

## Professional Biography

I was born in Budapest. From 1980 to 1984 I studied at Juhász Gyula Teacher Training College, on Geography – Arts Faculty.

During my years at college – as well as earlier – I regularly attended the Szőnyi István Free Arts School's painting camps in Zebegény.

After graduating as a teacher, I worked at the New Department of Hungarian National Gallery, then I was accepted to the Hungarian College of Fine Arts (now: Hungarian University of Fine Arts) in 1985. I started my studies as a painter – restorer.

During the university years I went on professional practice to the Hungarian National Gallery again, and I also contributed in restoring the Károly Lotz frescos in Posta Museum.

I graduated in 1991 (diploma number 1-08/1985), and I have been a member of the Association of Hungarian Artists since its establishment (registration number F1-130).



For the Siófok-Kiliti Roman Catholic Church  
Artwork: painting, main altar-piece  
Title: Saint Kilit Pope's Apotheosis

From 1992 I worked at the Restorer Department of the Hungarian Museum of Fine Arts, working with the materials of both the Old and the Modern Picture Halls.

The most outstanding paintings, which I worked on, are the paintings of Bartolomeo Litterini, Guido Reni, the big sized canvases of Pedro Orrente, and also the Holland masters', panel paintings, like Jan Olis, David Ryaert, Christian van Couwenberg and Aert van der Neer. My further works for exhibition were Zimmermann's double copper plate painting, a Hamilton landscape and Jacques Courtois' two cavalry battle scenes.

As an extra assignment, I restored the portraits of *Ilona Zrínyi* and *Péter Pázmány* for the Historic Portrait Hall of the Hungarian Museum of History.

A similar assignment was the restoration of *Gróf Antal Károlyi's* portrait for the Petőfi Museum of Literature, and also some paintings of Soma Orlai Petrich, Géza Mészöly, István Réti, and others.

Working with the National Office for the Protection of Historic Monuments I restored big sized altar-pieces, like the *Saint Elisabeth* main altar-piece (Zsámbok), the *Saint Kilit Pope's Apotheosis* main altar-piece (Siófok-Kiliti), the *Birth of Maria* main



Museum of Fine Arts, Budapest  
Master: Pedro de Orrente  
Title: Christ in Emmaus

altar-piece (Zamárdi), the *Maria's Ascension* main altar-piece (Gyugy), and for the Alsóbogát Mayor's Office, the *Saint Anthony of Padua* main altar-piece by Miklós Barabás (1852).



Alsóbogát, Saint Anthony of Padua, main altar-piece  
Master: Miklós Barabás  
Title: Saint Anthony of Padua



Museum of Fine Arts, Budapest  
Master: Barnuevo, Sebastian de Herrera  
Title: Charles II childhood portrait

I took part in the fresco renovation works of Rózsák Tere Church in Budapest (pulpit), where I restored Ignác Roskovic's altar-piece, titled "*Christ on the Crucifix*".

Then, I worked on oil paintings for the Kunffy Lajos Memory Museum's Collection, and the Memory Museum of Somogytúr.

Besides all these, I renovated several (often big sized) canvases, boards and ornamented frames for different galleries and private individuals. The most significant of these works were the restoration of the complete inheritance of Józsa Járity and Mihály Schéner, and several works of László Kontraszty.

As for my fresco works, I restored completely the Dorffmaister frescos in the 10 metres high sanctuary of the Roman Catholic Church in Mesztegyő with Gábor Lehrbaum. After that, I did preservation work on the Baroque Monastery's Library Halls in Zalaapát, and checked the walls of the Véssey Palace in Somogyzsitfa.

In the present, I work as a restorer in the Hungarian Museum of Fine Arts.

**Csala, Ildikó**

painter – restorer artist