

22. 11. 2024–  
20. 1. 2025

nagrada Piranesi  
Piranesi Award  
35 let/years  
1989–2024

# Bogdan Bogdanović

# Nekropole Necropolis

Fotografije/  
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Galerija Herman Pečarič,  
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november 2024

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family Džunić, Inappropriate Monuments, Arhiva modernizma,  
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# Bogdan Bogdanović: Nekropole/ Necropolis

Nagrado Piranesi, ki jo je leta 1989 prejel Bogdan Bogdanović (desno) in leta 1990 Vojteh Ravnikar (levo), je po vzoru Bogdanovičevega spomenika v Vukovarju zasnoval Branko Siladin.  
Piranesi Award presented to Bogdan Bogdanović (right) in 1989 and to Vojteh Ravnikar (left) in 1990, was designed by Branko Siladin, inspired by Bogdanović's monument in Vukovar.  
foto/photo Damjan Gale



Ugledni beograjski arhitekt Bogdan Bogdanović je leta 1989 prejel prvo nagrado Piranesi za spominski park Dudik v Vukovarju, katerega gradnja je bila končana devet let pred ustanovitvijo nagrade. Razstava obeležuje 35. obletnico prve podelitev nagrade Piranesi in nas spominja na Bogdanovičev opus, na spomenike, ki sodijo v svetovnem merilu med najbolj znana dela jugoslovanske arhitekture. Njihovo pomembnost je mogoče pripisati njihovi lepoti in raznolosti, ki izhajata iz obrte spretnosti, erudicije in vsestranskoj njihovega avtorja, in četudi imata pri na novo odkritem zanimanju zanje vidno vlogo tudi njegovo politično ozadje in izgnanstvo pozno v življenju, so številni od teh spomenikov prepoznavni kot arhitekturni in kiparski biseri, popolnoma ločeni od svojih komemorativnih in didaktičnih namenov. Toda sam Bogdanović jih je pogosto imenoval nekropole, mesta mrtvih, zlasti ko je šlo za spomenike, ki so bili zgrajeni v že obstoječih urbanih okoljih. Mojstrsko je načrtoval umestitev in ozelenitev teh nekropol, postavil jih je nasproti urbanemu tkivu mest in tako ustvaril impozanten dialog. Tudi v kontekstu današnje namerne pozabe tako Bogdanovičeve nekropole zagotavljajo prostor mirne samote v razkošnem zelenju in delujejo kot opomin na ceno, plačano za ta mir – z znanimji iz betona, kamna in lesa, ki se dvigajo iznad travnikov, gozdov in voda.

Razstavljeni gradivo ni bilo nikoli javno predstavljeno, saj gre za material, ki je bodisi pospremil Bogdanovića v izgnanstvo ali pa je ostal skrbno shranjen v beograjskem družinskem stanovanju, prekrit s patino časa. Jedro razstave sestavljajo Bogdanovičeve fotografije – bil je navdušen amaterski fotograf; posnetki prikazujejo njegove spomenike z bolj intimne in samoraziskovalne perspektive, z otplijivim, srhljivim vzdružjem napetosti.

Gradivo je Bogdanović pogosto uporabljal za svoja predavanja.

Tu so tudi načrti za spomenike, ki so bili predloženi lokalnim upravam, fotografiji kamnosekov Džunić iz Temske, s katerimi je Bogdanović dolga leta sodeloval, ter sodobne fotografije najdišč, ki sta jih posredovala moja kolega Vladimir Kulić in Andrew Lawler.

Vse to gradivo je zaradi neutrudnega dela številnih raziskovalcev in ob podpori pokojne žene Bogdana Bogdanovića, profesorce Ksenije Anastasijević, še le pred kratkim ponovno prišlo na površje in tako postalno na voljo za razstavo.

Jelica Jovanović

In 1989, the first Piranesi Award was awarded to prominent Belgrade-based architect Bogdan Bogdanović for the Memorial Park Dudik in Vukovar, whose construction was finished nine years prior to the Award's establishment. This exhibition marks the 35th anniversary of the Piranesi Award and reminds us of Bogdanović's oeuvre, namely the memorials, which are globally among the most famous works of Yugoslav architecture. Their prominence can be attributed to their beauty and variety, which stem from the craft, erudition, and versatility of their author. His political background and his misfortune late in his life have also played a part in this newly found interest, but many of the memorials often come to be recognized as the architectural and sculptural gems, completely divorced from their commemorative and didactic purposes. However, Bogdanović himself often referred to them as necropoleis, the cities of the dead, especially when it came to the memorials which had been built within the already existing urban environments. Bogdanović masterfully planned the placement and the landscaping of these necropoleis, juxtaposing them against the urban tissue of the towns and thus creating – even imposing – a dialogue. Even within the context of the present day's wilful oblivion, Bogdanović's necropoleis provide a place of peaceful seclusion within the lavish greenery and act as a reminder of the price having been paid for such peace with the omens made of concrete, stone, and timber emerging from the meadows, forests, and bodies of water.

The exhibited material has never been presented in public as these are materials which either accompanied Bogdanović into his exile(s), or remained carefully stored away in the family's Belgrade apartment, covered with the patina of time. The core of the exhibition features photographs made by Bogdanović himself, who was an avid amateur photographer. These showcase his monuments from a more intimate and self-exploratory perspective with the palpable, eerie atmosphere of suspense.

These were the materials which Bogdanović often used for his lectures, or the inconspicuous official plans and designs for the memorials, which were submitted to the local administrations.

There are also photographs of the stonemason Džunić's crew from Temska, with whom he Bogdanović collaborated for many years, and the contemporary photographs of the sites produced by my colleagues Vladimir Kulić and Andrew Lawler. It was only recently, owing to the tireless work of many researchers and the support of Bogdan Bogdanović's late wife, professor Ksenija Anastasijević, that these materials have resurfaced and have therefore become available to be exhibited.

Jelica Jovanović

