

Rovinj, 1<sup>st</sup> July 2014.

## FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT

# 5<sup>th</sup> International Underwater Film Festival "White lion", Rovinj (Istria, Croatia) September, 25 – 28. 2014.

The International Underwater Film Festival the "White Lion" this year marks the fifth anniversary of the presentation. In the past four years (2010-2013.) Rovinj hosts and guests were able to enjoy the underwater footage of the seventh art of tropical and polar seas of the world.

This year, the "White Lion" is dedicated to the celebration of the hundredth anniversary of the sinking of the steamship "Baron Gautsch", wreck that is now listed among the best known and most attractive diving locations in Europe and in the world. Steamboat struck the left flank of the underwater mine and sank in 40 meters deep six nautical miles southwest of the town of Rovinj on 13<sup>th</sup> August 1914.

Today, the wreck is under the protection of Croatian Ministry of Culture from 1995.

In the fifth, jubilee year of the festival, the organizing committee's goals are also presentation another Istrian underwater cultural heritage, as well as Istrian marine biodiversity, endemic species and habitats and the importance of protecting and preserving it.

### ***DRAFT PROGRAMME OF THE FESTIVAL***

The festival is divided into two sections: competitive and revue.

#### ***Competition section***

Authors who delivered movies on a public invitation, which to be published on the website of the festival [www.bijelilav.org](http://www.bijelilav.org) and which films will be selected for the competition by a jury, have to right participating in the competition section of the festival.

Authors can submit movies in one of the following categories:

- Seawater film
- Freshwater film
- Environmental film
- Wreck film - theme "Baron Gautsch"

The competitive part of the projection will be held in the multimedia center (MMC) Rovinj.

### **Revue section**

Review section of the festival consists of selected short and feature-length films from previous years (2010-2013.), and the films that will be delivered this year (2014.). Films will be shown in the multimedia center (MMC) Rovinj, the theatre of the city of Rovinj "Antonio Gandusio", and in the hotel "Istra", Island St. Andrija (Red Island).

### **FESTIVAL AWARDS**

For each of the competition categories, glass statue „White Lion" will be awarded.

The White Lion is a trademark of Red Island which white stone statue standing a hundred years at the entrance to the harbour Mandrač. It is assumed that the stone sculpture of a lion brought personally Count Georg Huetterott on the island with one of his many trips around the Far East. The sculpture "White Lion" is set in an easterly direction and has a century kept the island and the sea that surrounds it.

For the best film (including all competition categories) "Grand Prix 2014" will be awarded, as well as reward equivalent to 7.500,00 HRK.

### **ORGANIZING COMMITTEE OF FESTIVAL are:**

- Filip Višić, director
- Ivana Štifanić, member
- Robert Lehotkai, member
- Dario Žiković, member
- Leo Pavela, member

*Festival Director*

*Filip Višić*

