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5. January 2017, Bratislava, Slovak republic

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**exhibition** — Slovenian author's originals

### **SUZI BRICELJ ... FROM A COUNTRY FAR AWAY**

**date** — Opening of the exhibition - 11. 1. 2017 at 6.00 p.m.

**venue** — TOTO! je galéria, Moskovská ul. 29 in Bratislava

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*You just need to dive into her illustrations, stare at them together with your children – and while reading stories you feel ehmm... just fine. Suzana Bricelj creates her pictures as if she was entering the nursery, adjusts them to the point of view of our „little people“ who look at the world „from below“: she paints as if she crouched with them in order to look at the world the way they do.*

She studied in Bratislava too – in the studio of Professor Lubomir Longauer and even today she has some bonds here and often visits Slovakia.

It's a pity that the Slovak reader doesn't have more room to connect the stories with illustrations without the knowledge of the language – almost none of her books have been released in our translation. Accordingly she doesn't know how close can be the children' perception (and their parents' who are reading with them) in Slovakia and Slovenia speaking of both the historical stories and current stories.

We therefore tried to expose her illustrations so that they could „talk“ as such: in the mix-up of the stories which need no words to be understood by the audience. Or even better – to let the audience create their own imaginative story.

Suzi Bricelj belongs among storytellers: what is written in the book can be also found in her picture. She has no need to place herself upon the writer, to crush him or challenge him. She has this unique feature – modesty – which means she has no need to upgrade the story and add more and more features to it. And yet she is recognizable: by brightness, warm colors, shapes and figures readability. The stylization she uses is simple but not primary. She works with gestures, her characters touch each other, she often creates a joke from some banal situation and all of this by using the traditional acrylic technique.

Suzi Bricelj is also the first foreign author whose work is exposed in TOTO! je galéria – the gallery which is specialized in book illustrations. So far we have exhibited in its premises exclusively Slovak artists but with this exhibition we start a new tradition. The exhibition will also include a discussion with her on illustration in Slovenia and Slovakia and the exhibition of children' magazine Ciciban. Some of the exhibited illustrations will be also published in children' magazine Sniečko.

You can find Suzi Bricelj's illustrations on the walls of TOTO! je galéria on Moskovska 29 in Bratislava from 11.1. 2017 after opening.

The exhibition runs from 12. 1. to 12. 2. 2017. Presentation and discussion with author Suzi Bricelj will start on Thursday 12.1. at 6.00 p.m. in TOTO! je galéria, Moskovská 29, Bratislava.

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**TOTO! kultúrne ihrisko, o.z.**  
Dunajská 35, 811 08 Bratislava

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**TOTO! je galéria**  
Moskovská 29, 811 08 Bratislava

Ut — Str: 15:00 — 19:00 hod.  
Štv: 9:00 — 12:30 | 13:30 — 16:00  
alebo na zavolanie | dobrovoľné vstupné



**SUZI BRICELJ (1971)** is Slovenian artist and illustrator. She graduated from Academy of Fine Arts in Ljubljana and later studied in Paris and Bratislava. She illustrated many books for children and youth for instance: *Little Claus, Big Claus and their stories* (2009), *Hen Emile* (2009), *About a king who did not like cleaning* (2008), *Great storytellers and their best stories* (2001), *King Matthias's gold* (1999). She won several awards such as Levstik Award or The award of the publishing house Book.

The exhibition is supported by: Embassy of the Republic of Slovenia in Bratislava, Ministry of Culture Republic of Slovenia



*TOTO! je taká galéria, v ktorej sú vystavené ilustrácie – obrázky, ktoré si pamätáme z knížiek, čo sme čítali ako deti, aj z tých, čo si teraz čítame so svojimi deťmi. Ilustrátorov, čo ich namaľovali, však často ani nepoznáme: veď koho by napadlo hľadať niekde na konci knihy meno napísané drobnými písmenkami. A tak nám často uniká, aká je slovenská ilustrátorská tradícia úžasná. A aj to, že ilustrácia je také isté umelecké dielo ako obraz či grafika. Zaslúži si visieť v galérii. Alebo u vás doma. Nech sa páči, vstúpte.*

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