



BSEC MONTH OF CULTURE 2017

PRESS RELEASE

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Albania

Which Albanian Film has won an award at Cannes Film Festival?

The Great Warrior Skanderbeg (1953)

Gjergj Kastrioti aka Skanderbeg was a 15th-century national hero who was raised in the Sultan's court but later led Albania's struggle against the Ottoman Empire. A quasi-mythical figure, he has long served as a rallying point for the Albanian people, and unsurprisingly his biopic was the first feature film the Communist Party commissioned in the newly inaugurated Kinostudio. The film was co-produced with the USSR, with Sergei Yutkevich in the director's chair.

The film won an award at Cannes Film Festival in 1954.

#BSEC25 #CultureBSEC #Cinema #Albania



Armenia

How do they celebrate the importance of Duduk in Armenia?

Yerevan Duduk Festival

Yerevan Duduk Festival is an annual festival, which further enhances the importance of duduk music and the impact it has had on Armenian culture in general, and provides a platform for Armenian musicians and interested audiences to learn more about duduk and fully experience its rich and versatile music. The duduk is an ancient double-reed woodwind flute made of apricot wood. Celebrating the beauty of this unique instrument, Yerevan Duduk Festival aims to preserve and promote the legacy of duduk and its music. For three days, Yerevan Duduk Festival brings together musicians of all backgrounds and levels of experience in an event solely dedicated to this treasured instrument.

#BSEC25 #CultureBSEC #Music #Armenia



Azerbaijan

What do you know about Gobustan Rock Art in Azerbaijan?

Gobustan Rock Art Cultural Landscape

Gobustan Rock Art Cultural Landscape covers three areas of a plateau of rocky boulders rising out of the semi-desert of central Azerbaijan, with an outstanding collection of more than 6,000 rock engravings bearing testimony to 40,000 years of rock art. The site also features the remains of inhabited caves, settlements and burials, all reflecting an intensive human use by the inhabitants of the area during the wet period that followed the last Ice Age, from the Upper Paleolithic to the Middle Ages. The site is part of the larger protected Gobustan Reservation and enlisted in UNESCO World Heritage.

#BSEC25 #CultureBSEC #Monuments #Azerbaijan



Bulgaria

Have you ever tried Bulgarian tarator?

Tarator

Tarator is a Bulgarian popular in the summer dish because of its freshness.

It is a cold soup (or a liquid salad) and it is made of yogurt, cucumber, garlic, walnut, dill, vegetable oil, and water, and is served chilled or even with ice. A salad version of tarator is known as "Snow White salad" (Snejanka) that is made of thick (strained) yogurt, without water.

#BSEC25 #CultureBSEC #Gastronomy #Bulgaria



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.

Follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) and visit our [Website](#)!

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