

Ivan Picelj

i Arhiv Tošo Dabac

Atelijer Toše Dabca bio je od početka pedesetih godina prošloga stoljeća, s kulminacijom u šezdesetima, kulno sastajalište zagrebačkih umjetnika i intelektualaca okupljenih oko grupe EXAT 51, zagrebačkog Muzičkog biennala, Novih tendencija i Zagrebačkoga velesajma. Konglomerat umjetničkih i intelektualnih osobnosti i ideja preklopio se na jednom mjestu, u zagrebačkom fotografskom atelijeru koji je nerijetko, prema svjedočenju suvremenika, bio propulzivno vrelo ideja po kojima je hrvatska umjetnost tih godina ostavila važan trag u svjetskim razmjerima. Radni sati tu su se gotovo u pravilu izmjenjivali s „neradnima“, s vremenom spontanog druženja u svojevrsnom, neformalnom „kulturnom klubu“ u Ilici 17.

Dabčev objektiv bilježio je i te trenutke. U nevelikom prostoru fotostudija upriličeno je nekoliko jazz koncerata, s Boškom Petrovićem ondje je svirao i glasoviti Art Farmer, u domaćem su se ozračju dočekivale Nove godine... Uz rad, vjerojatno najviše zahvaljujući zabavljačkom duhu i karizmi samoga domaćina, uvijek se pronašlo vremena i za opuštanje i zabavu.

Nezaobilazno pitanje pred nizom Dabčevih dokumentarnih snimki Ivana Picelja jest: kad je počelo prijateljstvo, odnosno u kojem se trenutku striktno poslovni kontakt pretvorio u nešto više?

Tošo Dabac poslovnim je angažmanom fotografirao između ostalih umjetnina koje su izlagane u tadašnjoj Gradskoj galeriji suvremene umjetnosti (današnjem Muzeju) i djela Ivana Picelja. Negativne i probna povećanja vezana s Ivanom Piceljom Dabac je, u vlastoručnim zapisima (tzv. „Tekicama“), isprva bilježio vrlo formalno, imenom i prezimenom navodeći: „Ivan Picelj“. Poslije ti zapisi dobivaju skraćenu, prisniju intonaciju, poput „Jean Picelj“ ili samo „Picelj“ i nadalje prema motivima: „Nürnberg“ ili „Picelj, portret“.

Suradnja dvojice umjetnika počela je pedesetih godina prošloga stoljeća a vjerojatno bi trajala i danas da su oba umjetnika s nama. Bliska se umjetnička suradnja atelijera Dabac i Ivana Picelja nastavila i nakon Dabčeve smrti (1970.). Upravo na inicijativu Petra Dabca, Ivana Picelja i nekolicine ljubitelja fotografije (Mladen Tudor, Albert Goldstein, Slobodan Tadić i Nenad Popović) u Arhivu je početkom osamdesetih osnovana galerija u kojoj se sljedećih godina priređuje više od četrdeset izložbi i radionica domaćih i međunarodnih umjetnika fotografije. Naposljetku, Ivanu Picelju dugujemo i preimenovanje tadašnjeg atelijera u Arhiv Tošo Dabac.

Godine 1992. s Petrom Dabcem i Peterom Knappom je surađivao na Dabčevoj retrospektivnoj izložbi u Parizu, vizualno je oblikovao i bio jedan od urednika publikacije „Zagreb tridesetih“ koja je objavljena tim povodom.

Grad Zagreb je 2006. otkupio Arhiv Tošo Dabac te je od tada zbirka pod vodstvom Muzeja suvremene umjetnosti. U Arhivu TD čuvaju se negativni i probna povećanja Piceljevih radova s temama Picelj i EXAT 51, a postoje i brojne snimke s Piceljom, privatne provenijencije. U stručnoj obradi toga iznimno velikog opusa često smo se konzultirali s Ivanom Piceljom i tražili pomoć u identifikaciji ili datiranju fotografija, koje smo uz lapidarne opise, nerijetko i bez naznaka datacija, baštinili od Dabca.

