

SUMMARY

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MILJENKO GRGIĆ – ONE OF THE FOUNDERS OF THE CROATIAN FESTIVAL OF MANDOLIN ORCHESTRAS *MANDOLINA IMOTA* AND ITS ART DIRECTOR IN THE FIRST FIVE YEARS

Miljenko Grgić was one of the founders of the Croatian Festival of Mandolin Orchestras *Mandolina Imota* and its director in the first five years. The Festival takes place in the town of Imotski, in the hinterland of Dalmatia. As the director of the Festival, Miljenko Grgić engaged in a series of scientific and artistic activities: he created the name of the Festival that is based on the historical musicological sources and musical tradition of the Imotski region; he was supported by the guardian of the church of St. Francis to perform the concerts there. He also instituted the concept and the contents of the Festival, following two main programme components – artistic and folklore; he selected the participants and took part in preparing the selected orchestras; he would choose the given piece, always composed by a Croatian author, that would be rated separately; he also invited prominent artists to design the awards and prizes. Owing to his initiative, many Croatian composers participate in the category of new compositions that are then recorded, both as tonal records and as printed scores published in *Mandolina* collection, four of which were published during his presidency. Moreover, he was engaged in searching for sponsors, auspices, Festival promotion in media and published a series of interviews and articles covering the entire Imotski Culture Week. The period when the Festival was managed by Miljenko Grgić is surely its most productive and most successful period, primarily owing to his expertise and abilities, but also to his enthusiasm, energy and zest which he devoted to this project and which he was able to spread out to all participants of the Festival.

Key words: mandolin, festival, Imotski, competition.