



*Library Lazić (since 1882)*

*Museum of Serbian Literature*

*Book and Travel Museum – "Adligat" CA*

*have the honour of inviting you*

*to the grand opening of the exhibition*

*"Ambassador Ante Ilić –*

*from Yugoslavia to Latin America,*

*from Pre-Columbian art to Haitian naive"*

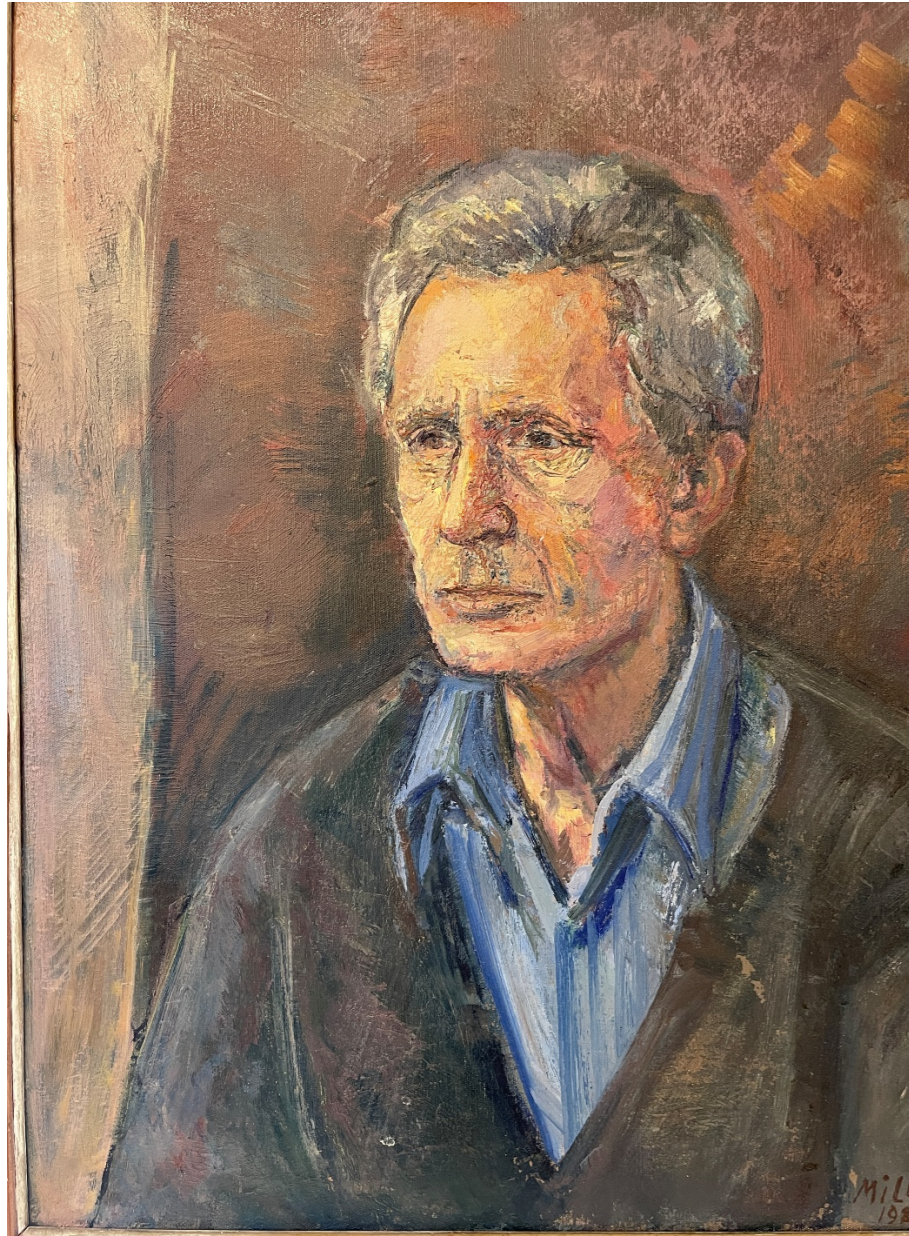
*to be held on March 24, 2022*

*in the ceremonial hall of the "Adligat" AC*

*located on Josipa Slavenskog 19a Street, Banjica*

*starting from 18 o'clock*





*Ante Ilić (1929-2010), a Yugoslav diplomat from Dalmatia, was born into a working family in **Colombia**, in the city of Kali. Upon the breakout of the world economic crisis, the Ilić family, due to such circumstances, returned to Dalmatia*

*in 1933, only to live through World War Two in the occupied Yugoslavia, as well as in the refugee camp in El Shatt in **Egypt**.*

*The diplomatic service of Ante Ilić began in 1954 and lasted for the next thirty seven years, until 1991, always with the unconditional support of his loving wife Dragana. The first mandate Ilić served was in **Great Britain**, where he was posted as cultural attaché, where he dedicated his time to writing and painting.*

*The diplomatic career of Ante Ilić was quite influenced by the creation of the Non-Alignment Movement, and thus, for two years, he was appointed as a liaison officer of **Jovanka Broz** during her travels throughout the Third World countries, and especially **Latin America**. Due to his vast knowledge of the Latin American region, as well as of Spanish language, he was reappointed to the Direction for Latin America within the Secretariat for Foreign Affairs, from where he was*

*appointed to the SFRY Embassy in **Cuba**, where he served as first secretary.*

*Even though his service in London and his links with art influenced his artistic and literary aspirations, leaving us with a great deal of his paintings and written works, it is unquestionable that Ante's appointment as chargé d'affaires at the Embassy of Yugoslavia in **Peru**, and later as ambassador in **Venezuela, the Dominican Republic and Haiti**, significantly deepened the love of this diplomat for arts. During his posting in Peru, Ante Ilić became interested in Pre-Columbian culture and art, and gradually in archeology as well.*

*Thus, in memory of his faithful **diplomatic service**, dedication to **painting, writing** and finally **archeology**, and thanks to his descendants, today we have the opportunity to pay tribute to the life and work of Ante Ilić through this exhibition.*