Marina Benažić
rujan, 2014.

¹„Tekice“- naziv za petnaest bilježnica s originalnim Dabčevim popisom negativa koje je Tošo Dabac vodio kao poslovnu evidenciju, prema brojnim negativima, uz lapidarne zapise o snimljenom.

Ivan Picelj and The Tošo Dabac Archives

by Marina Benažić

Starting from the early 1950s and culminating in the 1960s, Tošo Dabac's studio figured as a cult meeting point of artists and intellectuals associated with the Group EXAT 51, Zagreb Music Biennial, New Tendencies and Zagreb Fair. This was a conglomerate of artistic and intellectual personalities and ideas that synthesized at a single spot, inside the studio based in Zagreb, which, according to many contemporaries, functioned as a propulsive source of ideas that have left a mark on both Croatian and international art. As a rule, the studio's working hours overlapped with the 'free time', or the time dedicated to spontaneous get-togethers organized in a kind of informal 'culture club' at 17 Ilica Street.

Dabac's lens recorded all those moments. In a rather small photo studio several jazz concerts were organized where the renowned artist Art Farmer played together with Boško Petrović and where a number of New Year's Eve celebrations took place in a domestic atmosphere... Apart from work, and probably owing to the host's jovial spirit and charisma, there was always enough time for relaxation and fun.

When confronted with a series of Dabac's documentary photographs of Ivan Picelj, one simply has to raise an inevitable question: when did this friendship begin or what was the moment when their strictly professional contact evolved into something much more?

Among the works of art exhibited at the former City Gallery of Contemporary Art (today's Museum of Contemporary Art) that Tošo Dabac photographed through his professional engagement many belonged to Ivan Picelj. At first, Dabac personally signed the negatives and photo enlargements related to Ivan Picelj (the so-called *Little Notebooks*) very formally, stating the first and last name of the artist: *Ivan Picelj*. Later on his signatures evolved into an abbreviated and a more personal form such as *Jean Picelj* or simply *Picelj* to subsequently reflect various motifs: *Nürnberg* or *Picelj, a Portrait*.

The collaboration of the two artists started in the 1950s and it would most probably continue to this today if both artists were still with us. This close collaboration between the Dabac's studio and Ivan Picelj continued long after the death of Tošo Dabac in 1970.

It was on the very initiative of Petar Dabac, Ivan Picelj and a group of photography enthusiasts (Mladen Tudor, Albert Goldstein, Slobodan Tadić and Nenad Popović) that the Archives founded a gallery in the early 1980s which has hosted more than forty exhibitions and workshops by Croatian and international artists. Finally, it is Ivan Picelj to whom we owe the new name for the former studio, i.e. the Tošo Dabac Archives. Together with Petar Dabac and Peter Knapp, Ivan Picelj worked on the retrospective exhibition of Tošo Dabac's artworks organized in Paris in 1992. Picelj was in charge of visual design and figured as one of the editors of the publication titled Zagreb in the 1930s, which was published on the occasion.

In 2006, the City of Zagreb purchased the Tošo Dabac Archives ever since managed by the Museum of Contemporary Art. The Tošo Dabac Archives also preserves the negatives and photo enlargements of Picelj's works along with the EXAT 51 group's works, and there is also a collection of private photographs with Picelj. In the expert elaboration of this exceptionally large oeuvre we have frequently consulted Ivan Picelj asking for assistance in identifying or dating the photographs which we inherited from Tošo Dabac together with some brief descriptions, very often lacking any information about the exact date.

September 2014.

¹*Little Notebooks* – the title for 15 notebooks with the original list of negatives that Dabac kept for his professional records, according to the number on the negatives and with a brief description about what was photographed.



