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Kultura

MAY 2018

SAVING WORLD PATRIMONY

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KULTURA MAGAZINE



Dear reader,

What lies in your hands (on sits on your screen) is a work fueled by coffee, conversation and injustice. Maybe you should scan the qr code and you will get your gif.

The only purpose of this magazine is to give the island of Mamula back to the public. The advertisements in this magazine are a satirical take on the flaws of today's society. This magazine has no economic aspirations, the magazine does not need any money.



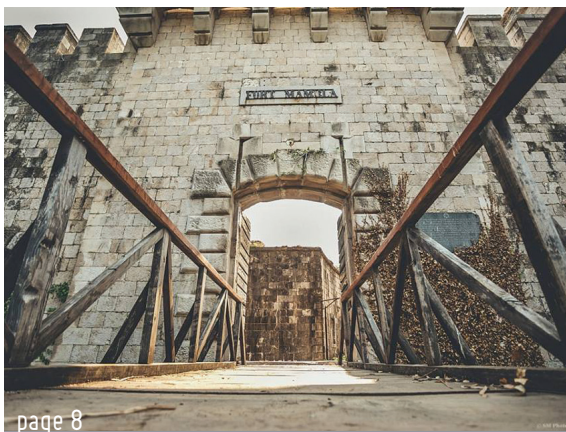
The feeling of holding a magazine in your hand is aesthetically pleasing. However,

do we really want to cut more trees? The goal of this magazine is to think about solutions for a better world, for better values that we want to leave for the generations to come. The lovely young lady in the vintage photo is my grandmother Radojka, which was imprisoned at Mamula when she was only 8 years old.

Change the world,

Matej Pašeta





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An island in Montenegro that was used as a WWII concentration camp will soon be transformed into a luxurious resort. IT IS A HORRIBLE IDEA. Help us save it!

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Reowned Serbian guitarist, bassist and percussionist Petar Zorkic reveals his secrets on developing multiple talents in the music industry.



OPEN THE GATES TO THE PUBLIC

SAVE MAMULA



The island Lastavica is located in Montenegro, in the Herceg Novi aquatorium. Around 80 per cent of the uninhabited 200m diameter island is occupied by a fort. The fort will be transformed into a luxurious resort. The only government's solution for preserving and using the fort has been protested and 25,000 citizens collected signatures against it.



The fort was built in 1853 by Austrian general Lazar Mamula to protect the southern-most border of the Austro-Hungarian Empire. The fort Mamula is a significant architectural and historic monument as it is probably the only island fort that was built by the Austro-Hungarian monarchy.



The fascist dictator Mussolini used the Mamula fort as a concentration camp. More than 100 local civilians were killed or starved to death and over 2,000 imprisoned at Campo Mamula, according to estimates based on Italian military documents.

WITH YOUR HELP

- Mamula will be a place of culture, nature and peace. It will have a memorial that will honour all the people who lost their freedom and their lives in WWII.
- Mamula's walls will be reconstructed to best possible standards
- Every citizen of the planet will have access to it.

we are
KULTURA





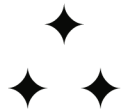
User Rebel00 changed her profile picture
November 2015



