

B I O G R A F I J A

Antun Boris Švaljek rođen je u Zagrebu 1951. Podrijetlom je iz Radoboja kod Krapine. Pučku školu završio je u Petrinji, a gimnaziju u Varaždinu, te ga ove činjenice životno određuju. Akademiju likovnih umjetnosti u Zagrebu upisuje 1969. Diplomirao je na slikarskom odjelu kod prof. Šime Perića 1974. Od 1974. do 1977. godine bio je suradnik Majstorske radionice prof. Krste Hegedušića. Studijski je boravio u Kaliforniji 1979. godine. Izlagao na 100-ak samostalnih izložbi u Zagrebu, Varaždinu, Dortmundu, Cloppenburgu, Hvaru, Čakovcu, Los Angelesu, Karlovcu, Zadru, Krapini, Splitu, Petrinji, Starom Gradu, Münchenu, Labinu, Rovinju, Pečuhu, Osijeku, Puli, Mostaru. Izlagao je na više od 600 skupnih izložbi u domovini i diljem svijeta. Dobitnik je nekoliko nagrada među kojima su Prva nagrada 4. biennala akvarela „Josip Račić“ za 1987. godinu. Dragovoljac je Domovinskog rata. Odlikovan je Redom Danice hrvatske s likom Marka Marulića 1996. godine. Bio je Izvanredni profesor na Likovnoj akademiji Mostarskog sveučilišta u Širokom Brijegu.



B I O G R A P H Y

Antun Boris Švaljek was born in Zagreb in 1951. He came from Radoboj near Krapina / Croatia. He finished elementary school in Petrinja and high school in Varaždin. These facts have defined his life. He had entered the Academy of Fine Arts in Zagreb in 1969 and graduated in painting under Professor Šime Perić in 1974. From 1974 to 1977, he was an associate of the Master Workshop of Professor Krsto Hegedušić in Zagreb. He studied in California in 1979. He had about 100 one-man shows in Zagreb, Varaždin, Hvar, Čakovec, Karlovac, Zadar, Krapina, Split, Petrinja, Stari Grad, Labin, Rovinj, Osijek, Pula and Mostar in Croatia, Dortmund, Cloppenburg, Munich in Germany, Pecs in Hungary, Los Angeles in the USA. He exhibited at more than 600 group exhibitions in his homeland and around the world. He is the winner of several awards, including the First Prize of the 4th Josip Račić Watercolour Biennale in 1987. He was awarded the Order of Danica Hrvatska/Croatia with the image of Marko Marulić in 1996. He was an Associate Professor at the Fine Arts Academy of Mostar, the University in Široki Brijeg in Bosnia and Herzegovina. He volunteered in the Homeland War.



