The Exhibition a Shift in Time: The Ent Department at the Zagreb School of Medicine from the Analogue to the Digital Age

Božidar Adžija Library, Zagreb, 15 November – 15 December 2023
Organised by: The Croatian Museum of Medicine and Pharmacy,
the Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts, and the Božidar Adžija Library, Zagreb
Authors of the exhibition: Silvija Brkić Midžić, Prof. Stella Fatović-Ferenčić and Prof. Drago Prgomet
Graphic design by: Studio Rašić, Ante Rašić
The exhibition layout by: Silvija Brkić Midžić

AUTHOR:
Silvija Brkić Midžić

With this exhibition, the Croatian Museum of Medicine and Pharmacy has continued its successful cooperation with the Božidar Adžija Library in Zagreb, established with the aim of displaying the museum items and presenting topics from the field of biomedical sciences to the general public during the renovation of the permanent museum building. As part of this collaboration, the Božidar Adžija Library has so far hosted the following exhibitions: Kaštel at its Peak: Advertising and Packing of Medicines produced by the Zagreb Kaštel Factory in the 1930s and 1940s (2021) and Museum Time Machine: the Collection of Folk Medicine as the Core of the Exhibition Display of the first Croatian Museum of Medicine (2022). Both became very popular among the audience. The exhibition A shift in Time: The ENT Department at the Zagreb School of Medicine from the Analogue to the Digital Age was realised in cooperation with the Croatian Museum of Medicine and Pharmacy and the Division for the History of Medical Sciences of the...
Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts with the Department for Ear, Nose and Throat Diseases and Head and Neck Surgery at the Zagreb School of Medicine on the occasion of its 100th anniversary. It was first displayed in the Hugo Botteri Hall at the Zagreb University Hospital from 27 September to 31 December, 2021.

The hundred years of the Department’s existence gradually became part of the main idea behind the story of Croatian medicine. It is one of few medical institutions which managed to preserve such an impressive amount of material heritage. This exhibition presents a part of that heritage, a rare collection of photographs portrayed as a time machine, contrasting the past and the present with photographs from the Department’s different periods. The starting point of the exhibition were the photographic collection of the Otorhinolaryngology Department at Salata, edited and managed by Ante Šercer, which is now preserved at the Croatian Museum of Medicine and Pharmacy, the Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts, and photographs preserved at the Department for Ear, Nose and Throat Diseases and Head and Neck Surgery of the Zagreb University Hospital at Rebro, courtesy of several prominent names in this profession, such as Dragutin Mašek, Ante Šercer, Branimir Gušić, Zvonimir Krajina and the tenth head of the Department, Drago Prgomet. The exhibition shows the locations where the Department was located: Draškovićeva Street, then Salata and finally its current location at the University Hospital Rebro in Kišpatićeva Street. There are photos of doctors, wards, patient rooms, operating rooms, lecture halls, libraries and museums. It is important to note that the valuable heritage of the ENT Department museum in Zagreb is now largely located in the Croatian Museum of Medicine and Pharmacy and will be exhibited in a permanent museum setting.

In addition to the introductory poster with a short text and twenty-one posters with combinations of digital reproductions of old black-and-white photos and new digital colour photographs, the exhibition also includes original museum items from the collection of the Croatian Museum of Medicine and Pharmacy: the representative photo album of the ENT Department from 1941, which was ordered from the photo studio Donegani by its head, Prof. Ante Šercer, a more modest photo album of the Department by an unknown author from the period between 1954 and 1971 and a number of separate photographs from the period between the 1920s and the 1970s.

The exhibition features a screening of a documentary about the Department for Diseases of the Ear, Nose, Throat and Head and Neck Surgery, filmed for the Department’s 100th anniversary, and a photo monograph by Stella Fatović-Ferenčić and Drago Prgomet, entitled A Visual Memory of the Profession – The Otorhinolaryngology Department at the Zagreb School of Medicine upon a Century of its Existence (1921 - 2021). It was a joint publication of the Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts and the Zagreb School of Medicine, 2021.

For additional information about the exhibition, please visit the Croatian Museum of Medicine and Pharmacy website and Facebook page:
https://hmmf.hazu.hr/u-vremenskom-pomaku/
https://hmmf.hazu.hr/izlozba-u-vremenskom-pomaku-u-knjiznicici-bozidara-adzije-u-zagrebu/
https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100063739112448

Part of the exhibition in the Božidar Adžija Library