

## **SerbFest, September 18-20<sup>th</sup>, 2009**

### **“PORTRAITURES OF SERBS FROM THE EARLY 20TH CENTURY”**

Exhibit of photographs from the Ethnographic Museum collection in Belgrade

Photography was introduced to Serbs in the second half of the XIX century, starting in Belgrade, and soon after following in other cities. Photographers, driven by their curiosity and desire to explore, visited remote villages and small towns in Serbia, taking pictures of noblemen and regular people of the time. Today, looking at these photographs we are able to see the people's beauty measured by the eye of contemporaries and fashion trends in the Balkans.

At that time people were accustomed to wear the best attire while their portraits were taken, ranging from folk costumes to city clothes. The photography albums were filled with these photos and some of them are to this day well preserved. Sometimes on the back of photos, inscriptions were written with words of love and sent as post cards to relatives, friends and loved ones. From the distance of almost one century these photographs are still beautiful and represent valuable documentation about the time in which they were taken.

#### **ABOUT THE EXHIBIT IN BOSTON, USA:**

These photos were presented to the public for the first time in May of 2008, in the restaurant “?” (Question Mark) in Belgrade, which has gathered Serbs to enjoy ethnic food and slivovica for the last two centuries. The restaurant (kafana) was erected in 1823 and today is the property of the City of Belgrade. For the Boston exhibit, the printed photographs are from the digital negatives of the same Ethnographic Museum collection in Belgrade.

All interested will be able to buy these images and all proceeds will go towards restoration of the Church Saint Sava in Cambridge. All purchases are tax deductible.

The exhibit was presented and created by Zoran Tulum and Dragan Grujic.

We would like to thank professor Ilija Knezevic from University of Arts in Belgrade and Ethnographic Museum in Belgrade who made this exhibit possible.