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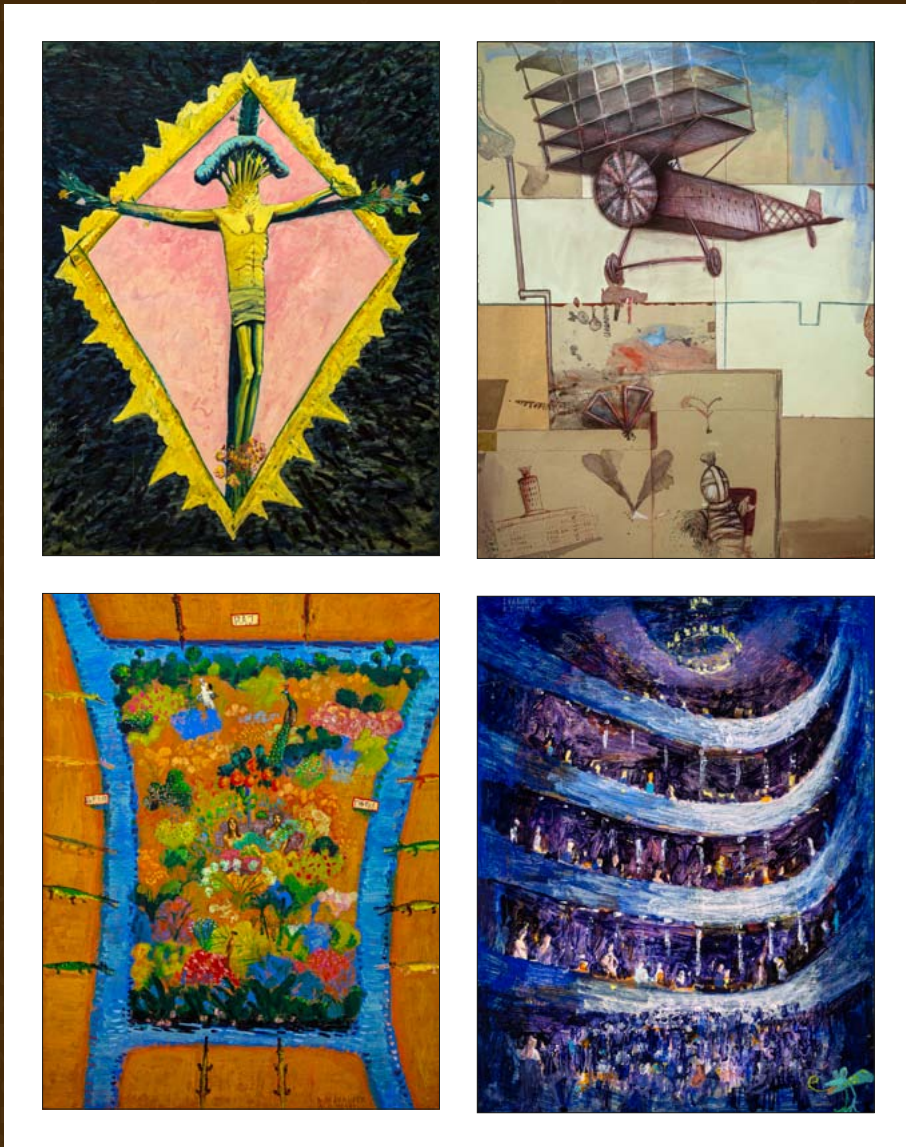
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V A R A Ž D I N V A R A Ž D I N C U H O M A G E A N T U N B O R I S Š V A L J E K 1 0 . V I . 1 9 5 1 . – 1 4 . I I I . 2 0 2 3 .

