

# Nikola Vrljić

## SKUP

1. II. – 1. IV. 2019.





### **Bacon**

2002. – 2003.  
gips, uljena boja / plaster, oil paint  
27,5 × 20 × 21,5 cm



### **Vlado + Josip**

2005.  
kombinirana tehnika (tijelo), terakota (glava) / mixed  
media (body), terracotta (head) • 192 × 107 × 56,5 cm



### **Lebdеća / Hovering**

2014.  
akrilna smola / acrylic resin  
215 × 89,5 × 84,5 cm



### **Kost / Bone**

2017.  
akrilna smola / acrylic resin  
59 × 85 × 34 cm

**Nikola Vrljić** rođen je 25. lipnja 1980. u Zagrebu, gdje je 2000. godine maturirao na Odjelu za dizajn metala Škole primijenjene umjetnosti i dizajna (prof. Hrvoje Ljubić) te 2007. godine diplomirao kiparstvo (klasa prof. Mira Vuće) i potom 2008. godine upisao poslijediplomski doktorski studij na Akademiji likovnih umjetnosti, na kojoj će 2010. godine kao vanjski suradnik voditi predmet kiparstvo za prvu godinu slikarstva i grafike. Godine 2015. boravi u Parizu, u okviru rezidencijalnog programa *Cité internationale des arts*.

Tijekom studija višekratno prima Pohvale vijeća Akademije likovnih umjetnosti, a 2004. godine i Rektorovu nagradu. Dobitnik je treće nagrade na izložbi studenata ALU na temu pionske baštine 2003. g. Godine 2008. osvaja Izvedbenu nagradu na

natječaju za portret dr. Franje Tuđmana (postavljen u Hrvatskome saboru), godine 2009. prvu nagradu na Natječaju za spomenik svetom Jeronimu u Splitu (nije izveden), a 2010. godine odabran je na Natječaju za izradu umjetničkog rješenja Križnog puta na Srđu (7., 11. i 14. postaja; reljefi izvedeni 2012.). U sklopu projekta *Brod – grad iz bajki*, u Slavonskom Brodu je 2011. godine postavljena njegova skulptura Djed Neumijka i Lutonjica Toporko, a godine 2015. postavljena je njegova 8. postaja Križnog puta na Gospinom Gradu u Sinju.

Član je Hrvatskoga društva likovnih umjetnika od 2006. i Hrvatske zajednice samostalnih umjetnika od 2010. godine. Skupno izlaže od 2001., a samostalno od 2003. godine.



### **Atentat / Assassination**

2004.  
akrilna boja, tinta na papiru / acrylic paint, ink on paper  
170 × 170 cm



### **Crvena figura / Red Figure**

2004.  
tinta na papiru / ink on paper  
32,8 × 15,8 cm



### **Obožavanje kipa / Worshipping the Statue**

2006.  
terakota / terracotta  
42,8 × 18,4 × 16,4 cm



### **Odbjegle sfinge / Runaway Sphinxes • 2018.**

ekstrudirani polistiren, poliuretani, bambus / extruded polystyrene, polyurethane, bamboo  
158 × 318 × 100 cm i 154 × 270 × 120 cm

**Nikola Vrljić** was born in 1980 in Zagreb, where he graduated from the School of Applied Art and Design, Dept. of Metal Design, in 2000. In 2007 he graduated from the Academy of Fine Arts in Zagreb, Dept. of Sculpture, in the class of Professor Miro Vuco. In 2008 he enrolled in a doctoral programme (PhD) at the Academy of Fine Arts, where he became a visiting associate in 2010 and taught sculpture to first-year students of painting and graphic arts. The year 2015 he spent in Paris as part of the in-residence programme Cité internationale des arts.