User Rebel00 changed her profile picture
December 2015

EVEN COMPASSION GOES OUT OF FASHION

PHIOSOPHERS



ASSOCIATION OF MAMULA



**WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME
YOU HAD**

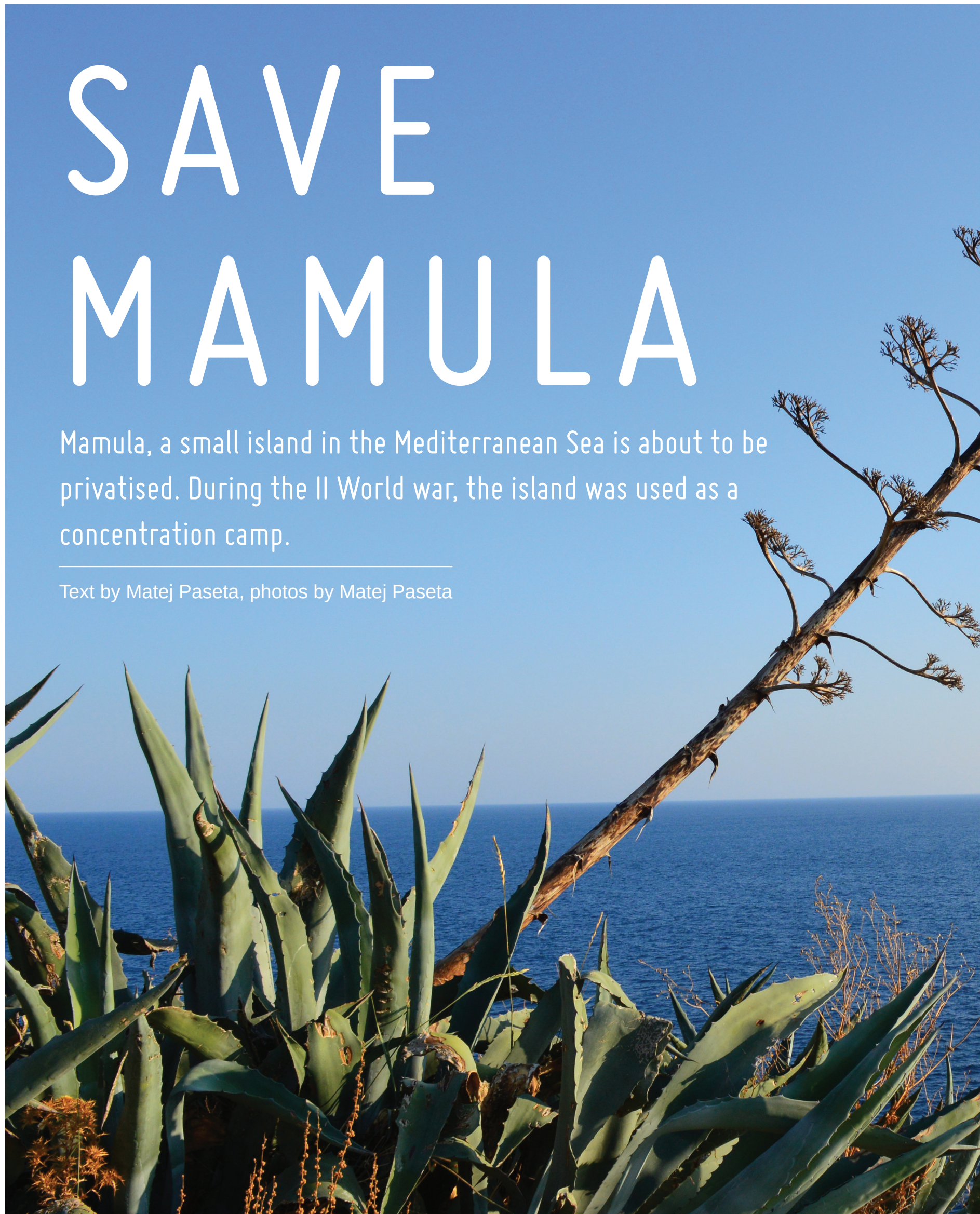
2 AT ONCE?


WE ONLY WANT THE BEST
AIR SOIL WATER
FOR OUR CHERRIES

SAVE MAMULA

Mamula, a small island in the Mediterranean Sea is about to be privatised. During the II World war, the island was used as a concentration camp.

Text by Matej Paseta, photos by Matej Paseta





SINCE I WAS A LITTLE CHILD I have always been enamoured with the sea. I have spent the earliest days of my childhood in Herceg Novi, Montenegro, and I have learned to swim by the age of 3. My grandfather Lazar would take me everywhere with his boat, and I was always thirsty for maritime adventures. I will never forget the day when my grandfather took me to the island of Mamula. I was only four years old. For me, it was like a fantasy land: A small rocky island surrounded with strong tides and with thousands of seabirds flying around. He took me on a tour of the fortress on the island and told me about its history. I was absorbing his words like a sponge and I was imagining all those poor people being imprisoned and tortured there: Not only adults, this was also a prison for kids. I thought those kids were criminals, bank robbers and murderers. I couldn't grasp the concept of innocent people being put in jail. Thousands of people were imprisoned there, and hundreds of them died. I was imagining those poor people looking through the bars of their cells and seeing the wonderful landscape around them. How did they perceive the beautiful nature? Was it something that made their stay at the island worse? Would the prisoner days be easier to handle if they were imprisoned in a less appealing place?

