



Michael Milkovich

After his graduate studies at the University of Zagreb, Croatia; the University of Madrid, Spain; and the University of Heidelberg, Germany, Mr. Milkovich completed his studies at Case Western Reserve in Cleveland, Ohio.

Mr. Milkovich's museum career started at Worcester Art Museum, Worcester, Massachusetts, in 1960. Before joining the Museum of Fine Arts, St. Petersburg, Florida, in 1982, he was associated with the Corning Museum of Glass in New York and the Brooks Museum of Art, Memphis, Tennessee. He was also founding director of the University Art Gallery, State University of New York, Binghamton and the Dixon Gallery and Gardens, Memphis.

Mr. Milkovich produced numerous publications and exhibitions and was the recipient of several prestigious awards, including the French Government award L'Ordre de Chevalier des Arts et des Letters (1989). In 2002, the Museum Association of Directors honored him with the Lifetime Achievements Award for his exemplary service to the museum profession. He retired at the end of 2001 as the Director Emeritus of the Museum of Fine Arts, St. Petersburg, Florida.

Judge's Statement

When I was invited to judge the Miniature Art Society of Florida's exhibition, I felt honored and excited. Sixteen years ago, as Director of the Museum of Fine Arts, St. Petersburg, Florida, I collaborated with the Society's Board to host its Fifteenth Annual Show. That was the first of the MASF Shows to be held in an art museum. Memories of this exciting event were closely associated with my friend Charles W. Curtis, a founder and benefactor of this worthy organization.

The excitement comes from my interest in miniature painting, which goes back to my university years when I studied Julius Klovic (Julio Clovio), a Croatian miniaturist who lived in the sixteenth century and was a contemporary and friend of Michelangelo and El Greco.

The judging of this show was a joy. The outstanding quality of submitted works provided a challenge to pick out the prize-winning entries. The newcomers with a high degree of sensibility and talent joined their well-established colleagues in presenting to the public a coherent and high quality exhibition.

It is my sincere hope that the visitors will enjoy this remarkable exhibition as much as I did.