



GRADSKA GALERIJA
ANTUN GOJAK
MAKARSKA

UNDER THE BOKOVO MOUNTAIN

ZABIOKOVLJE AND COASTAL LANDSCAPE
IN THE WORKS FROM GOJAK DONATION

19TH JULY – 26TH AUGUST 2014



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Cvitačka, s.a.
(Cat. No. 9.)

UNDER THE BIOKOVO MOUNTAIN

Native landscapes of Antun Gojak's veduta

The exhibition represents the works from donated Gojak's collection in the Gallery for the purpose of constant processing and thematic presentation of landscapes and vedutas of Antun Gojak who was recognized as an exceptional talent in 1938 during the anthological exhibition „Half a century of Croatian art“ in Zagreb. He dedicated his life to painting and was occupied with native themes together with those from the memories of his occasional journeys to the Czech Republic, Slovenia, Australia and Bosnia and Herzegovina. We find Gojak's long-lasting dedication to landscape as his attempt to find a way and content with which he will represent his view of the world on the Biokovo mountain, undulating high plain with numerous smaller karst sinkholes, steep and craggy cliffs with height of 1760m, at a distance of only two to three kilometres from the sea shore, bordered with charming coastal places. He found the way in his fast outlined drawings with coal, gestural pastels of shepherds, lead greyness of rugged area and cheerfulness and warmth of summer scenes represented with oil and aquarelle.

The landscape, not focused on a human being, has its starting point in the baroque era when the artists, stimulated with geographical discoveries, established it as an independent painting theme, and it appeared in all stylistic epochs, but was mostly expressed in Romanticism, Realism and Impressionism when the painters abandoned strict academic discipline, definitely breaking it through historical avantgardes and modernism, rejecting decorativeness of the landscape and giving up mimesis. The landscape is also a favourite theme of our modern painters of the 20th century, it is determined with its territorial particularity for the purpose of presenting their land, region, native place, sea environment, lowlands, mountains,... or their part of natural surrounding, considering it a crucial basis of their own national identity (Medović: lavender from the Pelješac peninsula, Crnčić and Vidović: the sea, Tišov: Posavina, Kovačević: willows, lowlands, Gliha: dry stone walls...).

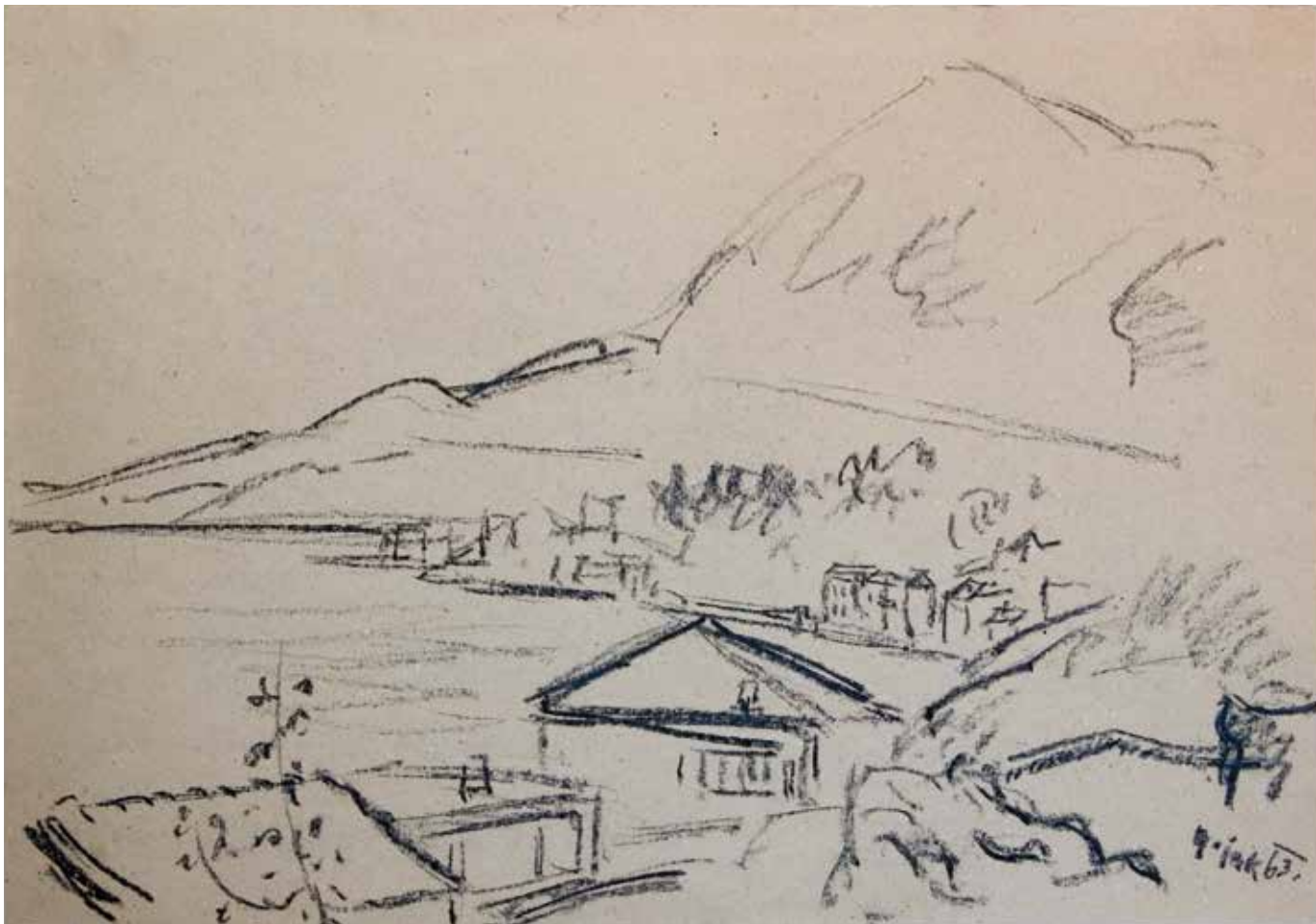
Speaking of the motives he used, Gojak was deeply interested in the slopes of the Biokovo mountain and vedutas of Makarska and neighboring places. He surpassed the theme with his technique and also the „message“ and created a significant document of cultural history of today already changed towns and wider area of the Makarska Littoral. Gojak's paintings of Podbiokovlje (area under the Biokovo mountain) and vedutas of neighboring picturesque coastal places are a forerunner of modern theme of cultural landscape which is a consequence of interaction of the man and environment and the result of space management (agricultural crops, olive groves, vineyards), in the process of long lasting with preserved animal species and endemic plants because of which the Nature park was established on the Biokovo mountain as a selected landscape and attractive place of cosy climate suitable for development of tourism.

