

Andrejsala information centre opens to the public

May 3, 2007

On May 3, the Andrejsala information centre was unveiled to the public, thus creating a new facility where everyone can access information regarding upcoming cultural and artistic initiatives, possible cooperation in organising of events and activities, the future development of Andrejsala and related practical matters.

"Establishing a dedicated information centre during early stages of a project is a new trend among real estate developers. I believe that the centre will serve very well our visitors and those interested in upcoming events and processes, especially because Andrejsala – a quickly developing part of Rīga – is already known as one of the tourist spots of our city. We also look forward to facilitating our communication with organisers and contributors to new projects of arts and culture," comments chairman of the board of SIA "Jaunrīgas attīstības uzņēmums" Valters Māziņš.

The information centre is located at 4, Andrejostas Street (Andrejsala's Hull Shop, near the *Anchor*) and its business hours start at 2 PM on weekdays.

"The South End of Andrejsala was released to the use of the arts community by SIA "Jaunrīgas attīstības uzņēmums" on the 4th of May 2006. Twelve months after, Andrejsala is a popular place in Rīga, where various events of arts and entertainment take place. We already count more than 50 successful festivals, presentations and shows, have introduced new local traditions, plus there are currently 16 artistic societies resident in Andrejsala," notes Valters Māziņš.

Some of the examples are: exhibitions by artists working in a number of genres – among them, Ilva Kļaviņa, Ieva Jerohina, Krista Burāne and Harijs Zemītis; unveiling of new musical albums, staging of pop concerts, drama performances and screenings of independent shorts; music festivals; readings of poetry by young authors; our distinguishing tradition: the Andrejsala nameday festival.

In the very near future, visitors will be offered the following art, entertainment and recreation events: Water Festival – Andrejsala 2007; the Museum Night; Līgo svētki (the Latvian summer solstice holiday); Design Days; several concerts in connection with the annual festival of Rīga, and so on.

The one-year anniversary of the creative expansion of Andrejsala (May 4) is marked by the start of the fifth international festival of avant-garde music and film 'Skaņu mežs', the largest event of this type in the entire Baltics.

Until the 27th of May, a French videoart project 'No Ghost Just a Shell' by Pierre Huyghe and Philippe Parreno is on, resulting from cooperation of Andrejsala with the French Spring festival and the Trajectory series of exhibitions brought forth by the Latvian Centre for Contemporary Art. Details and schedules of events are regularly posted on-line at www.andrejsala.lv.