

THE CHEST GAZETTE

The best information tabloid of cultural and nature heritage since 2021
 Najlepsza tabloid informacyjny o dziedzictwie kulturowym i przyrodniczym od 2021 roku



Vilnius



Lublin

Portals

Kultura... It is a Latin word, isn't it? It is the origin of the word "culture", isn't it? Culture is a "set of learned behaviors by a group of people through interaction", isn't it? Starting from this definition of culture, we can see that there is a strong relationship between culture and communication. This couple reciprocally influences each other. But there are different cultures, and even it is better to say that cultures are not fixed. The communication media propagates cultural values.

In Vilnius, in front of the train station; and in Lublin, in the Litewski square, there are two circular doors to interact between these two cities. The door serves as a bridge, connecting the people of different cultures, two cities in Lithuania and Poland. Big optical devices located outside are sending real-time live images to each other.

The machines were installed on 26 May 2021. A name was given to this machine: Portal [1]. Maybe we can call it "Sightgate" inspired by the film "Stargate" in which soldiers are transported to the other side of the universe through a similar circular machine. Or maybe it would be a bit of exaggeration to call it "Brogate" inspired by Winston's inability to escape the fact that big brother is always watching, as in the book "1984".

We are unable to foresee how effectively this innovative communication machine will influence the cultures. However, we can say that one branch of the Lithuanian culture must be the active endeavor. A community of entrepreneurs dreamed to set free the communicational power of culture. So two cultures, two nations moved one step forward to learn each other. It is clear that the practice of innovative searches is growing as a part of Lithuanian culture. This endeavor itself is an act within culture, which will provide all individuals a soul of futuristic searching, not only in the Vilnius streets but also in the Lublin streets.

It is accepted (Unesco) that a cultural heritage also includes traditions or living expressions inherited, such as "social practices" which possibly structure the lives of communities. They are closely linked to a community's worldview or perception. Between Vilnius and Lublin, these intangible cultural heritages are shared through this Portal now.

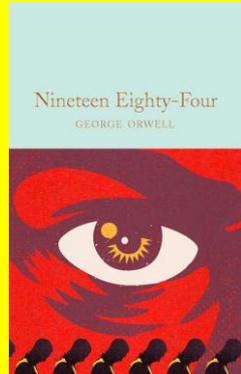
Vilnius has built something for those who are tired of pandemic travel restrictions and longing to meet new people from near and faraway countries [1].

What would you say if we call this heritage "techno cultural heritage"?

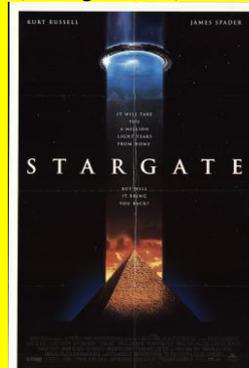
[1] Development Agency of the City of Vilnius <https://www.govilnius.lt/media-news/vilnius-invites-residents-to-connect-through-a-portal>



Vilnius Train Station



1984, George Orwell, book cover



Stargate, movie poster (1994)



Reporter, Hakkı Bilgen, 16.07.2021