were then printed on fabric.

All these works – the borrowed folk artists’ works, the jointly produced tapestry and contemporary interpretations of old tapestry became part of the exhibition at the White Synagogue, Sejny. The activities connected with the project were documented, and a film presenting them was shown during the exhibition.

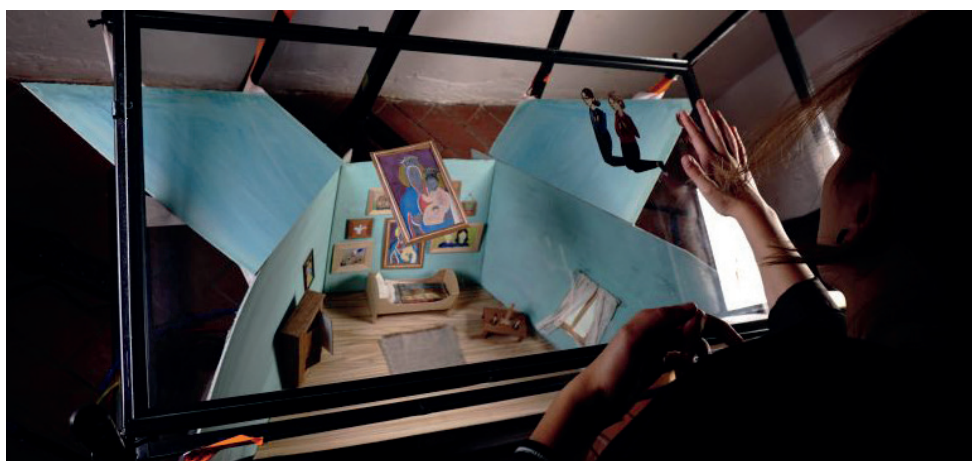




THE FILM COLLECTION OF BORDERLAND FAIRY TALES. MEMENTOES

Another edition of the Film Collection was dedicated to family keepsakes. A part of a multi-generational artistic and educational program, the project gathered young participants of the Film Animation Studio who invited their parents and grandparents to remember and tell about important and valuable mementos stored in their homes. A year-long project on joint artistic work of young people and their grandparents resulted in creation of 10 animated films. The mementoes stored for generations in the participants' homes – old photographs, documents, diaries, or objects especially venerated in their families – became the basis for creating screenplays for small family film stories produced in stop motion animation. The films were made during interactive workshops – art, music, literary, journalism, film and photography workshops – run by outstanding artists. The creators/animators were young people aged 13 – 18 and their grandparents. Working in pairs – grandson, granddaughter with their grandfather or grandmother – together they decided about the subject of the film, its graphic form and selected technique. They have become makers of all elements of the film – from interviews, script writing, creating visual design and stage design to animation. The artists invited to the project (Ola Kotarska, Dominika Turowicz and Wiesław Szumiński) and film animators (Daria Kopiec and Joanna Polak) accompanied this work and watched over its final effect.

The collection consists of stories related to faith, neighbourhood and borderlands. One of the stories tells a story of a photograph depicting a great-grandfather, participant of the Warsaw Uprising; there is a story of the holy picture





passed on by women in a family from generation to generation; there is a cross brought by one great-grandmother from Odessa; there is a porcelain cup and its complicated Polish-German fate; and there is a film about an over century-old Jewish bedspread, which commemorates the Sejny Jews who lived here before the war, and about a cigarette case, a souvenir from a Lithuanian friend of the family.

The project finished with the release of 10 films on DVD, and a festive show of the Collection and presentations organized in the schools attended by the young people.

Programme History

The Film Collection of Borderland Fairy Tales is a modern animation workshop for children run by the Borderland Foundation since 2010. Under the project, children produce animated films based on the collected by them tales, legends, fairy tales and songs of the borderlands. In this way, a small laboratory of animated fairy tales was established in Sejny, its most important film-makers being children of different ethnic, cultural and religious background.

The children collaborate with outstanding Polish and Russian artists, learning the craft, various forms and techniques of animation: from cartoons, puppets, cutouts, stop-motions and salt animations to digital and computer animation. The inspiration and material for the development of film screenplays comes from the tales heard by the children and young people during their meetings with the oldest inhabitants of Sejny during which the latter are asked to tell the stories of the past and those remembered from their childhood: fables, fairy tales, songs and legends. It also includes exploration of libraries and private archives, providing material necessary for the project to develop.

In the years 2010-2014, there were four editions of the Film Collections: Borderland Fairy-Tale Film Collection: Legends, fables, fairy-tales; Borderland Film Collection: Borderland Songs; Borderland Tales: Fairy Tale Film Collection; Krasnogruda Fairy Tale Collection and the animated film *Bobo's Metamorphoses*. The next stage of the program was the project of the Mysteries of Childhood Collection, which involved children's grandparents in artistic work. This meeting and partnership in creative work initiated the beautiful adventure of active leisure for grandparents and grandchildren. The results were 12 animations based on childhood memories of grandparents and grandchildren.

The Sejny animated films have been shown in many international shows and festivals, and won numerous awards and prizes. They have also become a model tool for artistic work with children and youth in many educational and cultural institutions in Poland and teaching aids used in lessons on tradition, culture, history of the region, confronting the past with present.





THE MUSICIANS' RAFT, NEW YORK TO SEJNY

The Musicians' Raft, New York to Sejny is a creative meeting of outstanding figures and musicians (David Krakauer, Frank London, Michael Alpert, Mikołaj Trzaska, Raphael Rogiński) representing new directions in the development of jazz, Klezmer and improvised music and their cooperation with the musicians of the Klezmer Orchestra of the Sejny Theatre, a breeding ground for talented musicians and unique sounds with over 20 years of tradition. The aim of this year's Raft was joint music-making, a cycle of concerts and recordings of the Orchestra with guest artists. It is another stage of innovative artistic and educational work on building bridges between generations and cultures through music. The meetings took place in the rooms of the Sejny Jazz Cooperative, the White Synagogue in Sejny and at the International Dialogue Center in Krasnogruda. Open presentations of the project (only premières of new music) have gathered wide audiences, including local residents and visitors from Poland and abroad. The project summarized nearly 25 years of multi-generational educational and artistic work on klezmer music in Sejny, an important element of the borderland culture.

