



„The River Man“

vidusign creative discovery 03: Deaf Poetry

Summary of the task

“Deaf Poetry” is a three-dimensional art form where you can express yourself freely, tell stories in a visual way or play whatever role you want. You create meaning with body movements, facial expressions and gestures.

For this task, you will visualize scenes from a mysterious Ballad from Ljubljana, Slovenia named “Povodni Moz” (The River Man). In groups, visualise one scene from the story in a playful way.

Reference

Genre	Deaf Poetry – dramatic production
Learning goals	Expressing yourself creatively with your body
Level of production	Advanced
Time needed	3 hours minimum
Equipment needed	Video camera, editing software and PC



Steps to take

1. *Develop your idea: discuss your part of the story and how you could visualize it*

a) In the town of Ljubljana once lived a spirit whom they called Povodni Moz (River Man). At night, the River Man sometimes showed himself to the fishermen, in the daytime to other people, so that everyone had a story to tell about him marching out of the water and showing himself in human form.

b) In the year 1547, on the first Sunday in June, the whole neighbourhood gathered together on Old Square to have a merry time. In the shade of the old linen tree, the old and the young had a great time talking and eating God's gifts. The sounds of music invited to dance; the youth above all lifted their heels to the merry tunes.

c) At some point, a handsome and well-dressed young man appeared in the midst of the celebrating crowd and it seemed as though he wished to join the dance. Politely he greeted the company and offering the hand, which was soft and icy cold with each and every one and quite a few trembled with dread upon touching his hand.

d) Then the young man asked one of the townswoman for a dance; it was Urska, a pretty young woman, with the reputation for recklessness and bold manners. The young man led her to the dancing ground, where she demonstrated her skill as a dancer. They danced for a time with propriety, then even wilder and wilder, in great turns they started to spin outside the dance-ring; from the linden tree they raced to the Ljubljana river. Here the stranger dragged Urska into the river and vanished forever.

2. *Practise your story part: go through your part and work on the movements. How do you want to visualize your story? How can the roles be divided in your group? Discuss a suitable back ground.*

3. *Record your story: You can use the ideas for camera and production from the previous tasks. Be creative in the use of camera and try to use the camera as a support to what you are acting out.*

4. *Check up on your story: You can easily preview your story in the camera. See if the shots are of good enough quality.*

5. *Edit and present your story: Edit your video material and share it online.*

Example: „Pilot Video Theme 03“

vidusign - video education and sign language - 543030-LLP-1-2013-1-DE-KA3-KA3MP

The project vidusign has been funded with support from the European Commission. This document reflects the views only of the author, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.