Strand 5: Crafts in the Origins of Design

Definitive abstract for paper presentation at the *coupDefouet* International Congress

THE SLOVENIAN TASTE FOR ART NOUVEAU FURNITURE

The paper concentrates on the main trends making up the colourful picture of novel furniture at the turn of the century made and used by Slovenians. Actively involved in the vibrant Sezessionist scene in Vienna were architects Max Fabiani and Jože Plečnik, both designing high-profile furnishings for affluent clientele. In Ljubljana, young architect Janez Jager was inspired with folk art in the interiors of Narodna kavarna (The National Coffee House), made by the leading local firm Mathian. The two main furniture-making centres, Solkan on the outskirts of Gorica and Ljubljana, in cooperation with designers at the Ljubljana Arts and Crafts School (i.e. Prof. Tratnik for Naglas), were fully able in the fashion of Viennese and Graz art nouveau to cater for modern-minded private costumers as well as for hotels, spas, offices etc. Contemporary seating was provided by a number of Slovenian bentwood- and wicker-furniture makers.

Curriculum Vitae

MAJA LOZAR ŠTAMCAR

Senior Curator at the National Museum of Slovenia, responsible for the furniture, lighting, wood- and metalwork, clocks and watches collections. Currently involved with two international projects, Art Nouveau and Ecology and Partage Plus. B.A. in the English language and literature (1982) and Ph.D. in Art History (1999) at the Faculty of Arts, University of Ljubljana. Post-grad five-month scholarship at Warwick University, UK (1985); multiple post-grad

research visits to Vienna, Munich, London, Venice etc. Member of the ICOM/ICAD Committee, The Furniture History Society (V & A Museum, London), the ISECS (International Society of Eighteenth-Century Studies). Professional interests – research in furniture, applied arts, prints, interior decoration and design in Slovenia (the Middle Ages – the present; in the global context). Recent monography on wicker furniture in Slovenia.