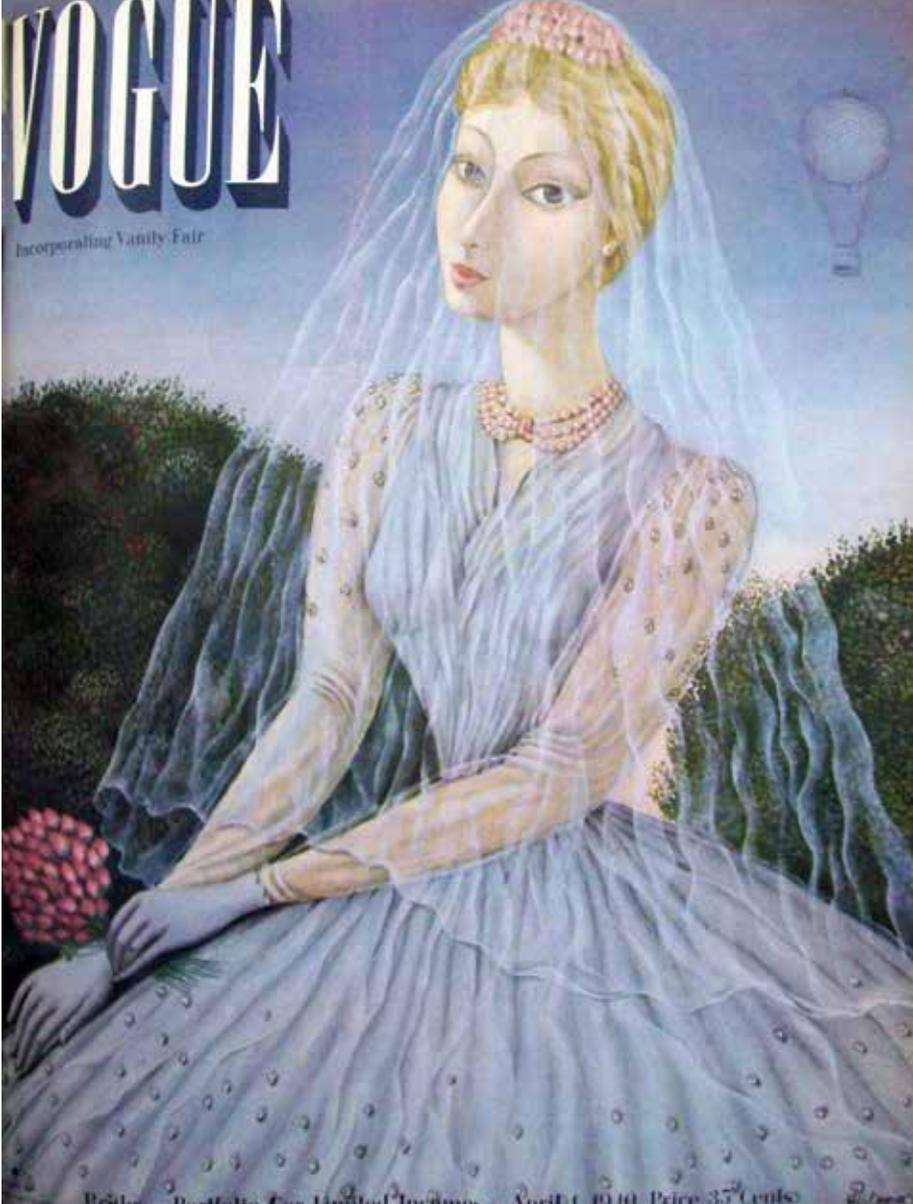


MILENA BARILLI
PAVLOVIĆ





MILENA'S HOME FOUNDATION MILENA PAVLOVIĆ BARILLI GALLERY - POZAREVAC

Milena Pavlovic Barilli Gallery is located in her family home in Pozarevac.

At her mother Danica's request it was opened in 1962 in the home of the Pavlovic family, who were well known merchants in Pozarevac, with family connections to the Serbian royal dynasty of Karadjordjevic.

Wishing to preserve the memory of her only child and world famous artist, on June 24th 1962, upon bequeathing the house to the town of Požarevac, Danica Pavlović uncovered a memorial plaque which reads:

„Milena's Home – to her talent, diligence and youth, Her mother.“



Milena's Home Foundation – Milena Pavlovic Barilli Gallery was founded to preserve the memory and to respect the wish and request of her mother Danica Pavlovic to bequeath the property and the works of art to Serbian people and to preserve the bequest as a whole.

