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HOME - ДОМ
May 11 - June 1, 2014

THE SERBIAN HERITAGE ACADEMY OF CANADA  СРПСКА НАЦИОНАЛНА АКАДЕМИЈА У КАНАДИ

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THE SERBIAN HERITAGE ACADEMY OF CANADA  СРПСКА НАЦИОНАЛНА АКАДЕМИЈА У КАНАДИ

Lazar Suboticki
Лазар Суботички

Aleksandar Aca Petricic

Dragica Gadjanski - Didi

Dusan Ivancevic

Tatjana Kilibarda

Djuro Lubarda

Dubravka Matic Mandic

Miroslav Nesic

Lilly Otasevic

Zeljko Rodic

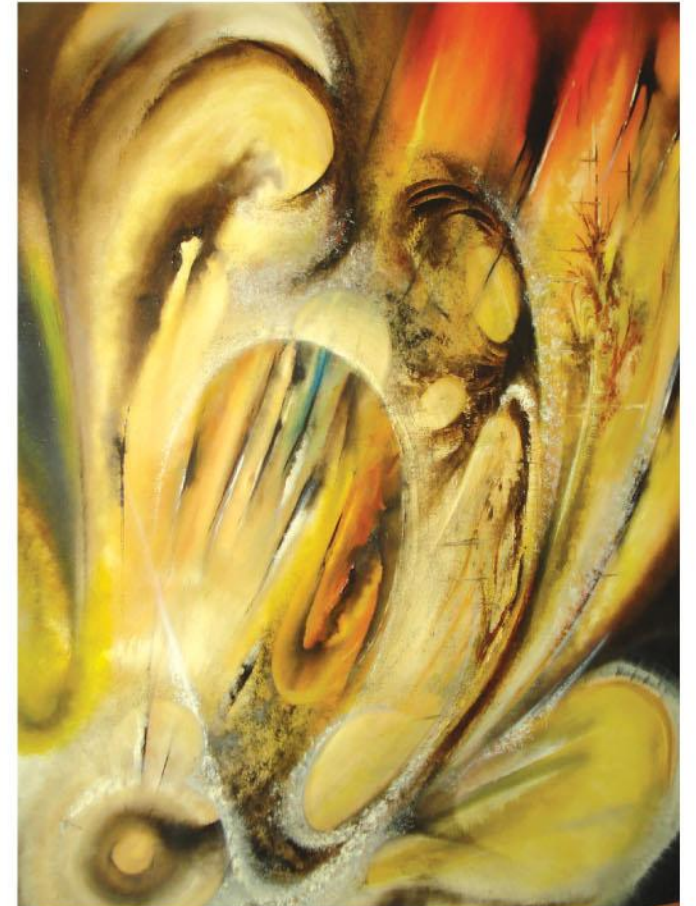
Boris Spremo C.M.

Lazar Suboticki

Lazar Suboticki - Zemunac was born in 1948 in Yugoslavia. Much of his early years he spent in Zemun - a town on the shores of Danube and Sava rivers in Serbia. In 1988, with his family, he arrives to this great City of Toronto, and the shores of fantastic Ontario Lake. He started painting at young age but his professional art experience begun around ten years ago...

Rainbows of his passion became rhymes, prose and fantasy of colors on white paper and painting canvases.

About four hundred oil paintings adorn the walls of people's homes...
Four books complement private library shelves...



Morning Glory
Oil on canvas, W 34" H48" D2", 2008

Boris Spremo, C.M., M.P.A.

FORMER TORONTO STAR PHOTOJOURNALIST

Борис Спремо



Red Umbrella

Photographic print on acid-free paper, W 27" H16", 2012

Born in former Yugoslavia and a graduate of Belgrade's Cinematographic Institute, Boris Spremo immigrated to Canada in 1957. After a spell of freelance work, he joined the the Globe and Mail staff in 1962 and moved to the Toronto Star in 1966, where he remained until retirement in 2000.

During his career, Spremo has won more than 295 national and international awards for photography. Recognition of his talent began early, when in 1965, he earned what is perhaps his most important distinction, being the first Canadian to capture a First Prize Gold Medal in the World Press Photo competition in The Hague, Holland. In 1966 Spremo was awarded with two honours by the Professional Photographers of Canada standing as a Master of Photographic Arts (M.P.A.), and Canadian Photographer of the Year. During the course of 40 years career, Spremo's assignments have taken him around the world covering wars, famine, politics, Royals, Olympics and celebrities.

