

THE COLOUR OF THE DANUBE



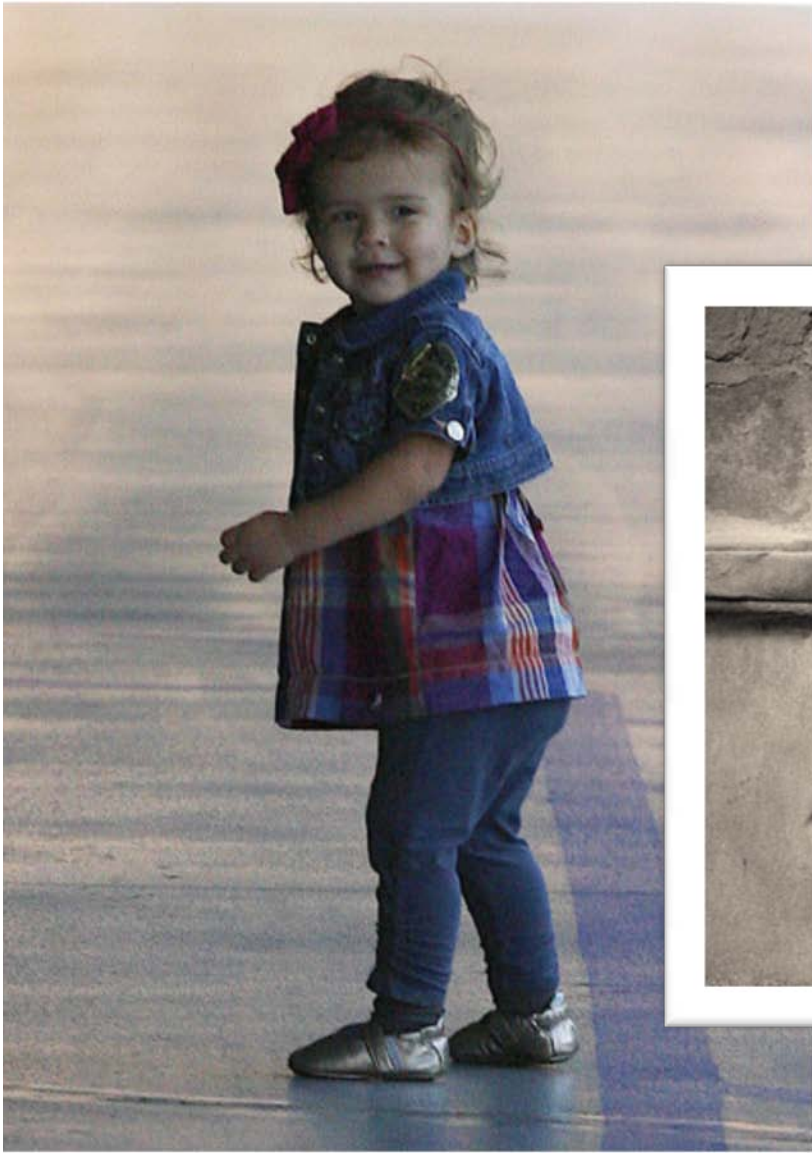
I am Visnja Obradović – one of 80 million citizens of the Danube region.

THE COLOUR OF THE DANUBE



I belong the generation whose cradles rocked to the sounds of fall of the Berlin Wall.

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The Danube was blue, springing in the Schwarzwald mountain, reaching the Black Sea.

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When we began our first grade, the European Union counted 15 members, Jacques Chirac became the President of France; there were wars and sorrows on many sides of the River; DVD and e-Bay were lunched; the World counted 5,674,380,000 inhabitants.

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In 2003 -- the International Year of Freshwater, when we started our highschool days, Zoran Đinđić was killed; the global SARS outbreak was declared; the invasion of Iraq began; Estonia joined the EU; and Sweden refused to use the Euro.

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In 2007, the European year of equal opportunities for all, when we enrolled our university studies, Bulgaria and Romania joined the EU; It was the year of Orange Revolution; Greece was being devastated by the raging forest fires; the sky was brightened by the Comet *Holmes* overshadowing the Sun; Indonesia hosted the UN Summit on Climate Change.

Today,

when we are finishing our faculties and starting to embark into that world – the world that was once promised by the walls that had fallen,

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the largest economic crisis in the history of mankind is shaking its foundation

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the pandemic of Mexican flu is spreading

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the Copenhagen talks have not offered too much hope

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Haiti Earthquake killed so many that we
can not count


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The Danube is not so blue any more

But as long as we do have it – and
as long as it springs in the Schwarzwald
mountain and reaches the Black Sea, we have the
right to **DEMAND** of you, to **ASK** you whether you have done
all you could – whether you have **TAUGHT US** enough

whether we **KNOW** enough – and



will you do your
very best to help
us return the
colour to our
Danube?

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