

BIP Seminar: Word & Arts, hosted by the Evangelical Theological Seminary Osijek, Croatia

Drawing from biblical, systematic, New and Old Testament theology, linguistic and narrative approaches to the Word, we offer a five-day seminar that emphasises the biblical text as a primary source for understanding worship and a primary source of inspiration for worship songs as well as other forms of artistic expressions. The theme of the seminar is "Sing to the Lord a New Song" (Ps 96:1) and addresses two main aspects of worship: the biblical foundation of the text and its artistic excellence, with a particular focus on the textual dimension i.e., the lyrics. By treating the lyrics both as a carrier of God's Word to His people and as a sacrifice of praise offered by His people to God, we highlight the importance of remaining mindful of our responsibility toward God, the Church, the wider community, and future generations. These aspects will be addressed from the perspectives of theology but also by providing glimpses into different art forms through workshops in dance, poetry, music and visual arts. These workshops will serve as inspirational and didactic tools that broaden one's creativity in worship as complementary artistic languages that can contribute to worship practice in various ways.

The seminar will combine lectures and workshops, where:

Lecturers [the topics will be defined more precisely in the programme that follows]:

- **Dr. Pavol Bargar** (Charles University, Prague): Exploring the imagination from a theological perspective
- **Dr. Gunnar Innerdal** (NLA Norway, Bergen) Systematic Theology approach intersecting the didactic aspect of the music
- **Judita Paljević Kraljik, mag.art. and theol.** (ETS Osijek, Croatia) Biblical theology of worship and contemporary issues in worship

Workshops:

- **Kulli Hansen** (Tartu Centre for Creative Industries, Estonia), dance movement and art therapies
- **Saša Nikolinović** (Evangelical Church Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina), pastor and painter/visual arts
- **Matt Hellyer** (UK - Novi Most international organisation Jajce, Bosnia and Herzegovina), music production
- **Julijana Mladenovska-Tešija** (Evangelical Theological Seminary, Osijek, Croatia), philosophy and poetry

The event will take place in **Osijek** from **November 30 to December 4, 2026, at Cvjetkova 32, Osijek** - see [visual tour](#) and [map](#)

BIP ID: 2025-1-HR01-KA131-HED-000323845-1

Registrations and application: <https://forms.gle/ccrrNtECXdseredc6> by October 10, 2026.

For any question, please contact: julijana.tesija@etvos.hr

Looking forward seeing you in Osijek!

Grace and peace,

Office for International Relations, Projects and Erasmus+

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