In 1997, Spremo was awarded Canada's highest honour, the "Order of Canada" (C.M.) for his years of photographic excellence. Also Spremo received The Queen's Golden Jubilee medal and The Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal. In September 2013 Spremo was inducted in Canadian News Hall of Fame.

A WORD OF WELCOME

Serbian Heritage Academy (a charitable organization established in 1981) is proudly opening today its completely renovated building, as well as launching the SHA Art Gallery.

We hope, in years to come, that the SHA Gallery will contribute significantly, in an original and creative way to the rich, diversified, multicultural, uniquely Canadian cultural and contemporary art scene.

It seems appropriate that in the inaugural Exhibition we are featuring and promoting a selected number of Canadian Serbian accomplished contemporary artists, painters, sculptors and photographers, all members of the SHA. Please, note that we are including also works of the late Alexander Petricic, giving him the lead place of honour in the Catalogue, who supported the Academy from its beginning and had a vision of this Art Gallery, but was sadly taken away from us, much too soon.

Greetings and welcome to all. Enjoy Life and Art!

Sofija Škoric
President

HOME

The Serbian Heritage Academy of Canada is embarking on a new path in its cultural development by actively promoting Canadian art. For this first exhibition I am considering the concept of home; with its various, special meaning to all of us.

For most people, home is where they grew up and took first steps into the great unknown called - life. For some, it is a place where their children were born or a place which brings forth fond memories that warm their hearts. Even as people move on some special emotional vibration of their past lives continues to whisper between the empty walls. To those of us who had to leave our homelands, home now seems to be "here" as well as "there". Ultimately for many of us - home is a feeling, albeit an elusive one.

At this exhibition we are presenting eleven such visions of home. Whether it's a remote Canadian fossil landscape, a woman on a cross, a burst of morning light, some calm currents, imaginary landscape or a red umbrella, sharp edges, a field of flowers or old bricks - they all represent bits and pieces in which the artists recognised parts of their memory - of their own Home puzzle.

Lilly Otasevic
May 2014

Zeljko Rodic was born in Drvar, former Yugoslavia, in 1954. He was educated in Belgrade, Serbia and continued taking classes in Canada; attending OCAD art classes. Rodic is a sculptor who works predominantly in a mixed medium of materials including wood, glass metal and paint. He has participated in art exhibitions at galleries in both Yugoslavia and Canada. Currently lives and works in Oakville, Ontario.



Merciful Angel
Mixed media, W 17" H24" D12", 2004

Lilly Otasevic

Љиљана Лили Оташевић



Where I Begin...

Reclaimed bricks, W 44" H50" D45", 2013

Born and raised in Serbia, Yugoslavia, attended High School of Industrial Design in Belgrade. Studied painting at the Academy of Fine Arts in Belgrade where she earned a Masters diploma in 1992. Immigrated to Canada in 1994. Otasevic is actively exhibiting since 1996, and she has participated in numerous group exhibitions in Canada, USA and Middle East, and held six solo exhibitions.

Otasevic's main body of work consists of sculptural work, using various materials while presently working with reclaimed bricks. She has successfully completed several large-scale public art sculptural projects in Ontario.

Lilly is a board member of The Serbian Heritage Academy of Canada, and past executive member of the Sculptors Society of Canada.

<http://www.lillyotasevic.net>

Aleksandar Aca Petricic 1936 - 2013

Александар Аца Петричић

Aleksandar Petricic has been living and working in Toronto since 1968 as an architect, while painting was his special spiritual and creative expression. As a student he discovered his talents and love for drawings and water colour technique, which he improved over the years at special seminars and workshops, learning from the best Canadian and American educators and artists, such as Jack Reid and Betty Lou Schlem.

Due to the lack of time Aca did not produce a great quantity of pictures, but definitely created excellent works and deservedly received many awards and recognitions. His water

colours show a great love for nature; his own greyish-aquamarine tones bring tranquility similar to the colours of the Canadian lakes, where he and his family spent many happy days. His watercolours present his personal perception of beauty, of tender, mystical, pastoral scenes of Canadian nature. That tranquility he succeeded to impose onto the viewers with the same pleasure and intensity.

Aleksandar Petricic is one of the founders of the Toronto Watercolour Society and participated every year in their group Exhibition. Almost every year he was a recipient of some prestigious awards given by the art juries or by public and his peers. His works are represented in many private collections in Canada, United States, Europe and Serbia. A special Exhibition of two Petricic brothers, Aleksandar and Dušan in their hometown of Zemun, an old city situated on the metallic, blue waters of Danube, at the well known Kapetanija, was definitely a unique combination, a very creative and humorous representation through art of the life and beauty of Canada.

