


Knock knock, Lithuania

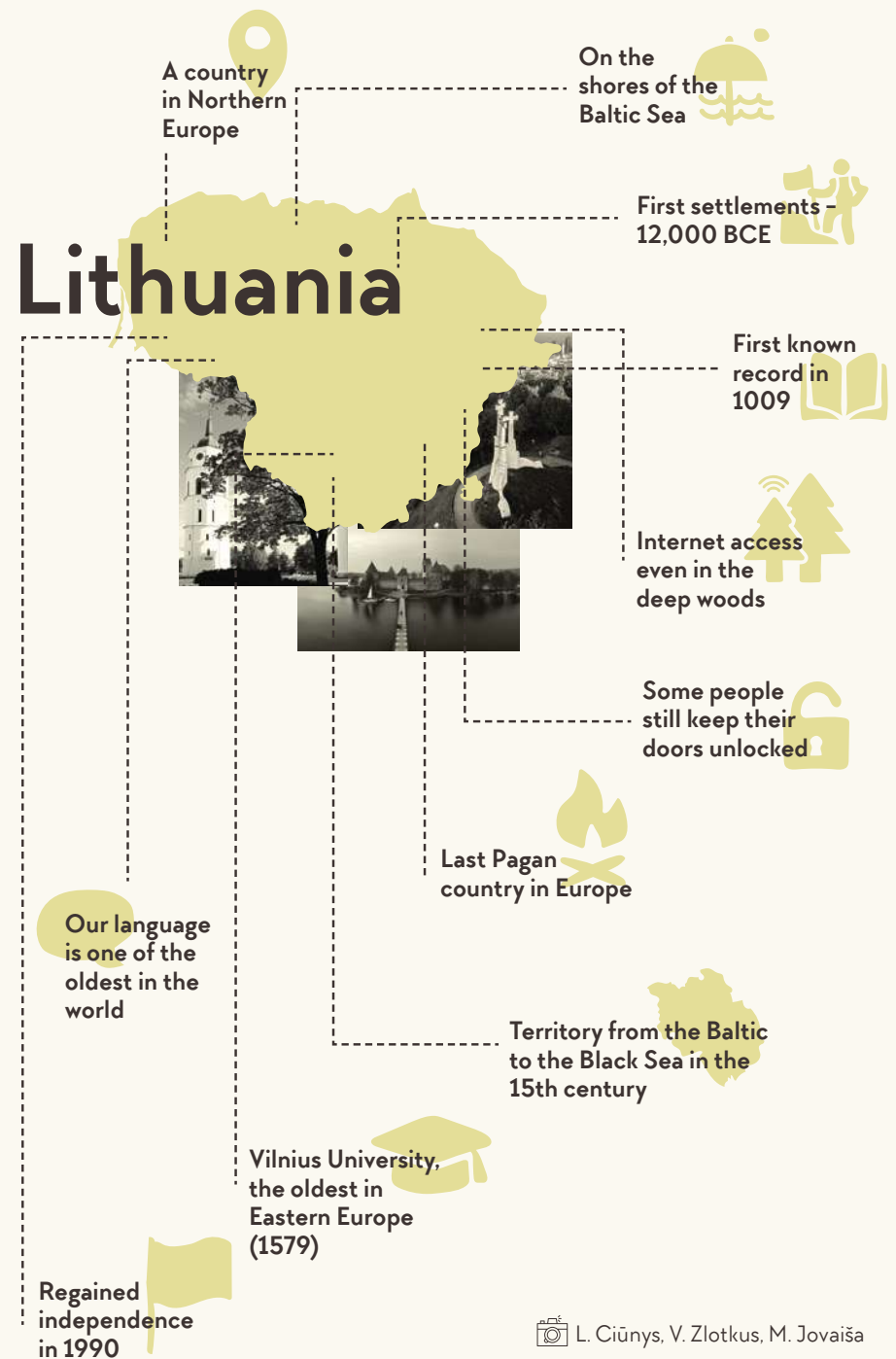



 Viktorija Staponė



www.lithuania.travel

Lithuania



 L. Ciūnys, V. Zlotkus, M. Jovaiša

Raudondvaris
Manor
Pilies takas 1
Raudondvaris
Kaunas District

Travellers' quotes about Lithuania
were collected between the years
2015 – 2017 from notes, diaries, blogs,
Tripadvisor.com, Booking.com and
press reviews.

Knock knock, Lithuania

Knock knock, Lithuania. It's always interesting to find a new door to knock on. Or an old, forgotten one, which brings back so many memories. You knock, and we swing the door open for you. We want to tell you about the people who used to live here. And those who still do. About their discoveries, their sense and taste of Lithuania. About their connection to the majestic Lithuanian history, to the magical thrill of Vilnius and its mysterious Baroque longing. About their hot nights in the Old Town's courtyards and their long walks through the streets of Kaunas, the undertones of modern architecture they admire, the feelings they get in exuberant music festivals and galleries booming with creativity, their discoveries in small coffee shops and cosy restaurants. Nothing is half-hearted in Lithuania, so let's travel to a country full of culture. Our true Lithuania. Back to our roots.


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Vilnius, the Capital of Lithuania

Vilnius is full of stories. Just ask the passersby in the streets – they'll tell you the legend of a howling iron wolf, an army sleeping inside Gediminas Hill, about the beautiful Barbora whom the Grand Duke of Lithuania and King of Poland almost gave up his crown for, about the famous Napoléon Bonaparte who wanted to take a church home in the palm of his hand, about a black magic book chained in one of the chambers of a university and a magnificent architect who planted the seed of Baroque in this city. We're open-minded, open-hearted and we love guests.

“Absolute baroque, perfect exotica, openness to the world and loyalty to the past – all these things constitute Vilnius, a jewel of the Baltic States.

Laurence,
France



Campanile of
St John's Church
Šv. Jono 12
Vilnius

Five unexpected things you can do in Vilnius

1.

Enjoy the sight of the red roofs of Vilnius from a hot air balloon – Vilnius is one of the few cities in the world where you can do that.

2.

Go cycling through Vilnius Old Town – one of the biggest Baroque old towns in Europe.

3.

Read the Constitution of the Free Folk of Užupis Republic in your own language.

4.

Participate in the Street Music Day.

5.