Boris je navek, i svugde bil domovine sin – Varaždinec. I svugde gde je bil, bil je – Varaždinec. A, pak, najveći Varaždinec bil je kad neje bil vu Varaždinu. A bil je svugde, i ko zna gde se ni bil. Ovim varaždinskim kajkavskim riječima želim izraziti svoje osjećaje dubokoga poštovanja prema dragom i nezaboravnom prijatelju Antunu Borisu Švaljeku, i podijeliti ih s Darkom Sačićem, Varaždincem, svojim, i Borisovim, dugogodišnjim prijateljem i suradnikom, i sa svim Borisovim prijateljima Varaždincima i ne Varaždincima. Naime, Darko je inicirao ovu izložbu s Švaljekovim likovnim djelima u Galeriji *Zlati Ajngel* i pozvao me da sudjelujem s uvodnim slovom u katalogu izložbe kojom se obilježava prva godina od kad nas je Boris zauvijek napustio. S poštovanjem, i zahvalnošću, prihvatio sam biti dionikom ove iznimno važne izložbe ne samo za grad Varaždin, nego i za hrvatsku kulturu u obje države, Hrvatsku i Bosnu i Hercegovinu, jer je Boris u jednoj i drugoj živio i profesionalno ostavio dubokoga traga. Apostrofiram ovu izložbu kao važnu, ne samo s profesionalnog motrišta kao Sačićevo uspješno izložbeno djelo, nego, i s onog motrišta koje izražava emocionalnu sastavnicu u čovjeku jer ga prožima ljudskošću, i oblikuje u humano biće socijalne i društvene osjećajnosti koju izražava kulturom sjećanja, pamćenja, memoriranja. A samo s kulturom memoriranja počinje se pisati životopis pojedinca, a time, i povijest zajednice kojoj je pripadao, bio njezinim dionikom, i koja je bez njega manja, i drukčija, i to varaždinska kulturna javnost kazuje - *urbi et orbi* -ovom izložbom – homagem. Upravo to implicira pojam – *homage* – kojim je naslovljena izložba, dakle, sjećamo se s poštovanjem Antuna Borisa Švaljeka i to izražavamo s izložbom koju je Darko Sačić koncipirao recentnim izborom Borisovih slika isključivo iz privatnih zbirki u Varaždinu, i time podvukao tvrdnju o Borisu – rođenom u Petrinji, likovno školovanom u Zagrebu, a životom i posljednjom adresom Zadraniom, da je – Varaždinec. Štoviše, Darko je ovom izložbom najavio Borisovu retrospektivnu izložbu 2025. godine u Gradskom muzeju Varaždin kojom će ova ugledna institucija obilježiti 100. godina uspješnoga promicanja visokih likovnih i kulturnih vrijednosti u Varaždinu. Dakle, obilježiti će svoju veliku obljetnicu s retrospektivnom izložbom Antuna Borisa Švaljeka, Varaždincem – domovine sinom.



V A R A Ž D I N T O A V A R A Ž D I N E C H O M A G E T O A N T U N B O R I S Š V A L J E K J U N E 1 0 , 1 9 5 1 – M A R C H 1 4 , 2 0 2 3

Boris has always, and everywhere, been his Homeland’s son – a man from Varaždin / *Varaždinec*. And everywhere he was, he was – a *Varaždinec*. On the other hand, he was the greatest man from Varaždin when he was not in Varaždin. And he was everywhere, and who knows where he was not. With these Varaždin Kajkavian words, I want to express my feelings of deep respect for my dear and unforgettable friend Antun Boris Švaljek. I share them with Darko Sačić, of Varaždin, my own, and Boris’s long-time friend and associate. I also share them with all of Boris’s friends from Varaždin and not only from Varaždin. Darko has initiated this exhibition with Švaljek’s art works in the Zlati Ajngel Gallery. He invited me to write an essay for the exhibition catalogue to commemorate the first year since Boris left us, forever. With respect and gratitude, I accepted to be part of this very important exhibition. Not only for Varaždin, but also for Croatian culture in two countries: Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina. Boris lived and left a deep professional mark in both of them. I point out this exhibition as important, not only from a professional point of view like Sačić as a successful exhibition organizer, but also to express the emotional component in man that permeates him with humanity and shapes him into a human being of social sensibility which man expresses through the culture of evocation, memory, recollection. It is only with the culture of recollection that the biography of an individual begins to be written. Thus, the history of the community to which he belonged, was a part of it, and which without him has become small and different. This is what the cultural public in Varaždin is saying with - *urbi et orbi* - the exhibition - homagem. This is exactly what is implied by the term - *homage* - which is the title of the present exhibition. We remember Antun Boris Švaljek with respect! We express this with the exhibition that Darko Sačić conceived with a recent selection of Boris’s paintings exclusively from private collections in Varaždin. In doing so he underscored the claim about Boris - born in Petrinja, trained in art in Zagreb, and by life and last address in Zadar, that he is – a *Varaždinec*. Moreover, with this exhibition, Darko announces Boris’s retrospective exhibition in 2025 at the Varaždin City Museum to mark the 100th year of successful promotion of high artistic and cultural values in Varaždin through this distinguished institution. The Museum will mark its big anniversary with a retrospective exhibition of Antun Boris Švaljek, a *Varaždinec* - a Homeland’s son.