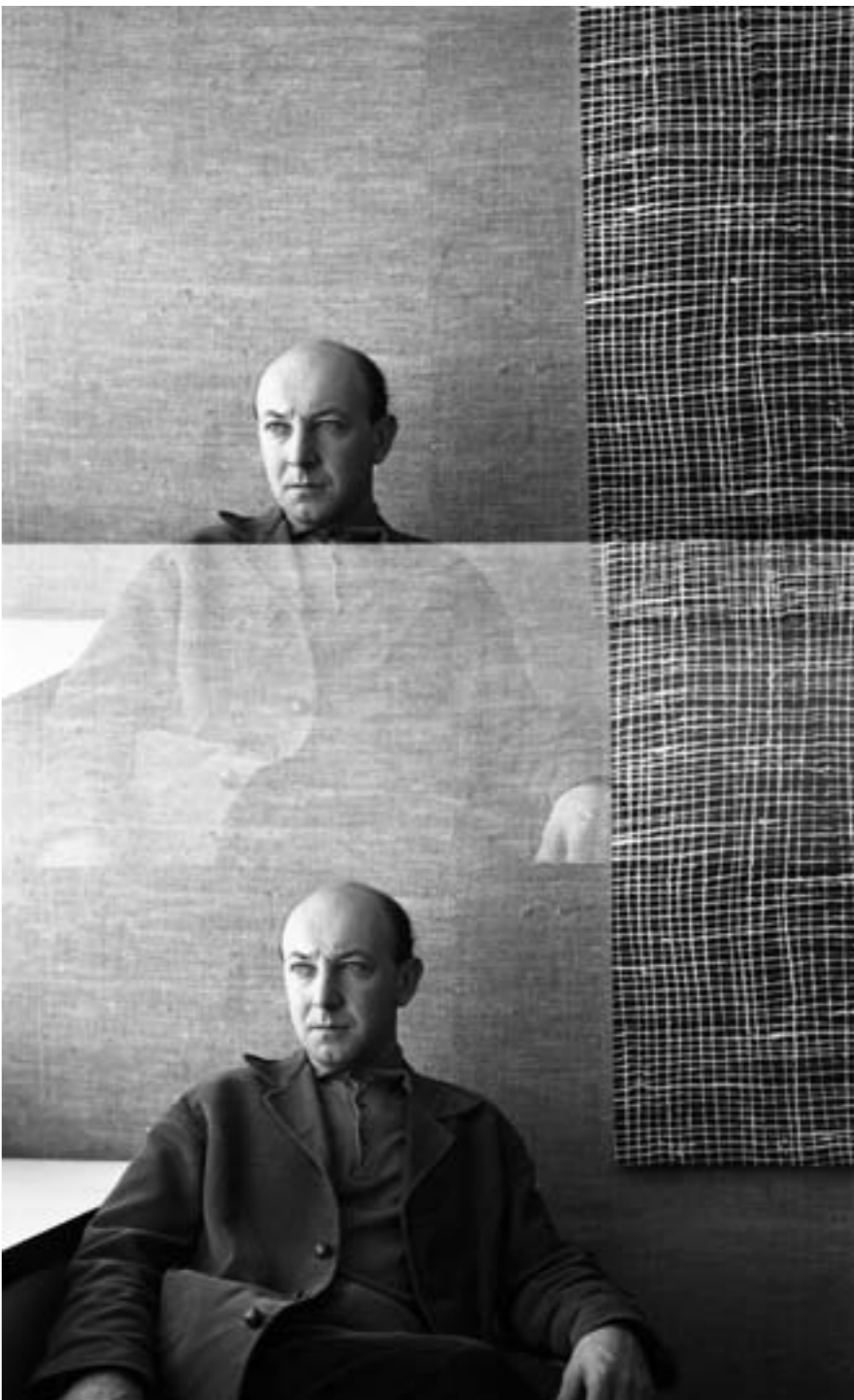
Ivan Picelj s radom *Passage d'enfer* za izložbu *Konstruktive Kunst: Elemente und Prinzipien*, Biennale Nürnberg Muzej za umjetnost i obrt, Zagreb, 1969. (snimio Tošo Dabac)