M. Sc Daina Glavočić

19. 5. 2014.



Cvitačka, 1962
(Cat. No. 1.)



Brela, 1963
(Cat. No. 4.)



Drvenik - Donja Vala, 1979
(Cat. No. 16.)



The bora in May, 1979
(Cat. No. 22.)



Rocky ground in Zavojane, 1985
(Cat. No. 19.)



View of St. Peter from Osejava, s.a.
(Cat. No. 11.)

EXHIBITION CATALOGUE

1. Cvitačka, 1962
charcoal/paper, 50 x 70 cm
sign.r. bottom corner: gojak 62.
Antun Gojak Town Gallery
Inventory mark: 525:MKR 1
2. Old houses in Brist, 1968
charcoal/paper, 33 x 48 cm
sign.r. bottom corner: gojak 68
Antun Gojak Town Gallery
Inventory mark: 525:MKR 4
3. Houses by the sea, 1968
charcoal/paper, 30 x 42 cm
sign.r. bottom corner: gojak 68.
Antun Gojak Town Gallery
Inventory mark: 525:MKR 6
4. Brela, 1963
charcoal/paper, 50 x 70 cm
sign.r. bottom corner: gojak 63.
Antun Gojak Town Gallery
Inventory mark: 525:MKR 9
5. Bratuš, s.a.
charcoal/paper, 48 x 63 cm
unsigned
Antun Gojak Town Gallery
Inventory mark: 525:MKR 23
6. Square, s.a.
charcoal/paper, 45 x 64 cm
unsigned
Antun Gojak Town Gallery
Inventory mark: 525:MKR 185
7. Osejava, s.a.
oil/canvas, 70 x 94 cm
unsigned
Antun Gojak Town Gallery
Inventory mark: 525:MKR 204
8. Olive trees under the Biokovo mountain, s.a.
oil/canvas, 52 x 71,5 cm
sign.r. bottom corner: gojak
Antun Gojak Town Gallery
Inventory mark: 525:MKR 208
9. Cvitačka, s.a.
oil/cardboard, 18 x 28 cm
unsigned
Antun Gojak Town Gallery
Inventory mark: 525:MKR 217
10. Biokovo-Bast, s.a.
gouache/paper, 18 x 22 cm
sign.r.top corner: gojak
Antun Gojak Town Gallery
Inventory mark: 525:MKR 233
11. View of St. Peter from Osejava, s.a.
aquarelle/paper, 37 x 51,5 cm
sign.l.top corner: gojak
Antun Gojak Town Gallery
Inventory mark: 525:MKR 238
12. Beach Nugal, 1981
aquarelle/paper, 35 x 54 cm
sign.r.top corner: gojak 81.
Antun Gojak Town Gallery
Inventory mark: 525:MKR 239
13. Aloes, s.a.
aquarelle/paper, 37 x 52 cm
sign.r.top corner: gojak
Antun Gojak Town Gallery
Inventory mark: 525:MKR 240
14. Winter days in the Vrgorac hinterland, 1977
pastel/paper, 31 x 39,5 cm
sign.r. bottom corner: gojak 77.
Antun Gojak Town Gallery
Inventory mark: 525:MKR 243
15. Path through St. Peter, 1981
oil/canvas, 52.5 x 66.5 cm
sign.l.donji k.: gojak 81.
Antun Gojak Town Gallery
Inventory mark: 525:MKR 287
16. Drvenik-Donja Vala, 1979
oil/canvas, 83 x 113 cm
sign.r. bottom corner: gojak 79.
Antun Gojak Town Gallery
Inventory mark: 525:MKR 289
17. Two trees, tumuli and a meadow, 1984
gouache/paper, 35 x 48,5 cm
sign.r. bottom corner: gojak 84.
Antun Gojak Town Gallery
Inventory mark: 525:MKR 290
18. Village under the Biokovo mountain, s.a.
gouache/paper, 42 x 64 cm
sign.r.top corner: gojak
Antun Gojak Town Gallery
Inventory mark: 525:MKR 295
19. Rocky ground in Zavojane, 1985
oil/canvas, 68 x 88 cm
sign.r.top corner: gojak 85.
Antun Gojak Town Gallery
Inventory mark: 525:MKR 304
20. Scene of a fire, 1985
gouache/paper, 48 x 68 cm
sign.l. bottom corner: gojak 85.
Antun Gojak Town Gallery
Inventory mark: 525:MKR 306
21. Port , 1976
oil/canvas, 38,5 x 68 cm
sign.r.top corner: gojak 76.
Antun Gojak Town Gallery
Inventory mark: 525:MKR 331
22. The bora in May, 1979
oil/canvas, 50 x 71 cm
sign.r. bottom corner: gojak 79
Antun Gojak Town Gallery
Inventory mark: 525:MKR 332



