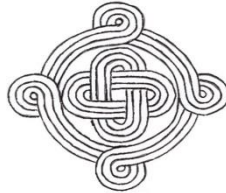


**TAA TAMBURITZA EXTRAVAGANZA®**

**Milwaukee 2017**

**ZADNJA STANICA**  
**STEELTON, PA**



Zadnja Stanica

**Band description:**

Zadnja Stanica is a Croatian band based in Steelton, Pennsylvania. The group was formed in 2003 by twin brothers Mate and Petar Krpan and their childhood friend Steve Grassa. Growing up together in Steelton, a steel mill town with several ethnic European communities, the boys learned to play the *tambura* – the national folk instrument of the Croatian people. As they grew up in the Croatian community, the boys realized that they held a great love of the music that was an important bond for their families and friends, and that it was leading them along a path toward musical careers.

As young men, the three friends decided to form a band that would play not only the traditional Croatian folk tunes long popular in American Croatian communities, but also the modern popular music of Croatia. The three friends began performing as Zadnja Stanica in and around Steelton.

Soon after their first performances, Zadnja Stanica invited their friend and former music instructor Mike “Miko” Furjanic to join them in the band. With their mix of old and new songs and dances, Zadnja Stanica became popular in Croatian communities throughout the eastern United States. It wasn’t long before Zadnja Stanica caught the ear of one of America’s most accomplished and well-known *tamburaši*, Tom Salopek. The veteran performer and music instructor loved the band’s blend of old and new and soon joined them on stage. Tom’s versatile talents add new vocal and instrumental dimensions to Zadnja Stanica’s sound.

Now playing the *tambura*, violin, guitar, and accordion, Zadnja Stanica performs Croatian music ranging from village folk songs and dances to modern pop music. They regularly perform at festivals, weddings, and other venues throughout North America, including New York City, Pittsburgh, Detroit, Washington DC, Orlando, Philadelphia, and Hamilton, Ontario. As performing artists, they have shared the stage with Croatian singing stars Krunoslav “Kićo” Slabinac, Goran Karan, and most recently, Mate Bulić.

In the fall of 2012, Zadnja Stanica released their first CD. They are currently writing and recording their next disc, which is expected to be released in the near future. Since the beginning of the bands formation all members have played with several folklore ensembles. Due to the involvement there are many folk/ dance choreography recordings floating around, ie Kardinal Stepinac Ensemble NYC, Kolo Club "Marian", "Gemist" folklore ensemble.

In the last several years ZS has had the honor of playing for multiple CFU events, including JR festivals, Adult festivals, bowling events, golf tournaments etc. The adult festival recently in Pittsburgh, PA proved to be an awesome turnout and we are happy to say we received many compliments and praise. We love to entertain the crowd.

## **Bios:**

**Mate Krpan** (brač, accordion, vocals) – Mate has been performing Croatian music since childhood. He learned to play tambura as a member of both Kolo Grupa “Marian” and the St. Lawrence CFU Lodge Junior Tamburitzans, both of Steelton, Pa. Mate is now an orchestra member of Kolo Grupa “Marian”; the St. Lawrence CFU Lodge Adult Tamburitzans, also of Steelton, Pa.; Kolo Grupa “Kardinal Stepinac” of New York, NY.; and Ensemble “Gemišt”, a Croatian folklore group with members from Steelton and New York. Mate is a member of the choir of Prince of Peace Parish of the Assumption B.V.M. Croatian Catholic Church of Steelton, Pa. Mate has performed throughout the U.S., and in Canada, and Croatia.

**Petar Krpan** (bass, vocals) – Inseparable from his brother Mate, “Pere” has also been performing Croatian music since childhood. He learned to play tambura and bass as a member of both Kolo Grupa “Marian” and the St. Lawrence CFU Lodge Junior Tamburitzans, both of Steelton, Pa. Pere is an orchestra member of Kolo Grupa “Marian”; the St. Lawrence CFU Lodge Adult Tamburitzans; Kolo Grupa “Kardinal Stepinac” of New York, NY.; and Ensemble “Gemišt”, a Croatian folklore group with members from Steelton and New York. Pere is a member of the choir of Prince of Peace Parish of the Assumption B.V.M. Croatian Catholic Church of Steelton, Pa. Pere has performed throughout the U.S., and in Canada, and Croatia.