Aleksandar Petricic left us, due to the cruel illness, on the 10th of October 2013. His beautiful art and significant contribution to the development of the Serbian Heritage Academy will not be forgotten.

Sofija Škoric, Librarian Emerita,
University of Toronto



Calm Currents

Watercolour, framed W37" x H29", 2007

2008 Award of Merit by the Toronto Watercolour Society

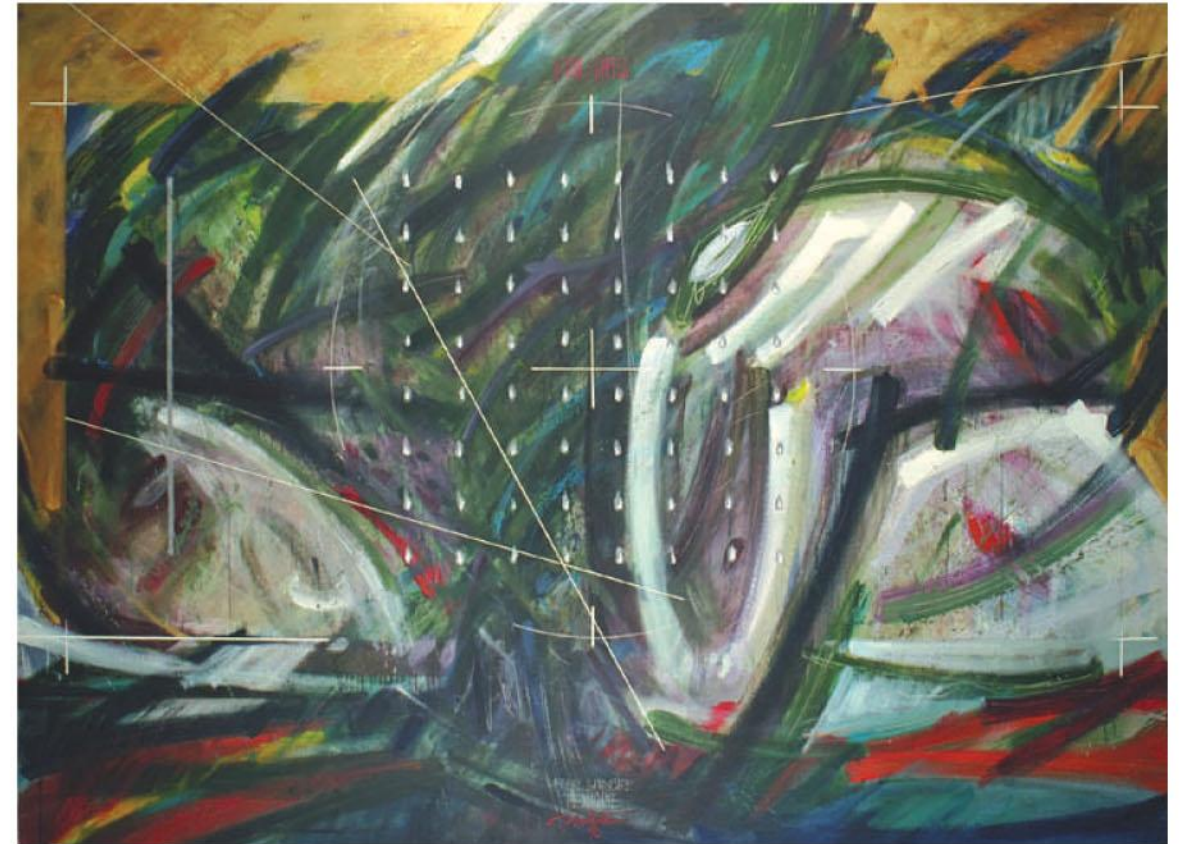
Dragica Gadjanski - Didi, AOCAD, TWS
Драгица Гађански - Диди



Anthology of Feelings
Acrylic mixed media, Diptych W36" H 36" x 2, 2011

Didi Gadjanski has a profound passion for art continually exploring new forms of expression. An honours graduate of the Ontario College of Art and Design, she is an active participant in the Toronto art scene for the past 30 years with the Toronto Watercolour Society, the Don Valley Art Club and the Arts and Letters Club. She is in great demand as a leader of workshops for various arts organizations and corporations, with emphasis on experimentation and creativity. Having traveled and experienced the people, places and music of many distant cultures, Didi is a keen observer as well as interpreter of these influences in her art. Evoking these experiences, her artistic expression has grown into a distinct language woven on to a surface of textural effects and harmonious colour palette. The language and symbol created is expressed in various painting media. D.D. Gadjanski paintings are in corporate and private collections across Canada and worldwide. She participated in over one hundred group and solo exhibitions. Didi lives and works in Richmond Hill, Ontario, Canada. <http://www.ddgadjanski.com>