The places named in the subtitle of the project – Sejny and New York – bear symbolic significance. Sejny stands for the cities and towns of Central Europe, where the Yiddish culture once lived and developed. New York, on the other hand, symbolizes the world where Jewish emigrants settled on leaving Europe at the turn of the century, carrying with them and preserving the traditions of klezmer music. In the early 1890s, they brought it to Europe arousing interest in the music among European artists. Today, European musicians who look for references in tradition to develop modern and experimental music recognize the Jewish music as an important resource for their inspiration.

The Klezmer Orchestra of the Sejny Theatre

For 25 years, the Borderland's musical workshop in Sejny has developed an artistic program referring to the cultural heritage of the place. The band started with the performance of music to the play "The Dybbuk"; and an essential element in the musical work in Sejny remains deep studies of the multicultural heritage of the place. The band works in the former yeshiva, its concerts take place in the White Synagogue, Sejny. The leader of its program has, from the beginning, been Wojciech Szroeder. The Klezmer Orchestra of the Sejny Theatre has already become today an institution that has educated generations of musicians supplying with artists major contemporary Polish bands which perform jazz, folk and world



music. The unique value of this type of education lies primarily in the practical meetings between disciple and master.

History of The Raft Programme

The Musicians' Raft – the Sejny festival of borderland music – is a cyclical event, which has been held so far four times: in 2001, 2004, 2006, and 2010. Each time this meant a different type of a musical meeting, from typical klezmer music workshops to creative meetings with musicians from around the world representing new sounds of Jewish music. The musical meetings in the tiny, borderland Sejny originated in joint work with klezmer musicians from New York, such as: David Krakauer, Frank London, Michael Alpert, Jeff Warshauer, Stuart Brotman, and Paul Brody. Then, under the Sejny Jazz Cooperative, our musicians worked together with the most important musicians of contemporary improvised music scene, including: Joe McPhee Evan Parker, Joshua Abrams, Macio Moretti, Michael Zerang, duo Mikrokoklekyw, Paul Szamburski, Mark Sanders, Piotr Kurek, Sagara, Hubert Zemler, Cigdem Aslan, Candelaria Saenz Valiente and others. Marcin Masecki, Mikolaj Trzaska and Raphael Rogiński wrote and performed with the Orchestra compositions written for the occasion.

This year, under the Raft programme, the musicians of the Klezmer Orchestra of the Sejny Theatre recorded music with outstanding musicians who have contributed to the development of modern Jewish music scene in the world:

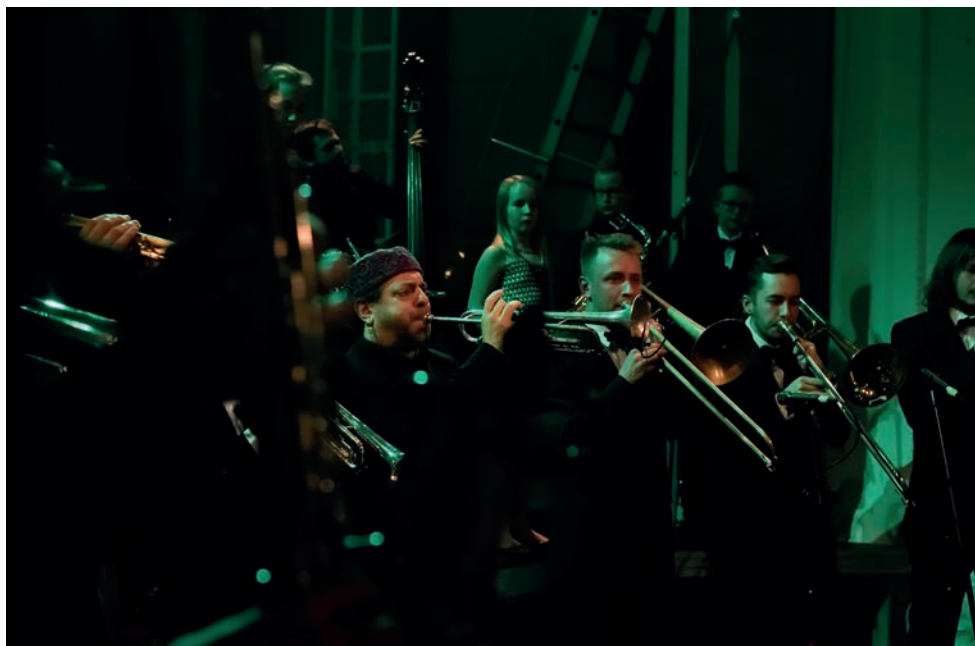
David Krakauer – one of the finest clarinetists in the world. A New Yorker by blood and birth, though his ancestors came to America from Lviv and Sluck. Music for his clarinet has been composed by e.g. John Cage and Osvaldo Golijov. Krakauer has collaborated with the Kronos Quartet and many top musicians and orchestras. In the 80s he joined the movement to renew Jewish music co-creating The Klezmatics and simultaneously recording the first albums produced by John Zorn's legendary label: "Tzadik". Today, he concerts around the world and is regarded the founder of the klezmer jazz. He has also co-founded the Musicians' Raft in Sejny.

Michael Alpert – currently, one of the most famous ethnographers, collectors and performers of Yiddish songs, and a recipient of the 2015 National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship. He is a disciple of the violinist Leon Schwartz, who emigrated to New York from Warsaw with his entire klezmer orchestra. Michael was born to a family that spoke both Yiddish and Polish at home. His grandfather came from Malaty, a village a few kilometres from Sejny, now in Lithuania. He is a globetrotter who lived most of his life in New York and now lives in Scotland. He is a co-founder of the band Brave Old World.





Frank London – trumpeter, founder of the American klezmer group The Klezmatics. He has always combined tradition and modernity in his music. He studied with the old masters, and at the same time created a “radical Jewish culture” together with John Zorn. Together with Rabbi Greg Wall, he formed the band Hasidic New Wave, which in a subversive way reinterprets Hasidic prayers and nigunim, reworking also the covers of the punk band Dead Kennedys. Frank together with the Klezmatics won a Grammy Award for his interpretations of the songs of Woody Guthrie. He lives in New York.



Mikołaj Trzaska – one of the most important musicians of free jazz. Co-founder of Ken Vandermark’s Resonance Ensemble. He practises yass music independently and with the Miłość band. He is a composer of music scores for films by Wojciech Smarzowski. With the band Shofar, Trzaska contributes to a new dimension of Polish Jewish music. He is a teacher and master at the Sejny Jazz Cooperative.