Ivan Picelj with His Work *Passage d'enfer* for the Exhibition *Konstruktive Kunst: Elemente und Prinzipien*, Biennale Nürnberg Museum of Arts and Crafts, Zagreb, 1969 photographed by Tošo Dabac



Enes Midžić, Ivan Picelj, Tošo Dabac i Mihajlo Arsovski pri postavljanju retrospektivne izložbe Toše Dabca Muzej za umjetnost i obrt, Zagreb, 1968. (snimio Petar Dabac)

Enes Midžić, Ivan Picelj, Tošo Dabac and Mihajlo Arsovski During the Set Up of the Tošo Dabac's Retrospective Exhibition Museum of Arts and Crafts, Zagreb, 1968 photographed by Petar Dabac



Portret Ivana Picelja Zagreb, 1962. (snimio Tošo Dabac)

A Portrait of Ivan Picelj Zagreb, 1962 photographed by Tošo Dabac

Digitalni ispis | Digital Prints

Tošo Dabac: Ivan Picelj na vlastitoj samostalnoj izložbi, MUO Ivan Picelj on His Solo Exhibition, MAC, Zagreb, 1962

30 x 30 cm | MSU-ATD 13467

Tošo Dabac: *Slikar i njegova izložba*, Ivan Picelj na vlastitoj samostalnoj izložbi, MUO | *The Painter and His Exhibition*, Ivan Picelj on His Solo Exhibition, MAC, Zagreb, 1962

34 x 30 cm | MSU-ATD 13468

Tošo Dabac: Ivan Picelj na retrospektivnoj izložbi

Toše Dabca, MUO | Ivan Picelj on the Tošo Dabac's Retrospective Exhibition, MAC, Zagreb, 1968

30 x 30 cm | MSU-ATD 13474

Tošo Dabac: Ivan Picelj na vlastitoj samostalnoj izložbi, MUO Ivan Picelj on His Solo Exhibition, MAC, Zagreb, 1962

60 x 60 cm | MSU-ATD 13486

Tošo Dabac: Portret Ivana Picelja | A Portrait of Ivan Picelj, Zagreb, 1962

100,3 x 62 cm | MSU-ATD 13487

Tošo Dabac: Ivan Picelj s radom *Passage d'enfer* | Ivan Picelj with His Work *Passage d'enfer*, Zagreb, 1969

30 x 30 cm | MSU-ATD 13485

Tošo Dabac: Ivan Picelj s radom *Passage d'enfer* | Ivan Picelj with His Work *Passage d'enfer*, Zagreb, 1969

30 x 30 cm | MSU-ATD 13484

Tošo Dabac: Ivan Picelj s radom *Passage d'enfer* | Ivan Picelj with His Work *Passage d'enfer*, Zagreb, 1969

30 x 30 cm | MSU-ATD 13483

Tošo Dabac: Ivan Picelj na retrospektivnoj izložbi

Toše Dabca, MUO | Ivan Picelj on the Tošo Dabac's Retrospective Exhibition, MAC, Zagreb, 1968

60 x 60 cm | MSU-ATD 13479

Tošo Dabac: Ivan Picelj na retrospektivnoj zložbi

Toše Dabca, MUO | Ivan Picelj on the Tošo Dabac's Retrospective Exhibition, MAC, Zagreb, 1968

30 x 30 cm | MSU-ATD 13482

Tošo Dabac: Ivan Picelj na retrospektivnoj zložbi

Toše Dabca, MUO | Ivan Picelj on the Tošo Dabac's Retrospective Exhibition, MAC, Zagreb, 1968

30 x 30 cm | MSU-ATD 13481

Tošo Dabac: Ivan Picelj na retrospektivnoj zložbi

Toše Dabca, MUO | Ivan Picelj on the Tošo Dabac's Retrospective Exhibition, MAC, Zagreb, 1968

