

Katarína Zemková comes from Šaľa, where she attended the Folk Art School and graduated from the local high school. She graduated from Constantine the Philosopher University in Nitra in 2001 in the fields of history, art and museology. During her studies she was led by such artists as graphic artist Igor Benca, sculptor Viliam Loviška, graphic designer Josef Dobiš, painter Josef Jaňák or academic painter Karol Baron, member of the Surrealist Group of Czechoslovakia. She taught High School in Šaľa - Veča for a short time and later worked in two foreign companies. She currently lives in Senec. Her hobby is a combined technique of painting and spraying. She specializes in painting on interior walls (hairdressers, coffee shops).

She started her exhibition activity during her studies in 2001 then she stopped for almost 13 years when she worked in the commercial sector and devoted herself to raising her three sons. It was only in 2016 that she started exhibiting again intensively. It seems unbelievable that more than 20 individual exhibitions have been prepared so far. She started to paint, exhibit and organize art workshops for children and adults. Her paintings brought to life the short poems written by the Slovak text writer and poet Ján Štrasser. Moreover, she became an ambassador of many cultural and social events. In 2017 she created and implemented the project "Be strong" („Buď silný“) which was attended by the Ambassador of the State of Israel in Bratislava and former President Rudolf Schuster in Košice. In the same year the City of Šaľa awarded her the Creative Prize of the Year.

It is true that the privilege of painting flowers, bouquets, dead flowers is more often attributed to female authors. But to paint them with such zeal and passion, perhaps few can. That is why floral essences and natural metamorphosis are the most frequent motifs in her paintings. There is a life-giving energy which the author sends to the viewer. As she says:

"I have three sons. They are a great inspiration and huge source of energy in my life which I transfer into my work. My studio is connected to the game room where among my sons' superheroes I am at my best creativity. I have my boys as eternal critics, admirers and this reflects the vitality you see in my work."

Thus apart from, the objective admiration for the brilliant technique she uses to transfer beauty from nature to the canvas and to the viewer, it is the dynamics and passion we feel from her paintings. Katarína Zemková's paintings are a driving force, bringing energy, power, and explosion of colours.

When looking at the scenery, the mood and atmosphere of the landscape in her paintings, the floral still life or colourful natural carpets, magical, explosive bouquets invite us to immerse ourselves into their fragrance, beauty and delicacy, feel the life in them.

Sometimes her paintings reflect a feeling, a clue to the real thing that has been mentioned above. Then fantasy ideas and associations unfurl into abstract multicoloured, meditative but more often dynamic, expressive compositions. The colour in her paintings is often significant and decisive. Her vision on one

hand evokes dramatic associations and on the other hand a calm glow and poetic mood.

Katarína Zemková created her own paintings depicting nature and the world around it. She sees the whole in detail but sometimes the reality turns into a somewhat vague, almost abstract atmosphere. She is not afraid to experiment on different themes and always finds new ways to express her imagination artistically. Sometimes the title of the work draws the viewer's attention to the painter's idea. At other times we recognize in the composition of the pictures a realistic atmosphere from the closest surroundings, perhaps from grandmother's garden with details of bare footprints blissfully walking over a soft coloured natural carpet. The energy in her works explodes with rhythmic diversification of figurative and non-figurative motifs and leitmotifs (flowers, birds, bird wings, sheep, human feet...).

The author skilfully composes inspirations from her surroundings for her paintings to create a kind of multi-coloured representation in painting. Because her paintings carry a story, memories and show tenderness, emotions, love, nostalgia and beauty, plot and joy of decoding her paintings.

Thanks to her very intimate and private thoughts Ms. Zemková is able to reproduce a sense of closeness, fervour and credibility, even for an unknown, often anonymous viewer.

You can believe in her paintings thanks to its fresh expressions in which there is a combination of the right essences and colourful metamorphoses for herself and other viewers.

Each new painting consolidates and perhaps also reinforces her artistic path. In her latest works she seems more focused on her interior, mood, feelings, philosophy ... This mental connection with reality which has never left her, allows the author to go further into what she wants to say...

It is all about harmony in the painter's feelings and her desire to create with talent and a kind of fatal determination. Her paintings evoke love for the environment, gratitude, satisfaction and joy of life.

Curator, Ela Porubánová, Ed.D.

Individual Art Exhibitions – selection:

Nitra Gallery, May 2001

Forcesa Gallery, Šaľa, March 2017

The House of Arts, Piešťany, April 2017

The Primate's Palace, Bratislava, October 2017

Column hall, historical building of STM in Košice

Gallery at the Tehelná street, Zvolen, January – February 2018

*Hotela Devín Gallery****, March – April 2018*

Club Penati, Bratislava, May 2018

Art Center Synagogue Trenčín, July – August 2018

Peter Matejka Gallery, Nové Mesto nad Váhom, April 2019

Aviatik Gallery, Brno – Prštice, May – June 2019