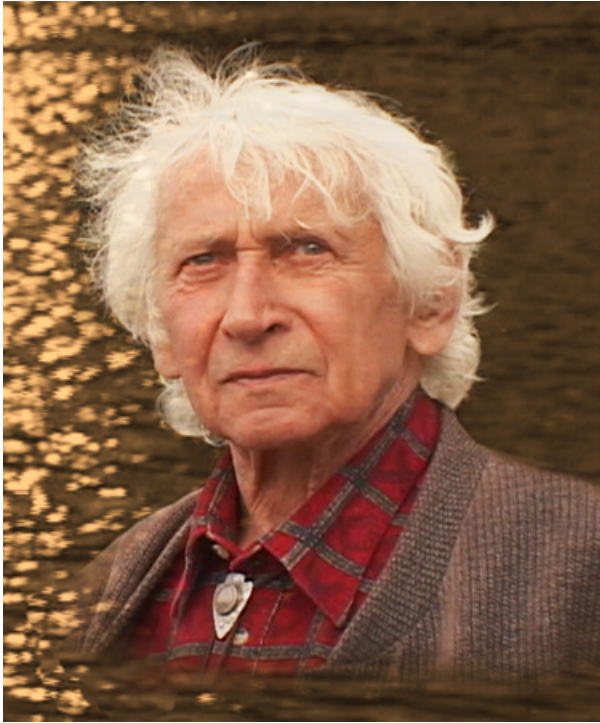


Stanislav Staněk – Biography



Academy painter Stanislav Staněk has spent his entire life working on his art, perfecting a painting style which has been known and respected for the last 50 years. One of the prominent artists of the Czech Republic, Staněk was educated at the Academy of Fine Art in Prague, eventually settling in the southern Plzeň region of his country. Staněk has worked in a vast array of different mediums, including stone lithography, pastels and oil painting, graphic design, sculpture, metal work, glass etching, and ceramics. Staněk was a leading contender in the contest to design the new Czechoslovakian national currency in 1981, and in that same year also won a commission to

create a work that would represent the spirit of world cinematography, for which he painted his famous portrait of film star Charlie Chaplin.

Staněk's signature artistic style makes unusual use of color, line, and shape, but maintains a commitment to a realistic impression of the world around him. Many of his chosen subjects come from the mundane and frequently overlooked, from crowded city blocks to cab drivers. But Staněk also enjoyed representing more famous figures, such as the Biblical Adam and Eve, or the stone lithography of Jesus commissioned for the 500th birthday of the church in Nepomuk. His many paintings of Miguel Cervantes's famous characters, Don Quixote and Sancho Panza, are examples of the scope and detail of his imagination. "I'm interested in objects that hide something inside them," Staněk says. "Each person or place or object that I paint is like a secret garden. I want to get inside, see it close up, see what kind of flowers are there, smell them, and through my art I invite everyone else to step through as well, to experience the beauty of the world the way I experience it."