

# SALAVAT FIDAI

By Marc Rodriguez



# Background

- ◆ Salavat Fidai is an experimental artist, painter, photographer and sculptor.
- ◆ He was born on November 27, 1972 in Bashkortostan, Russia. He currently lives in Ufa, Russia.
- ◆ His parents are artists and art teachers. They taught him how to draw at a young age.
- ◆ He used to work as a police investigator, teacher and company manager. He got laid off as a company manager due to an economic crisis in Russia. After losing his job, he devoted his time to create art for a living.



◆ His early works were mostly photographs, and paintings. Later in his life, he explored different mediums for his work by painting on matchboxes and pumpkin seeds. When he uses paint on a canvas, he thinks of it as more emotional and expressive. When he paints on pumpkins seeds, he thinks of it as more detail oriented.

◆ The matchbox paintings were inspired by Vincent Van Gogh. Fidai recreated his Gogh's paintings by using a matchbox as a medium







# Paintings



# Photography









◆ He's most famous for making different sculptures from the lead of graphite pencils. He started to make pencil sculptures after being inspired by Dalton Ghetti. It took Fidai two years to perfect the craft of pencil carving.

◆ For his pencil carvings, he uses an x-acto blade, a needle and a magnifying glass.

◆ Most of his pencil sculptures consist mostly come from any ideas he has. has pop culture characters from movies, tv shows etc., famous landmarks and









- ◇ His pencil sculptures usually take about 6-12 hours to complete. If the sculptures are very detailed and complex, it takes about 2-3 days.
- ◇ Fidai spends more than 10 hours in his studio by painting, drawing, shooting photos, and creating sculptures. He is very open on trying new ideas and materials for his work.
- ◇ When he carves from a pencil, he thinks of it as meditation.
- ◇ Fidai gets inspiration from movies, comics, tv shows, reading, music and other art exhibitions.



# Game of Thrones exhibition

- ◆ Fidai had a traveling art exhibition in Singapore, Malaysia, and Thailand which showcased his Game of Thrones sculptures.
- ◆ Some of the pieces that were included were the “lannister sigil”, the “white walker”, “direwolf of house stark”, the “dragons” and the “iron throne”















- ◆ He's had exhibitions throughout the world including London, Italy, Russia, China, New York, and Los Angeles.
- ◆ In his exhibitions, viewers usually need a magnifying glass to have an up close look at his work.



- ◆ He also has a book out called “The Pencil Book” which shows all of his pencil sculptures.
- ◆ He also has a shop on a website called Etsy where people can buy his pencil sculptures.

