

Stefan Lefterov was a science fiction artist who has been highly appreciated in Bulgaria and abroad. Some of his awards include:

» 1971 - "Time, Space, Person" competition, organized by the Soviet magazine "Tehnika-Molodeji"

» 1985 and 1986r. - second and third place at the graphics competition of the American amateur guide "Fandom Directory"

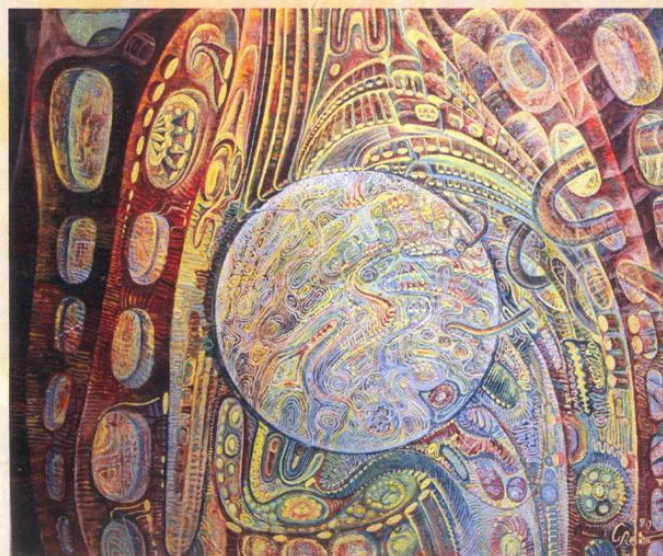
» 1985 - an honorary diploma for painting by the junior EXPO'85 in Plovdiv

» 1988 - "Eurocon" award for contribution to the development of science fiction art.

Stefan Lefterov was one of the most active creators of the science fiction movement. He was a Polish and English language consultant for publishing house "Galaktika". In 1976 he established and became a leader of Varna science fiction, prognostics and heuristics club "Andromeda". He wrote a science fiction short story and many articles which were published in various magazines and science fiction catalogues. As recognition of his work, TU-Varna, some observatories, schools, libraries and science fiction clubs round the country have exhibited his pictures. Another high appreciation of his works comes from Luben Dilov, saying: "That is why I am begging you never to abandon your paintbrush..." as well as Arthur Kordon in his words: "I am not going to comment on his paintings as a science fiction artist because they are more powerful than any words. I appreciate more highly his mission of an intellectual torch which lit the fire of love towards science fiction in the hearts of many students in Varna... And we, his friends, who were incredibly fortunate to have had contact with his talent and ardour are highly grateful for the bridge he built to the future, as Stefan Lefterov had the unique gift to "draw" time ahead and although in 1992 he died too young, he was a man of the 21st century."

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TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY
VARNA

3 - 10 November 2010

EXHIBITION

"Magic and Fantasy"

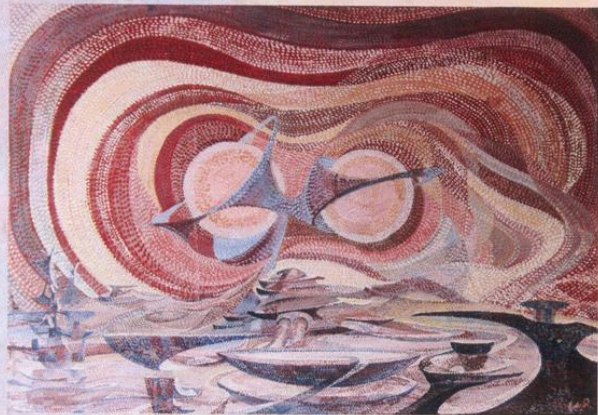
MEMORIAM

Stefan Lefterov



65 years of the birth of our
colleague, mathematician and
science fiction artist

THE COLOURFUL DIVERSITY OF AN ARTIST'S PALETTE IS A REPRESENTATION OF THE DISAPPEARED COSMIC CHAOS. MANY OF THE CONTEMPORARY ARTISTS' WORKS ARE JUST COLOURFUL PALETTES, BUT SCIENCE FICTION STRIVES FOR HARMONY AND THUS IT REQUIRES MORE STRICT GEOMETRIC FORMS. VISIONS FOR THE FUTURE HAVE TO BE MORE CONVINCING AND IMPROVISATIONS ON THE WHITE CANVAS ARE NOT SUFFICIENT.