Raphael Rogiński – creator of one of the most interesting individual musical creations in the field of Jewish music in Poland. An outstanding guitarist, he combines his innovative technique with musical improvisation. Founder of the bands: Shofar, Cukunft, Alte Zachen and many other sounds of the Polish and world music stages.

During a 7-day workshop, the musicians composed works which were then recorded in a professional recording studio. They were included in the first album of the Klezmer Orchestra of the Sejny Theatre.



“PAST FOR COMMON FUTURE”. INTERNATIONAL EDUCATIONAL YOUTH PROGRAMME – LITHUANIA, LATVIA, POLAND

The educational program “Past for the Common Future” was implemented in April 2016 in Kėdainiai (Lithuania), in Sejny and Augustów (Poland) and in Rēzekne (Latvia). The project leader was the Regional Museum in Kėdainiai. Apart from the Borderland Foundation, project partners included the Kėdainiai Middle School and the University College of Rēzekne. Participants were students of primary, middle and high schools from the three countries, along with their teachers / mentors.

2015 was the year of the 70th anniversary of the end of World War II. In Lithuania, Latvia and Poland, the war brought three occupations (Soviet, Nazi and again Soviet), deportations, border shifts, Holocaust, destruction, guerrilla warfare, collectivization and industrialization. Due to the region’s special history, the citizens of Lithuania, Latvia and Poland perceive World War II and its consequences differently than Western Europe. There is no common image of the European tragedy experienced by the citizens of these countries.

The aim of the project was to make young generation discover and realize the consequences of World War II. The activities have concerned learning historical facts, as well as personal stories of people remembering those times and members of their families. The most important part of group work were interviews and meetings guided by teachers / mentors.





A group of ten students from Sejny and of five from Augustów were taken care of by the history teachers: Bożena Gryguć, Dorota Fiećko and Danuta Kaszlej. Their work consisted in collecting visual materials (photos, documents), oral stories, narratives of World War II and its consequences (deportations, Augustów Roundup, Holocaust). The stories were collected during meetings of young people with the oldest inhabitants of Sejny and Augustów, who shared stories about the fates of their families. The collected material was developed during art workshops in which all participants took part.

In 2017 there were three workshop meetings, in which a group of 70 participants took part: From 9-10 May in Sejny and Krasnogruda, from 1-2 June in Rēzekne, Latvia, and from 15-16 June Kėdainiai, Lithuania. The young worked during the workshops on an exhibition and film showing the World War II as perceived by the people who were interviewed during the project.





“READING THE OTHER” SYMPOSIUM

Intellectuals raise issues concerning humanity. They are people who are not restrained by a single point of view or concept, discipline or perspective, culture or ideological preference. A master of his/her discipline of art becomes an intellectual by transcending its limits, when he/she succeeds in translating his/her field’s problems, themes, and ideas into a general cultural framework within which professionals from other fields and/or disciplines can operate. An intellectual, therefore, always fulfils the function of mediating interpreter or critic.

Leonidas Donskis

The symposium entitled “Bauman and Donskis read the postmodern world and the future of Europe” took place in Krasnogruda and Šeteiniai (Lithuania) from 30 July to 6 August as part of the cycle “Reading the Other.” Sessions at the International Centre for Dialogue in Krasnogruda, held in the form of dialogical seminars, are devoted to the contemporary re-reading of books by influential thinkers of the twentieth century that reflect the challenges faced by the “borderland people”.





Each year's symposium has its chosen "guide of thought" whose public voice and works contribute a unique "vantage point" (Miłosz, *A Treatise on Morality*). In 2017 the patrons were Zygmunt Bauman and Leonidas Donskis, outstanding public intellectuals, authors of such jointly written book-interviews, as: *Moral Blindness: The Loss of Sensitivity in Liquid Modernity* and *Liquid Evil*. Both writers had recently passed away.

Painfully surprising was the death of Leonidas Donskis. He was in the prime of his creative force, with plans to build with Borderland the "pedagogical province" between Šeteiniai /Kaunas and Krasnogruda/Sejny. The idea was also patronized by Zygmunt Bauman, a participant of the "Agora of Philosophers" opening the activity of the International Center for Dialogue.

The participants of our symposium, run in English and Polish, were "disturbers of peace" from Ukraine, Lithuania, the Czech Republic, the United States and Poland. Dialogues were hosted by: Krzysztof Czyżewski, Jarosław Hrycak, Marci Shore and Timothy Snyder. This year, the last part of the symposium took place in Szetejnie (Šeteiniai), the birthplace of Czesław Miłosz, and also the place where Leonidas Donskis built his house shortly before his premature death. In this way we launched cooperation with the Open Lithuania Foundation, which we hope to continue in the coming years.





LITERARY ASSEMBLY TRANSLATION WORKSHOPS FOR POETS AND THEIR TRANSLATORS FROM POLAND AND LITHUANIA

The International Centre for Dialogue in Krasnogruda hosted the already fifth meeting of the “Literary Assembly”: Its organizers were: Cultural Attaché of the Republic of Lithuania in Poland, Lithuania Writers Association and the Borderland Foundation and the Center “Borderland – of Arts, Cultures and Nations” in Sejny.

The participants of the meeting were Lithuanian poets and writers and their translators: Irena Aleksaitė, Paulina Ciucka, Birutė Jonuškaitė, Alina Kuzborska, Zuzanna Mroziak, Agnieszka Rembiałkowska, Agnė Žagrakalytė, Eugenijus Ališanka, Sigitas Birgelis, Tomasz Błaszczak, Vladas Braziūnas, Almis Grybauskas, Antanas Jonynas, and Kazys Uscila.

The now traditional workshop meetings held in Krasnogruda were filled with intense work on Lithuanian literature becoming accessible to Polish readers thanks to the commitment of its translators. One of the formulas we have worked out is a translator – author dialogue in a common search for sounds and meanings.

Concentrated work on the text is enriched by session meetings to exchange experiences. There were also author’s evenings which using an open bilingual formula presented translations of fiction and poetry to a wider public. Its cyclical schedule guarantees development of the audiences of the meetings.