After the island of Mamula, my grandpa took me to the Blue Cave, which is nearby. We entered through a narrow gap between the sea and the stones. The waves were playful and the boat was rocking. As soon as we entered there, I saw a natural amphitheatre with stalactites hanging about our heads. I was afraid that the stalactites would fall on the boat and pierce it, causing it to sink. My grandpa quickly reassured and I didn't worry. I wanted to swim in the azure waters surrounded by a cave and I wasn't afraid of sea monsters. That night when we came home I couldn't sleep of the excitement and I was imagining those criminal kids that were imprisoned on the island. A few days later, I went to visit my grandma, my father's mom. I have told her about my adventure in Mamula and the Blue Cave and then she told me that she was imprisoned there when she was only 8 years old. She was not the only one imprisoned: her brothers Špiro and Lolo and her sisters Anka, Jelka and Dragica were there too. At first, I was full of disbelief and thought that she was only joking. How could my sweet, caring and loving grandma be a criminal kid from a criminal family? What was their crime? Were they bank robbers that tried to escape in a small battery operated van? Were they bullies or murderers, con-artists or embezzlers? How did they end up there? My grandma then patiently told me that the only reason they were imprisoned was because their uncle Tomo was a partisan and that Herceg Novi was under a rule of really bad people. She told me about the atrocities on the island, about the sadistic guards, the starvation, torture and sleep deprivation. They completely lost the concept of time and liberty was just a word.

With sadness in our hearts we want to inform all freedom lovers, all cultural heritage fighters, all philosophers, seagulls and rabbits, that today the representatives of the Montenegrin Government and the Swiss company Orascom signed the famous and hazardous contract about the lease of the island of Mamula for 49 years. Even if we would put aside the facts that the government leased the terrain, and that the fortress is given for free, if we put aside the fact that the yearly fees for the island equal 47000 EUR, that the local government and a respectable number of Herceg Novi residents against this privatisation and that it does not have an effect to the tourism offer of the town. We also have to bare in mind that the contract is controversial, suggesting that the island is actually a field. Also, the area of the island is not specified, and the company is paying by square meter. The company also changed the purpose of their construction works which contrast the governmental

study of location. Let's also forget the rabbits, the agave cacti and the seagulls. Even if we forget all that, maybe we need to remember the Montenegrin Law which states that "Everyone has the right to individually or collectively use the cultural

island will affect the accessibility to the fortress of Mamula. 23 out of 25 cells will be apartments, the roof of the fortress will be a VIP zone, the hotel will be operational for 6 months of the year. The historical context is being altered, damaged and ani-

It's a beautiful little island with a very dark history. It would be great to keep it as it is to remind ourselves of the horrors man has inflicted on man in the past if there is enough local interest and support.
Michael of Sealand

patrimony for being a part of the cultural society, leisure, scientific improvement, or any other benefit that may result from it. The individual or group has the right to contribute its preservation and enrichment. If we are truly advocating the rule of rights, then I suggest changing the law. Otherwise, the state needs to react and protect the citizens' rights guaranteed by the law, because the development on the

hilated. This privatisation is a clear message from the government to its citizens: There are no equal rights, because the rights of the privileged are more important than the rights of us, mere mortals. For the Mamula as we know it, may it rest in peace. There is an old saying: If the town smells like flowers, the swallows will come. I am afraid that our swallow flew away and that they will never come back.



