

## Curriculum Vitae – Boris Szarvas

Boris was born in former Tschechoslovakia in 1962. After school he started studying engineering but half-way decided to escape the then communist country in 1984, to join his biological father in Germany. He walked for three days through country side and woods, aiming for the Italian city of Trieste. His father picked him up from there and his new life started.

After recuperating his university degree in Frankfurt, being rewarded a Master in Computer Science, he worked for multinational companies such as Sun Microsystems, Thomson Reuters and Software AG (current) in a number of managerial positions.

His artistic career however, started well before, in his childhood.

Fascinated by faces and their mimic, he filled his sketch book with portraits of family and friends. In school he drew entertaining cartoons and comic stories for the student paper. Yet during puberty, as art was much less cool than sporting activities, he started to ignore his urge to draw and paint.

Fait brought him back to his talents as a new neighbor happened to be a freelance artist. For hours Boris observed him paint, learned some his techniques and then helped him to sell his paintings 'secretly'; highly illegal under the communist regime. His little 'sales job' got him frequently into trouble with the police. Back then he thought that was funny...

But it wasn't until 1985 during an art excursion where for the first time the paintings he saw started 'talking to him and telling him stories'. After that Boris consciously made the decision to take his own talent seriously and started painting. It is thanks to his wife Beata, that he started showing his paintings to other people and – just to see what would happen – offered three of them on the on-line shopping site Ebay. They sold in a matter of 30 minutes.

Since 2008 he's painted and sold dozens of his works privately. In high demand and with a firm fan base, he's exhibiting his art for the first time publicly with his 'Amato Saluzzo' series.

When asked what drives and inspires his art, Boris says he feels 'a slave to his hands'. They start itching, become restless and long to express on canvas whatever vision - be it a person, object, street corner - would trigger a 'story in his head'. He says: Everything can become ANYTHING in the eye of the beholder!

His admiration goes towards true game changers, such as Michelangelo or Nelson Mandela; individuals that have changed the course of the world's future and thus our current reality.

On a personal note, Boris is an avid sportsman. Passionate for extreme sports, he participated in the Half IronMan in 2006 and engages in open-water distance swimming since 2012. In 2016 he qualified and swam the Strait of Gibraltar – 16.4km in little over three hours. On the back of that success, he founded and launched his Extreme Sporting Club 'Amphi Due Challenges', aiming to get more 'normal' people to push their personal limits.

He lives in Frankfurt, Germany with his wife and two teenage children.