

PRESS INFORMATION

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National Evenings

A CULTURAL VOYAGE!

Dornbirn (AUT), July 4, 2007: Of all the many traditional activities on the World Gymnaestrada programme, the *national evenings* are by far the most appreciated by the public, and enjoy growing attendance. It's not surprising. Take a closer look; these productions outshine the others as far as quality and originality are concerned. Any form of ranking or jury evaluation is, of course, excluded, but the desire to perform better than the last group is rooted deep in the perfectionist heart of any gymnast! These are times of rare beauty in execution, exercise, composition and aesthetics.



It is one of the Gymnaestrada's most fantastic moments.

Respectful of the spirit and purpose of any Gymnaestrada, a national evening sends out both a message and a warning. Its message is one of solidarity, tolerance, diversity. Its warning targets the heart of gymnasts everywhere, in the aim that health and wellness might triumph over idleness,

and exclusion, deprivation and excess.

A national evening is also a voyage into the culture of a country, a continent. It is an invitation to communicate with the world around us and to appreciate the variety it has to offer. Our world is rich in culture and diversity, in men and women who have chosen body expression as a means to communicate. Our bodies are expressive. Power, beauty, emotion. Once the body finds harmony with the spirit, gesture outshines mere physical movement, powerfully communicating beautiful and healthy gymnastics for anyone.

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