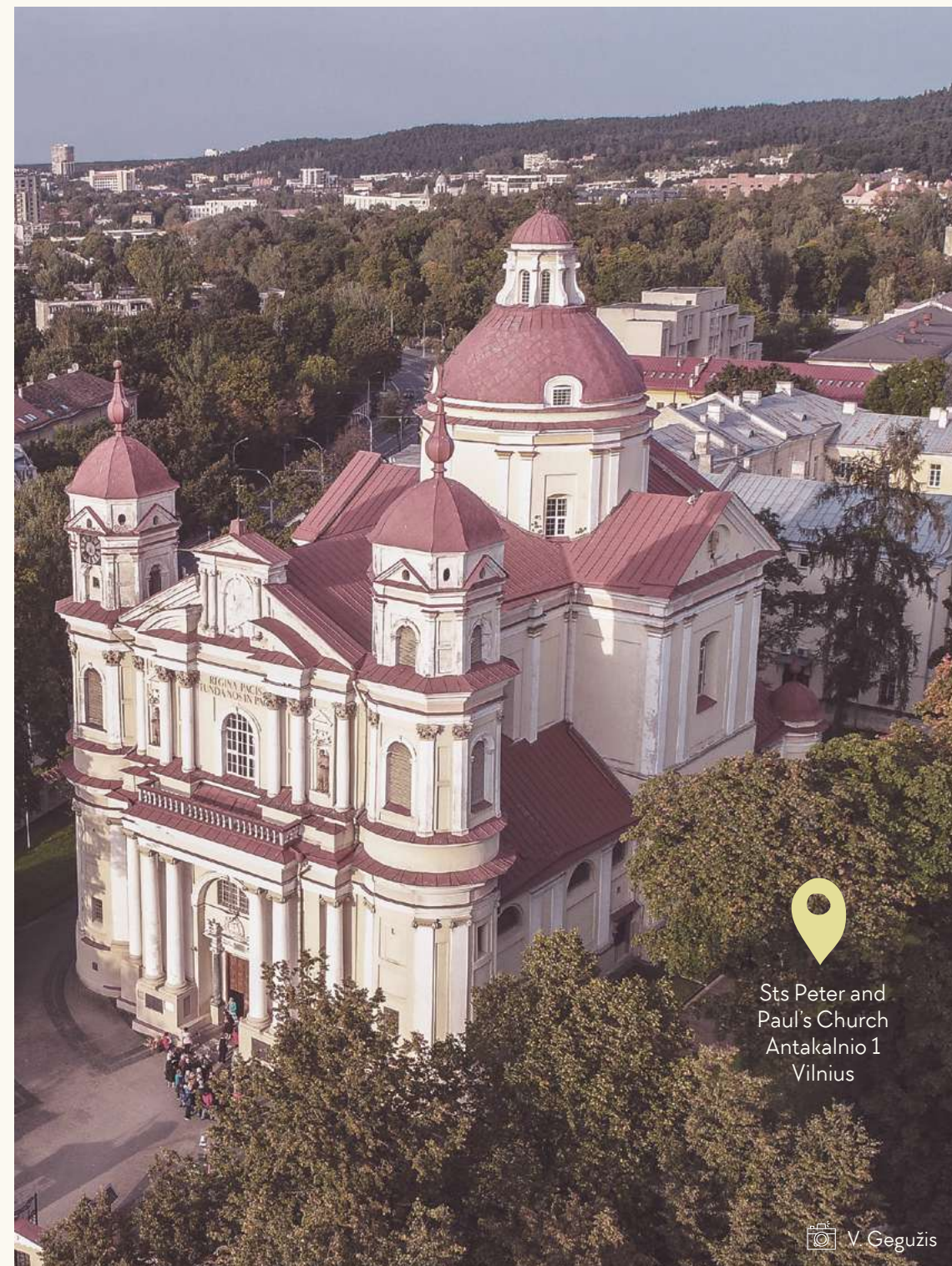
Grab a mid-city bite and a bit of fresh air.



“
We found a small piece
of Italy. Sculptures inside
Saints Peter and Paul’s
Church will take your
breath away!

Giacomo,
Italy

Breathe in the
Baroque



Sts Peter and
Paul's Church
Antakalnis 1
Vilnius



“ Vilnius University is one of the oldest in Europe. Existing so long it reflects every architectural era in Europe. It has 13 courtyards among the many faculties inside it. Incredibly impressive, really breathtaking.”

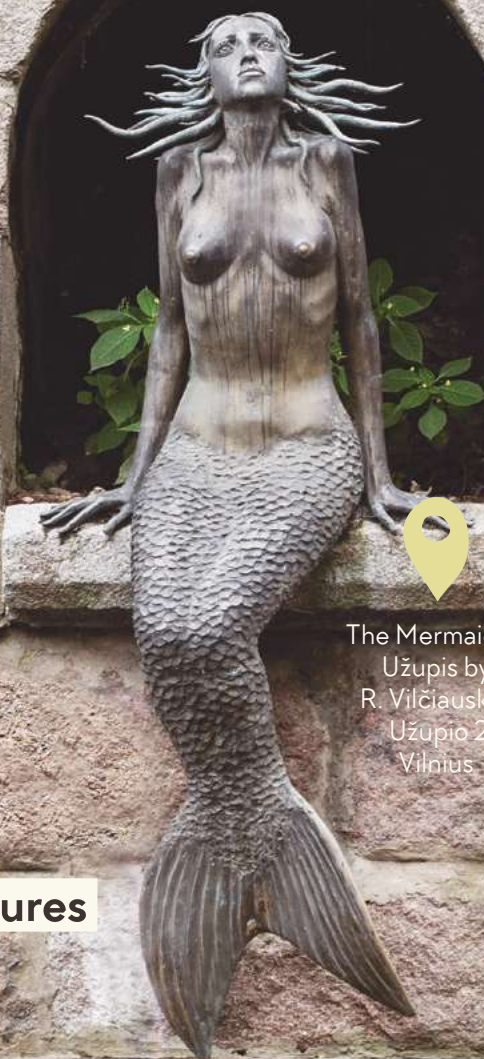
Aharon,
Israel

Vilnius
University
Universiteto 5
Vilnius

Count the
courtyards of
Vilnius University

Find the QR code on the bridge where the mermaid is and she will phone you back, telling her story in a sexy voice!