LEFT

The view of the fort Mamula from the sea

RIGHT

Aerial view of Mamula and the view from Mamula



Amphitheatrically rooted on the foot of Orjen, the highest mountain on the Adriatic Coast, opposite to the entrance of the Bay of Kotor, ascending from the sea shore to the Španjola fortress lies Herceg Novi, immersed into 250 species of subtropical and tropical plants. The island Lastavica with the fortress Mamula belongs to the municipality of Herceg Novi. The government of Montenegro, in its attempt to make

Montenegro an attractive tourist destination decided to sign a lease with the Egyptian company ORASCOM for 49 years. Mamula was a concentration camp from spring 1942 until September 1943. More than 2000 people were imprisoned there, women and children included. More than 100 people died, many of them of starvation. The majority of the inmates were locals. The price per square meter is 1,5 EUR/Year. The news about the privatisation of the island was

covered by major media stations (CNN, Time, Forbes, The Independent, The Daily Mail, etc). The news received negative feedback on social media (A group to protect Mamula in its peak had more than 50,000 members). As of April 28, 2018, the access to the island of Mamula has been denied to the public. In an open letter to Montenegrin institutions, UNESCO, and many local and international experts in architecture, history and patrimony opposed the privatisation.

THE GREATEST MAMULA ISSUES

1 Mamula island no longer has public access. As of April 28, 2018, the plans to build the resort are already on the way. The island is off-limits to everyone, except the workers on site. The company assures the public that it is only a temporary measure. But is it really?

2 Mamula has been neglected for years. The highest achievement was the initiative to collect the rubbish in 2015, when more than 1 ton of rubbish was collected by more than 200 volunteers. Mamula needs more initiatives like that, the local community needs to prove that they care

3 As many Herceg Novi citizens agreed, Mamula should be valorised. Access to the island should be granted to everyone. As UNESCO advised, Mamula should be a place where intellectuals gather and share their thoughts and experiences, providing a better world

4 From the study made in 2012, Mamula is protected by law as a Monument. The Parliament of Montenegro voted against the privatisation of the island, however, the Ministry of tourism still signed the contract with ORASCOM. The local government also opposed the project.

YOUR WORDS

Mamula is one of the jewels of the Montenegrin coastline and I believe that selling would be a crime. I have actually made a short documentary about the situation with this historic monument. It's one of the most beautiful places I've ever visited and we must fight to preserve it. **Marija Paseta**

Mamula should not be privatised because values such as culture and history of a country are invaluable and worth more than any profit that can be made out of it because as Gandhi says: "A nation's culture resides in the hearts and in the soul of its people" **Ulas Ylmaz**

Mamula looks like a beautiful, still-in-time island where so much history took place. its presence now coexist with the nature of the island... but not for long, as it's due to being privatised in order to become a luxury resort. It's unbelievable to see the power of money so manifestly disrespect the island, its nature and history **Chiara Genta**

I would like to mention one aspect of this problem: seagulls. Mamula is the home and a mating spot to one of the largest colonies of seagulls in the Adriatic sea. Where are the ornithological

organisations to advocate this problem? We need to avoid an ornithological catastrophe. Hundreds of nests will be destroyed, the homes of endless seagull generations. **Ljubomir Grzetic**

This is our best warning for the future, because if we want to preserve not only valuable historical and cultural monuments, but also our identity which is primarily linked to the Mediterranean and the Balkans, then the only way is not to allow the our valuable and rich past to be erased by one signature of an unimportant political and state officials and tycoons whose only goal is profit. **Igor Varga**

That issue is beyond our demands. The generations to come will understand the dreadful consequences of such a devastation of cultural treasure. Our generation was not

aware of the spiritual values of this monument of culture and humanity. **Lazar Seferovic**

It's a beautiful little island with a very dark history. It would be great to keep it as it is to remind ourselves of the horrors man has inflicted on man in the past if there is enough local interest and support. **Michael of Sealand**

As of April 27, 2018, the public no longer have free access to the island Mamula. Enjoy the photos that were made when Mamula was free.



While there are no tourist facilities on the island, dozens of locals and tourists visit the island each day during the summer season. Boats normally charge an additional one or two euros on top of the regular Herceg-Novi/Zanjic beach return trip to include a 20-30 minute stop on Mamula. **Lalo Vuckovic**

A square meter on the farmers market in Budva is twice as expensive than a square meter on Mamula. The Maritime authority profits more from the lease of a small beach than from the entire Mamula complex. While the rent is very cheap, the construction will be very expensive. Almost like a nuclear reactor **Dejan Milovac**

Luštica Bay, the tourist town which construction started in 2013, is spreading on 690 acres of green surface (that could easily hold the area of 15 Vatican Cities). The investment worth , billion EUR is planned to develop 500 villas, 1000 apartments, 7 hotels, 2 marinas, golf terrains, promenades, schools, police stations and sporting facilities. Remember the Truman Show? This will be a whole city ruled by a corporation!

