**CURRICULUM VITAE**

Dr. art. Ivona Biocic Mandic, acad. sculptor was born in Split in 1970, where she graduated from the ŠPUD Secondary School, a stonemason's design department. She studied sculpture at the Academy of Fine Arts in Sarajevo in the class of Alija Kučukalić and at the Academy of Fine Arts in Zagreb, where in 1993 she graduated in sculpture in the class of prof. Stipe Sikirica. She completed her PhD in Sculpture at the Academy of Fine Arts in Zagreb. She orally defended her dissertation  ***Fine Art in Perception of the Blind*** in June 2, 2014 at the Academy of Fine Arts in Zagreb. Her mentors are: for the practical part of the work, full professor of art sculptor Peruško Bogdanić and theory mentor, art theorist Dr. Miodrag Šuvaković. In addition to sculpture and painting, she has also been involved in performance, installation, video, documentary, experimental and extended film and occasionally photography and design. So far she has exhibited at thirteen solo and about 50 group exhibitions. She has participated at international and national congresses, art colonies and sculpture symposia, at several film festivals in competition for the award.

She exhibited her multi-sensory, experimental ambient doctoral exhibition Fine Art in Perception of the Blind at the Klović Dvori Gallery, 2013 in Zagreb at the Galić Salon in 2014 in Split and at the Museum of the City of Šibenik in 2017.

She participated in the competition and the exhibition of students' works as a doctoral student at the Academy of Fine Arts in Zagreb for the annual Luka Ritz Award, for promoting tolerance and school without violence. She was awarded the third prize for Guitar Head, her tactile sculpture in bronze (2009).

**She designed the award sculptures of the Visual Identity of the Klapa Festival - THE SHADOWS OF ROSETTE - three tactile sculptures in steel and two REFLECTIONS in stainless steel for the JELSA OD VERSA Klapa Song Festival which have been awarded to the best klapa in JELSA ON THE ISLAND OF HVAR since 2017**.

There are paintings and sculptures of hers in private collections at home and abroad, in certain galleries and in public places in Croatia. Thus, nine tactile sculptures in stone were erected in public places at the Monument School, 1997. in the sculpture park in Sucuraj, Chimney and House - a woman in front of the Maestral Children's Home in Split. The Monument of St. Guardian Angel in front of St. Jerome's Church in Maksimir, Tactile stone sculptures Three seating sculptures were erected in the first multi-sensory park, integrated park, where both the sighted and blind and visually impaired people come in an organized and continuous manner. The park is located in Jarun, Zagreb. It was opened in 2005. All the sculptures erected in Zagreb are published in the sculpture guide Monuments and Fountains in Zagreb, City of Zagreb, Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts, Glyptotheque, Zagreb, 2006. Sculpture from 2012. - Metamorphosis of compassion and pain that was created at the Symposium in Salona is placed in the meadow in front of the Salon in Solin.

**Her sculptural oeuvre highlights the cycle of tactile stone sculptures that were created on the streets of the city of Split and Zagreb: The Artist Without Atelier and The Discovery of Space (1998). The sculptures that stand out from that cycle are: Ivona's column, exibited at the Youth Salon before HDLU, Zagreb 1998), which was erected in the Jakovlje International Sculpture Park (1999), published in the Jakovlje International Sculpture Park by Ivica Župan, HDLU Zagreb, 2006, as well as an interactive tactile sculpture Wall, a blend of sculpture and pedagogy, placed in front of the Josip Juraj Strossmayer Elementary School in Warsaw Street in Zagreb, listed by Dr Ive Šimat Banov in Croatian Sculpture from 1950 to the Present.**

In sculpture since 1992, she has been exploring the spontaneous perception of tactility from the discourse of the author during the artistic process, and systematically since 1998, in various sculptural materials, mostly stone. The motifs are different architecture sculptures, redefined musical instruments, multi-sensory experimental environments that encourage integrated audiences to interact and explore different stimuli.

An experimentally documentary autobiographical film Touch of the Foot, Touch of the Hand, is her first film in a series of films for the integrated perception of blind and sighted persons. The film shows the process of making tactile tapestries. At the end of the film, the author with the blindfold tactically perceives the tapestries, does the performance and shows tactile perception from the discourse of the author. The film premiered at the Tuškanac Cinema (2009), in competition for the award at the Croatian Film Days (2010), and has been continuously on Classic TV from 2009 to the present in Croatia and outside Croatia in Slovenia, Serbia. Hungary... Film screening at congresses was perceived with blindfolds and without them, at the Museum of the City of Šibenik in 2016 as a side event of the solo exhibition Fine Art in Perception of the Blind. An integrated projection of the movie of sighted, sighted with blindfold, blind and partially sighted people was held. A documentary Stone Feast represented Croatia in Tehran in 2005 at the International Film Festival, as well as at other international and national festivals. Both films were screened at the Croatian Film Night event (Selector: director Branko Istvancic). The director of photography in both films was Vedran Samanovic.

She has been teaching art at the Josip Juraj Strossmayer elementary school in Zagreb since 1995. She has been working with the Academy of Fine Arts in Zagreb since 2014 as an external associate and a designated mentor in the education of students of the Department of Teacher Education. She has been working as an art teacher at the Centar za odgoj i obrazovanje „Goljak“ since 2017. She occasionally runs author workshops in which she experimentally educates and sensitizes children for tactile and multisensory perception at the Josip Juraj Strossmayer Elementary School since 1998; at the Centar za odgoj i obrazovanje „Goljak“ she has embeded it in the process of working in full-time teaching. At the invitation, she ran author's workshops at Antun Augustinčić's Studio, Klanjec 2016. Design District, Zagreb, 2016. Museum of the City of Šibenik, 2017. She participated on invitation as the head of the sculptural workshops Stone Upon Stone at the Šibenik International Children's Festival 2019. At an international congress organized in Melbourne by INSE in 2014 she presented her artistic and pedagogical work. She has been the Artistic Editor of the Croatian Children's Festival, Zagreb, Verse and Notes of One Hundred Beauties since 2009. She has been a permanent member of the professional committee since 1997 and the author of art competitions. She is the sponsor and author of the festival visual identity for the year of 2017 (cover of collections, posters, programs, CDs of festival songs).