

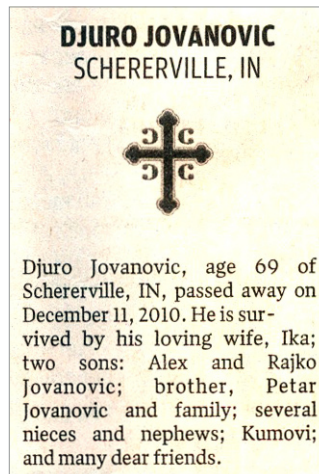
The Bike Room
1109 W. North Shore Ave.
Chicago, IL 60626

For Immediate Release

Georgie: 1941 - 2010

Work by Alex Jovanovich

December 11, 2011 – January 22, 2012



My dad, Djuro Jovanovic, died on December 11, 2010. My brother and I called him “Georgie.”

Georgie was sick for a very long time, and though his passing was sad, it was also a great relief. My mom and brother lived with him and were absolutely vigilant about his care, making sure his every need and desire were met. He was, however, an extraordinarily difficult person to get along with, which made watching over him very demanding. I’ve said to my mother on several occasions that if I had been the one taking care of him, he would’ve died much sooner – and not from illness.

For my exhibition at the Bike Room, I decided to create a small memorial to my father on the one-year anniversary of his death. The Bike Room is an interesting space in that it actually is buried halfway underground, so it functioned quite well as a sort of crypt. I also tried keeping the show as subtle an affair as possible by eschewing all promotion for it, such as invitations, opening and closing events, or a press release (this press release only went up on the Bike Room’s website after the show went down, on January 23, 2012). Nancy Lu was only allowed to advertise the show by very casual word of mouth. If someone heard about the event this way, they could make an appointment with her to see it.

Sometimes art’s role is to make the idea of the private, public. My idea for this show was to keep the private, private; or, at least, as mildly public as possible.

Death happens all around us, all the time. No matter how much we understand or experience this, it is always bewildering to describe exactly how we feel about it, or what it does to us.

– *Alex Jovanovich*

The Bike Room is an artist-run project space in Rogers Park, Chicago.
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