**Steve Grassa** (bugarija, guitar, vocals) – “Kum Stipe” (Croatian: Godfather Steve) has been performing Croatian music since childhood. He learned to play tambura as a member of both Kolo Grupa “Marian” and the St. Lawrence CFU Lodge Junior Tamburitzans, both of Steelton, Pa. He is an orchestra member of Kolo Grupa “Marian”; Kolo Grupa “Kardinal Stepinac” of New York, NY.; and Ensemble “Gemišt”, a Croatian folklore group with members from Steelton and New York. Kum Stipe is a member of the choir of Prince of Peace Parish of the Assumption B.V.M. Croatian Catholic Church of Steelton, Pa. Kum Stipe has performed throughout the U.S., and in Canada, and Croatia. He also plays with Orchestar “Cazma”, also from Steelton, Pa., which performs a broad range of music from the Balkan region of southern Europe.

**Mike Furjanic** (prim, violin, vocals) – “Miko” has been performing Croatian music for over 35 years. As a child, Miko was taught to play violin by his mother, and learned to play tambura as a member of Kolo Grupa “Marian” of Steelton, Pa. He went on to become music director Kolo Grupa “Marian” and has held the position for 25 years. Since age 15, he has performed with Croatian orchestras and folk ensembles throughout the U.S., and in Canada and Croatia. Miko also plays and records with musical groups that perform styles of music ranging from classical to country and from folk to rock.

**Tom Salopek** (brač, vocals) - Tom has been playing tambura for over forty years. He currently teaches tambura to over one hundred students as the music director of the American Zagreb Junior and Cleveland Junior Tamburitzans. Tom served as the CFU Guest Director in 1998 and has toured Croatia four times as a performer and director. Tom is a founding member of Orkestar Škršeni Glas and also plays with The Veseli Tamburitzans as well as Zadnja Stanica. Tom has been the executive producer for three full length CDs for various groups. He enjoys all aspects of tambura: playing, teaching, arranging and recording.





# Music in the GARDEN!

Saturday, June 18, 2016 3:00 P.M.



Featuring **Zadnja Stanica**

with performances by  
Cleveland Junior Tamburitizans



and American Zagreb Junior Tamburitizans

## Croatian Cultural Garden

at the Cleveland Cultural Gardens. Free and open to the public!  
Sponsored by the American Croatian Lodge, "Cardinal Stepinac"



How many years has your orchestra been together?	15 Years in August 2017
Have you made any records, CD, DVD's? If so, how many?	1 CD - 2014 Currently working on 2nd album
How many Tamburitza Extravaganzas® has your orchestra performed at?	5
List a sampling of gigs and venues you performed at over the last 12 months. Provide venues and dates	Debut Co-Act, CFU Adult Fest Pittsburgh CFU Bowling Kilo Club Merian Court Shelton Cleveland TRS Concert
What are some of the out-of-town cities/states/countries that you or your group performed at?	New York City / New Jersey / Vermont / Hamilton, CA / Cleveland / Chicago / Mississippi, CA / Washington D.C.
List an interesting facts or achievements about yourself or group.	All members have been performing Folklore since 7 years old 178 Total Years of Folklore/music
List any other pertinent information that you would like to share about your orchestra.	Our orchestra believes in preserving traditional forms of Tamburitza as well as bringing modern styles.

\* We are proud to say we played the most recent CFU adult Fest in Pittsburgh, PA.

It turned out to be an amazing event, we have played quite a few events for them. Always asked to return.

we pride ourselves on being able to play for courts that are 50+ years old as well as younger generations.

We cater to the audience.

-5- we always keep in mind that we play for the audience, not ourselves.