Anna,
Germany



The Mermaid of Užupis by R. Vilčiauskas
Užupio 2
Vilnius

Hear sculptures speak

You have to wish here

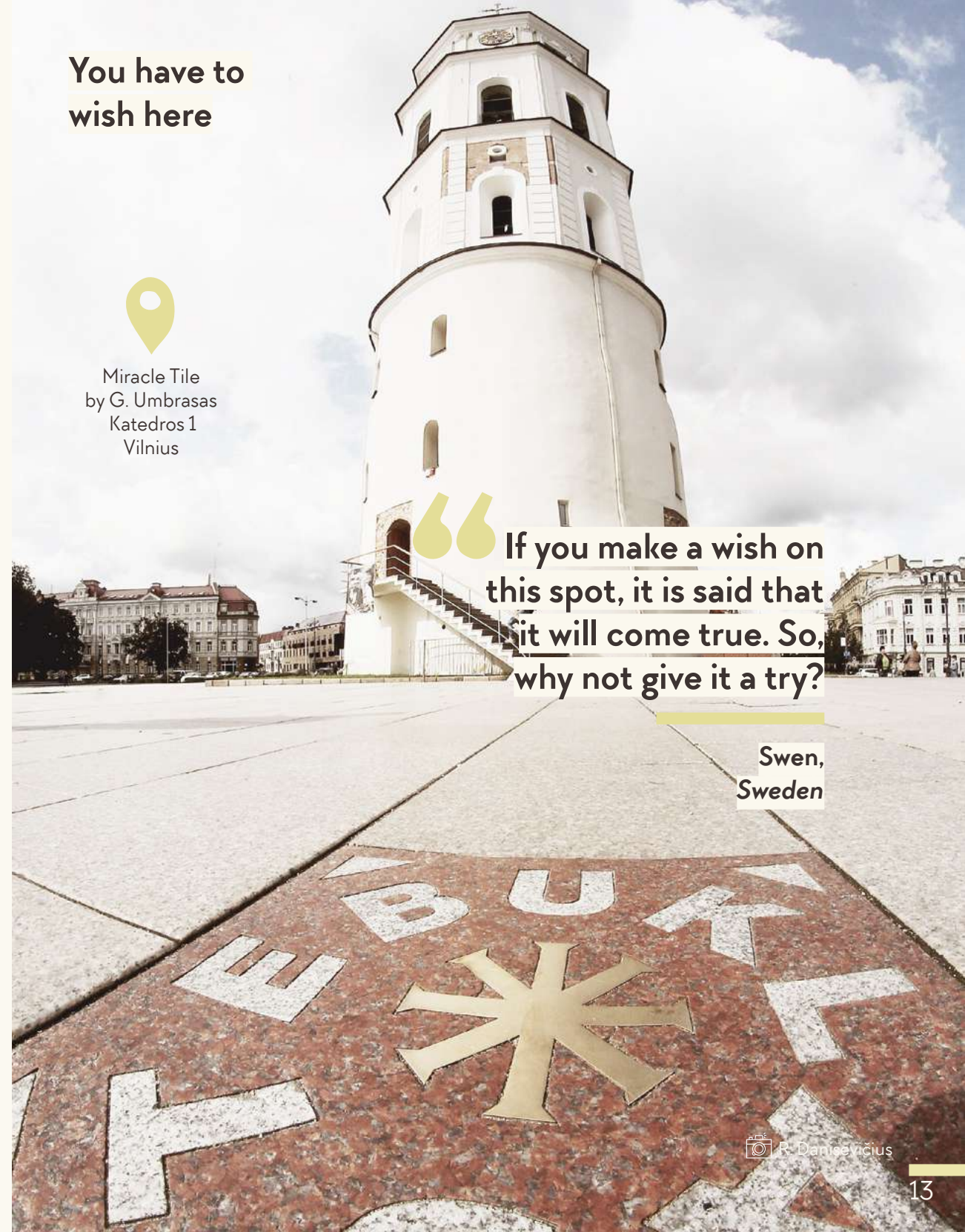


Miracle Tile
by G. Umbrasas
Katedros 1
Vilnius



If you make a wish on this spot, it is said that it will come true. So, why not give it a try?

Swen,
Sweden





Dive into arts
and music



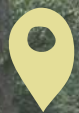
“A former USSR radio
factory turned art complex
by day and a fantastic club
and gig venue by night. The
atmosphere there is great.”



Festival
Loftas Fest
Švitrigailos 29
Vilnius

Jamie,
UK

Escape into green serenity



Botanical Garden of
Vilnius University
Kairėnų 43
Vilnius



L. Juškauskaitė



Tranquillity, peace,
relaxation. Do not run –
but use your time!
Let your soul rest.

Arne,
Norway

Get to know the unseen
side of the National
Gallery of Art



Painted sensations
National
Gallery of Art
Konstitucijos 22
Vilnius

“It’s a blocky
complex of striking
modern architecture,
filled with similarly up-
to-the-minute works by
Lithuanian artists.

The Telegraph



A place where arts
and nature meet

”In Europos Parkas, a reality out
of nature and art is created – the
most important coexistence, the
most important moment in the
European reality.

Stephan,
Belgium

Double Negative
Pyramid
by S. LeWitt
Europos Parkas
Joneikiškės village
Vilnius District

Vilnius' Old Town is special, because legends are told not only about its streets, buildings and dungeons but about its yards as well!

Ivona,
Spain

St. Michael the
Archangel's Church
Šv. Mykolo 9
Vilnius

Figure out the secrets of
the Old Town yards

Become a citizen
of Užupis


Užupis Angel by
R. Vilčiauskas
Užupio 9
Vilnius

As the story goes,
they have their own angel,
constitution, president,
ministers even, a currency
on April 1, which is
exchanged for beers!

Ugis,
Latvia

**Lose yourself in
Culture Night**


Culture Night
Vilnius
Old Town

 L. Balandis, 15min.lt



**The city in the night
becomes alive – there are
places to go to, events to
visit, people to meet.**

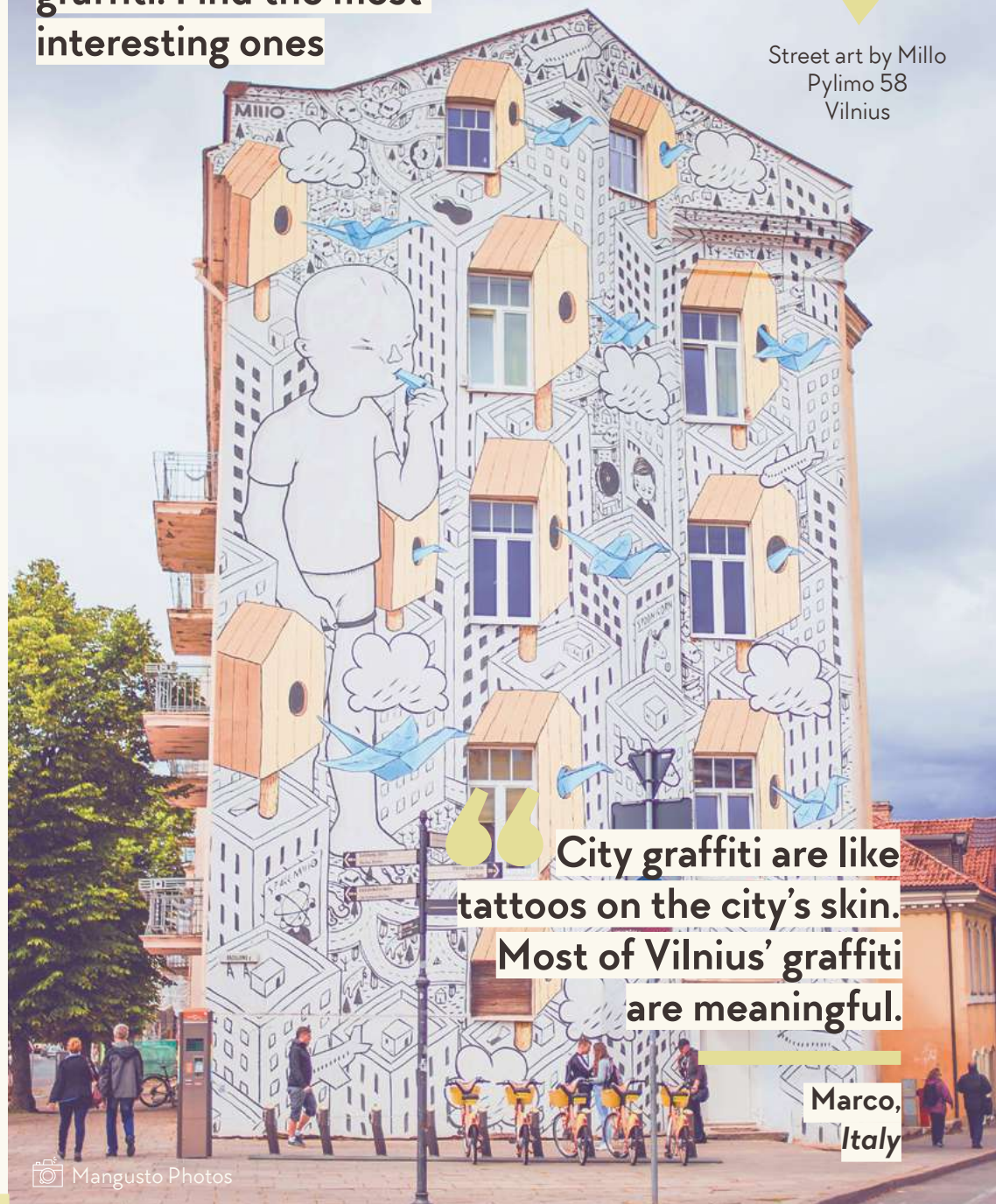
**Irina,
Belarus**

 R. Šeškaitis

Vilnius hides a lot of graffiti. Find the most interesting ones



Street art by Millo
Pylimo 58
Vilnius



City graffiti are like tattoos on the city's skin. Most of Vilnius' graffiti are meaningful.