This year, part of the Literary Assembly schedule meant to be open to wider audiences, organized at the “Song of Porcelain” Café were the following events:

- A poetry evening dedicated to Nijolė Miliauskaitė combined with the presentation of the volume of poetry titled “Room without Entry” published under the “Inicjał” series by Wydawnictwo Pogranicze,
- the meeting in which participated translators Alina Kuzborska and Agnieszka Rembiałkowska was hosted by Małgorzata Kasner (Institute of Slavic Studies of the Polish Academy of Sciences).

Presentation of the poetry series “Inicjał” of the Wydawnictwo Pogranicze by Małgorzata Sporek-Czyżewska.

There was also a new exhibition “LOT” (Flight) at the White Synagogue in Sejny, presenting paintings and drawings by Prof. Andrzej Strumiłło, followed by an evening of Lithuanian poetry with the participation of the authors and their translators reading from their poetry.

The developed over the years tradition of literary assemblies has created a Polish-Lithuanian literary milieu founded on the ties of joint effort and personal relations. We are planning to extend the Assembly to include also writers and translators from Russia.





COOPERATION WITH UNIVERSITIES

The Borderland runs an intensive and diverse cooperation with many institutions and academic milieus – New School University, New York, Rutgers University, Yale University, Syracuse University, Chicago University, University of Bologna, Polish Culture Institute and the College of Artes Liberales at the University of Warsaw, Oranim Academic College in Israel, the European University of Viadrina in Frankfurt (on the Oder), the Center for Humanist Studies at the I. Franko University in Lviv, Vytautas Magnus University in Kaunas, Lithuania, and The Institute of Polish Philology and the Philosophical Circle of Philosophers at the University of Bialystok. The cooperation includes summer schools, internships, study visits, workshops, guest lectures and presentations.

A significant novel feature is Borderland being invited by some universities to co-create their programs, both in research and teaching, and consequently, establishment of a semester course conducted on the basis of Borderland's expertise and experience, which become part of university curricula. Such courses are offered currently at Department of Arts, Culture and Media at Rutgers University and at the Faculty of Political Sciences at the University of Bologna.





Krasnogruda has already become a venue of regular study visits and internships of student groups, from such organizations as the Oranim Academic College of Education from Israel and Syracuse University, USA, whose innovative, interdisciplinary program combines the practice of cultural and artistic work with building of a new reflection in this field. As part of these programs, students become acquainted with the everyday practice of the Borderland, in particular with educational activities; they are invited to co-create art workshops and participate in seminars and debates on the contemporary idea of community in the multicultural borderlands.

A study visit of 50-person group of future teachers and educators from the Oranim Academic College of Education, Israel.



The Borderland has for the second time organized a visit of students and lecturers of the Oranim Collage to Poland and Lithuania working in cooperation with the Oranim Collage, the Jewish Historical Institute in Warsaw and other partner organizations from Poland and Lithuania. The participants of the project prepared for the journey during a seminar with Professor Moshe Shner in Oranim. The group visited Warsaw, Sejny and Vilnius. As part of an intensive program, they met representatives of non-governmental organizations, educators, scientists and culture animators, participated in artistic events and visited places related to history, but also learned about the contemporary features of these places. The purpose of the meeting was to exchange experiences and good practices in educational and cultural activities and to establish contacts which should result in cooperation in the future. From 11-14 May, the group participated in workshops and meetings in Sejny and Krasnogruda. As part of meetings with the Borderland team, presentations and concerts, they learned about the educational practices of various studios working within the Borderland. An important event on the Israeli group itinerary in Sejny was the common Sabbath supper in the White Synagogue, participated also by the residents of Sejny.

Partner Visit of Representatives of Rutgers University

From 22 to 24 June, the guests of the Borderland were representatives of Rutgers University from Newark, USA: Sherri-Ann P. Butterfield – Vice President of the University, professor of sociology, Ian Watson – professor of theatre and art, culture



and media, Clayton Walton – director of the Paul Robeson Cultural Center. The purpose of the visit was to prepare a summer program of the Borderland School in Krasnogruda and Sejny for students of Rutgers University. The task of the “school” will be to equip students with the “tools” needed to carry out socio-cultural activities for the local community. The guests familiarized themselves with the history and methods of the Borderland’s work. Part of individual workshops consisted of presentations and talks with guests meant to draft programmatic activities of the “Borderland School – 2018” planned in Sejny and Krasnogruda.

Debate at Historical Institute of the University of Warsaw

On February 23, Borderland took part in the debate titled “Memory in Contemporary Culture. Experiences and New Challenges” held at the Historical Institute of the University of Warsaw. Participants of the meeting were: Krzysztof Czyżewski (Borderland), Witold Dąbrowski (Brama Grodzka, Lublin), Zbigniew Gluza (Karta), the debate was hosted by Weronika Czyżewska-Poncyłjusz. The lead theme of the debate was the cultural and educational practice of institutions that have for many years been contributing to the culture of remembrance in Poland.

Соприкосновение / Dotknięcie/ Prisilietimas Conference in St. Petersburg

From 9-10 June, Małgorzata Sporek-Czyżewska and Krzysztof Czyżewski attended the conference “Соприкосновение / Dotknięcie / Prisilietimasw” which took place at the University of St. Petersburg, in cooperation with such institutions as the Anna Akhmatova Museum. Małgorzata Sporek-Czyżewska gave a lecture titled “Miłosz and Giedroyc between Literature and Politics”, and Krzysztof Czyżewski a lecture titled “The Twilight of Enlightenment”.

A study visit of students from the Faculty of Polish Philology at the University of Białystok

From June 10-12, at the ICD and Borderland Centre in Sejny, took place a study visit of students of the Faculty of Polish Philology at the University of Białystok majoring in Literature on Borderlands. They came to Krasnogruda for “Practising Borderland” classes. The supervisor of the major is professor Danuta Zawadzka. The workshop with the students in Krasnogruda was run by Krzysztof Czyżewski.





