

**Nikolai Yakovlevich Dudchenko** was born in 1949 in Uyanovka, a village in Kherson region, Ukraine. He attended the *Crimean Art College* from 1964 - 1967 and continued his education in the *Kharkov Art and Industry Institute*, where he graduated in 1972. His artistic career spans more than forty years and is marked by a number of renowned exhibitions both home and abroad, and by prestigious awards and recognitions.

Nikolai Dudchenko is a muralist by profession, but has been gravitating towards the easel and the miniature forms.

In his works, elegance can be considered a key feature of his creative personality, an expression of his relationship to tradition and reality. His style is expressive, easy and clear, as if it was floating on the wings of light imagination style.

He finds inspiration in the images of his childhood, from the anguish of the home and the mother figure to the unforgettable impressions of nature and people. His works expose deep existential problems and can be read as a reflection of the “spiritual portrait” of the people and the whole region. Meeting with his works emotionally enriches the understanding of the spirit of Southern Ukraine. Nikolai Dudchenko’s works have a lot of light, silence and mental clarity.

His art is close to the lightness of rococo without cold coquetry and tedious decorations; spirituality of the Old Russian icon painting style without its inherent sometimes severe asceticism and graphic strictness; modernist poetry without affectation; and finally, it is consonant with the domestic art of 70s and 80s, which has become an artistic reaction to the mundane brutality and apologetic material of the “severe style”.

Perhaps the most important means of picturesque and poetically figurative expression is the texture he gives to his works: artistically diverse technical methods of writing and printing, inserting collages, etching.

Dudchenko’s artworks are held in public collections in the most prestigious museums of Ukraine and Crimea such as the National Art Museum of Ukraine in Kiev, the Art Museum Prycarpattya Ivano-Frankivsk, Lviv National Art Gallery and Sevastopol Art Museum. His artworks are also kept in private collections in Ukraine, Russia, Greece, Germany, USA and UAE.

### **Awards/Recognitions | selected**

2014 - Diploma of the Russian Academy of Arts "*for contribution to the development of the fine arts in the South of Russia*"

2007 - Honored Artist of Ukraine

2007 - Honored Artist of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea

2006 - 2013 - Deputy Chairman of the Crimean Organization of the National Union of Artists of Ukraine

2004 - Grand Prix Prize, 5<sup>th</sup> Biennale of watercolors, Simferopol Art Museum, Simferopol, Crimea

### **Solo Exhibitions | selected**

2012 - *Inspiration and Form*, Volksbank, Ludwigsburg, Germany

2009 - *Sevastopol Motives*, The Russian Cultural Centre, Simferopol, Crimea

2008 - *Graphic: Etching*, Exhibition hall of House of Artists, Simferopol, Crimea

2003 - *Crimean Landscapes*, Livadia Palace Museum, Yalta, Crimea

2000 - *Spiritualization*, Livadia Palace Museum, Yalta, Crimea  
1997 - *Heraklion*, Pinacoteca Basilica of St. Mark, Crete, Greece

**Group Exhibitions, Biennales and Trienniales | selected**

2016 - Group exhibition of the Association of South Russian Artists (ASRA), Kroshitskiy Sevastopol Art Museum, Sevastopol, Crimea  
2016 - Group exhibition of the Association of ASRA, Exhibition Hall of ASRA, Rostov-on-Don, Russia  
2015 - *Handwriting of Crimea*, Gallery Handwriting, Vladikavkaz, Russia  
2009 – *Crimean Palette*, Gallery N-Prospekt, Saint Petersburg, Russia  
2009 - *Portrait of a Woman*, The Branch of the Saratov University, Sevastopol, Crimea  
2009 - Ukrainian Artists, Wuxi City, China  
2002 - *The Art of Ukraine*, Central House of Artists, Moscow, Russia  
2002 - *Crimean Painting*, Ukrainian Center, Moscow, Russia  
2008 - *Memorial Kuindzhi*, Mariupol, Ukraine  
1999 - *Crimean abstract*, Simferopol Art Museum, Simferopol, Crimea  
1991 - *Revival* International Biennale , Lvov Art Museum, Lvov, Ukraine  
1991 - Exhibition of the creative association "Look", Kiev, Ukraine  
1984 - All-Union Exhibition of Drawing, Moscow, Russia  
1989 – *Impreza* International Biennale, Art Museum Prycarpattya, Ivano-Frankivsk, Ukraine  
1987 - *Works of the Crimean artists*, Ruse, Bulgaria  
1979 - *Young Artists of Crimea*, Bacs-Kiskun, Hungary  
1977 - *Monumental Art of Ukraine*, Exhibition hall of the Union of Artists, Moscow, Russia