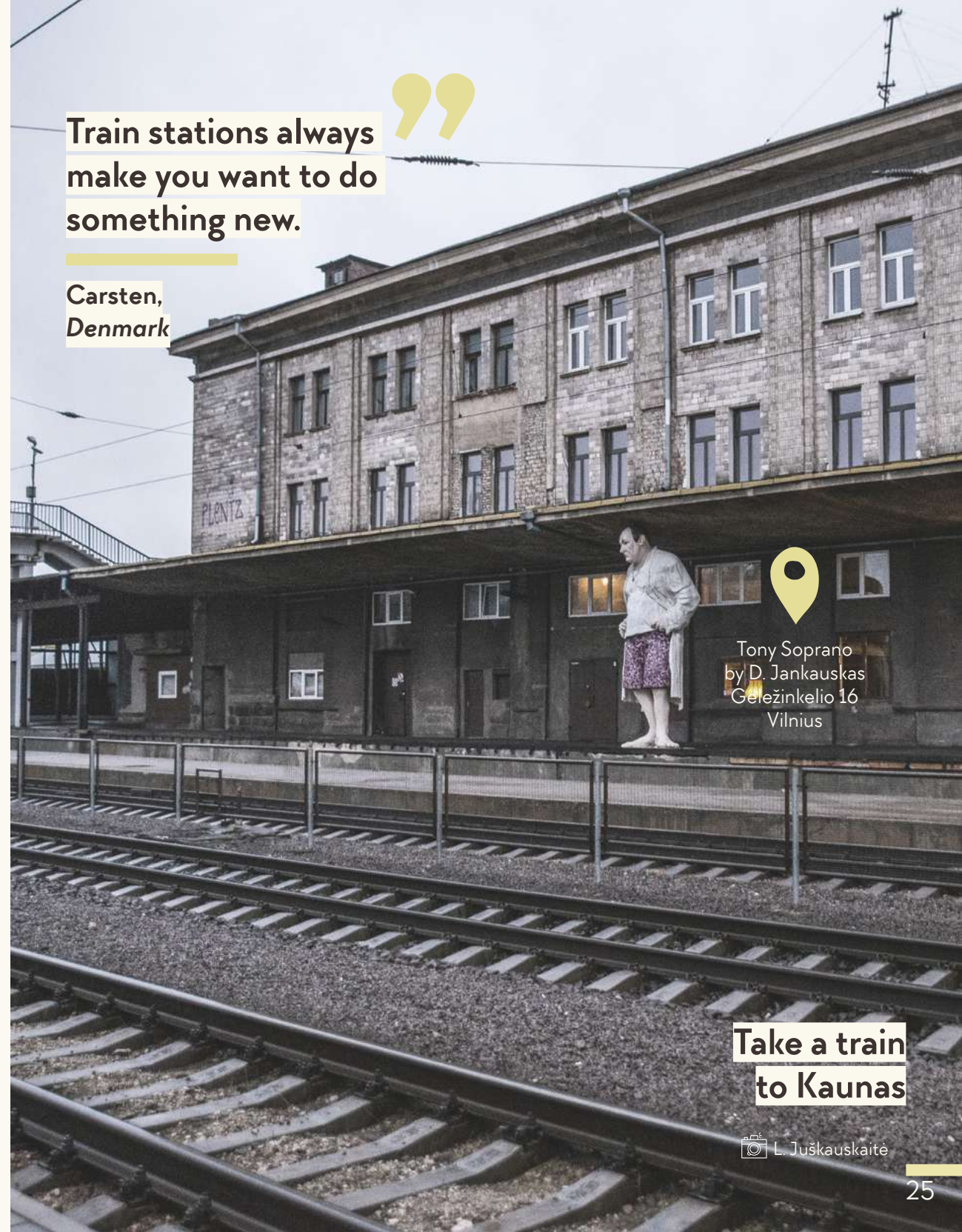
Marco,
Italy

Mangusto Photos

Train stations always make you want to do something new.




Carsten,
Denmark




Tony Soprano
by D. Jankauskas
Geležinkelio 16
Vilnius


Take a train
to Kaunas

L. Juškauskaitė



Take pictures. 
Have drinks. Listen to the
beautiful voices around you.
Pick out the little things. It's
all here. See for yourself.

Jacob,
Netherlands



St. Michael the
Archangel's (the
Garrison) Church
Nepriklausomybės 14
Kaunas

Kaunas, a City of Culture and Youth

The interim capital which guarded the identity of Lithuania like a precious jewel during some dark times. Today Kaunas is a modern and youthful city. It paints, dances, plays basketball and doesn't sleep because of all that jazz at night. It's a city full of culture, the European Capital of Culture 2022, open to everybody who believes that art will save the world.



📷 E. Virketis



Five unexpected things you can do in Kaunas

1.

Visit "Kiuemo galerija" where artists live.

2.

Enjoy jazz at the Kaunas Jazz Festival.

3.

Stop at the one and only Devils' Museum.

4.

Play some midnight street ball, Kaunas is the capital of basketball.

5.

Have a doughnut in Laisvės Alėja, enjoy the moment frozen in time.



Pink Elephant
by V. Jakas
Ožėškienės 18
Kaunas



Kaunas Artists' House is a space in Kaunas, the rebirth of which has been undeniable.

Viktorija,
Lithuania

Kaunas Artists'
House
V. Putvinskio 56
Kaunas

Leave some space
for creativity

L. Mykolaitis

T. Biliūnas

Discover the
world of Art Deco



The Bank of
Lithuania
Maironio 25
Kaunas



I've recognized the global Art Deco trends in Kaunas. The ornate lights outside the Bank of Lithuania building reminded me of similar ones in Seattle.

Joseph,
USA



Pažaislis
Monastery
T. Masiulio 31
Kaunas

“ This is the most
magnificent example of
Italian Baroque architecture,
with an exclusive architectural
solution used for the
first time in Europe.

Sibile,
Finland

Follow the trail
of centuries to
Pažaislis

Hear Čiurlionis

“His color palette is that of twilight and he paints the physical and spiritual twilight moments between the worlds.”

Magdalena,
Poland

Pasaulį vaizduojuos kaip didelę simfoniją...

M. K. Čiurlionis

M. K. Čiurlionis
National
Museum of Art
Putvinskio 55
Kaunas

When sculptures
come to life

“The Star Sower monument in Kaunas. In the daytime, this monument doesn't make any sense, but when night comes down to the city...”