WORKSHOPS AND STUDY VISITS IN ICD

The International Center for Dialogue in Krasnogruda has a rich educational offering for organized groups and individual visitors. Classes and workshops are built based on the Manor exhibition and Art studios. The offer is used by both schools and groups of adults. This year, ICD in Krasnogruda received 42 organized groups (1 295 people) and 1 991 individual visitors to the exhibition "Miłosz. In Search of a Homeland." Altogether, the exhibition had 3 286 visitors. The exhibition served as a basis for development of literary workshops titled: "French Contexts of Czesław Miłosz's Work", "Multicultural Landscape of the Birthplace of Czesław Miłosz on the Example of the Performance of Issa Valley", "Krasnogruda from Miłosz's Manor to Invisible Bridge", "A Story about the Multicultural Traditions of the Sejny Borderland "On Identity on the Borderlands of Europe – Adam Mickiewicz, Czesław Miłosz, Oskar Miłosz." Also based on the exhibition were workshops titled "Multiculturalism of Borderlands in Source Texts – Letters". The groups participated in events organized at our Studios: Krasnogruda Larder and Art Studio – art classes for school groups related to the multicultural heritage of the Sejny Borderland; Nature Studio offered "The Beaver's Path" project; the Word and Tale Studio ran classes on "Philosophy of Borderland Practice", "Borderland School" workshop and "From the Borderland Ethos to the Invisible Bridge". Throughout the year-long workshop work, we used the space of the historical Park surrounding the Krasnogruda Manor: the Poets' Avenue, Chestnut Avenue and the area of the Invisible Bridge. The "Song of Porcelain" Café was a venue of workshops of Yiddish song, part of the musical program "Ejbike Mame" which consists of songs from pre-war theatres and Yiddish cabarets, performed by Małgorzata Sporek-Czyżewska and musicians of the Klezmer Orchestra of the Sejny Theatre.

April 20-21 / Study Visit of the Participants of the Fifth Assembly of Cultural Education of the Capital City of Warsaw

The study visit was organized by the Education Bureau in Warsaw for employees of Warsaw institutions related to Cultural Education, methodology advisers, directors of the State Art Centres, Youth Palace and Cultural Centres, and consisted in presentation of educational programs carried out by the Borderland. The participants took part in presentations and workshops at the Art Studio, Krasnogruda Larder Studio, Nature Studio, Music Studio, Film Studio and Borderland Tale Studio. The program also included: a concert of Yiddish songs "Ejbike Mame"



at the “The Song of Porcelain” Café, a meeting with Krzysztof Czyżewski on the “Philosophy of Borderland Practices”, a spectacle of “The Sejny Chronicles” and a visit to the exhibition “Miłosz | In Search of a Homeland”.

January 10-13 / Study Visit of “Solidarity Academy”

The aim of the visit of 12 young journalists cooperating with the European Solidarity Center in Gdańsk as part of the “Solidarity Academy” program was getting acquainted with the Borderland activities and establishing of a long-term cooperation. ESC’s activities are aimed at popularization of the ideals of the Solidarity Movement – democracy, social solidarity and society open to dialogue of cultures maintaining its attractiveness and relevance. In the memory of Poles and Europeans, the experience of Solidarity remains to be remembered as a peaceful European revolution, which in the community of European democracies is an important part of the founding myth of Europe, as well as a source of inspiration and hope for those who do not live in open and democratic societies.

October 6-10 / Visit of lecturers from the Roman Czernecki EFC Educational Foundation

On October 6, and October 10, a group of 18 lecturers from the Roman Czernecki EFC Educational Foundation visited the Borderland. The EFC is a community wishing to support outstanding young people in Poland, to make them be noticed, appreciated and supported so that their talents are not wasted, but developed in appropriate conditions. Its beneficiaries are the most talented students, for whom the Foundation provides best possible conditions for learning. During their visit to ICD, the lecturers took part in workshops, lectures, performances and concerts. They got to know the educational practices of the Borderland and discussed future cooperation.

Also:

- March 4 / workshops for participants of the youth exchange “So Far, So Close”, organized by two schools: the 3rd Alfred Lityński High School with Bilingual Departments in Suwałki and Lycée Notre-Dame de Grâce from Maubeuge, France,





- May 17/ workshops for 1st grade humanities students from the 3rd Krzysztof Kamil Baczyński High School,
- May 18-19 / workshops for the students of the 5th French School in Warsaw,
- May 23 / workshops for the students of the 35th Bolesław Prus High School, Warsaw,
- May 24 / workshops for students from the Department of Pedagogics of the State Higher Vocational School in Suwałki,
- May 24 / workshops for lecturers and students from the Lithuanian University of Educational Sciences in Vilnius and the Center for Polish Language and Culture,
- May 31 / workshops for first-grade students from the 31st St Stanisław Kostka High School, Lublin,
- June 1 / workshops for young people from Karl Dedecius Public Middle School No. 43 in Łódź, as part of the program “We learn about the countries of our neighbours”,
- June 2 / workshops for students from the Middle School of Ferdynand Ruszczyk from Rudamin near Vilnius,
- June 5 / workshops for students of four Polish schools in Latvia: from Riga, Daugavpils-Dyneburg, Krasław and Rēzekne. The trip to Borderland was made possible with the support of the “Aid for Poles in the East” Foundation.
- June 21 / workshops for a group of seniors from the University of the Third Age in Łódź,
- July 27 / workshops for the students of the School Complex in Giby, taking part in the project “Culturally an Hour”,
- September 28 / workshops for students of the St Christopher High School, Vilnius,
- September 27 / workshops for students from the Primary School of Maria Konopnicka in Suwałki,
- September 21-22 / visit of a 17-person group of members of the Evangelical Reformed Parish in Warsaw, with the parish priest Rev. Michał Jabłoński, as part of their trip to the Polish-Lithuanian borderlands,
- September 21 / a visit of the members of the Pensioners and Pensioners Section of the Polish Teachers’ Union in Suwałki,





- September 15 / workshops for students of the Fine Arts School Complex in Katowice,
- September 11-12 / workshops for students of the 19th High School of Warsaw Insurgents as part of the first-grade students' integration trip,
- October 3-4 / workshops for students from Class 3e of the State 1st and 2nd Degree Music School in Suwałki,
- October 2 / workshops for first grade students of the Klementyna Hoffmannowa High School, Warsaw,
- October 4 / a visit of the First International School "Poland and Central and Eastern Europe 2017" (30 young historians, journalists, political scientists and publicists from 17 countries),
- October 4-5 / workshops for two groups of students from the Darius and Girenas Primary School with Polish and Lithuanian Teaching Language, Puńsk,
- October 12 / a visit of a group from Tarnowskie Góry taking part in the prof. Jacek Kurek project titled: "European Cities" in a new formula – with wandering, accompanied by a narrative of the parallel cultures of visited places,
- October 13 / workshops for the first and fourth grade students of the John Paul II Middle School, Vilnius,
- October 18 / workshops for a group of forty-seven students of the seventh grade from the Mikołaj Bakałarz Primary School, Bakałarzewo,
- October 20 / workshops for the second-grade students of the Szymon Konarski High School in Sejny participating in the National Readership Development Program,
- December 2 / workshops for the group of teachers-instructors of Capital City Centre for Cultural Education / SCEK / in Warsaw,
- December 14 / workshops for a group of students of the Professor Edward F. Szczepanik State Higher Vocational School in Suwałki.