30 x 30 cm | MSU-ATD 13480

Petar Dabac: Enes Midžić, Ivan Picelj, Tošo Dabac i Mihajlo Arsovski pri postavljanju retrospektivne izložbe Toše

Dabca, MUO | Enes Midžić, Ivan Picelj, Tošo Dabac and

Mihajlo Arsovski During the Set Up of the Tošo Dabac's Retrospective Exhibition, MAC, Zagreb, 1968

50 x 50 cm | MSU-ATD 13475

Tošo Dabac: Ivan Picelj i Enes Midžić pri postavljanju retrospektivne izložbe Toše Dabca, MUO | Ivan Picelj and Enes Midžić During the Set Up of the Tošo Dabac's Retrospective Exhibition, MAC, Zagreb, 1968

40 x 40 cm | MSU-ATD 13472

Petar Dabac: Na otvorenju retrospektivne izložbe Toše

Dabca, MUO | At the Opening of the Tošo Dabac's Retrospective Exhibition, MAC, Zagreb, 1968

40 x 40 cm | MSU-ATD 13471

Tošo Dabac: Ivan Picelj na retrospektivnoj izložbi

Toše Dabca, MUO | Ivan Picelj on the Tošo Dabac's Retrospective Exhibition, MAC, Zagreb, 1968

50 x 50 cm | MSU-ATD 13470

Marija Braut: Ivan Picelj i Tošo Dabac u domu Bože Becka Ivan Picelj and Tošo Dabac at Božo Beck's Home, Zagreb, 1968.

40 x 40 cm | MSU-ATD 13478

Petar Dabac: Mihajlo Arsovski, Ivan Picelj i Tošo Dabac na retrospektivnoj izložbi Toše Dabca; MUO | Mihajlo Arsovski, Ivan Picelj and Tošo Dabac on the Tošo Dabac's Retrospective Exhibition, MAC, Zagreb, 1968

50 x 50 cm | MSU-ATD 13473

Tošo Dabac: Domjenak na otvorenju izložbe Toše Dabca, MUO | The Tošo Dabac Exhibition Opening Party, MAC, Zagreb, 1968

50 x 50 cm | MSU-ATD 13477

Petar Dabac: Domjenak na otvorenju izložbe Toše Dabca, MUO | The Tošo Dabac Exhibition Opening Party, MAC, Zagreb, 1968

40 x 40 cm | MSU-ATD 13469

Petar Dabac: Domjenak na otvorenju izložbe Toše Dabca, MUO | The Tošo Dabac Exhibition Opening Party, MAC, Zagreb, 1968

40 x 40 cm | MSU-ATD 13476

Tošo Dabac: Ivan Picelj na vlastitoj samostalnoj izložbi, MUO

Ivan Picelj on His Solo Exhibition, MAC, Zagreb, 1962

65,5 x 50 cm | MSU-ATD 13491

Tošo Dabac: Ivan Picelj s radom *Passage d'enfer* | Ivan Picelj with His Work *Passage d'enfer*, Zagreb, 1969

65,5 x 50 cm | MSU-ATD 13493

Tošo Dabac: Ivan Picelj na vlastitoj samostalnoj izložbi, MUO Ivan Picelj on His Solo Exhibition, MAC, Zagreb, 1962

65,5 x 50 cm | MSU-ATD 13489

Tošo Dabac: Otvorenje Vasarelyjeve izložbe, GSU

The Opening of Vasarely's Exhibition, The Gallery of Contemporary Art, Zagreb, 1968

65,5 x 50 cm | MSU-ATD 13488

Tošo Dabac: Na predavanju Victora Vasarelyja, KIC | At Victor Vasarely's Lecture, The Information and Cultural Centre, Zagreb, 1968