Alex,
Israel

The Star Sower
by Morfai
K. Donelaičio 66
Kaunas



R. Talutis

Get warm
in a funicular



Aleksotas
Funicular Railway
Veiverių 30
Kaunas



You are treated to a
ride on a 1920s funicular
carriage. Recently restored,
the carriages still have the
smell of new timber.

Liao,
China



Kaunas is full of
surprises and contemporary
street art. You must wander
the streets of Kaunas
aimlessly at least once.



Yvonne,
Germany

Wise Old Man
by T. Šimkus and
Ž. Amelynas
Jonavos 3
Kaunas

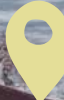
Allow yourself to
be surprised



A. Aleksandravičius

There and Back Again: Lithuania

We often call Lithuania a land of wonders. Our history is wondrous, our nature is magical and so are our good-natured people. Those who live far away from the capital look up at the skies more often, they cherish our culture and our historical heritage. Their stories and discoveries are filled with joy, and their everyday moments are gifts to the people around them wanting to travel together. Come with us, let's visit them.



Trakai Island
Castle
Karaimų 43 C
Trakai

Here you can even live
out your Game of Thrones
fantasies and visit a medieval
castle on an island in the
middle of a lake, which looks
as if it's just been taken from
the pages about Westeros.

Jessica,
UK

Five unexpected things you can do in Lithuania

- 1. Watch the sunset on one of 850 mounds and learn their legends.
- 2. Go cycling along the Nemunas River and count the splendid signposts of history – castles, manors and mounds.
- 3. Enjoy gastronomic experiences in the manors – taste the gifts of nature.
- 4. Solve the mystery of amber at the seaside – touch the millennia and hear them speak.
- 5. Climb the highest church tower.



Mounds of Kernavė
Širvintos District

© J. Burn Photography for Sondeflor

Look up at
the stars

Looks like a UFO, and has a 3
ton telescope. At night, they
illuminate the tower in different
colours. When the elevator doors
opened at ground level, I was
sure Vader would emerge.

Evelin,
Estonia

Lithuanian
Ethnocosmology
Museum
Žvaigždzių 10
Kulionys
Molėtai District

Feel the
medieval spirit

“Days of Live
Archaeology
in Kernavė”
Širvintos District

“ Beautiful landscape,
mounds...Peace and quiet!
There is a small historical
wooden village rebuilt!
You can find the real soul
of the Middle Ages here.
Awesome!

Martin,
UK

“
Near Trakai, there is a
palace, a beautiful white
palace on the shore of
the lake. It's a romantic
place to watch sunsets
and listen to live music.

Sophie,
France

Užutrakis
Manor
Užtrakio 17
Trakai

Spend a romantic
evening in a manor

Start believing in
miracles on the Hill
of Crosses

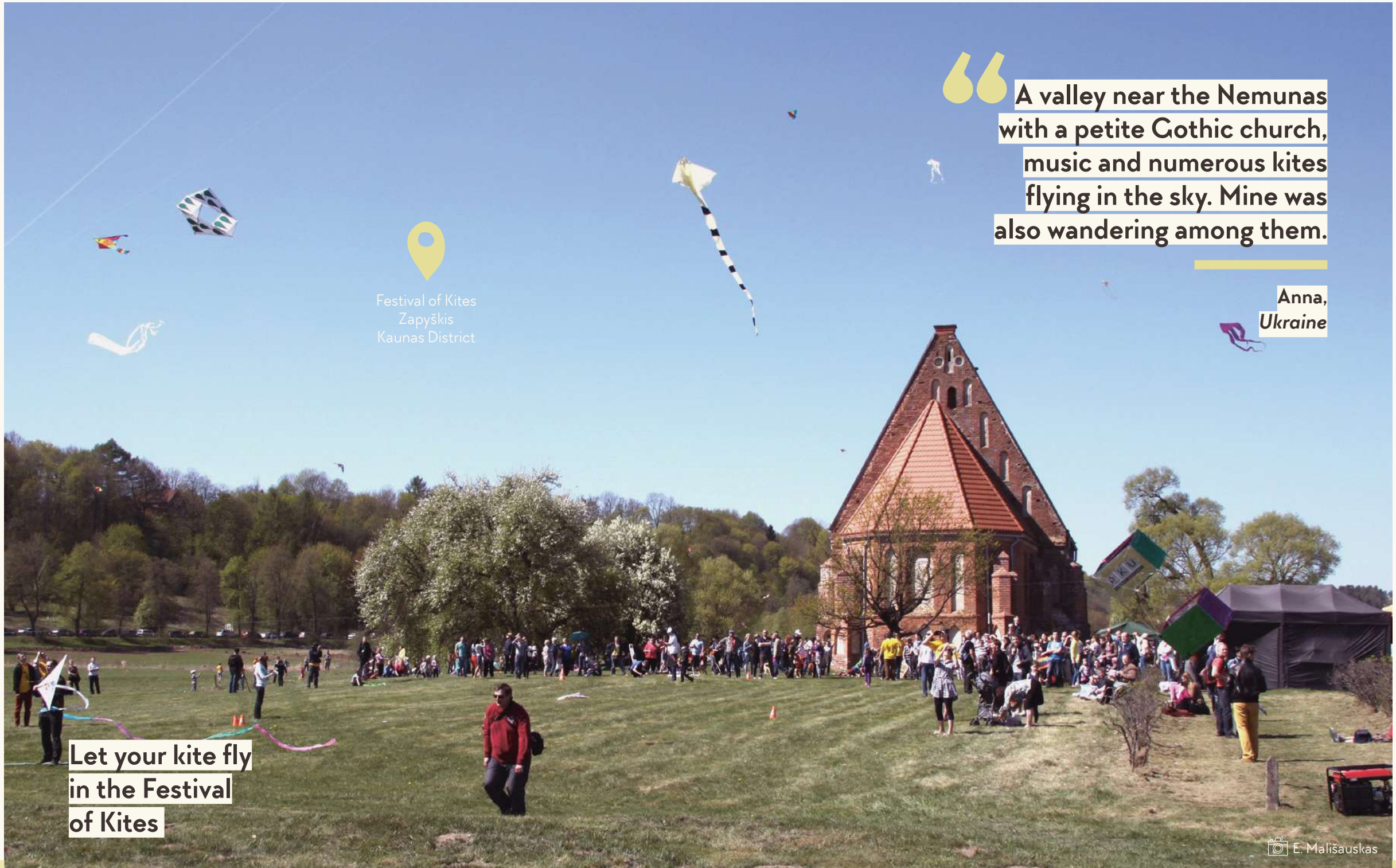


Hill of Crosses
Jurgaičiai
Šiauliai District

“
This unique place gives you
some really strange feelings.
You even try to breathe silently
to not disturb anyone. It's sacred
in its own way but you don't have
to be religious to feel that.”

—
Anthon,
Finland

A. Aleksandravičius



Festival of Kites
Zapyškis
Kaunas District

“A valley near the Nemunas
with a petite Gothic church,
music and numerous kites
flying in the sky. Mine was
also wandering among them.

Anna,
Ukraine

Let your kite fly
in the Festival
of Kites

E. Mališauskas

Play some blues in Varniai

This festival is reflecting everything, what I like to enjoy: good location to chill, nice lake, cozy camping, not many teenagers, different generations. Such a great mix of peace, inside quietness and wild madness.