PRESENTATIONS OF BORDERLAND WORK

Guest lecture on the Borderland at the University of Wrocław

On May 15, Małgorzata Sporek-Czyżewska delivered a guest lecture at the University of Wrocław, for the students of the second-cycle studies at the Tadeusz Taube Jewish Studies Department. The lecture was titled: "Jewish themes in the educational practice of the Borderlands". The meeting was accompanied by the presentation of the film "The Musicians' Raft between New York and Sejny" and a photo-presentation.

Borderland at the 3rd International Congress of Children's Rights and the 8th International Korczak Conference

On September 15, during the 3rd International Congress of Children's Rights and the 8th International Korczak Conference, were held the following presentations of the Borderland's work: Krzysztof Czyżewski gave a speech titled: "Memory of the Other: Child and Education" in the "History and Memory" thematic block in session I "Memory and Education", Małgorzata Sporek-Czyżewska gave a talk on Educational Dimension of the Return of the "Survivor" to his Place of Birth and Bożena Szroeder about the Archaeology of Remembrance in the Educational Work of the Borderland Center.

Borderland at the conference "Polish Anthropological Film. Between Science and Art"

Małgorzata Sporek-Czyżewska took part in the scientific conference „Polish Anthropological Film. Between Science and Art“ held on October 12-13 in Łódź. On behalf of Borderland, she presented the film "Fates Listened to" as an example of documentary practice. The film was made during a journey of the young people of the Sejny Theatre to the Polish villages near Lida, in Belarus.

Borderland at the MitOst Festival in Frankfurt

On October 10, Krzysztof Czyżewski participated in the 15th edition of the International Festival MitOst in Frankfurt on the Oder / Slubice – an annual convention of former scholarship holders and participants of the Bosch Foundation programs in Central and Eastern Europe. In his speech, he spoke about the philosophy of cultural work on the borderlands and the culture of solidarity, which is so much needed in the face of contemporary challenges facing the European community.



Borderland in the Center for European Studies in Lund

On November 17, Krzysztof Czyżewski delivered a lecture at the Center for European Studies in Lund on „The Art of Animation of Intercultural Culture and Practices on the Example of the Borderland Center”. The audience was introduced to the topic by Professor Barbara Tornquist-Plewa.



PUBLISHING PROGRAMME

Krzysztof Czyżewski “Małe centrum świata” (The Small Centre of the World)

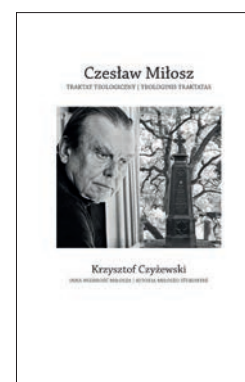
What does “practising of the idea” mean to Krzysztof Czyżewski? If the idea means coexistence, and practice – communication, then the co-founded by him “Sejny Borderland” is a workshop of understanding – a place which seeks means of expression, reaching deep layers of memory, discovering archives, communicating with the Other. In this sense, the Small Center of the World is a guide for practising coexistence on borderlands.

Writing about the dialogue of cultures in the Brexit era is burdened with an increased risk. Therefore, the common to us phenomena, such as dissolution, conflict, and aggression, Czyżewski opposes with the all-embracing and enrooting culture, one inviting to participation, involvement in the community and helping one on his/her to one’s own identity. The task of the Borderland Center is not, of course, to avert the conflict in the Middle East or to sew up the torn European Union. Instead, it is here to learn from anyone, who will come to visit the “Borderland”, how to name the breach and work together with the visitor to build the “connective tissue”. If they are successful, the small Sejny and Krasnogruda become, for a moment, small centres of the world. [Przemysław Czapliński]



Czesław Miłosz “A Theological Treaty” | Krzysztof Czyżewski “Another Faithfulness of Miłosz”

The bibliophile, Polish-Lithuanian publication includes Czesław Miłosz’s *Theological Treaty* with its Lithuanian translation by Almis Grybauskas, and Krzysztof Czyżewski’s essay *Another Faithfulness of Miłosz* with its Lithuanian translation by Kazys Uscili.





The Meridian series, presenting works of outstanding authors from Central and Eastern Europe, published the following books, which we characterize here in the words of translators or readers:

Dragan Velikić “Śladami” (In the Footsteps)

Dragan Velikić's town is Pula. He owes it his place on the literary map of our languages, and then also on the book map of Europe. Joyce built Dublin, to wander later, like Odysseus, through southern Europe in a vain search for salvation. Andrić built Travnik, Višegrad and Sarajevo, and finally he built Belgrade, because he lacked his own town. For thirty years now, book by book, Velikić has been building Pula for himself, a town which, in fact, for political, historical and family reasons, he has lost forever. The novel is an attempt to recover what has been lost in life. If it happened otherwise, if he was still living in this town, and if he today worked, say, in the town's waterworks or in the police, it would not have occurred to him to write such a book. If Velikić stayed in Pula, he would remain indifferent to the town of his novels. [Miljenko Jergović]



„In the Footsteps...” has been hailed in the Balkans as the best, so far, work of Dragan Velikić, a quintessential achievement of his literary craft. The writer's latest novel is a story about his mother and about growing up, it is not only a poetic confession, but also a story of the country, towns and people who are gone, about escapes, emigration and wanderings. Cutting to the quick while restoring faith in the legitimacy of searching. Because footsteps always lead somewhere... [Aleksandra Wielemborek]

The poetic series “Inicjał” includes also:

Joanna Miłosz-Piekarska “Wiersze australijskie oraz inne” (Australian poems and other poems)

Joanna Miłosz-Piekarska was born in Warsaw, in 1952. When she was 15 she left to join her mother in London, from where they both emigrated to Australia. After a few years she returned to Europe, lived in London and Warsaw where she graduated from English Studies. Her master thesis was devoted to Leonard Cohen's works. After her studies, she did different jobs such as writing for New York Times.

