

Yorgos Milios

Born in 1935 in Athens. Milios won a scholarship to study at the Athens School of Fine Arts (1956-1962), where he was taught painting by Y. Moralis and printmaking by K. Grammatopoulos and Y. Kefallinos, and graduated with high honours. He continued his studies in Paris on a Mika Skouze scholarship and a grant by the french government, where he studied printmaking and mosaics at the École des Beaux-Arts (1965-68), and attended sociology of art classes under Jean Cassou. In 1975, he attended printmaking classes at the École Boulle (on a grant by the former Hellenic Handicraft Organization, currently EOMMEX). That same year, he presented his first solo exhibition in Athens, at the Centre for Visual Arts (KET) of which he was a founding member.

Schematized symbolic forms, hybrid figures and biomorphic shapes with very few representational elements but great expressive intensity, which move inside an abstract space, dominate both his painting and his printmaking work. This expressive intensity is largely enhanced by his experimentations with diverse materials and mixed media. His set of themes evoke a poetic world where the concept of the absurd coexists with a carefully organized artistic structure. The artist's temperament and philosophical concerns are expressed through a personal idiom, which incorporates elements of surrealism, expressionism or other periods of art history.

He taught painting at the Faculty of Architecture in the National Technical University of Athens (1970-1988), first as a tutor and then as a lecturer. In 1988 he was elected professor at the Faculty of Fine Arts of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki and in 1996 he became printmaking professor at ASF.A. He worked for four years as a painter/art restorer in various institutions, such as the Athens Byzantine & Christian Museum, the Mt. Sinai Monastery, etc.

He has presented his work in many solo exhibitions in Athens and other greek cities. He has also participated in numerous group exhibitions in Greece and abroad. In 1969 he represented Greece at the Biennale of Sao Paulo (together with Chronis Botsoglou). He has also participated in the 3rd European Biennale (Baden-Baden, 1983), Salon de la Peinture Méditerranéenne (Cagnes-sur-Mer, 1984), the Exhibition of Contemporary Greek Printmaking (Luxembourg, 1994), etc.

In 1992, he organized his first retrospective exhibition at the Vafopouleio Cultural Centre in Thessaloniki. His second retrospective exhibition has been scheduled to take place at the Benaki Museum in 2013.