



THE PATH OF  
SLAK'S AND PAVČEK'S youth



## Again I Will Take up my Accordion

When on this earth  
dusk falls  
and the bell on the  
mountain tolls,  
Night comes, night will  
reign,  
and I will be alone again.

Again I will take up  
my accordion  
and play once more  
that little song  
that reminds me of  
your charm,  
that to my heart did  
such harm.

In the long evenings I  
am alone,  
but my memory travels  
home,  
home to the happy hours,  
and moments that were  
ours.

My song echoes in the  
dark,  
and every night aches  
my heart,  
ah, the memory of our  
happy sighs,  
invites hot tears to my eyes.

Lojze Slak  
From the LP: *Deset veselih let*  
(Ten Merry Years),  
translated by Erica Debeljak



(1932-2011)

## Lojze Slak

Lojze Slak was born on the 23<sup>rd</sup> July 1932 in the village Jordankal near Mirna Peč in Dolenjska region. He spent his youth mostly with his grandmother in the village Mali Kal, where he got to know diatonic accordion; they were inseparable ever since. At fifteen, he performed at a wedding on his own for the first time. The year 1957 was a turning point in his career: in the radio show Pokaži, kaj znaš! (Show what you know) he fascinated the audience as well as professional public. Two years later he established the Brothers Slak Ensemble with three of his brothers. In 1964, at one of his performances at the Radio Ljubljana, he got acquainted with the vocal group Fantje s Praprotna (The Boys from Praprotno) and one of the best and most original Slovenian folk-pop ensembles was born.

Lojze had absolute pitch and he mastered diatonic accordion to perfection. To become even more expressive, he invented and added to diatonic accordion a special button known as Slak's button; thus he significantly contributed to the evolution of the instrument. With his vast opus consisting of 32 LPs, 51 tapes, 34 CDs etc., and with his top-flight performance, he brought folk-pop music reputation and value; many of his compositions became widely popular and he continues to be a matchless model for many young groups. For his creativity he received numerous awards in Slovenia and abroad, among them a national decoration of the highest rank, the Honorary Order of Freedom of the Republic of Slovenia. He is an honorary citizen of the municipality Mirna Peč.

## The Bell of Mirna Peč

Green hills and valleys,  
in a frame of velvet woods,  
always carry memories,  
come home, they call, if only I could.

That lovely little land of mine  
to there I'll be returning,  
to the foothills of those fairytale cliffs,  
where the bell of Mirna Peč is singing.

Lojze Slak  
From the LP: *Letu 2000* (The Year 2000),  
translated by Erica Debeljak

## The Wayfarer

When you walk, follow your way to the end.

In spring, to the rose in flower,  
in summer, to the ripened wheat,  
in autumn, to the well-stocked shelf,  
in winter, to the snow-white queen,  
in a book, to the last line recorded,  
in life, to the very truth,  
and in yourself – to a colour shed  
over your cheeks blushing red.

If you've failed the first time, the second, then,  
in attaining sorts and summits you pursue,  
try

again,  
once more,  
and anew.

Tone Pavček  
Published by MLO, 2007,  
translated by Andrej Rijavec



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## THE PATH OF SLAK'S AND PAVČEK'S

youth

### Trail info

Length 12,2 km

The difference in height 190 m

Walking time 3 h

### Main sights

- 1 The beginning of the trail in Mirna Peč in front of St. Kancijan (Cantianus) church
- 2 The monument of the fighters killed in National Liberation War in WW2
- 3 The birthplace of motorcycle racer and pilot Ludvik Starič, the Flying Carniolan
- 4 The sports ground with a log cabin
- 5 The home of family Barbo, the house of Slak's youth, **the monument of Lojze Slak**
- 6 The church of the St. Assumed Virgin Mary in Hmeljčič
- 7 Pavček's birthplace, **the monument of Tone Pavček**, memorial room, the church of St. Jurij (George) in Šentjurij
- 8 The Elementary School of Tone Pavček

### Key

- old borough core, old village core
- natural values
- sacral monument
- Karst cave
- wine-growing parts
- place with a view
- information board
- catering

### Catering

- A Novljan Inn. .... +386 (0)7 30 78 027
- B Rajski kotiček Snack bar. .... +386 (0)41 328 107
- C Pr' Hlapc. .... +386 (0)41 601 525
- D Hikers' farm Barbo. .... +386 (0)70 593 055
- E Village center Šentjurij. .... +386 (0)7 39 36 100
- F Špolar Inn. .... +386 (0)41 453 154
- G Ogulin Inn. .... +386 (0)7 30 78 390







1



2



3



7



8

## ● Main sights

### Lojze Slak

monument is a stone pillar with a bronze tablet with the musician's portrait in relief. The path leading to the pillar consists of 37 rounded concrete paving stones, distributed in the same way as the buttons on diatonic accordion with the famous Slak's button.



Mali Kal

15° 7' 9.3"  
45° 51' 50.8"

5

### Šentjurij



15° 6' 23.5"  
45° 52' 38.5"

7

The stone pillar of **Tone Pavček** monument symbolizes his attitude: he was a man of a sterling character. It bears a bronze plaque with the poet's portrait in relief, and leading to a nearby lime tree is a path consisting of 42 concrete paving stones, matching the number of Pavček's published works.

The monuments were designed by architect Tomaž Slak in collaboration with Leopold and Marija Mojca Pungerčar; the bronze portraits are made by sculptress Alenka Vidrgar.



Tone Pavček

(1928–2011)

Tone Pavček was born on the 29<sup>th</sup> September 1928 in Šentjurij near Mirna Peč in Dolenjska region. He attended the first class of elementary school in Mirna Peč but continued his schooling at the Marianum in Ljubljana. The maelstrom of the Second World War brought him back to his birthplace where he always loved to return. In Ljubljana he finished grammar school, and in 1954 he graduated from law. He worked as a journalist at the newspapers Ljubljanski dnevnik and Ljudska pravica, as an editor at the broadcast station RTV Slovenija, he was director of Mladinsko gledališče (The Youth Theatre) in Ljubljana, president of the Slovene Writers' Association, until his retirement in 1990 chief editor of the publishing house Cankarjeva založba and until his death a regular member of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts. He showed political courage on the 8<sup>th</sup> May 1989, in the mass protest rally at the square Kongresni trg in Ljubljana, where he read the May Declaration, claiming a sovereign state of the Slovenian nation.

He became an indelible part of Slovenian literary history in 1953, as a co-author of the collection of poems Pesmi štirih (Poems of the Four), together with Janez Menart, Ciril Zlobec and Kajetan Kovič. All the time he tirelessly wrote poetry, often for children; he translated and wrote essays. He is an honorary citizen of the city municipalities Novo mesto and Ljubljana and the municipality Mirna Peč, and the elementary school in Mirna Peč is named after him. The great master of Slovenian language received many awards and orders for his work; among them the highest Slovenian award in culture, Prešeren award.

## Šentjurje

It is my most beautiful village.  
A village among seven hills.  
There the earth has a face,  
there is my heavenly place.

There God to the ground  
with generosity leaned  
down,  
and spread beauty all  
about,  
in his blessed gratitude.

There reached a hand,  
trembling with love,  
into a flaxen flower of  
blue,  
for the stanzas of a  
poem or two.

There the vines grow free,  
there the birds sing in  
the trees,  
and the dead comfort me,  
how nice to lie in their  
company.

There between seven hills,  
the village that is my  
home.  
There everything will  
be complete,  
when I take my final  
sleep.

Tone Pavček  
Revija Rast (Rast magazine),  
translated by Erica Debeljak