Dirk,
Germany

Festival "Bliuzo
naktys"
J. Jablonskio 3A
Varniai




Meet your personal hero in Marijampolė

Street art by
R. Bartkus
Marijampolė

Leonard Cohen's waiting for a bus to Vilkaviškis. As it happens, the ancestors of this American artist, musician, singer and writer come from Lithuania, Sudovia.

Ray Bartkus,
USA



The resort has its own history
which has been hidden in a
fantastic wooden house. It's
as if we're back to the times of
men and women wearing striped
bathing suits to the beach.

Piotr,
Russia

Learn the resort's
history in Palanga



Palanga Resort
Museum
Birutės 34A
Palanga



Klaipėda is full of sea. You feel like a captain even if the ship isn't going anywhere.

Shayne,
USA

The quay of the
Danė River
Klaipėda

Take a walk along the
wharf of the Danė River

© E. Ščiupakovas



Learn the things
weather vanes show

One more travelling
lesson learnt: weather
vanes are ancient road
signs that used to help
fishermen get back home.

Nida
Curonian Spit

Juli,
Norway

© R. Danisevičius

Count sun hours on a
sand dune in Nida

“An African desert with a sight
of the seaside, something
simply impossible to explain in
words. You have to come and
see it with your own eyes!”

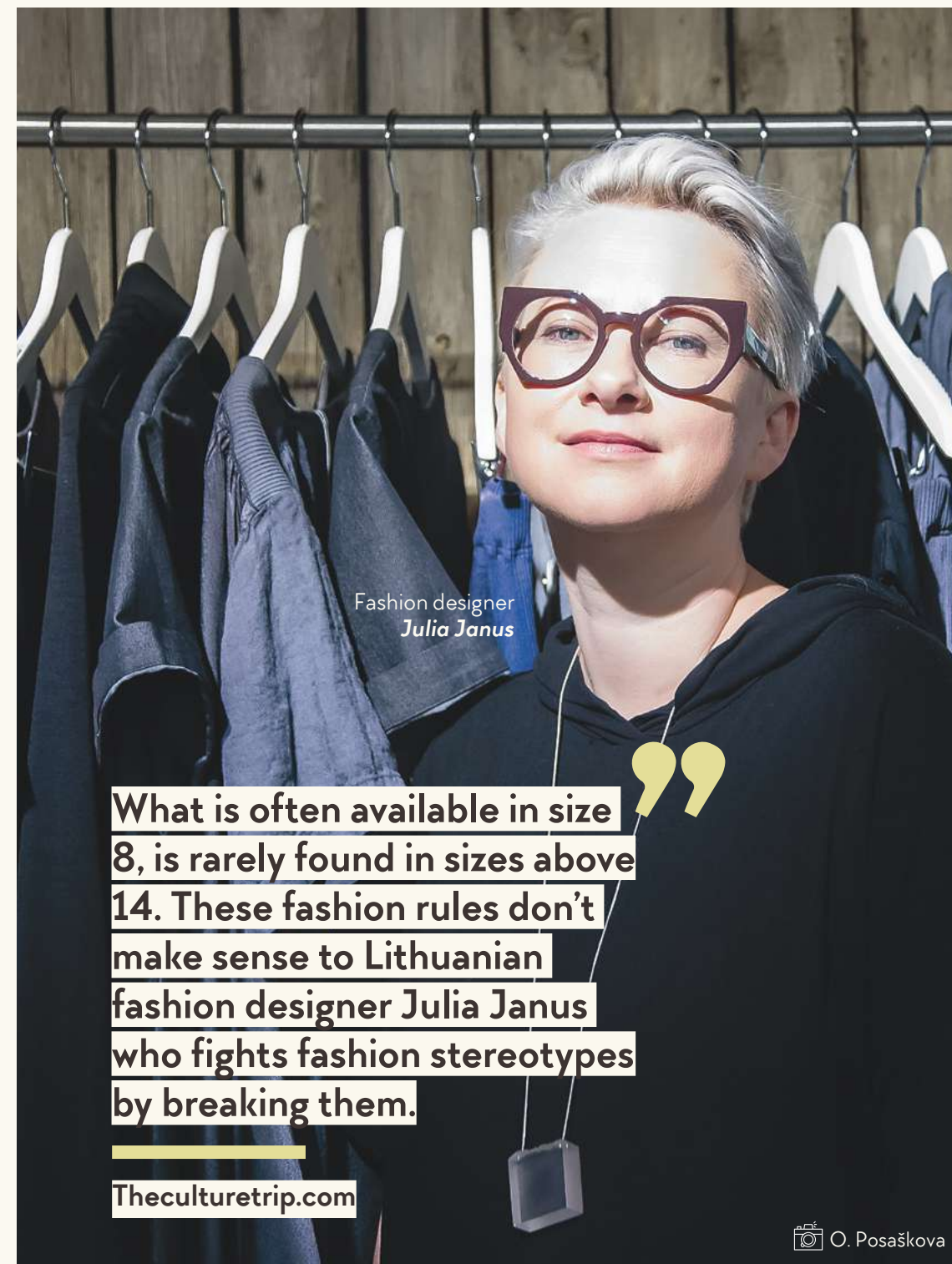
David,
Italy

Sundial on the
Parnidis Dune
Nida
Curonian Spit

E. Malcius

You Can Meet Them Around the Corner

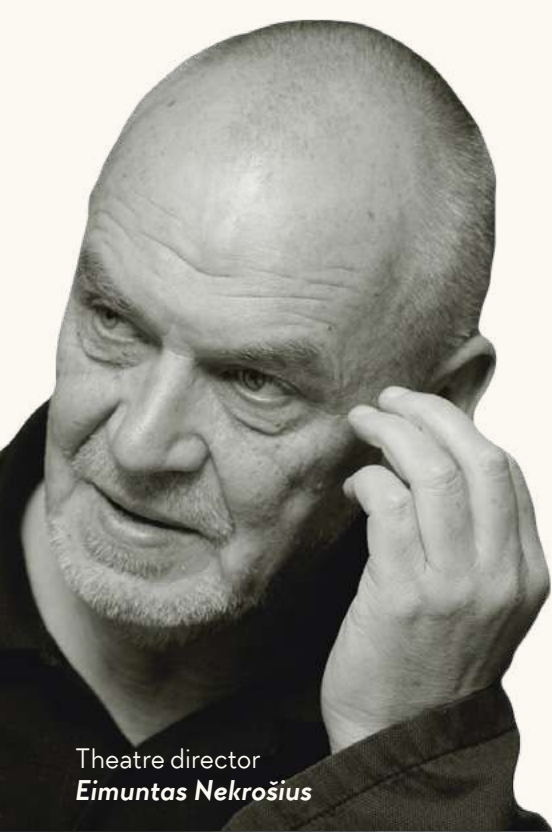
The fact that we're less than three million doesn't matter – we're big and numerous in the arts. Artists who receive standing ovations around the world walk the streets of our cities. A light but – at the same time – such a strong conductor's baton, an expressive nod from one of our directors, and a stern silence from another. A wonderful voice echoing in the most famous of concert halls and slow Lithuanian cinematography at the Cannes Film Festival. An artist who counted John Lennon and Yoko Ono among his friends and contemporary Lithuanian art flowing in the halls of MoMA. We have things to show, surprise and be proud of. Just open the door to the world of our art.



