Attila Vencel

FINE ART PRESS KIT

#### BIOGRAPHY



Contemporary artist, painter, living and creating in Ostrava. Attila Vencel also helps novice artists to awaken their own natural talents as lecturer and mentor.

Born, July 14th 1972, on the Eastern Slovak Plain, Attila is the oldest of three sons, to parents of Hungarian nationality. His early childhood was spent in the small village of Szolnocska, a place that would later become an inspiration for the nature that he shares in his depictions.

It was following a family relocation to the town of Veľké Kapušany in the Michalovce district, that his talents in art, music and poetry manifested themselves.

Due to communist constraints of the time, Attila was unable to further his fine art studies, undeterred, he decided to study drawing at the technical school in Snina, Prešov region (which coincidentally, is not far from Andy Warhol's birthplace). Technical drawing and descriptive geometry enriched him with the development of spatial vision, imagination and the foundation of perspective; skills which were to be later used in his paintings.

These four years, surrounded by the unspoiled nature of the Laborecká Highlands, gave Attila new passions in the school's cultural and musical activities - participating in local competitions of Ruthenian Folk Song, and, also as a self-taught guitarist, composing his first songs.

In 1990 Atilla was called up for the 18-month basic national military service in Nepolise, near Hradec Králové, where he served as a commissary and company scribe. He garnered quite a following among his fellow soldiers who frequently wanted to trade for his figurative nude drawings.

Following his military service, he moved to Bohemia, where he settled for three and a half years working in a goldsmith's workshop creating handmade jewelry. At the same time, his musical projects - song writer, composer and performer for the pop group 'V.I.P' - were also gaining momentum, and, in 1999, resulted in a signing with Warner Music in what was a very large collaboration at the time for the Czech Republic.



In 2002, he became co-owner and operator of 'Sherlock's Pub' on the legendary Stodolní Street in Ostrava - marking the beginning of his bohemian and artistic life - organising music projects, concerts, agency activities, promotion and advertising as well as meeting with diverse artists from the worlds of music, theatre, fine arts and fashion. This time was much more than just about parties, for Atilla, it was a chance to experience and cultivate political, cultural and philosophical interests. This new world view gave Atilla a growing creative urge which found its answer during a chance meeting with the renowned Ostrava painter Dali Figely, who gave impetus to Atilla's passion for fine art.

As a self taught artist, Attila Vencel's inspiration is based on his love for landscapes and nature, which he has been closely associated with since his youth. He sensitively perceives its delicate balance, which he tries to find and share in his life, at work, in relation to people and the environment. It feels like a never-ending process, a journey of life and an effort to find a higher and higher level of harmony.

He found great inspiration in the works of Impressionists of the 19th century, such as Edouard Manet, Claude Monet, Camille Pissarro, Alfred Sisley, Pierre-Auguste Renoir and Edgar Degas. Representatives of the so-called "California Impressionism" were, for example, William Keith, Benjamin Chambers Brown, Selden Connor Gile.

Czech painters Antonín Slavíček, Václav Radimský, František Kaván, Julius Mařák and Augustin Mervart.

He also draws on works by Russian painters such as Korovin, Polen, Ayvazovsky, Levitan, Repin and Shishkin.

His attitude to painting and painting technique was greatly influenced by Russian painter Igor Sakharov. After many years of admiration, in 2017, Atilla was fortunate to meet one of his role models while in Moscow. They subsequently spent several days painting together in the beautiful setting, of PereslavI-Zalessky, a town on the shores of Lake Pleschev.

He devotes himself mainly to oil painting. The dominant themes of his paintings are landscape, nature and flowers. In his abstract work, he likes to work with geometric shapes, color surfaces and structure. Atilla enjoys employing a variety of techniques: Painting with fingers, brush, cloth and spatula, as well as alternatively combining oil with acrylic paints.

His work moves between impressionist and realistic paintings. It is a kind of "crossover" of various influences and inspirations from the fields of fine art, music, life philosophy and relationship to nature.



