

Remarks  
Gloria Garafulich

Inauguration: Exhibit and Documentary  
Embassy of Chile | April 10, 2014-05-30

On behalf of our family—Boris and Juan Pablo—who are not here today, Maria Paz and I wish to express most sincere appreciation to Mr. Marcelo Hurtado for opening the doors of the house of Chile in the United States to host an exhibit of a Chilean artist—with Croatian roots—and participate in the Centenary Celebration of Lily Garafulic—not only a great artist but an outstanding woman.

This, is the very of a series of celebrations that include the Organization of American States, the Cervantes Institute in NY; the National Museum of Fine Arts and the Museum of Contemporary Art in Chile and a special event that will be held in Croatia on May 14—the day of Lily's Centenary.

The United States played an important role in the artistic development of her craft. Here, is where she studied the print making technique and it is also where, at the NY Public Library, she prepared for her masterwork the Basilica of Lourdes in Chile.

Today's event is an event of firsts, and I will take a quick moment to explain why:

First, this exhibit highlights a body of work that has been unknown until now and this, is the first exhibit ever, of her work on paper: drawings, prints, watercolors –this is a very small sampling of over 350 works that she created.

Over the years and for much of the last 100 years, many articles have been written about Lily Garafulic but this will be the first time that you will get to know her in a different way, which leads us to our other first of today, as this is the first time that the documentary “Lily Garafulic: In her Own Words” will be seen by the general public. It is the only documentary that has been about her, which was born out of a conversation with Lily during which she complained that she although she gave many interviews, what she wanted to say . . . her voice was not heard. . . . hence the title.

We hope that you will enjoy these next few minutes and that the woman with eyes of turquoise, temple of steel and heart of gold inspires you.

This event would not have been possible without the support of DIRAC, the sponsorship of the Consulate General of Chile in NY, the participation of the Embassy of Chile and the interest and work of everyone involved, especially Annemarie Duncker and Barbara de Georgis from the Embassy and of Soledad Soto who has helped coordinate the project.

Thank you,