

Anita Sabovich Rowe's

Serb Flicks

programs to watch about the Balkans

CHEF BABA COOKING SHOW

IN ENGLISH, SOME SERBIAN.

AVAILABLE ON YOUTUBE.

This collection of 20-to-30 minute episodes features cooking lessons with a warm, lively, and engaging *Baba* in her home's kitchen.

As she teaches her klutzy son, *Damir*, she demonstrates how to make a series of mouth-watering, home-cooked Serbian specialties—everything from *sarma*, chicken soup with noodles, and *gibanica* to *krofne*, strudel, and *krempita*.

While the filming is as homemade as the food, it's not only cooking that *Baba* teaches. As she lovingly interacts with her son and grandchildren, this 83-year-old grandmother imparts life lessons that are just as important as her recipes.

Her down-home style and advice is real and charming. For example, everything can be learned, nothing is too hard, and you should never waste anything in the kitchen.

If you grew up with a grandmother from the former Yugoslavia, this self-made cooking teacher's Old World ways and accent will warm your heart and take you back to your childhood in your own *baba's* kitchen. While you are enveloped in her warmth, you'll also gain some wonderful cooking lessons in the process.

MILEVA MARIĆ

IN ENGLISH. AVAILABLE ON YOUTUBE.

This in-depth documentary film tells the controversial, and painful, story of the relationship between the Serbian physicist, Mileva Marić, and her colleague and husband, Albert Einstein. It centers on the question of

Vojvodina near Novi Sad where, before the turn of the 20th century, few girls were educated beyond elementary school. Because of her progressive and supportive parents and amazing scientific mind, she broke with convention and traveled to Switzerland to attend the Polytechnic Institute in Zurich.

As the only woman there, she found herself in the same field of physics as another student, Albert Einstein. Their relationship began as students, then colleagues and co-researchers. It proceeded to lovers and then spouses only to ultimately end as ex-spouses and adversaries.

The film—using archival pictures and letters, expert opinions from scientific historians and Einstein biographers, and re-enacted vignettes—traces their professional and personal relationship from the romantic and passionate early days through the pain and heartbreak of their estrangement and divorce.

Because she was a mother—and mostly a single parent—and also because she had to fight the sexism of both the times and the scientific community as well as the disapproval of Einstein's powerful mother, Mileva's future was destined for obstacles that would prevent her from fulfilling her scientific potential.

What the documentary clearly shows is Mileva Marić and Albert Einstein's equal status and scientific collaboration as well as Mileva's significant role in Einstein's thinking and theories.

The viewer is left with questions to consider. What was the extent of Mileva's role in the formulation of the theory of relativity? Was she cheated out of credit for her part in her hus-