

Croatian transcript:

Aleksandar: Koja je uopšte muzika bila popularna? Mislim, je li u pitanju bila domaća ili strana muzika?

Zoran: Pa dobro, mislim... Da vidim sad, u tom periodu kad sam ja studirao osamdesetih godina je Hrvatska imala dosta jaku scenu znači tog nekog suvremenog rock, punka, i tak dalje. Pa mislim, bili smo segmentirani, znači, nisi ti mogao to sve, mislim nisi ni htio to sve slušati, znači. Bile su te, kako bih rekao, supkulture, podijeljene. Punkeri su slušali punk, ostali su slušali rock, a seljaci su slušali narodnu muziku, i ovaj... Bilo je popa nešto isto, a u omjeru domaće i strane isto je teško govorit, mislim, davno je to bilo... Mogu li se ja sjetit šta se uopće tada slušalo? Pa sve što se slušalo i u Evropi, mislim, nabavljali smo ploče, vrtili su se spotovi na televiziji...

Aleksandar: Nije bilo nekih sankcija od strane države.

Zoran: Da, znači u principu je, samo su bile malo skuplje. Znači, naše diskografske kuće su potpisivale ugovore sa EMI-jem, CBS-om, kako su već se zvale te etikete, i svi veliki hitovi zapadne muzike su se mogli kupit kod nas u našim dućanima; bili su nešto malo skuplji, imali su malo veći porez.

English translation:

Aleksandar: So, what kind of music was popular at that time? I mean, was it domestic or foreign?

Zoran: Well, I mean... Let me see, when I was a student in the eighties, Croatia had a strong music scene in terms of contemporary rock, punk etc. We were divided into groups; you couldn't listen to everything and you didn't want to, either. There were subcultures, divisions... Punks listened to punk, others listened to rock, and *seljaci*¹ listened to folk, and... Pop was popular as well. It's difficult to talk about the ratio between domestic and foreign music, I mean, it's been a while, I don't think I can even remember what we used to listen to then... I guess we listened to everything that was popular in Europe, I mean we'd purchase records, videos played on TV...

Aleksandar: There were no state sanctions.

¹ *Seljak* (pl. *seljaci*, lit. trans. "villagers"): a slang term for those whose company is unwanted because they exhibit provincial behavior, act in an obnoxious manner and are considered to be unrestrained in their primitivism or vulgarity. Please note that this does not necessarily mean that the term *seljak* is synonymous with the rural population, since this term is used to denote a specific behavior and not the rural origin of the person per se. Although this is not considered a vulgar term, one should nonetheless be discouraged from (or exercise caution when) using the term *seljak* to refer to another person. Please also note that the term *seljak* is very similar in meaning to the Bosnian term *papak*, and that you might sometimes encounter that term instead.

Zoran: No. Basically, the only difference was that [foreign records] were a little bit more expensive. Our record companies would sign contracts with EMI, CBS and all those other labels, and all big hits of Western music could be purchased at our stores. They were a bit more expensive; the taxes were higher.

About CultureTalk: CultureTalk is produced by the Five College Center for the Study of World Languages and housed on the LangMedia Website. The project provides students of language and culture with samples of people talking about their lives in the languages they use every day. The participants in CultureTalk interviews and discussions are of many different ages and walks of life. They are free to express themselves as they wish. The ideas and opinions presented here are those of the participants. Inclusion in CultureTalk does not represent endorsement of these ideas or opinions by the Five College Center for the Study of World Languages, Five Colleges, Incorporated, or any of its member institutions: Amherst College, Hampshire College, Mount Holyoke College, Smith College and the University of Massachusetts at Amherst.

© 2012 Five College Center for the Study of World Languages and Five Colleges, Incorporated