Fashion designer
Julia Janus

What is often available in size 8, is rarely found in sizes above 14. These fashion rules don't make sense to Lithuanian fashion designer Julia Janus who fights fashion stereotypes by breaking them.

Theculturetrip.com



Theatre director
Eimuntas Nekrošius

“ His innovative interpretation of classical plays, from Shakespeare to Chekhov, and of literary works has earned him unfading admiration from the local public and innumerable prizes abroad.

The festival of
Spoleto



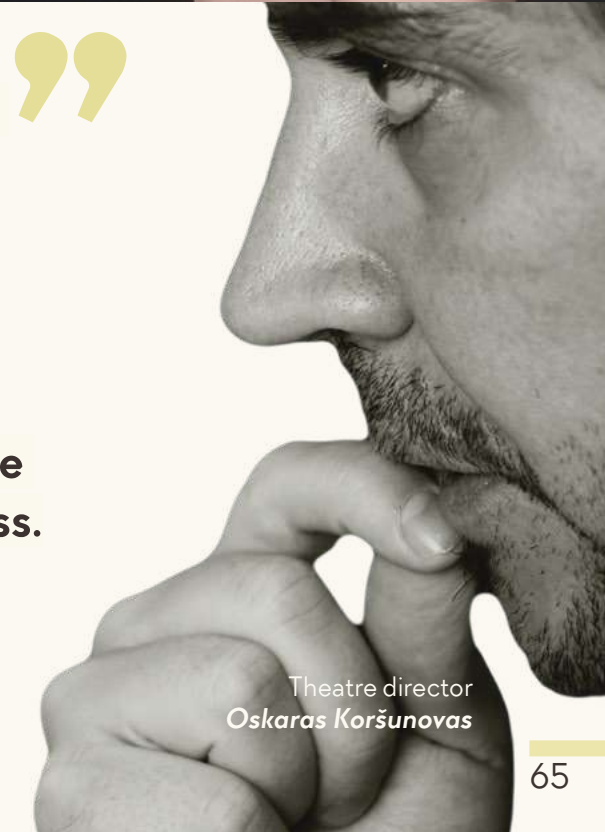
D. Matvejevas



D. Matvejevas

The prodigy of the Lithuanian theatre. He's a creator of exceptional talent, one of the most subtle theatre directors in Europe. He uses inventive, simple and playful performances to challenge the audience's feeling of happiness.

Didier Méreuze
“La Croix”



Theatre director
Oskaras Koršunovas



© T. Ivanauskas

Amazing. Fantastic. **”**
Wow! Very talented. It's
an honour for me to be
here and see this fabulous
performance!

