## YORDAN KISSIOV\*

## ART GALLERY – SILISTRA

Rezumat: Galeria de Artă se află în cea mai frumoasă și reprezentativă clădire din Silistra, construită în secolul XIX, astăzi declarat Monument Cultural. Galeria de artă a fost deschisă în anul 1972 și până astăzi are o colecție bogată de peste 1500 de lucrări de desen, grafică și sculptură. În expoziția permanentă sunt expuse opere de artă ale celor mai mari artiști din Bulgaria: Vladimir Dimitrov – "The Master", Tsanko Lavrenov, Danail Denchev, Boris Denev, Stoyan Venev, Bencho Obreshkov, Carl Yordanov, Nenko Balkanski, Boris Sharov și Vasil Barakov care au creeat în prima jumătate a secolului XX. În sălile Galeriei se deschid periodic expoziții temporare, se organizează concerte, lansări de carte și alte evenimente culturale.

This stylish and most respectable building in Silistra has been built with funds, raised by the local people in the end of the XIX century. It has been completed in 1892 and first served the purpose of a pedagogical school, the first one in Silistra. During the years it has also been used as a courthouse, the town's second high school, office of the administration and a museum hall.

The building is declared a Cultural Monument.

The building became a Gallery of Art on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of March (Bulgaria's National Holiday), 1972, as a part of the town's Historical Museum, dedicated to art. Since then there have been at least one permanent exhibition and several temporary ones at any given time in the gallery.

In 1986 and after a reconstruction of the second floor, the building was a host to the National exhibition "Man and Nature". After that, the already richly complemented permanent exhibition in the Gallery was arranged on the second flood, while the first floor became a podium of temporary exhibitions. "Hall 13" is one of the most popular rooms inside, where among the works, part of the Gallery's collection, a multitude of cultural events are usually held: presentations of new books, readings, chamber concertos and other. In this way, the Art Gallery of Silistra established itself not only as a real museum of visual arts, but also as an important cultural centre in the town and the country as well.

It has a collection of almost 1500 works – including paintings, graphics and sculptures from famous artists, such as Atanas Mihov, Tihomir Kodzhamanov and Pavel Valkov who all were art teachers in the first Pedagogical school in Silistra. In

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<sup>\*</sup> Art Gallery of Silistra.

this collection there is something for everyone – regular visitors, specialists and scientists of culture alike.

The permanent exhibition hosts some of the most influential and important works of Vladimir Dimitrov – "The Master", Tsanko Lavrenov, Danail Denchev, Boris Denev, Stoyan Venev, Bencho Obreshkov, Carl Yordanov, Nenko Balkanski, Boris Sharov and Vasil Barakov, who all created them in the first half of the XX century.

The main theme in the permanent exhibition consists mostly of pieces, created by artists between the sixties and eighties of the last century. Artists such as Zlatyu Boyadjiev, Ilya Petrov, Vasil Stoilov, Dechko Uzunov, Vasil Zahariev, Vera Nedkova, Naiden Petkov, Stoyan Sotirov, Svetlin Rusev, Atanas Yaranov, Dimitar Kirov, Georgi Bozjilov, Emil Stoychev, Dimitar Kazakov – "Neron", Genko Genkov, Georgi Chapkanov, Todor Panaiotov, Zafir Yonchev, Stoimen Stoilov and others



The Gallery's collection also presents the works of local artists, some of them in the permanent exhibition, others constantly being displayed in various themed exhibitions in Bulgaria and abroad. The collection and exhibitions show the progression and development of Silistra's artists, like Pavel Meteorov, Nikola Kovachev, Mircho Yakobov, Yordan Marinov, Georgi Kurtev, Yordan Kissiov, Angel Stanev, Dean Valkov, Plamen Avramov, Dimitar Nutsulov, Georgi Zhekov,

Dimitar Kulev, Yordan Kolev, Milen Bogdanov, Anton Dimitrov, Stefan Penchev, Dimitar Georgiev, Bedik Bedrosyan, Yordan Gospodinov, Ivan Vasilev, Yordanka Chausheva, Krastyu Nadarliisky, Petar Chaushev, Simeon Govedarov, Ilyu Stanchev, Valentin Petrov, Veselin Petrov and others.

All the staff in Silistra's Gallery of art WELCOMES you and wishes you a pleasant contiguity among the works of the permanent exhibition.