"I always try to add a bit of a poetry and lyricism in to my work. My romantic soul is what does the creating. It sets the path. "- Attila Vencel."

#### Exhibitions

DUBEN 2018 - Solo Exhibition - Abstract / Landscape - Ostravanka Coffee Shop - Ostrava

5.10 - 5.11. 2018 - Solo Exhibition - PROLÍNÁNÍ - Abstract / Landscape - café MARYČKA - DOV. - Ostrava

21.8.2018 - Live TV broadcast - ČT2, Good Morning guest



Attila

art

Vencel

### ARTIST'S STATEMENT



In my contemporary work, landscape, nature and flower motifs prevail. I depict them somewhere between realistic and impressionist paintings. I paint these primarily on canvas with oil paints.

In my abstract work I like to experiment with geometry, structure, colored surfaces, but also with natural subjects. I like to blend various techniques, using a combination of oil with acrylic. I start painting with underpainting. Darker areas and shadows are thinly layered. Thicker layers are then applied to provide the vivid colors.

I like vivid colors, pastel tones. In this respect, I admire Van Gogh's color scheme. For the most part, I try to work "alla prima" as I enjoy the spontaneity and challenge of blending on the canvas. However, finishing works varies and can take several days or weeks.

I work with brushes, fingers, cloth and spatula, and, I will often change the technique and the means of expression, adjusting to the chosen theme.

Nature offers a wealth of inspiring scenery. I'm trying to capture the game of light and shadow, fleeting moments and moods. An important aspect of my work is the effort to give my work a little bit of my own poetry and lyricism.

My passion for countryside and nature was greatly shaped my close relationship with my grandfather. He was a passionate fisherman, who often took me with him to wander through nature, and passed on a love of forests, meadows, hillsides, rivers and everything alive. I owe my first contact with fine art to my father, who liked to draw and was very creative and skilled in woodworking, carving and wood burning techniques. An important role was also played by the work of my cousin Zoltán, who created paintings, mosaics from various wooden veneers.

The crucial moment of my adolescence was the nascent velvet revolution, which, as a student, I was a part of, and, brought new hope to my life.



The period after the "Velvet Revolution" was full of expectations, excitement and confusion. It was North Moravia in Ostrava - where I moved right after my national service - that my path to independence began, I found myself in a new place, without family support or friends. It was a very difficult time for me as I was to be confronted, tested and disappointed. However, I was in the centre of whirlwind of exuberant life that would lead me to my future.

A new episode of my life began when I became a co-owner of Sherlock's Pub on Stodolni Street. I had the opportunity to look deeper into the world of artists. Meet many interesting and inspiring people. It significantly influenced my maturation as a man and also as an artist. It shaped my perspective, "focus" on the meaning of life and my next direction.

At the same time, a new spiritual path was opened to me. I was filled with belief in a better future and the ability to transform the spirit, which goes hand in hand with nature, space and human creativity. At this time I met my wife Alice, who became my life and spiritual partner and my great support.

Suddenly I felt the need to rethink priorities, introduce harmony and set a new order. I definitely wanted a change. And the change was crucial. Instead of endless nightlife, live in the day, creatively and efficiently. The process of slow transformation, education, work and creative activity has begun. At the same time, I felt the need to express myself, to create, to develop. It was a return to the fine arts. To what was in the beginning. Painting and color are a tool, that give me an alternative, a language of self-expression and an interaction with the outside world. I believe the world needs this form of communication as a way to finding inner balance and positive evolution. In my work I point out the beauty of nature and highlight its fragility and importance for our human lives. A person who devastates and disrupts, with an unnatural, supreme attitude and manner of behavior, becomes a parasitic being. The disturbed symbiosis, then, is necessarily reflected in ourselves, in our lives and in human relationships. An important mission, for each of us, should be to try to find balance again.





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## Prolínání

abstrakce / krajina



prodejní výstava obrazů kavárna Maryčka, 5. 10. - 5. 11. 2018 Provoz Hlubina Ostrava vernisáž 5. 10. v 18:00, vystoupí Patrik Kee



Maryika







OSTRAVA!!!