Miodrag B. Protic, an artist and art critic, provided an all out support to Danica to open the Gallery and thus preserve Milena's artistic treasure.

Pozarevac was given a gift and a mission to keep the memory of Milena, of her works and of her life safe.

The Gallery is a memorial museum with an art collection, personal objets d'art, library, family heirlooms and archive about the famous artist. It holds an opus of 900 works of art – 136 oils, 51 pastels, 286 temperas and aquarelles, 6 prints and 415 drawings.

The permanent exhibition is a chronological display of Milena's works from 1926 to 1945.

The public can see Milena's personal possessions, painting tools, family collection of objets d'art, mementos, her notebooks with hand written verses in Serbian, Italian, Spanish and French.

Milena's Home Foundation – Milena Pavlovic Barilli Gallery organizes representative exhibitions at home and abroad. Milena's works of art have been exhibited in Parma, Paris, Bucurest, Bratislava, Skoplje, Rome, Brussels, Rimini, Prague, Brno, Banja Luka, Zagreb.

SANU Gallery held a great retrospective exhibition of Milena Pavlović Barilli's works in 2009 on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of her birth.

Pozarevac lives with Milena and Milena lives in Pozarevac



“IN THE LIGHT OF MILENA”



Milena Pavlovic Barilli and her work was an inspiration for many artists and soon after the opening, in the autumn of 1962, the Gallery organized an art event „Dream and Imagination“, gathering great names of Serbian and Yugoslav art, including the members of „Mediala“. Thus, parallel to Milena’s opus, a collection of modern art was born. The festival „Dream and Imagination“ brought together such great names as: Vladimir Velicković, Ljuba Popovic, Leonid Sejka, Branko Miljus, Milic od Macve, Vasilije Jordan, Miodrag Nagorni, Milan Popovic, Marko Sustarcic, Spase Kunoski and Svetozar Samurovic.

„Dream and Imagination“, in turn, inspired the organization of the first Biennial „Milena Pavlovic Barilli“ in Pozarevac in 1983. Like that first time, and since then every second year, it opens on the day of Milena’s birthday, November 5th. Since the second Biennial in 1985 it has been known as „**In the light of Milena**“, a phrase coined by a Pozarevac journalist Jovan Rajkovic.

Biennial became international in 1997 and continues to be so, with the participation of artists who work outside the borders of Serbia.

The challenge to illuminate the trace of Milena’s work in time has been taken up, during more than three decades, by a great number of artists.



The Biennial issues official awards of a prestigious level as judged by an expert panel of judges, as well as the plaques with Milena's portrait, designed by a sculptor Nebojša Mitric, who also did and donated two busts of Milena. One of them is in the Gallery, and the other one is in the Suncani park area in front of the Cultural Centre in Pozarevac.

The art collection of the Modern Art of the Milena Pavlovic Barilli Gallery contains 53 works - 36 oils, 12 prints, aquarelles and drawings and 5 sculptures. They were created between 1959 and 2015. The basis of the collection is made up of paintings imbued with surrealism, from the domain of the metaphysical art of the hyperrealism to the Gothic fantasy, but there are also those reaching into the radical geometrism.

Artists represented in the art collection of the Modern Art of the Milena Pavlovic Barilli Gallery represent the art scene of the second half of the twentieth and the beginning of the twenty-first century.

The day of Milena's birth, November the 5th, the day of the Biennial, is an important day for art. On that day other artists with their works pay respect to her magical talent.



„TO TOUR THE WORLD THUS BEYOND TIME AND SPACE “

Milena Pavlovic Barilli achieved a powerful artistic expression which left a mark on the European avant-garde of the fourth decade of the twentieth century with its immense wealth of visual imagination enriched with the poetry of colors. She was an artist of delicate sensibility who expressed the questions and answers in her canvases, using enigmatic compositions, metaphors, symbols and visions. Her powerful artistic creativity is evident through her various interests – drawings, prints, aquarelles, pastels, temperas, oils and – verses. In the words of her mother Danica:

“Everything in Milena’s life is extraordinary – the beginning, the duration and the end”.



