

EUGEN VARZIĆ

ARTIST STATEMENT

Likovni umjetnik / Visual Artist · Istra, Croatia · www.eugenvarzic.com

I paint life. My focus has always been on figuration and realism. Every day brings a new story, a new challenge, a new struggle. The people I choose as my subjects are those closest to me — the most sincere, the most vulnerable.

From an early age I fell in love with the work of the old masters, but I moved quickly beyond technique — toward meaning. Toward the psychological, moral, and ethical values I want to stand for. Toward the inner struggles my subjects carry within them.

The Visible Process

In my portraits, the process is visible for what it is — raw, unfiltered, imperfect. The brushstroke remains on the canvas. My presence remains in the painting. That is precisely what separates them from hyperrealism. When I began working this way, I understood it would become a principle: *take no prisoners*. I went to study with the best — to Madrid, to the workshops of Eloy Morales and Antonio López García — and made significant advances, both in technique and in my understanding of my own artistic language.

Inspiration Beyond Borders

My influences differ from the environment in which I live and work. That distance gave me strength — and above all, the feeling that everything is possible. I want to make work that is rarely made in contemporary Croatian fine art: something that leaves the viewer outside their comfort zone, standing in front of the canvas, questioning whether what they are experiencing is actually possible. That is where I try to survive and create.

Painting as Ritual

EUGEN VARZIĆ

ARTIST STATEMENT

Likovni umjetnik / Visual Artist · Istra, Croatia · www.eugenvarzic.com

Almost every day I ask myself countless questions. There is only one answer to all of them: creation. This daily ritual gives me a reason to live — the ritual of constant learning, of change, of choosing the hardest path, of keeping faith. My paintings are like painted diaries that tell me when I was happy, when I was afraid, when I painted in a kind of trance.

For me, painting is like breathing.