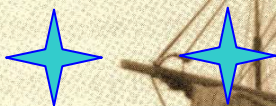


**Muzeul Judetean "Stefan cel Mare" (Vaslui, Romania)
the Belgica Society (Oostende, Belgium)
and The New Belgica (Boom, Belgium)**

Emil Racoviță



The Belgica

The Romanian Belgian Connection

Exhibition @ Muzeul Judetean "Stefan cel Mare", Vaslui

July 27 - August 28 2010



On 16 August 1897, a Belgian navy captain Adrien de Gerlache left Antwerp for the Antarctic with an international crew on a robust three-master, the Belgica. The expedition was the first Antarctic expedition of a purely scientific nature. It was also the first to spend a winter in the austral polar night, and to make extensive use of photography.

Beside nine Belgians, the crew consisted of **one Romanian, the scientist Emil Racovita**, six Norwegians, two Poles and an American.

More than 100 years after this expedition, a new unique collaboration between the New Belgica, the Belgica Society and the Muzeul Judetean “Stefan cel Mare” resulted in an exhibition dealing with this expedition and the Romanian Belgian connection.

We would like to invite you for the opening of the exhibition on Tuesday July 27th 2010 at 11 AM at the Museum Judetean “Stefan cel Mare”.

**Muzeul Judetean Stefan cel Mare
Piata Independentei 1
730240 Vaslui
Romania**

July 27 - August 28 2010

**Emil Racovita – The Belgica
The Romanian Belgian Connection**



The organisers

The Belgica Society

Interest in the expedition has been significantly rekindled since Norwegian divers discovered the wreck of the *Belgica* near Harstad, Norway.

A *Belgica* Society was created in Oostende in 2006, with the aim of trying to salvage the wreck, or at least significant parts of it, for display in an exhibition area in the vicinity of Antwerp, the city from where the *Belgica* left on its epic journey.

<http://www.belgica-geenootschap.be>

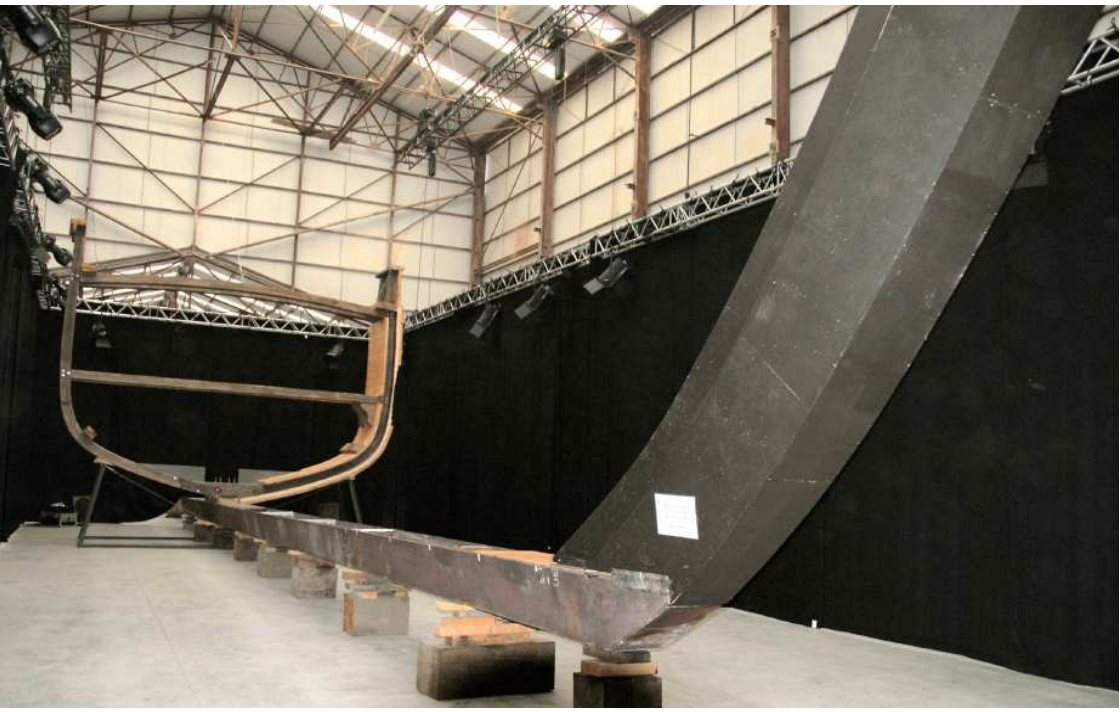
The New Belgica

In connection with the rescue initiative, the non-profit organisation “New Belgica” was established in Augustus 2007 – exactly 110 years after the departure of the Belgica from Antwerp. A social project was initiated to build a replica of the Belgica at the workshops of De Steenschuit (Boom, Belgium), which are specialized in traditional shipbuilding. The construction will last approximately five years (2009-2013). The project enjoys the patronage of Her Majesty Queen Paola of Belgium and the Governor of the Province of Antwerp, the Flemish Regional Government and a number of important private companies and banks are among the sponsors.

<http://www.newbelgica.org>

Muzeul Judetean “Stefan cel Mare”

The Museum Stephen the Great at Vaslui is the most important museum of the city of Vaslui. This museum focuses on important personalities in the history of Romania. From this point of view the museum keeps a significant part of the heritage of Racovita.



INVITATION

The New Belgica
The Belgica Society
Muzeul Judetean Stefan cel Mare

kindly invites you for the opening of the exhibition

Emil Racovita – The Belgica

The Romanian Belgian Connection

Tuesday July 27th 2010, 11 AM

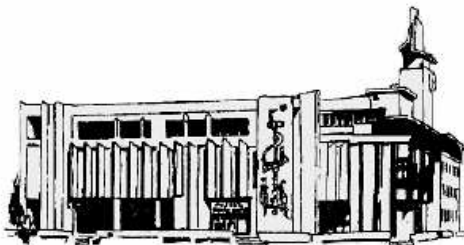
In the presence of the Belgian Ambassador in Romania, Leo D'Aes

At Muzeul Judetean Stefan cel Mare

Piata Independentei 1

730240 Vaslui

Romania



→ After the opening of the exhibition, there will be an organised visit to the city of Vaslui.

→ There's also the possibility to participate in a more days visit to the region of Vaslui:

Tuesday 27th: Opening of the exhibition and visiting the city of Vaslui

Wednesday 28th: Visit to the Memorial House of Emil Racovita

Thursday 29th: Visit to the city of Barlad

Friday 30th: Visit to the city of Husi

If you are interested to participate, please send an e-mail to

Patrick Van den Nieuwenhof, heritage coordinator of the Belgica project:
patrick.nieuwenhof@hotmail.com

Together with the following information:

Name:

E-mail:

- will attend the opening of the exhibition
- will attend the visit to the city of Vaslui
- will attend the more days visit