The introduction of the martial law in Poland found her living together with her husband and one-year-old daughter Natalia in Australia, where they had gone to visit their mother. Fearing the uncertain situation in her home country, she decided to stay with her child in Melbourne. She has stayed there and now runs an actor agency. She has written lyrics and a volume of poetry titled “Red dust” (Pogranicze, 2009), which also contains drawings of her daughter Natalia. She is currently working on her autobiography, richly illustrated with photos from her family archive.

Joanna Piekarska-Miłosz has visited Borderland many times to take part in projects commemorating her uncle, Czesław and father, Andrzej.





**Nijolė Miliauskaitė “Pokój bez wyjścia”
(Room without Exit)**

Nijolė Miliauskaitė, 1950-2002, Lithuanian scholar, editor and poet. She was a wife of the eminent, much older poet Vytautas Bložė and organized his professional and home life, her own work treating as secondary. Her début came late, only in 1985.

Her poetry is minimalistic and sincere. She lets us hear the rustle of grass and the sound of water, see the ant and various shades of stone or sky, feel the pungent or bitter taste of loss, but also the sweetness of forest berries, needle pricks and pain of suffering. We can touch darkness, but also ordinary household appliances. The essential building block of Lithuanian poetry – nature – will appear in Miliauskaitė’s poetry in various guises: as a picture from childhood, as an ugly social realist cityscape, as an idyllic scene or as a dangerous element. Nijolė Miliauskaitė is a master of detail, a poet of everyday life.

From a blurb by the translator, Alina Kuzborska.





FINANCIAL STATEMENT

INTRODUCTION TO FINANCIAL STATEMENT:

1. *organization name, registered office and address or place of residence and address and the number of the relevant court register or record,*
Fundacja Pogranicza, ul. Piłsudskiego 37, 16-500 Sejny
KRS 0000178248
2. *indication of the duration of the organization, if limited,*
The Company has unlimited duration.
3. *indication of the period covered by the financial statement,*
The period covered by the financial report: 2017.01.01-2017.12.31
4. *indication as to whether the financial statements have been prepared assuming continued operation of the enterprise in the foreseeable future and that there are no circumstances indicating risks to continuation of its activities,*
The financial statement has been prepared assuming continued operation of the Foundation in the foreseeable future and there are no circumstances indicating risks to continuation of its activities,
5. *discussion of the adopted accounting principles (policy), including methods of valuation of assets and liabilities (including depreciation), financial result and the method of preparation of the financial statements in the scope in which accounting regulations allow the entity the right to choose.*
The Foundation uses the following valuation methods:
 - a) Intangible and legal assets are valued at acquisition prices or production cost less accumulated depreciation.
 - b) Fixed assets are valued at acquisition (purchase) prices or production cost less accumulated depreciation. Fixed assets are depreciated according on a straight-line basis.
 - c) Books from physical donations as fixed assets with an expected period of economic utility longer than one year are included in the "Library collections" account. They are mainly low-value fixed assets, and their amortization is made on a one-off basis. Material donations are valued at the selling price of the same or similar item, if it is not possible to determine the net sales value of a given asset, its fair value is determined.



- d) Tangible current assets – at the manufacturing cost, not higher than their net sales prices as at the balance sheet date. The value of the warehouse has been adjusted to 50% of the book selling prices – because the discount for the wholesalers is 50% of the price.
- e) Receivables are measured at the amounts due.
- f) Cash in PLN is recognized at its nominal value. Owned funds in Euro are valued at the average exchange rate of the NBP on the day preceding the valuation.
- g) Equity is recognized in the books at their nominal value, according to their types and rules laid down by laws and the statute.
- h) Payables are valued at the amounts due.
- i) Prepayments and accrued income include, in particular, the amounts of the received subsidies in their part assigned to the future reporting periods.
- j) The financial results are presented in accordance with Annex 6 to the Act.



FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Balance sheet prepared
for 31/12/2017

ASSETS		for the end of	
1	2	preceding year	current year
A	Fixed assets	5,834,015.15	5,647,910.63
I	Intangible and legal assets	0.00	0.00
II	Tangible assets including fixed assets	5,834,015.15	5,647,910.63
III	Long-term liabilities	0.00	0.00
IV	Long-term investments	0.00	0.00
V	Long-term prepayments and accrued income	0.00	0.00
B	Current assets	384,708.67	424,758.31
I	Inventory of tangible current assets	301,468.82	310,171.83
II	Short-term liabilities	23,013.87	14,793.90
III	Short-term investments	55,878.98	95,011.42
1.	Cash	55,878.98	95,011.42
2.	Other current investments	0.00	0.00
IV	Short-term deferred expenses	4,347.00	4,781.16
	Total assets	6,218,723.82	6,072,668.94
row	LIABILITIES	for the end of	
1	2	preceding year	Year current
A	Equity	900,314.46	1,142,534.31
I	The Fund stipulated in the Statutes	857,561.14	900,314.46
II	Other funds	0.00	0.00
III	Net profit (loss) from previous years	0.00	0.00
IV	Net profit (loss)	42,753.32	242,219.85
B	Liabilities and Provisions for Liabilities	5,318,409.36	4,930,134.63
I	Provisions for liabilities	0.00	0.00
II	Long-term liabilities	257,000.00	98,000.00
III	Short-term liabilities	202,937.83	134,798.62
IV	Prepayments and Accrued Income	4,858,471.53	4,697,336.01
	Total Liabilities	6,218,723.82	6,072,668.94



PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT

for the period from 01.01.2017 to 31.12.2017

Profit and Loss Account basing on Attachment No. 6 to Accounting Act

Item	Details	Amounts for previous year	Amounts for current year
1	2	3	4
A	Income from activities defined by the Statutes	732,761.96	906,152.24
I	Income from unpaid charity public benefit activities	598,790.84	744,354.40
II	Income from paid public benefit activities	133,971.12	161,797.84
III	Income from other activities defined by the Statutes	0.00	0.00
B	Costs of Statutory Activities	747,117.14	828,531.25
I	Costs of unpaid charity public benefit activities	613,146.02	666,733.41
II	Costs of paid public benefit activities	133,971.12	161,797.84
III	Costs of other Statutory Activities	0.00	0.00
C	Profit (loss) from statutory activities (A-B)	-14,355.18	77,620.99
D	Income from business activities	0.00	0.00
E	Costs of business activities	0.00	0.00
F	Profit (loss) from business activities (D-E)	0.00	0.00
G	Overheads	0.00	13,056.11
H	Profit (loss) on operating activities (C+F-G)	14,355.18	64,564.88
I	Other operating revenue	332,306.91	204,476.15
J	Other operating expenses	237,508.38	864.14
K	Financial income	17,518.12	4,964.13
L	Financial expenses	55,208.15	30,921.17
M	Gross profit (loss) (H+I-J+K-L)	42,753.32	242,219.85
N	Income tax	0.00	0.00
O	Net profit (loss) (M-N)	42,753.32	242,219.85



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

1. *information on any financial obligations, including debt securities, guarantees and sureties or contingent liabilities not included in the balance sheet, with an indication of the nature and form of claims secured by material;*

The Foundation has a liability secured by blank promissory note issued to the Society for Social and Economic Investment SA in Warsaw under the loan agreement No. 2010/06/07. As at 31.12.2017 the value of the outstanding loan is 190,998.34 PLN.

2. *the amount of advances and credits granted to the members of the administrative, management and supervisory bodies, with an indication of interest rates, main conditions and any amounts repaid, written off or depreciated, as well as commitments entered into on their behalf by way of guarantees of any kind, with an indication of the amount of the total for each category.*

The organization does not grant loans to members of the administrative, management and supervisory bodies, as well as commitments entered into on their behalf by way of guarantees of any kind.

3. *supplementary data on assets and liabilities*

Assets

Fixed assets

Buildings, apartments and civil engineering works	5,516,026.39
Technical equipment and machinery	27,015.24
Other fixed assets	104,869.00

Inventories

Work in hand (books)	26,245.99
Finished products (value of books reduced by a revaluation write-off)	275,599.84
Archival books in warehouse archives	8,326.00

Short-term receivables include:

Receivables from other entities	13,389.76
Tax receivables	1,404.14

Short-term receivables include:

Funds deposited in bank accounts and in hand	95,011.42
Short-term prepayments (property insurance)	4,781.16

Liabilities

Equity consists of:

Fund stipulated in the Statutes	900,314.46
Financial results for the financial year	242,219.85

Liabilities and Provisions for Liabilities

Loans payable	190,998.34
Trade payables	41,742.37
Liabilities for social security	57.91



Unpaid remuneration for specific task contracts and mandate contracts	0.00
Other liabilities	0.00
Payments and accrued income	4,697,336.01

4. *information about the structure of realized revenue with an indication of sources*

<u>Revenue from unpaid charitable statutory activities</u>	<u>744,354.40</u>	<u>percentage share – 82.14%</u>
Payment from 1% tax	12,221.60	
Cash donations	285,008.34	
Donations in-kind	7,021.33	
Grants and funds from public institutions for implemented projects	440,103.13	
– Grants of Ministry of Culture and National Heritage	145,000.00	
– Grants of the Marshall Office	9,000.00	
– Grants of the National Centre for Culture	46,000.00	
– other revenue	240,103.13	
<u>Revenue from charitable statutory activities</u>	<u>161,797.84</u>	<u>percentage share – 17.86%</u>
Publishing activity	84,504.19	
– sale of books	64,393.51	
– grants and subsidies for books:		
• subsidy – „Kniha o cintorine”, Literalne Informacne Centrum Slovakia	4,370.50	
• subsidies settled from previous periods	4,458.60	
• subsidy for – “Das Buch gegen den Tod”– Austrian Forum of Culture	2,100.00	
• co-financing of translation of “Islednik” – Serbian Ministry of Culture	4,144.58	
• co-financing of book translation, Lietuvos Kulturos Institutas	5,037.00	
– entrance tickets	19,248.13	
– Borderland Studios	58,045.52	
Total income from statutory activities	906,152.24	100.00%
Other revenue:	4,964.13	
Other operating revenue:	204,476.15	
Total income	1,115,592.52	

5. *information about the cost structure*

Structure of incurred costs		
Costs of charitable statutory tasks	666,733.41	76.34%
Costs of paid statutory tasks	161,797.84	18.53%
Overheads	13,056.11	1.49%
Financial expenses	30,921.17	3.54%
Other operating expenses	864.14	0.10%
Total costs	873,372.67	100.00%

The general administrative costs for 2017, taking into account the percentage distribution of the costs allocated to different activities are structured as follows:

– costs of paid activities – 18% (based on the proportion of revenues from paid activities for the previous year).



- costs of unpaid activities – 76% (based on the proportion of revenues from unpaid activities for the previous year).
- general administrative expenses – 6% (based on the proportion of office space to the whole object, permanent percentage established for each year).

6. *data on sources of increasing and methods of using the statutory fund*

The statutory fund increases the positive net financial result for the previous fiscal year PLN 42,753.32, the fund is used to finance the statutory activities of the Foundation.

7. *data on income received and expenses incurred on account of 1% of personal income tax and the method of spending funds obtained from the 1% tax*

The revenue from the 1% of personal income tax for 2017 amounted to PLN 12,222.60, the Foundation did not incur any costs related to obtaining this revenue. Funds raised from 1% were spent on partial financing of own contributions in ongoing non-commercial public benefit projects:

- recording of the album of the Klezmer Orchestra – 5,700.00
- print and replication of the album of the Musicians' Raft – 1,000.00
- preparation of the cover for the Musicians' Raft album – 2,000.00
- design of the Silva Rerum and Home Bible exhibition – 3,521.60.

8. *other information of significant impact on the financial situation of the organization*

In 2011, the Foundation, completed the investment on the project PL0346 "International Centre for Dialogue in Krasnogruda" subsidized by the Norwegian Funds, the EEA, Promise of the Ministry of Culture and own resources. In 2010, in connection with the investment the Foundation took out a short-term loan in the amount of 600,000.00, increased with an annex in 2011 to 700,000.00 PLN and converted into a long-term loan. In February 2016, the Foundation signed another annex extending the repayment period of the loan until June 2020. As at 31.12.2017, the debt under the loan amounted to PLN 190,998.34 PLN.

Prepared on: 15.03.2018