Antun Gojak, 1986
(Photo by: A. Franić)

Antun Gojak was born in Makarska in 1907 where he also attended Civil School and gained the first experience within the visual arts. After finishing Civil School in 1922 he continued his education at the Teacher Training School in Šibenik. At the same time he was intensively engaged in painting. In 1927 he enrolled at the Academy of Fine Arts in Zagreb and belonged to the class of artists who later became very popular and they are Bruno Bulić and Miron Mikanec. After completion of military service he started working with professors Vladimir Becić, Ljubo Babić, Marin Tartaglia and Joze Kljaković and acquired specialized knowledge. He graduated in 1936. On the eve of World War II he worked as a professor at gymnasiums in Mostar and Slavonski Brod. In 1938 at the exhibition organized in Zagreb under the title Half a century of Croatian art Gojak was recognized as an exceptionally talented painter. The turbulent and uncertain years of World War II left permanent scars and influenced his work so that he withdrew back into himself.

Until the end of his life in 1986 he mostly lived in Makarska. He was a member of the Croatian Association of Visual Artists and displayed his works at their collective exhibitions. He dedicated his life to painting and mostly painted native themes. His other paintings were inspired by memories of his periodical journeys to the Czech Republic, Slovenia, Australia and Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The donation of Antun Gojak consists of 132 paintings and 201 drawings. The painter's brother Marin Rine Gojak donated his works to the Town of Makarska. The donation represents the base of the foundation of the Antun Gojak Town Gallery established in 1995.

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

1964 Split

1969 Sarajevo, Art Pavilion

1969 Makarska

1970 Slavonski Brod

1971 Srijemska Mitrovica

1975 Sydney, Town Hall

1986 Makarska, Museum of Revolution

1989 Makarska, Cultural centre of Makarska municipality, Paintings from Gojak donation

1992 Makarska, Heritage museum of Cultural centre of Makarska municipality, Drawings from Gojak donation

1995 Split, Croatian Army Centre, Antun Gojak 1907-1986

2008 Split, Emanuel Vidović Gallery, City museum of Split, Election of works from legacy of Antun Gojak from Makarska

2013 Makarska, Antun Gojak Town Gallery, Everyday life according to Gojak Work and leisure presented in the works from Gojak donation

EXHIBITION SUPPORTED BY
Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Croatia
Town of Makarska

SPONSORED BY
Tourist board of Makarska
Brela Tourist Board
Drvenik Tourist Board

ORGANISED BY
Antun Gojak Town Gallery

Makarska Cultural Summer 2014

*Under the Biokovo mountain
Zabokovlje and coastal landscape in the works from Gojak donation*

/exhibition from the Antun Gojak Town Gallery foundation – museum collection „Gojak donation“/

*Exhibition concept: Josip Karamatić
Exhibition setup: Josip Karamatić
Duration: 19th July – 26th August 2014
Place: Antun Gojak Town Gallery*

*Publisher: Antun Gojak Town Gallery
Catalogue number: 86
Preface: M. Sc Daina Glavočić
Translation: Sonja Raffanelli
Prepress, design and print: Studio Quadart, Makarska
Photo: Rikardo Škorlić
Photo on the catalog cover: Olive trees under the Biokovo mountain, s.a. (Cat. No. 8.) - detail
Editing: Milan Pavlinović
Edition: 500 copies*

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MAKARSKA CULTURAL SUMMER 2014.



GRAD MAKARSKA

ISBN 978-953-7519-07-0