Monica Bellucci
Italy

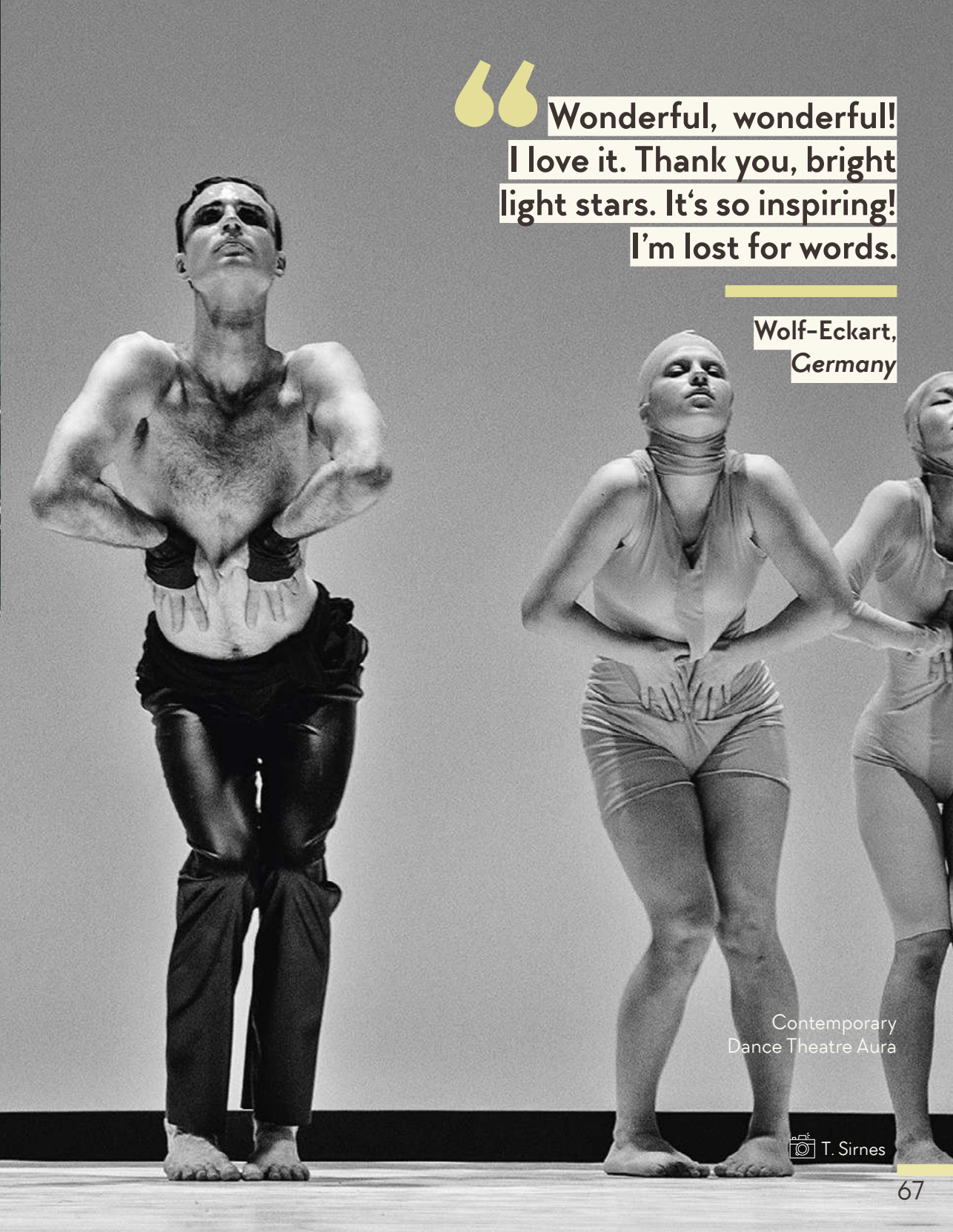


Theatre director
Anželika Cholina

© P. Gasiūnas

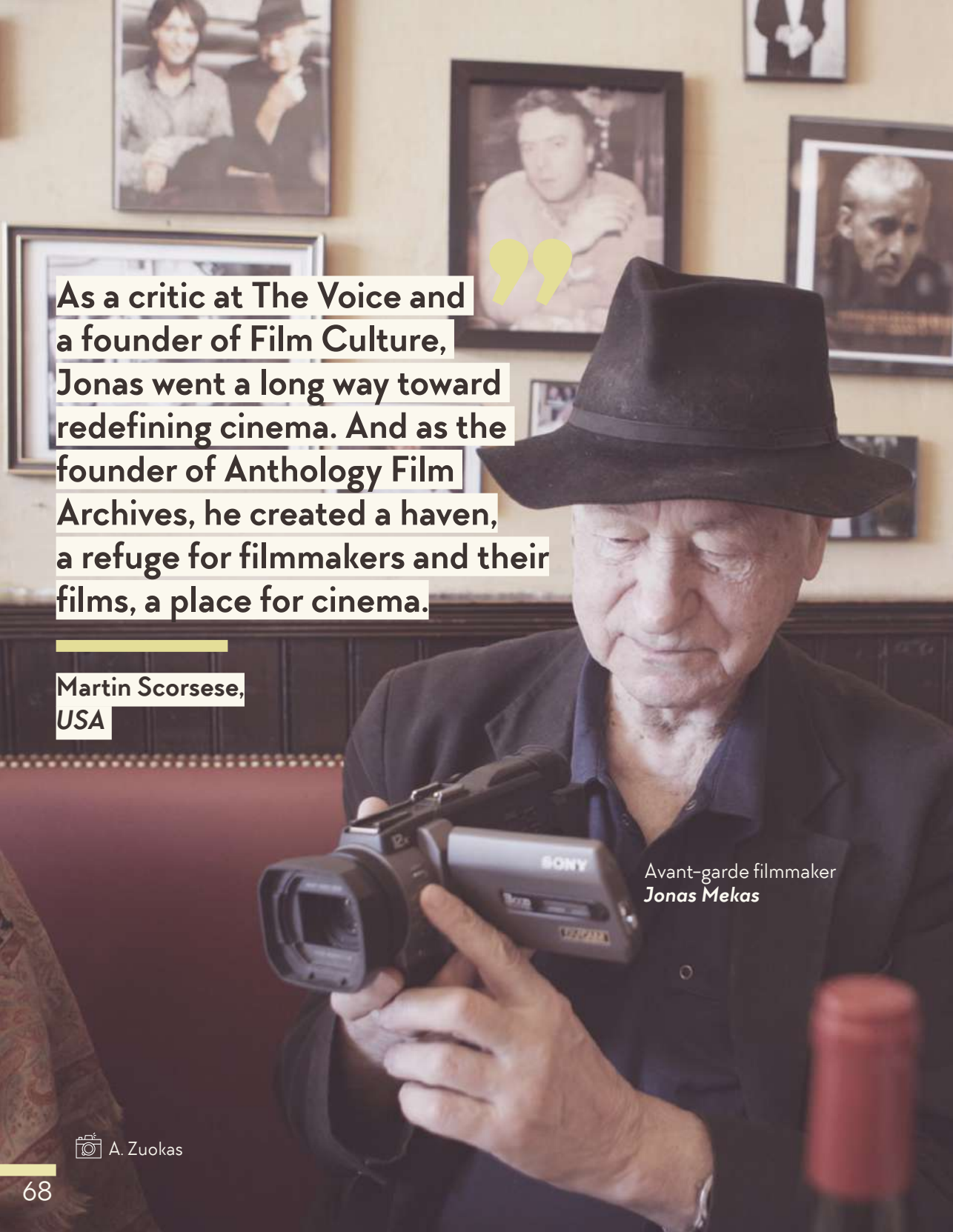
“ Wonderful, wonderful!
I love it. Thank you, bright
light stars. It's so inspiring!
I'm lost for words.

Wolf-Eckart,
Germany



Contemporary
Dance Theatre Aura

© T. Sirnes

A photograph of Jonas Mekas, an elderly man with white hair, wearing a dark fedora and a dark jacket over a dark shirt. He is holding a silver Sony video camera with both hands, looking down at it. The background is a wall with several framed photographs of various people.

“As a critic at *The Voice* and a founder of *Film Culture*, Jonas went a long way toward redefining cinema. And as the founder of *Anthology Film Archives*, he created a haven, a refuge for filmmakers and their films, a place for cinema.

Martin Scorsese,
USA

Avant-garde filmmaker
Jonas Mekas

A photograph of conductor Mirga Gražinytė-Tyla. She is a woman with long, wavy blonde hair, wearing a black long-sleeved top. She is captured in a dynamic pose, holding a baton in her right hand and gesturing with her left hand. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

Conductor
Mirga Gražinytė-Tyla

“What blows people over is the huge rhythmic energy and imaginative insight she brings to everything she touches.

The Telegraph

Opera singer
Violeta Urmana

“She is a commanding and magnetic singer, dominating the stage whenever she appeared. Her musicality, textual awareness and compelling acting really were exceptional.

Boston Classical Review

”
This Lithuanian artist is able to obtain a maximum effect with minimal effort. It gives his creations a resonating capacity and – because of this special simplicity – conveys a poetical relation with the surroundings.

The New York Times

Contemporary artist
Žilvinas Kempinas

From Lithuania with Love

The most precious thing we own is our memories. It doesn't matter where they're hidden – in a white sheet of paper with an usent letter, a bouquet ribbon, a handcrafted bag, a pebble found on the beach or an amber necklace made by an artist. Memories have their own smell, they're decorated with colours of the countries they came from, embroidered with feelings and glances. Our biggest wish is for you to bring home genuine feelings from Lithuania. And the loveliest gifts created by our people and our nature.



Linen dresses, a little bit crumpled tablecloths and ceramic crockery which, as it seems, has kept the naturalness, beauty and warmth of previous times. You'll recognize handmade things anywhere!

**Ueda,
Japan**





Keep your
feet warm!



These handmade shoes
feel so good on my feet
that I don't want to take
them off my feet ever.

Cilli,
Germany

Raise the curtain
of millennia

You can call yourself a
lucky man if you get to the
sea when it is windy. The
wind will give an excellent
opportunity for you to
collect a few bits of
natural amber.

Liu,
China



Taste of Lithuania

In spring, when the lands beyond our cities smell like fresh soil and the birds are passing by, we go to the fields to pick nettles. The same nettles that our princess used to knit shirts for her twelve brothers. We, however, bake pies with them. We also like picking wild strawberries, raspberries and blueberries in our forests, and making wonderfully fragrant jams out of them. We know our mushrooms, our baskets are full of apples, we still use our grandparents' recipes, we like cooking and we love eating. But our most beloved activity is meeting our friends in places that cherish the wisdom of our grandparents yet have a modern take on food.



Try things that have
been grown here

Let your taste buds run riot. It's an experience, not a restaurant. It's Užupis, so it adds to the wonder. The food was fresh, seasonal, high quality and respectful of the tradition, but at the same time it was very innovative.

Takuma,
Japan

“Sweet Root”



Give in to
improvisation in
the kitchen

“Monai”



You can't get the
flavours created out
of your head for a few
days. It's truly a miracle.

Xabi,
Spain

Experiment
with your taste

“
This place in Kaunas is
already playing in big boys
league! When you are not
expecting to be blown away
and then boom! More than
food, more than art. Wow!

Sergej,
Belarus

“ This one was a truly
Lithuanian experience
with current authentic
ingredients. And it was joy
for all the senses.

Dana,
Germany

Feel the joy
on your plate



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under the Ministry of Economy**

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R. Šeškaitis



**Build your own roads.
Be an alchemist of sound.**

- Vilnius -

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