

# Nik Anikis

## NEO-RENEANSANSA

9 June–1 July 2023  
MMC KIBLA / KiBela

»The beauty of Truth liberates me.  
Through the painting, Beauty plants  
the Seed of Truth and Freedom  
into my Heart.«

Nik Anikis

### Artist's statement

Art has inspired me from a young age. At the tender age of five, I decided to become a painter, and my family helped me realize this dream. My imagination, visions and dreams grew stronger and stronger. I am thrilled when I can turn them into works of art. I am blessed to have been able to take art education all over the world and learn from the greatest living and now sadly deceased artists.

Thankfully, I am well equipped to express my visions using the techniques and approaches of the old masters, thus sailing on their shoulders. The techniques I use are endorsed by extraordinary generations of painters with a tradition of more than six hundred years.

Each painting is a universe in itself that speaks its own language. It is important that the artist is able to speak this language and give the painting what it needs. It often happens that my emotions react positively or negatively to the whole painting or only to certain elements of it.

It's only when I fall in love with the painting and it completely engulfs me that I know I have brought the painting on the right track.

I am a human being, so I prefer to express my neo-renaissance poetry and visions through the representation of the human body using painting techniques with oil paints, because these allow me incredible possibilities to build images and visual effects. Exploring the mysticism between the masculine and feminine principles, as well as the mind and soul, is my great passion.

The works I create become my inspiration and my teachers. It does not matter when I painted a particular work of art. I am constantly learning something new about myself and about painting from every single painting I have completed before. They take me to other spaces. It has also happened many times that people have been moved to tears when they stood in front of my paintings. This also shows me that I am on the right path.

I dedicate my life to creating poetry that sings about the different facets of the universe. My language and the tools I use to express these observations are abstract shapes, lines, light and dark, textures and colors.

With my artwork I want to bring beauty, inspiration and hope into the hearts and minds of people to brighten their moment, their day, their week or their whole life.

– Nik Anikis

--

Nik Anikis, master of arts, felt at just five years the wish to express his inner world through painted visualizations. This led him to an art gymnasium and further to the Academy of fine Arts in Ljubljana, where he gained his excitement for the classical methods of drawing and painting. After a student exchange in Bologna and a finished Angel Academy of Art in Florence, he decided to deepen his knowledge with the greatest masters of contemporary painting. Thus he left to learn from the superb painters in Italy, Spain, the Netherlands, Czechia, France and England, where he conquered the skill of painting techniques, with which he today creates technically thorough artworks. The quality of his painter's poetry is also confirmed by multiple international acknowledgments and awards, as well as independent exhibitions at home and around the world.

In his work an artist depicts his thoughts, tendencies and discoveries, which connect to the universe, to beauty and the inexhaustible abilities of the human being, but which must be found, brought de profundis and upgraded. As are his works classical in motive, painting technique (the masters of the renaissance created with oil colors) and also in the subtle depiction of the beauty of the human body, so too is the simple perception of the world and the relation of man to it, the search for truth, classical. The author perceives the body as magical, as an instrument of exposition. Magical is the fact that the body is, if still mortal, the temple of that which is invisible to the eye, and depicted through it is what we are here and now.

His creativity is full of symbology; these are present in portraits, in the depictions of deities, cosmic spaces and of course still lifes. Most are symbolized by wisdom, the joys of life, love, opulence, immortality...; everything which a human should strive to achieve. Much of this is evident in just the titles of his works, though the tendency of man's movement from the earthly world towards the universe – from reality into the fantastical (mystical) world, is depicted in multiple works (*The divine creator, Reawakening ...*). The individual connects himself with the divine, with love, with that higher power, which watches over and creates our life. After all, we are exceptionally spiritual beings, and aren't just here, to perform everyday earthly activities and rituals. In each of us there is a god particle (a Higgs boson), which we must find and believe in. A human is an individual mirror of the macro cosmos and should strive to discover who he is, what his purpose is... , upgrade himself, be better, rouse and raise what is divine in him...

»As people have, hidden within ourselves, light and darkness, as well as the laws and truths of the universe, « thinks the author. It's about the darkness and lightness within a person, in relation to nature and fellow human beings, about the relation and game of roles between man and woman. Just the atmosphere of one or the other state is also emphasized with a different color palette. When in a relation (whichever) there is no harmony, there are used darker, colder, earthly tones, but when the emphasis is on the coordination of energy, of harmony, the ascension from earthliness, the colors on the canvas become warmer, iridescent colors; figures are radiating

(divine) light, the heart chakra is opened (*The divine creator, Reawakening ...*), and they ascend to the sky, decorated with countless stars.

Nik Anikis is a very hardworking, curious and technically thorough artist who is aware of his mission, with which he wishes to express the deeper truths of the human being and the universe. He is aware that art (of all forms) is food for the human soul. Art is that which enriches us and reveals to us different worlds (*Unfulfilled dreams*)..., with it we broaden our horizons, dive deeper into ourselves and tend towards universal wisdom, whose guardians are fantastically depicted dragons (*Guardian dragons*), who with their x-ray vision and powerful intuition see through every individual and depending on their purity (of heart and soul) decide whether we are worthy of it.

– Ana Papež

Curator: Peter Tomaž Dobrila

## BIOGRAPHY

Webpage



Neo-Renaissance painter mag. **Nik Anikis** articulates through his works of art reflections on the intimate depths of the individual and the relationship between the heart and mind and the male and female principles. It is characterized by technical perfection and the expression of the beauty of the human body. The portraits and figures work so vividly that it feels like they are going to pop out of the picture at any moment.

Painting is his life mission. He decided to become a painter at the age of five. He studied under the greatest masters of painting and graduated from two academies. With more than 11 years of painting education, he pours out images on canvas that move people to tears. He exhibited in important locations around the world, such as New York, London and Barcelona, and was awarded prestigious prizes for his works.

He has been teaching painting and drawing skills since 2015, as a teacher at the Academy in Florence, later he moved to the Netherlands for a year, where he taught at the Academy near Utrecht until 2017. In Slovenia, he and his team organize painting and drawing workshops and summer intensive painting masterclasses for more than 9 years. Since 2018, he has been teaching drawing and painting courses for adults at the National Gallery.