



BSEC MONTH OF CULTURE 2017

PRESS RELEASE

Monday 12 June 2017

Georgia

Are you familiar with traditional polyphonic singing of Georgia?

Georgian polyphonic singing

Polyphonic singing has a highly valued place in Georgian culture and it is considered Intangible Cultural Heritage by UNESCO. There are three types of polyphony in Georgia: complex polyphony, which is common in Svaneti, polyphonic dialogue over a bass background, prevalent in the Kakheti region in Eastern Georgia, and contrasted polyphony with three partially improvised sung parts, characteristic of western Georgia. The Chakrulo song, which is sung at ceremonies and festivals and belongs to the first category, is distinguished by its use of metaphor and its yodel, the krimanchuli and a “cockerel’s crow”, performed by a male falsetto singer. The songs traditionally pervaded all areas of everyday life.

#BSEC25 #CultureBSEC #Music #Georgia



Greece

Where is the “navel of the world”?

Archaeological Site of Delphi

The pan-Hellenic sanctuary of Delphi, where the oracle of Apollo spoke, was the site of the omphalos, the 'navel of the world'. Blending harmoniously with the superb landscape and charged with sacred meaning, Delphi in the 6th century B.C. was indeed the religious centre and symbol of unity of the ancient Greek world. It occupies an impressive site on the south-western slope of Mount Parnassus, overlooking the coastal plain to the south and the valley of Phocis. It is now an extensive archaeological site with a modern town nearby. It is recognized by UNESCO as a World Heritage Site in having had a phenomenal influence in the Ancient world.

#BSEC25 #CultureBSEC #Monuments #Greece



Moldova

What do you know about CRONOGRAF?

Cronograf

CRONOGRAF Festival is at the moment the only international documentary film festival in Moldova and it is organized in Chisinau since 2001. This event came into existence at the initiative of a young group of Moldavian filmmakers that were organized within OWH Studio. The festival has a great popularity and an international reputation, especially in the South-East Europe, being among the most important film events. CRONOGRAF is an opportunity for the local filmmakers to stand out of the crowd as well as a gateway to the world news in this genre.

#BSEC25 #CultureBSEC #Cinema #Moldova



Romania

Have you ever tried Romanian covrigi?

Covrigi

Covrigi are Romanian baked goods, sold around in cities. They are oven-baked bread rolls that have a consistency somewhere between a bagel and hot pretzel. They're sold plain or sprinkled with sesame or poppy seeds.

#BSEC25 #CultureBSEC #Gastronomy #Romania



Interested in learning more about the fascinating culture of the BSEC Member States?

Join the BSEC Month of Culture, organised by the ICBSS from 1-30 June 2017 and learn about the remarkable and rich cultural heritage of the BSEC region.

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About the BSEC Month of Culture:

On the occasion of the 25th Anniversary of the BSEC Organisation, the ICBSS is launching a new initiative, the “**BSEC Month of Culture**”, a **month long programme of cultural highlights from the 12 BSEC Member States** (Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, Georgia, Greece, Moldova, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Turkey, Ukraine).

Being aware of the rich, diverse cultural heritage of the BSEC region, **the ICBSS will launch the “BSEC Month of Culture”**, from **1st to 30th June 2017**, with the aim to promote the cultural identity of the region and enhance its visibility to the wider public.

The programme will feature online tributes on **literature, music, cinema, archaeological sites and gastronomy**, including short videos and photos.

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About the ICBSS: The International Centre for Black Sea Studies (ICBSS) was founded in 1998 as a non-profit organisation. It has since fulfilled a dual function. On the one hand, it is an independent research and training institution focusing on the wider Black Sea region. On the other hand, it is a related body of the Organisation of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC) and serves as its acknowledged think-tank. Thus, the ICBSS pursues applied, policy-oriented research, promotes knowledge on the Black Sea region both within and outside its boundaries, and offers policy advice with the aim to foster multilateral cooperation among the BSEC member states as well as with their international partners.

For further information please contact us at email icbss@icbss.org or tel.: 210 3242321