Miroslav Nestic
Мирослав Нешић



Fossil Landscape Temagami
Acrylic on Canvas, 78" x 56", 1988

Spanning over 45 years with more than 100 national and international exhibitions, the work of Miroslav Nestic is constantly transforming. Recognized in the early years in Europe as a surrealist of the Yugoslav school, Nestic established himself in Canada as an expressionistic figurative painter of great dynamism and power. The relationship between man and his environment, his place in society and communication with others are constant themes of his work. The tension between the mathematical, technological world and the organic world of nature is the artist's way to warn, alert and make us think.

Dubravka Matic Mandic
Дубравка Матић Мандић



Fast Runner
Mixed media (wax, oil paint and pigment), W 48" H48", 2011

Dubravka Matic - Mandic graduated and received her Masters degree from Sarajevo Academy of Fine Arts, Department of Sculpture. Since 1985, she has been exhibiting in numerous solo and group exhibitions. Her work is part of private collections as well as of various art museum permanent collections, such as National Art Gallery of Bosnia and Hercegovina in Sarajevo, Museum of Contemporary Art in Sarajevo, Gallery of Murska Sobota, Slovenia and National Art Museum at Cetinje, Montenegro.

Dusan Ivancevic
Душан Иванчевић



Theme from Montenegro
Oil on canvas, W 20" H16", 2012

Dusan Ivancevic graduated in 1966. from the Academy of Fine Arts in Zagreb, Yugoslavia in the class of Professor Antun Augustincic (a former student of Ivan Mestrovic), renowned Croatian sculptor active in then Yugoslavia. Ivancevic immigrated to Canada in 1968., and shortly thereafter became an Art Teacher in Hamilton, Ontario. During his teaching years he continued his sculptural work. Ivancevic also worked as an associate sculptor with Stubergh - Keller Wax Studios for a wax museum in the United States. He participated in numerous art colonies mainly in Eastern Europe and has exhibited extensively in Canada, Serbia, Montenegro and France.

Tatjana Kilibarda
Татјана Килибарда



Their Eyes On Her
Flash (vinyl based paint), W 36" H36", 2014

Tatjana Kilibarda was born in 1948 in Skopje, then Yugoslavia. Since 18 she has spent the majority of her life outside her native country. Educated in Paris, where she finished a degree in French at the Sorbonne, as well as fashion design at Fleuri de la Port and patternmaking at the Academie Internationale de Paris Vauclair Darroux. She completed several design collections, was awarded a consumer jury award, and placed second in a France-wide design competition launched by Levi Strauss. She moved to Canada with her husband in 1978, where she gave birth to her son. The daughter of a painter, she was exposed to colors early on, eventually making a natural transition from fashion design to producing her own paintings. Her paintings are to be found in many private collections. She was part of a number of group exhibitions, mainly in Canada. In the past decade she has focused on painting murals for private residences in Virginia, Washington DC, Niagara Lake, Crystal Beach, and Font Hill. She currently lives in St. Catharines, Ontario.

Djuro Lubarda
Ђуро Лубарда

Djuro Lubarda was born in 1942. in Belgrade, Serbia. He graduated at the Sarajevo Academy of Applied Arts and studied History of Art in Belgrade. Until the outbreak of civil war in former Yugoslavia he lived and worked in Gorazde, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and then Herceg Novi, Montenegro. He presently lives in Hamilton, Ontario.

Lubarda participated in more than 180 group and solo exhibitions throughout former Yugoslavia, Canada, Switzerland, Germany, USA, Israel, Australia, France, Russia and Bulgaria.

He took part in several congresses of the InSEA (International Society for Education through Art) organized with support by the UNESCO.

Lubarda also organized many Art Colonies in former Yugoslavia as well as in North America and Europe. His works are in many galleries throughout Europe, North America and Israel and in private collections.

During the 40 years of his artistic career Lubarda went through many styles starting with hyperrealism to abstract painting - from expressionist to classical paysage. Through his interest in interaction between colour, light and atmosphere Lubarda tried to unite real and imaginary worlds. Lubarda's rich artistic career was featured in many essays, critics and art reviews from art theoreticians and critics, journalists, authors and poets, and from his peers as well. For his lifelong work, he is a recipient of many art awards and acknowledgements.



Sky Symphony 3
Soft pastel, W12" H16", 2014