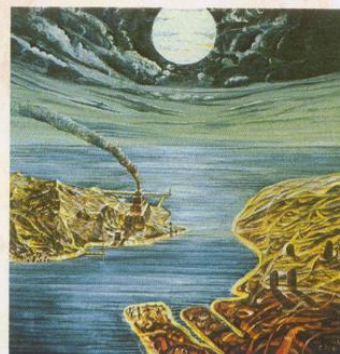
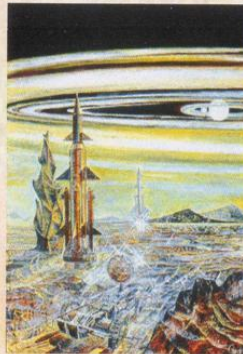
IMPROVISATION IS AN INITIAL OUTBURST, A PRODUCT OF THE UNCONSCIOUS, IT EXCITES THE SENSES BUT AFTERWARDS THE CONSCIOUS AND THE INTELLECT HAVE TO PLAY THEIR ROLE. THE CONSCIOUS MOVEMENTS OF THE BRUSH GIVE BIRTH TO THE CONSTITUENT PARTS OF THE ARTIST'S WORLD. EACH PICTURE IS A SEPARATE UNIVERSE HAVING A DIFFERENT LEVEL OF ORGANIZATION OF ITS DYNAMICS DETERMINING THE STYLE OF THE ARTIST WHICH HAS TO BE A COMBINATION OF BOTH HIS SPIRITUAL STATUS AND TECHNICAL CAPACITY ALTHOUGH IT IS NOT ALWAYS THE CASE. VACILLATIONS IN STYLE REPRESENT THE TORMENT OF THE PERSONALITY, VACILLATIONS WHICH ARE MEASURED IN YEARS, MONTHS BUT SOMETIMES ONLY IN MINUTES.

THE LONG HOURS OF CREATING A PICTURE GIVE THE IMPRESSION OF THE ARTIST AS A VERY PATIENT PERSON, BUT ACTUALLY WHEN PAINTING ONE IS OUT OF TIME. AT LEAST FOR ME, LEAVING THE BRUSH IS LIKE WAKING UP, LIKE COMING BACK TO REALITY, JUST LIKE WHEN WE WAKE UP WE CAN'T TELL HOW LONG WE HAVE DREAMT. MATHEMATICS FOR ME IS MEANS OF ACHIEVING INNER HARMONY. AFTER THE PAINTING OF THE RACING COLOURS, THE EVEN BREATHING OF THE MATHEMATICAL FORMULAE IS A USEFUL CHANGE OF THE RHYTHM, USEFUL BUT ACTUALLY OFTEN SLOW AND PAINFUL. THERE ARE PERIODS OF TIME WHEN I FORGET I HAVE EVER PAINTED BUT THERE ARE ALSO SUCH PERIODS WHEN I FORGET I AM A MATHEMATICIAN.

Stefan Leterov

Biography

Stefan Leterov was born on 21.10.1945 in the village of Dragijevo, Veliko Tournovo region. He graduated The Professional Woodworking High School "Nikola Haitov"-Varna. He studied for two years at Technical University-Varna but because of his interest in physics and mathematics in 1966 he moved to the Faculty of Physics at Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski". He graduated as a physicist with a second specialty in mathematics and worked for four years as a teacher at the high school in the town of Dulgopol. In 1974 he started working at the Department of Mathematics of Technical University-Varna.



His scientific interests were related to the problems of nonlinear differential equations as well as solving problems in the field of mathematical biology. He specialized for four months at Moscow State University and after his coming back he started his PhD studies and had a number of publications in the field of his scientific interests. He died on 26.04.1992 in Varna.

Work

Stefan Leterov's professionalism in the field of mathematics went hand in hand with his career of artist of abstract and science-fiction paintings. He started being interested in science fiction as a student and started painting pictures of various imaginative spaces representing the symbolism of the moving Universe and reproducing modern models of order and chaos

In 1965 some of his pictures were published in the Soviet magazine "Tehnika Molodeji" and the Bulgarian magazines "Nauka i Tehnika" and "Kosmos". In the same year he made a solo exhibition in Varna which was recognized as the first science fiction art exhibition in Bulgaria. He is author of more than 400 paintings and had 7 solo art shows. In 1970 his painting "Transport of the Future" was shown at a symposium in Tokyo, Japan and was chosen as a background of the Japanese television reports on EXPO'70. His last exhibition was in 1991 in Antalya, Turkey as part of the cinema festival "Golden Orange". Many of his paintings are now in private collections in England, Germany and Belgium.