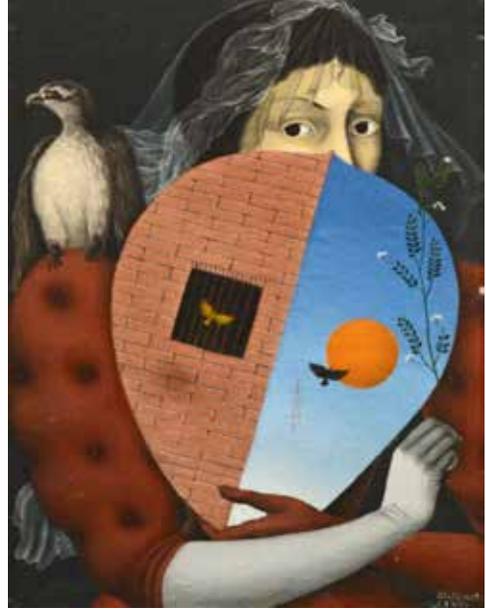
Milena Pavlovic Barilli was born in Pozarevac on November the 5th 1909 as the only child of Danica Pavlovic and Bruno Barilli. On her mother’s side, Milena was the descendant of Karadjordjević dynasty by Sava, the eldest daughter of Djordje Petrovic, the founder of Karadorđević dynasty, and on her father’s side, of the famous artistic family of Barilli from Parma.

Milena's parents gifted her not only with artistic talent, but also with extraordinary education and versatility.

Milena's short life was colored by her home town of Pozarevac, Belgrade, Munich, Rome, Paris and, finally, New York.

As an exceptional talent, she was educated in the Belgrade School of Art by Beta Vukanovic, and then went on to prepare for the Munich Academy in the private art school Blocherer Schule. Her teachers in the Munich Academy were Hugo von Habermann and Franz von Stuck. In her first period Milena relied on the academism of the Munich school reflected in the skilled precision and a poetic idea of feelings. The subjects of her paintings are portraits of family members, close friends and movie stars like Rudolf Valentino. Her "Self-portrait" from 1929 belongs to this period.





The road took her to Spain first in 1931, and then to London where she held a solo exhibition in the Bloomsbury Gallery. From London she went to Paris, the European intellectual and artistic center of the day where she lived until 1939. This period is characterized by the introduction of symbols and topics which she would be attracted to permanently. The line becomes the dominant element of her paintings combined with delicate, sophisticated color tones. She was inspired by Giorgio de Chirico. Jean Cassou entered her creative life at the time and wrote a critique of her Paris exhibition. Among other things, he wrote of her: **“Milena possesses the keys to the dreams of painting.”**

Milena’s versatile artistic spirit did not stay still and was not fulfilled only by painting. She wrote poetry and started publishing it in magazines (“Quadrivio”), always accompanied by illustrations and drawings. Besides Serbian, Milena wrote poetry in Italian, Spanish and French.



After Rome, she held exhibitions in Florence and Venice. There is a change in her painting, under the influence of the Old Masters, the line faded and the color took over its role. This was the period that saw the creation of her works “Self-portrait with an archer”, “A girl with a lamp” and “Venus with a lamp”.

On the feast day of St. Nicolas in 1936 she visited her mother in Požarevac and that was her last stay in her homeland.

In the next two years she held solo exhibitions in the most famous galleries in Rome and Paris. As a part of the new generation of artists she set the artistic tone in the capital of the European and world art – Paris.

She did not forget her roots and her childhood – together with Yugoslav artists of the time she held collective exhibitions in Paris and The Hague.



In the wake of the Second World War, which would shake Europe to its foundations, in the summer of 1939, Milena boarded a ship and sailed to America, to see the surrealists at the Great World Fair in New York. In the first months there, she was troubled by the lack of funds, her nostalgia for Europe, home town of Požarevac and her mother. To make a living, she started doing illustrations for the popular fashion magazines like “The Vogue”, “Glamour”, “Harper’s Bazaar”, “Charm”. The illustrations are exquisite and radiate the spirit of her art. She also did artistic design for “Revlon” cosmetics. She became a very sought-after artistic designer, as her friend Rosamund Frost, the art historian, testified. On invitation from the composer Gian Carlo Menotti she tried her hand at scenography – she designed the costumes for the ballet “Sebastian”.





IMAGE

*Under my eyelids
You are a moon in the garden
You are brume on the river
You are the only one wrapped in a dream
In the echo of childhood
And in the crying.
You are a wave that tops everything
Searching for stars
In the silence of the sky.*



Milena's Home Foundation
Milena Pavlovic Barilli Gallery
Dr Voje Dulica Street 14, +381 12 524 173
fondacijampb@gmail.rs
barilli.marketing@gmail.com
www.fondacijamilenindom.com



Tourist organization of the City of Pozarevac
TOURIST INFORMATION CENTRE
Mose Pijade Street 1, Pozarevac
Phone: +381 12 544-155, +381 12 544-156
www.togp.rs / e-mail: office@togp.rs
facebook: Turisticka organizacija Grada Pozarevca
twitter: twitter.com/visitpozarevac

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