

14th
Annual

Business Excellence

Awards Gala

Burlington Convention Centre

1120 Burlock Drive Burlington, ON

Friday, May 6, 2016 from 6-11 pm

Croatian-Canadian Art Exhibit Preview Catalogue

To pre-purchase artwork, please contact:

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E: contactus@croat.ca

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Exhibit Coordinator:

Tatjana Hutinec

Graphic Design:

Martina Vrbanic

The 14th Annual
Business Excellence Awards Gala

Thank you for visiting the

Croatian-Canadian Art Exhibit Preview Catalogue

Participating Artists:

[Darinka Blagaj](#)
[Tatjana Hutinec](#)
[Tvrtko Klobucar](#)
[Marija Jandrac-Baric](#)
[Nada Sesar Raffay](#)
[Ana Cop](#)
[Martina Vrbanic](#)

To view the images, please click on the names of the participating artists.

To buy the artwork before the Business Excellence Awards Event, please contact:

[Wanita Kelawa](#)
E: contactus@croat.ca
T: 416.641.2829

Or you can make your purchase at the Silent Auction during the event on May 6, 2016, from 6-11 pm.

By purchasing any of the featured artwork, you will not only enrich your life with outstanding pieces that you love, but you will also support and promote the Croatian-Canadian artists who contribute to the cultural values of our society.

Your purchase will also support the scholars and youth of the Croatian-Canadian community with 30% of the art sales donated to the Croatian-Canadian Scholarship Fund.

“Art is not just a product, but also a start of a communication process to the emotions and beliefs of the viewer, inviting them to re-examine their perceptions with fresh eyes, redefine their reality and sometimes think “outside of the box.”

Tatjana Hutinec



DARINKA BLAGAJ

This is Darinka Blagaj's 30 year career anniversary in the art world. Creating original compelling works that reside in countless private collections in 6 countries.

Darinka's painting studio - The Smile Office, Living Art Centre is in the centre to Toronto, near Yorkville. She is known for working within the spontaneous moment, where she finds an engaging and untagging experience of stillness. This translates throughout all her choices of themes and topics.

Her works are mainly focused on joy, play, conscious awareness, inner growth, our ascension as a species. Her commissioned works are of "Spirit Portraits" of people and organizations and businesses. Her themes are vast, from the divine feminine, to Landscapes of the elements: Air, Wind, Water, Fire, Ether, painting music- as in music inspired colours and energies.

In her 30 year career, she has been known to paint prophetically, painting the future in many instances

www.artdarinka.com

www.thesmileoffice.com

www.darinka.ca

The Goddess of Bliss II, 2016

Original oil, oil stick and oil pastel on canvas

16" x 20"

\$ 1,200

[Please click here to go back to the artist directory](#)



TATJANA HUTINEC

Please see next Page

Tatjana Hutinec is Toronto-based, Canadian-Croatian visual artist and one of the city's leading costume and set specialists in the TV, film and theatre industry.

Sometimes engaging in art collaborations she created work involving other artists: dancers, performers, film makers, video artists. She also led community based art projects and art workshops, organized and promoted art exhibits and festivals. She has been a member of Propeller Gallery since 2013 and is actively involved on its Futures/Programming committee.

Tatjana has exhibited her artwork at numerous galleries in Croatia and Canada and commissioned to create public art.

To see images of her work as well as the film credits please visit www.tatjanahutinec.com

Innuendo , 2014

Oil on Canvas

28" x 35"

\$ 2,000

[Please click here to go back to the artist directory](#)



TATJANA HUTINEC

Please see next Page

Experimentation and play are the basis of the creative process and making art. I believe in encouraging dialogue and debate within oneself during this process of self-exploring and self-expression.

And this dialogue continues between a viewer and the piece of art.

Art should make us grow, see things from different perspectives, help us question our beliefs and perceived knowledge.

Novus Mare

Acrylic on Canvas

20" x 28"

\$ 650

[Please click here to go back to the artist directory](#)



TATJANA HUTINEC

Art is not just a product – an end in itself – but, more importantly, the start of a process. The art should speak to the emotions and beliefs of the viewer, not only moving them but also inviting them to re-examine their perceptions and redefine their reality.

My art is asking the viewer to re-examine familiar perceptions with fresh eyes, thinking not only “outside of the box” but sometimes also outside of the viewer’s comfort zone.

Revelation

Acrylic on Canvas

20” x 28”

\$ 650

[Please click here to go back to the artist directory](#)

TVRTKO KLOBUČAR

Please see next Page



MA BFA EDU OCT AOCAD, Tvrtko Klobučar was born in Toronto, Canada in 1976. From a very young age, he felt that he wanted to do something in the visual arts and pursued this end throughout his life.

Inspired by the Renaissance and Baroque periods, he travelled widely through Italy and Europe in search of inspiration, but also learning the methods of traditional painting techniques. Klobučar was accepted in the historic

Accademia to do an in-depth study of traditional altar and fresco painting. This led to the creation of his first chapel painting of the “Marriage at Cana”, also known as “Jesus Turing Water into Wine”(1999). Since his first solo show Tvrtko Klobučar’s work has been widely exhibited internationally in solo and group exhibitions.

Matthew 16:18 “And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will no overcome it.”

Jesus Chooses Peter, 2015

9”x12”

Watercolour, ink and red conte on cold press 140lbs watercolour paper

\$ 1,300

[Please click here to go back to the artist directory](#)



Jesus Calls Upon Simon and Andrew, 2015

9"x12"

Watercolour, ink and red conte on cold press 140lbs watercolour paper

\$ 1,300

He has completed an altar painting, "Croatian Martyrs" (2009) for the Croatian Martyrs Catholic Church in Mississauga. The altar is executed in the traditional Old Masters' technique, but with contemporary Croatian iconography. The dedication of the altar was accompanied by a celebratory mass and an exhibition of numerous sketches and drawings made as studies for the project.

