## My Journey Through Art and Dance

I, RISTO, was born in the vibrant city of Belgrade in 1963. My life has been a colorful tapestry of experiences, passions, and creative pursuits. Here is the story of my journey so far.

**Early Years: A Dance Takes Shape** From an early age, I was drawn to the world of movement and art. I pursued my passion for dance and graduated from the prestigious Ballet School. This was the beginning of a lifelong love affair with the art of dance.

A Fusion of Creativity: The Faculty of Applied Arts I continued my education by enrolling in the Faculty of Applied Arts, specializing in Sculpture. Here, I discovered the joy of shaping and molding raw materials into works of art, a craft that would become a significant part of my life.

**Conservation and Preservation: The National Museum** My thirst for knowledge led me to attend seminars on conservation at the National Museum in Belgrade. Here, I delved into the delicate art of preserving cultural heritage, realizing the importance of safeguarding our rich history.

**An Unfinished Path in Mathematics** Life often takes unexpected turns, and for various reasons, I started but did not complete my studies at the Mathematics High School in Belgrade. Nevertheless, I always believed that every experience contributes to our growth.

The Pursuit of Higher Education My academic journey continued as I pursued a master's degree at the Faculty of Fine Arts (FPU) in Belgrade and a doctorate at the Faculty of Media and Communications (FMK) in Belgrade. I also expanded my horizons by studying the Department for Men's Classical Ballet Pedagogy at the State Institute of Performing Arts in Moscow, deepening my understanding of this timeless art form.

The Ballet Stage and Cultural Heritage I danced my heart out as a ballet dancer at the National Theater in Belgrade, contributing to numerous ballet, opera, and drama performances. My love for dance allowed me to express myself on the grand stage, captivating audiences.

I also served as an officer for the protection of cultural heritage in the Secretariat for Culture of the City of Belgrade. Here, I played a crucial role in preserving our cultural treasures for future generations.

**A Journey in Conservation: National Museum of Serbia** Today, I proudly serve as a senior conservator of sculptures at the National Museum of Serbia. In this role, I have restored more than 500 sculptures, breathing new life into pieces of history. My work is a testament to my dedication to preserving our artistic heritage.

**Contributions to the World of Art and Dance** Throughout my journey, I have made significant contributions to the world of art and dance. I have authored a textbook on classical ballet for men, a dictionary of ballet terms, and numerous professional texts. I have also participated in over 120 independent sculpture projects, showcased my work in individual and group exhibitions, and earned several recognition awards and certificates of appreciation.

**Innovations and Public Art** My creative spirit has also driven me to register four conceptual projects and secure one patent. My sculptures adorn significant public spaces, including Kalemegdan Park in Belgrade and the main square in Kikinda, reflecting my commitment to sharing art with the community.

My life's journey is a testament to the power of passion, dedication, and a deep love for the arts. It is a journey that continues to evolve, with new chapters waiting to be written. As I look back on the

path I've traveled, I am grateful for the opportunities, experiences, and the unwavering support of those who have been a part of this incredible journey

## A Glimpse Into My Recent Achievements:

In recent years, I have dedicated my energy and expertise to actively shaping and enhancing the exclusive brand, RISTO. My journey in the world of art and sculpture has taken me to new heights, and here are some noteworthy milestones and accomplishments:

- **1.** A Shimmering Legacy: Gold Sculptures at the Hilton Hotel Since 2019, my gold sculptures have found a permanent home at the prestigious Hilton Hotel in Belgrade. These intricate creations are a testament to my passion for art and have been on display for guests to admire and appreciate.
- **2.** Recognized by a Champion: Novak Djokovic's Collection I am honored that Novak Djokovic, a global tennis icon and a true connoisseur of art, owns several of my sculptures. It's a privilege to have my work appreciated by someone of his stature, and it motivates me to continue pushing the boundaries of artistic expression.
- **3. A Page in History: Oxford Worldwide Press Publication** In the 2023 edition of the Oxford Worldwide Press publication, I was honored to be included in the book of successful people in Serbia. My profile can be found on page 539, a recognition of my dedication to the world of art and sculpture.
- **4. A Scholarly Pursuit: Doctoral Studies at AUNS** Starting in February 2023, I embarked on a new academic journey as a doctoral student at the Academy of Arts in Novi Sad (AUNS). My research and studies are focused on the field of sculpture, and I am excited to contribute to the academic discourse in this realm.
- **5. The Glittering "WISDOM" Sculpture Auction** In autumn 2023, an exciting event is on the horizon. My sculpture titled "WISDOM," crafted from pure gold, will be auctioned at the Binom auction house in Belgrade. This remarkable piece of art will be offered at a price of 140,000 Euros, representing the culmination of my artistic vision and dedication.

These recent achievements reflect my unwavering commitment to the world of art and sculpture. They are a testament to the power of creativity and a symbol of the ever-evolving journey that is my life. As I continue to work on the branding of the exclusive RISTO brand, I look forward to new horizons and opportunities for artistic expression and innovation.