Imaginative works of art by a young artist : The Masks of "The Demon," "The Sun " and "The Ruler "

## IMAGINATIVE UNIQUE MASKS

CeKaO Gallery / " Masks " exhibition by young Ana Krleza offers an impressive set of imaginative unique artworks as most reminiscent of Venetian masks

## Marina Tenžera

" All masks will fall among four black lacquered boards, where kings and villains in black wood stare," a long time ago (and lovely) wrote Miroslav Krleža. Decades after the occurrence of the famous verses, interestingly enough, a young Zagreb artist carrying the same family name, Ana Krleza, offered to the public an exhibition of her unique masks at CeKaO Gallery.

Imaginatively made of rice paper with accessories of textiles, rope, tape, nails and hemp , the masks comprise unique works of art, creating distinctive images - reliefs or objects - assemblages , as pointed out by art critic Marina Baricevic . " The Mask of the Sun ", " Dionysus " The Mask of the Demon ," " The Divine Mask " , or "The Mask of the Ruler " reveal that the artist reached into the history , and that her mask have kept the fragments of memories of ritual and votive , theater and carnival masks ! Imaginative " Maskcreator" does not find a direct basis in any kind of historical masks, but simply selects the visual elements from the depths of the past that will allow her an unrestrained creative play! With their cold beauty and rich golden ornaments, the masks still mostly remind of the Venetian masks , therefore a visitor is, in their imagination, easily transferred into the exciting streets of this enchanting Mediterranean town whose character is determined by the water and the air which blur everythig into visual sensations.

The masks by Ana Krleza remind of soft tanned lasciviousness of Venice as it used to be -of carnivals, old palaces, glittering churches which glisten in the dark, the town where the greatest European artists, painters and musicians used to live, where Casanova lived, Fellini wrote, Titian and Tintoretto painted, the place of the unforgettable sight of Dirk Bogardele's death, staring at his young love! Biographical data reveal that Ana Krleža was born in Zagreb in 1966, in the sign of Aquarius (!), which certainly accounts for her creativity, spiritual greatness, and above all imagination. She graduated from the Academy of Fine Arts in the class of professor Miroslav Šutej. She has exhibited in four solo exhibitions in Zagreb (CeKaO Gallery and Idealni grad- the" Ideal City "), Rijeka (" Juraj Klović Gallery ") and Varaždin (" Dora Art " Gallery), and in two group exhibitions in Zagreb (" Gradec "MGC and " Vladimir Nazor "Gallery).