"The Gospel of Matthew and the Gospel of Mark report the call of the first disciples by the Sea of Galilee: As Jesus was walking beside the Sea of Galilee he saw two brothers, Simon called Peter and his brother Andrew. They were casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen."

TVRTKO KLOBUČAR



Jesus Leaves his Disciples, 2015

9"x12"

Watercolour, ink and red conte on cold press 140lbs watercolour paper

\$ 1,300

Klobučar has greatly contributed to the art scene and particularly to the Croatian art scene at home and abroad and demonstrates that he has just embarked into the art world with lot of dedication and commitment.

"But now I go away to Him who sent Me, and none of you asks Me, 'Where are You going?' But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your heart. Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you."

MARIJA BARAC JANDRIC



Dinara

24" x 36"

Oil on canvas

\$ 2,700

Born in Livno, Bosnia and Hercegovina. After highschool moved to Zagreb, where she received bachelor degree in Geodesy in 1986. After graduation moved to Canada, working in engineering until 1992 when she enrolled at OCA, graduating in 1996.

Over the years, Marija has participated in Toronto art community as a founding member and a board director of Propeller Center for the Visual Arts, as a member of the board of Scarborough Arts Council, as well as Croatian Canadian Artist Society. She has been working as a part time art instructor since 1999.

Marija Barac Jandric lives and works in Toronto, Canada, and her work is represented by CFA Gallery in Toronto.



Swing #4, 2007
24"x24"
Oil on Canvas
\$ 4,000

NADA SESAR RAFFAY

Please see next Page

Nada Sesar Raffay is a Canadian-Croatian contemporary artist/painter, living and working in Toronto, Canada.

She received her Bachelor and MFA Degree in Painting and Drawing, from the Academy of Fine Arts at the University of Zagreb in 1976. Ms. Raffay has been a member of the Croatian Association of Artists (HDLU) in Zagreb since 1977.

In 1988, she and her family have moved to Canada from Zagreb, Croatia and resided in Toronto, where her practice flourished. Her paintings are part of numerous private and corporate collections internationally and in Canada, including the Croatian Embassy in Ottawa .

Ms. Raffay's paintings consist mainly of oil and acrylic on canvas; abstract forms and energetic strokes are a signature of her work. The mastery of impasto technique is magnified by her unique taste for colour and dynamic compositions. She has exhibited extensively in group and solo shows via the Edward Day Gallery in Toronto and the Buschlen Mowatt Gallery in Vancouver.

[Please click here to go back to the artist directory](#)



Swing #6, 2007

24"x24"

Oil on Canvas

\$ 4,000

NADA SESAR RAFFAY

Please see next Page

She has been primarily represented by the Edward Day Gallery since 1997.

Ms. Raffay has participated in a number of Art Fairs, Artist talks and Jury committees.

She has been a programming broadcaster for Sounds of Croatia (Kultura Utorkom), Chin Radio (2005-2006). She is a member of the Canadian Croatian Chamber of Commerce, Toronto and an active Member-Vice President of AMCA Toronto Board of Directors (Association of Alumni and Friends of Croatian Universities) since 2004.

Ms. Raffay's professional specialty among others includes a variety of commissioned works - painting portraits, landscapes and large paintings for private and public spaces. In addition, she also teaches Abstract Art-Painting.

For a better look at her Fine Art studio in Toronto please see the link below.

www.nadasesaraffay.com

NADA SESAR RAFFAY



March Orange, 2015
20"x30"
Oil on Canvas
\$ 4,000

ANA ČOP

Please see next Page



Reclining Nudes Here and Now, 2010

20"x30"

C-print (edition 1/19)

\$ 2,000

Working intuitively, Ana Čop, (BFA, Ryerson University, Image Arts) critiques society's rampant consumerism and greed. Receiving numerous awards in Canada and abroad, she was nominated "Photographer of the Year, 2011" in the L'Iris D'Or Sony World Photography Awards (London, UK) with her series "Recycling Nudes Here and Now." Shortly thereafter, Čop was selected as one of the winners of the PDN's Annual Photography Awards (New York, NY).

ANA ČOP

Please see next Page



Reclining Nudes Here and Now (2010), my large-scale photographic project, explores notions of beauty, desire, and spiritual longing in a consumer-orientated world. The work depicts a sensual, goddess-like female figure, portrayed as an alabaster statue, set within the geometry and angularity of the modern city. The figure stands as a defender of the human qualities of life.

The images embody an alternative to the preconceived notions of eternally youthful bodies, and the contradiction of the virtual existence that continues to gain a place in our everyday exchanges.

www.anacop.com

From the series "Reclining Nudes here and Now", 2010

24"x36"

Archival print mounted on board (edition 19/19)

\$ 1,800

[Please click here to go back to the artist directory](#)

MARTINA VRBANIĆ



Martina Vrbanic was born in Zagreb. She graduated from the Zagreb Academy of Fine Arts in 2008. with a Master in Arts in the class of prof. emeritus Duro Seder. In 2014 she received her MBA degree with the focus in Management.

She is member of the Croatian Association of Artists (HDLU) in Zagreb where she was the project leader for a numerous art projects (Upper Town Art Workshops, Youth Salon, artOmat art fair etc.) She moved to Toronto in 2012.

Perfecting different techniques and styles in her artistic expressions, she is combining abstract and realistic styles. She has been proactively involved in many personal as well as group art exhibitions within Zagreb as well as on an international level.

www.martina-vrbanic.com

The Courage, 2016

36"x36"

Acrylic and oil on canvas

\$ 3.200,00