65,5 x 50 cm | MSU-ATD 13490

Tošo Dabac: Typoezija, Tendencije 4, Galerija SC Typoetry, Tendencies 4, The Student Centre Gallery, Zagreb, 1969

65,5 x 50 cm | MSU-ATD 13492

Petar Dabac: Mihajlo Arsovski, Ivan Picelj, Božo Beck, Zagreb, 3. III. 1972. | Mihajlo Arsovski, Ivan Picelj, Božo Beck, Zagreb, March 3rd 1972

Vlasnik: Petar Dabac | Owned by Petar Dabac

30,3 x 20,3 cm

Petar Dabac: Ivan Picelj, MUO, IV. 1969. | Ivan Picelj, MAC, April 1969

Vlasnik: Petar Dabac | Owned by Petar Dabac

30,3 x 20,3 cm

Petar Dabac: Ivan Picelj i Aleksandar Srnec u stanu A.

Srneca, 18.II. 2004. | Ivan Picelj and Aleksandar Srnec at Aleksandar Srnec's Apartment, February 18th 2004

Vlasnik: Petar Dabac | Owned by Petar Dabac

30 x 44,3 cm

Petar Dabac: Ivan Picelj pored makete mozaika za *Bijelu cestu*, Labin, 7.IV. 2010. | Picelj next to the Mosaic for the *White Road*, Labin, April 7th 2010

Vlasnik: Petar Dabac | Owned by Petar Dabac

30,5 x 40,3 cm

Autorska povećanja iz vremena nastanka |

Vintage Prints

Petar Dabac: Na dočeku Nove godine u atelijeru Toše Dabca | The New Year's Eve at Tošo Dabac's Studio, Zagreb, 1968

18 x 24 cm | MSU-ATD 13461

Petar Dabac: Na dočeku Nove godine u atelijeru Toše Dabca | The New Year's Eve at Tošo Dabac's Studio, Zagreb, 1968

24 x 18,1 cm | MSU-ATD 13462

Petar Dabac: Na dočeku Nove godine u atelijeru Toše Dabca | The New Year's Eve at Tošo Dabac's Studio, Zagreb, 1968

18 x 19 cm | MSU-ATD 13463

Petar Dabac: Na dočeku Nove godine u atelijeru Toše Dabca | The New Year's Eve at Tošo Dabac's Studio, Zagreb, 1968

11,1 x 13 cm | MSU-ATD 13464

Dražen Kalenić: Peter Knapp, Ivan Picelj i Petar Dabac u Arhivu Tošo Dabac | Peter Knapp, Ivan Picelj and Petar Dabac at The Tošo Dabac Archives, 1981

17,7 x 23,9cm | MSU-ATD 13460



Ivan Picelj na vlastitoj samostalnoj izložbi *Slike, reljefi, plakati, grafičko oblikovanje* Muzej za umjetnost i obrt, Zagreb, 1962. (snimio Tošo Dabac)

Ivan Picelj on His Solo Exhibition *Paintings, Reliefs, Posters, Graphic Design* Museum of Arts and Crafts, 1962 photographed by Tošo Dabac

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Mihajlo Arsovski, Ivan Picelj i Tošo Dabac na retrospektivnoj izložbi Toše Dabca Muzej za umjetnost i obrt, Zagreb, 1968. (snimio Petar Dabac)

Mihajlo Arsovski, Ivan Picelj and Tošo Dabac on the Tošo Dabac's Retrospective Exhibition Museum of Arts and Crafts, Zagreb, 1968 photographed by Petar Dabac

NA OVITKU | ON THE JACKET

Ivan Picelj na retrospektivnoj izložbi Toše Dabca Muzej za umjetnost i obrt, Zagreb, 1968. (snimio Tošo Dabac)

Ivan Picelj on the Tošo Dabac's Retrospective Exhibition Museum of Arts and Crafts, Zagreb, 1968 photographed by Petar Dabac



Ivan Picelj

iz Arhiva Toše Dabca

from The Tošo Dabac Archives