As a student Vrljić earned multiple commendations of the Board of the Academy of Fine Arts and in 2004 he received the Rector's Award. In 2003 he won the third place at the exhibition of students' works devoted to the Passion of the Christ. In 2008, his portrait of Croatian president Franjo Tuđman won the national competition and was placed in the

Croatian Parliament. In 2009 he won the first prize at the Competition for a Monument to St Jerome (unexecuted) and in 2010 his works were selected at the Competition for the Artistic Concept of the Way of the Cross on Srđ (7th, 11th, and 14th station; reliefs were executed in 2012). As part of the project Brod – A Fairy Tale Town, his sculptures of fairy tale characters Grandpa Neumijko and Lutonjica Toporko were installed in Slavonski Brod as public art in 2011, and in 2015 his sculpture of the 8th station of the Way of the Cross was placed in the Shrine of Virgin Mary in Sinj.

He is a member of the Croatian Association of Artists since 2016 and of the Croatian Freelance Artists Association since 2010. He has taken part in group exhibitions since 2001 and had his first solo exhibition in 2003.

**Skup** Nikole Vrljića okuplja vremenski različite radove ovog darovitog i produktivnog kipara mlađe generacije, koji je zarana privukao veliku pozornost (ne samo likovne) javnosti. A tu je pozornost predanim radom te permanentnim izlaganjem uspio i održati, stvorivši vrijedan i pozamašan opus.

Nastavljajući najbolju tradiciju figuracije, Nikola svoje djelo (sukladno vlastitu karakteru i unekoliko duhu generacije) tankočutno prožima svojevrsnom dobrohotnom ironijom, bez obzira na temu, sadržaj ili motiv. To prijateljsko zadirkivanje i propitivanje neće mimoići nijedan predmet bavljenja, bilo da se radi o stvarnom prijatelju, osobi, uzoru, idolu, mitskom stvorenju... a neće ga biti pošteđena niti sama kiparska tehnika.

Uz moćan kiparski, Vrljić posjeduje i izrazit slikarski nerv – pa će nas njegovi crteži/slike osvajati podjednako kao i skulpture – nerv koji će se ipak najsnažnije iskazati upravo u koloriranoj skulpturi, kod koje je boja u potpunosti ravnopravna ostalim gradbenim elementima kiparske forme.

Ovom izložbom predstavljamo skup od šest skulptura odabranih iz nekolicine kiparovih brojnih dosadašnjih izložaba te dva dosad neizlagana crteža, neuobičajeno »razasut« po prostorima stalnog postava naše Galerije te njezina Studija, kao svojevrsan *coetus dispersus*. A ciljajući temu ovogodišnje Noći muzeja za koje je otvaramo, pridodajemo i *coetus digitalis*, skup digitalnih zapisa konteksta iz kojih su »istrgnuti«.

Djela pa i izložbe Nikole Vrljića redovno nose simbolično ili asocijativno nazivlje. No, to ne priječi njegovu umjetničku formu da bude nosilac stvarnog i pravog, univerzalnog značenja.

**The Gathering** is an exhibition that gathers a selection of works by Nikola Vrljić dating from different points in the career of this talented and productive sculptor, who attracted attention early – and not only in the artistic circles. He managed to keep the public's attention by working hard and exhibiting often, and he created a respectable number of valuable works in the process.

In keeping with the best tradition of figurative art, while also staying true to his character and – to an extent – the zeitgeist of his generation, Nikola delicately permeates his work with benevolent irony, regardless of theme, contents, or motif. No-one and nothing is spared friendly ribbing and questioning, be it a topic, a real friend, a person or role model or a mythical creature... not even the sculpting technique itself.

In addition to being a talented sculptor, Vrljić is also a gifted painter, which is why we are mesmerized by his drawings and paintings as much as by his sculptures. His gift is most powerfully revealed in coloured sculptures, where colour is every inch as important as other elements that make up sculptural form.

For this exhibition we gathered a set of six sculptures selected from several of the sculptor's many exhibitions, as well as two previously unexhibited drawings. These works are oddly "scattered" around the permanent exhibit of our Gallery and its Studio, like a *coetus dispersus*. Bearing in mind the theme of this year's Night of Museums, when the exhibition opens, we add *coetus digitalis*, a set of contexts from which these works have been "excerpted", in digital formats.

The works and exhibitions of Nikola Vrljić regularly have symbolic, associative titles. However, that does not preclude his artistic form to carry real and true and universal meaning.



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