

Safet Zec – Biography

Exhibitions of the artist:

The power of art

Safet Zec was born in Rogatica, Bosnia-Herzegovina, in 1943. At the age of twelve, he dedicated himself to the art of painting and drawing already showing great talent. After completing Art High School in Sarajevo, he continued his studies in Belgrade where he graduated at the Academy of Fine Arts in 1969. In 1972 he obtained his postgraduate diploma. He went on to become an exponent of the recent art style known as “Poetic Realism”. At the beginning of the 90’s he was considered one of the most important artists of his country, representing former Yugoslavia in many international exhibitions. Until 1989 he lived and worked in Belgrade. After this he spent a few years in Sarajevo. When the war began in 1992, he left Bosnia. At this point Safet Zec moved to Udine, Italy. All of his former works were left in his studio in Sarajevo. In Italy Zec was faced with rebuilding his identity. He started to work on new paintings, drawings, and engravings. In 1994 he showed these works in his first museum exhibition together with a few older works from a German gallery.

In 1996 he won the “Alpe Adria” Award for drawing in Ljubljana. The “Safet Zec” monograph was promoted in Ljubljana in 1998, during the exhibition entitled “Paintings, drawings and Engravings 1992-1998”. The artist currently exhibits in Italy, France and other countries throughout the world. Today he lives and works in Venice. Safet Zec’s Italian works, spanning over a nine-year period, were presented for the first time to the public of Sarajevo in the City Gallery Collegium Artisticum. In this exhibition works previously left in Sarajevo were exhibited as well as paintings from the artist’s youth, exhibited for the first time. The collection “Opere 1958-2001” was thus elaborated, exclusively made up of the artist’s work, making its way through galleries all over Europe: in October and November 2001 the exhibition was shown in Lille (France). Recent works of the artist were presented in Paris 2004, Venice and Sarajevo. Most of these artworks were produced in Venice and during the ever more frequent stays in his home town Sarajevo. At the same time the Zec studio-collection was inaugurated, today open to the public. Biography was taken from: <http://www.galerija-kula.hr> >