Mamula will represent an additional attraction to the existing Lustica Bay project. **Darren Gibson, the CEO of Luštica development**

A memorial centre should be founded on Mamula, making this location a part of the educational system and of a special offer of educational tourism. That would accentuate the development of culture and human rights in Montenegro. Mamula is of many places in Montenegro where war crimes from the WWII

were committed. The government has the obligation towards all victims of the fascist regime and to properly protect this location which was a place of human suffering **CGO INITIATIVE**

Mamula Island has a deceptive beauty which vividly contracts the dark past of the rearing ruins. During WW2, the site was used as a concentration camp. The touring and suffering inflicted on the inhabitants does not bare thinking about. That said, as uncomfortable as that history may be, it does not take away from the fact that it happened. Like any piece of history, Mamula Island reserves the right to be preserved and maintained as a heritage site. When I first heard of plans to privatise I chuckled in disbelief. In my humble opinion, it seemed as though the Montenagrian Government was willing to sell their soul in order to impress a wealthy foreign client. This is simply disgraceful. Instead of reclaiming Mamula and utilising the island as a space for the community without compromising the memory of the lives lost there; they instead persuaded personal gain. Many locals, understandably, oppose this illustrious project. I believe that beauty lies in forgiveness and responsibility. Mamula is not seen as an ugly stain in the history of Montenegro. **Ann-Marie McDermott**

No one builds hotels on graveyards. Why would anyone build a hotel on Mamula? **Greg Kozhinsky**

The institutions in charge should follow the laws of their own country.. I do not support such a decision which would lead to a devastation of the cultural and historical values. The ones who are in charge need to find an alternative. **Gabriel Santos.** ■



LEFT

The southern part of the island

CENTER

The Mamula dungeon

RIGHT

The inside of the Mamula fort



we were billionares before it was cool

greedy
bank.

we want to decieve you



stealing dreams.

We are using a lovely picture of a couple in love so we can sell you lies

It is not just us!

If you are a regular customer, we will rip you off. We will not care about your well being and we will not hesitate to throw you on the street.

The whole point is to contribute to an economy where the minority rules and the majority suffers. It is all because of greed. We just can't help ourselves.



lie.



lie.



lie.

Why are we greedy?

We learn from the best. We are just a small part of a very large mechanism. We actually don't have much to say, we just need to comply with what they order us.

| | | |
|---|---|------------------------|
| 3 | 80% | But |
| billion people — live on less than \$2.50 a day | of humanity lives on less than \$10 a day | We absolutely love it! |

85 people on the planet had more wealth than the poorest 3.5 billion people. We think that is the best solution for this world.



КУЛТУРА KULTURA MAGAZINE

Art is creation, creativity, a work of the mind and the hands, mostly human hands. *Lazar Seferovic*

Text by Matej Pašeta, photos by Matej Pašeta

1 COPY OF THE MAGAZINE has been printed. We fight against deforestation, but in case technology fails us, future generations to come will cherish it and preserve as legacy. The first issue of the magazine is published on online, on the URL <http://www.kultura.ml> in PDF and HTML format. The magazine is also available in Montenegrin Language

CULTIVATE PRECIOUS MINDS

We live in a world on the cusp of change, in our age of technology our attention spans are shorter, we have less patience and we are addicted to our electronic devices. In a world full of people who are obsessed with material belongings, Kultura is obsessed with changing the norm. We want to wake up the creative little kid that you once were and help you focus on important and vital things in life. Our mission is to educate, enforce and empower individuals interested in culture. We specialise in subjects such as: Music, Visual Arts, History, Freedom of Speech, Human Rights, Preservation of Monuments. ►

Nowadays the majority of all enterprises focus on profit-making. It's all about mere monetisation. Humanity is much more than that. Kultura is a project which deals with culture and history. As such, it has a strong ethical vein embedded in it. Initiatives of this kind are able to deliver an unquantifiable value. *Dan Turcan*

The Nautilus that inspired Jules Verne to name Nemo's submarine perfectly fits the staircase that leads to the Mamula lighthouse

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