

Пётр Явіч : ілюстраваны альбом жывапісных твораў / склад. В. Рыбакоў, М. Рызо ; аўт. тэксту М. Гугнін. — Віцебск, 1999. — С. 26—35.— На бел., рус., венг. і англ. мовах.

PIOTR YAVICH

The creative way of surprisingly whole-hearted and talented artist P. Yavich began in Vitebsk more than 70 years ago.

The biography of this artist had the romantic beginning. During the World War 1 the artist's father Max Yavich, a native of Vitebsk, was captured by Austrians and kept in Hungarian town Tereksentmiklosh. There he got married and on September 5, 1918 his son Ishtvan was born. Later, in Belarus, he was named Peter. In 1925 Istvan's father returned to his Motherland and started residing in Vitebsk. A year later his wife and son joined him. 1926 was the beginning of Peter Yavich's «Vitebsk» period of life.

The acquaintance with Yury Pan, an outstanding artist and teacher determined the future artist's life. Yavich had been visiting Pan's workshop for two years painting gypsums, studying the methods of work with paints by copying his teacher's works.

Having finished seven-year school in 1934 the young man entered Vitebsk Art College, the only art school in Belarus by that time. There was not so much left from «the golden century» of the native avant-garde (1918-1923) in the cultural life of Vitebsk in 1930. At that time its direction was determined by the activity of such outstanding artists of Vitebsk realistic school, as F. Fogt, V. Khrustalyev, V. Dezhits, L. Akhremchik, H. Darkejvich, and others.

Having graduated from Vitebsk Art College in 1938 Yavich started his work as assistant of the decorator in Minsk Theatre of Opera and Ballet. A year later he returned to Vitebsk and devoted himself to painting. Six portraits created by the master were exhibited at the exhibition in 1939. One of them («Girl's portrait») was bought by the State Art Museum of the BSSR.

When the Great Patriotic War started Yavich went to front. He was decorated with the Order and several medals. After the demobilization in 1946 Yavich returned to Vitebsk and resumed painting. He is especially skilful in the portrait painting. Yavich is a recognized master of flowers as well. Besides, the artist paints landscapes of the Crimea, Vitebsk and the Caucasus.

Peter Yavich's works are widely represented both in many private collections abroad and in Belarus.

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