

CURRICULUM VITAE

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Nationality: Croat
Residence: Sweden
Current employment: University Adjunct at HDK-Valand Steneby / freelance designer

Education: mag. ing. prosp. arch., MFA designer

2015 - HDK-Steneby - Wood Orientated Furniture Design (MFA)

2004 - Faculty of Agriculture, Zagreb, Croatia - Landscape Architecture (MA)

1994 - International Baccalaureate, XV. gymnasium, Zagreb

I was born in Rijeka, Croatia, in 1976. I attended International Baccalaureate highschool in Zagreb, and graduated at Faculty of Agriculture in Zagreb in 2004. I did my fourth year of studies at Biotechnical Faculty of Ljubljana, Slovenia, as a part of student exchange program (1999/2000). During studying I participated in several international student workshops (Netherlands, Germany, Slovenia).

During studies, I worked part time to full time for several architects and landscape architects, doing various fields - from gardens to urbanism. After spending several years in Slovenia and after graduation in 2004, I returned to my hometown and started my own landscape architecture company, aimed at doing landscaping projects for residential and touristic objects. My work consisted of designing, as well as project management, as I used to build my projects with a team of contractors, from first sketch till finished space, ready to be used. On a larger

scale, my studio's work consisted of projects for various nature preservation institutions, such as reforestation projects and anti-erosion solutions for paths in areas with high frequency of visitors. In 2010, I received The Young Artist of the year award by Croatian Society of Applied Arts, for my landscape architecture projects.

From 2011. until 2013. I worked as a landscape architect in the office for City Greenery of city of Rijeka.

From 2012 till present I periodically work on Design/Build workshops that Landscape Architecture Department of University of Washington conducts in Croatia. Design/Build program aims to counter primarily classroom educated students by giving them opportunity to design and construct a given space themselves, under the professional guidance.

Design/Build program lead by professor Daniel Winterbottom has one additional goal: creating a therapeutic garden for a community in need. The work conducted usually involves an underprivileged group of people with specific health requirements - such as AIDS patients, war veterans, mental patients and similar - and relies heavily on participatory design. The role of Co-Director of the program, besides the teaching part (in both craft and architecture subjects), usually involves managing the project in terms of budget optimisation and coordination with user groups.

In 2015 I initiated 'Fairytale in Craft' project and invited 9 other artists to collaborate. F.i.C. is a multisensory playscape of craft objects forming a narrative. The project aims to investigate how imaginative storytelling can stimulate making skills in children, and the role of crafts in producing empathy in kids. Through the pilot, we delivered a materialisation of a fairytale inspired by Dalsland nature and history, and through engagement in an immersive environment take children on a journey which ends in making, storytelling, or adventure play. By focusing on imagination and empathy, the project is also critical on contemporary maker-movement being focused primarily on digital fabrication, and through this socially exclusive rather than inclusive. (www.fairytalesincraft.com).

As a designer/maker of furniture, I operate in the field that connects design, craft and cultural background, and I have a rich experience in projects that include collaboration of many actors. I started making commissioned furniture in 2009 and have been running a small craft-devoted gallery from 2010-2012. In 2013 I enrolled at MFA program in Wood Orientated Furniture Design at HDK-Steneby, and graduated in 2015. My work was exhibited at exhibitions and design fairs in Göteborg, Helsinki, Milan, Stockholm and Zagreb. I am currently operating my own design/make practice in rural Dalsland, Sweden.

Since September 2017 I have been working as a teacher at HDK-Valand Steneby - Academy of Craft and Design in Dals Långed, Sweden.

Awards - Design/Build projects

2020 - ASLA award (American Society of Landscape Architects) - Design/Build project in Dals Långed: *Sharing Place: Bastu, Food, Play, and the Common Grounds for Cultural Exchange* - Honor Award winner in the Student Community Service category

2019 - Great Places Award by EDRA - Place Design Category Winner: *An Intimate Exchange: Bridging the Divide between Refugees and Their Hosts*. Design/Build Student Project in Dals Långed, Sweden

2018 - ASLA award (American Society of Landscape Architects) - Design/Build project in Podmurvice, Croatia - Honor Award winner in the Student Community Service category

2016 - ASLA award (American Society of Landscape Architects) - Design/Build project in Rab, Croatia - Honor Award winner in the Student Collaboration category

Awards - Design

2019 - Croatian Ministry of Tourism - Innovation Award for *Loger* project

2010 - The Young Artist of the Year award by Croatian Association of Applied Arts (landscape architecture projects)

2002 - Competition for the design of Modern Arts Museum in Rijeka, Croatia with a surrounding plaza (with D. Gamulin and M. Sančanin) - 2. prize

Scholarships

2017 - Steneby Mötesplats Idepeng - Långed Park project

2017 - Västra Götaland Regionen, Sweden - Fairytale in Craft project

2016 - Konstnärsnämnden arbetsstipendium

2016 - Västra Götaland Regionen, Sweden - Fairytales in Craft project
2016 - Nordic Cultural Point - Fairytales in Craft project
2016 - Stieftelsen Stenebyskolan - Imaginary Heritage project
2015 - Steneby Mötesplats Idepeng - Fairytales in Craft project
2015 - PGZ region, Croatia - Imaginary heritage project
2015 - Göteborgs Slöjdföreningen - for exam-project at Master studies, HDK-Steneby
2014 - Steneby Foundation Grant - Woodworking traditions of Croatia project
2014 - Eidem Foundation grant - Food Furniture: Meeting point between traditional crafts and contemporary trends project
2012 - Croatian Ministry of culture - New Life of Wood project

Solo Exhibitions

2015 - Around the Fire, Around the Water: An Imaginary Heritage, with Mladen Ivančić, ULUPUH Gallery, Zagreb, Croatia
2012 - New life of wood - homage to wooden houses of Posavina region, with Hrvoje Vulama, Zagreb, Croatia

Group Exhibitions

2016 - An Imaginary Heritage, with Mladen Ivančić, Stocholm Furniture Fair, Stockholm, Sweden
2015 - En idé tar form, Lidköpings konsthall, Lidköping, Sweden
2015/2016 - Utvalt i Skåne, Form and Design Center, Malmö
2015 - Survival - The Craft of Adaption, Stocholm Furniture Fair, Stockholm, Sweden
2014 - Eco Design Habitare, Helsinki Design Week, Helsinki, Finland
2014 - Fresh angle on the collections, Röhsska design museum, Göteborg, Sweden
2014 - Un-desirables, Milan Design Week, Milan, Italy
2014 - Un-desirables, Stocholm Furniture Fair, Stockholm, Sweden
2013 - Solid Acts - Design from Croatia, Milan Design Week, Milan, Italy