

International Symposium

On the Origin of Fresco Painting (Adriatic-Balkan Roots of Modern Painting)

Padua, Italy, 18-20 April 2008

of organization the Cultural Organization Di Segno from Padua and under the patronage of the Veneto region, the province and municipality of Padua, the Padua diocese and with the support of Padua University and the European University of Rome, between 18 and 20 April 2008, in the Diocese Museum of Padua was held the International Symposium On the Origin of Fresco **Painting**

(Adriatic-Balkan Roots of Modern Painting).

Mrs. Elizabeta Kanchevska-Milevska, State Secretary in the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Macedonia, Mr. Kiro Stojanov, Bishop of the Catholic Church in the Republic of Macedonia and Mr. Pasko Kuzman, Director of the Cultural Heritage Protection Office presented their speeches at the official opening of the Symposium. Within the working sessions, Director Kuzman gave a presentation on the reinstauration of St. Clement's University at Plaoshnik in Ohrid entitled "The First European University of St. Clement - its significance and re-instauration". From among the Macedonian participants, presentations were made by Prof. Dr. Elizabeta Dimitrova - "Adriatic-Balkan Roots: Byzantine Fresco Painting and the Macedonian Example", Prof. Dr. Sasho Korunovski – "The Strategic Development Culture and Cultural Heritage in Macedonia and the Role of Ohrid in the Adriatic-Balkan Commonwealth" and Prof.

Dr. Kosta Balabanov – "New Findings on the Terracotta Icons from Macedonia".

This Symposium had reconfirmed the role of Ohrid as "the cradle of Macedonian civilization" in the new vision of the painting of the forerunners of Italian Renaissance, the great Giotto and Cimabue, attesting that many ingenious solutions applied by these painters are enrooted in Ohrid art. Macedonia was named "the land that had shed light on the new western art from the XIII century".