Definitive abstract for paper presentation at the *coupDeFouet* International Congress

STEPPING EASTWARDS: HIDDEN REALMS OF ART NOUVEAU

Much of the Viennese and Austrian Secession, and Prague’s Art Nouveau has long been well-documented; Budapest and some other parts of Hungary has been increasingly explored since 1990. However, many other countries in the Balkans and eastern Europe are still seriously under-recorded as repositories of Art Nouveau architectural treasures. This talk will start in Budapest and elsewhere in Hungary, and then focus on buildings from Zagreb and Osijek (Croatia), Belgrade (Serbia), Sophia and Rousse (Bulgaria), Krakow, Łódz, Poznan and Wrocław (Poland), Bucharest, Cluj-Napoca/Kolozsvár, Targu Mureş/Marosvásárhely, and Iaşi (Romania) as well as other cities in the region. It will explore the forms taken and leads followed by architects and other artists and designers in these countries, seeing how they are connected, and where and why they diverge. The talk will be profusely illustrated with the speaker’s own original photographs.

KEYWORDS
Art Nouveau; Arts & Crafts; central and eastern Europe; architecture; design; national style; folk elements;

Curriculum Vitae

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David A. Hill is a freelance educational materials writer, based in Budapest since 1998, following 14 years in Italy and 10 years in ex-Yugoslavia. A Member of the William Morris Society since 1975 he has lectured on Morris, Arts & Crafts, Art Nouveau and related topics throughout Europe. His educational work takes him to around 12 countries a year; in 35 years he has built up a unique Art Nouveau photographic resource, as well as a huge library of original period books and secondary sources from all the countries visited.