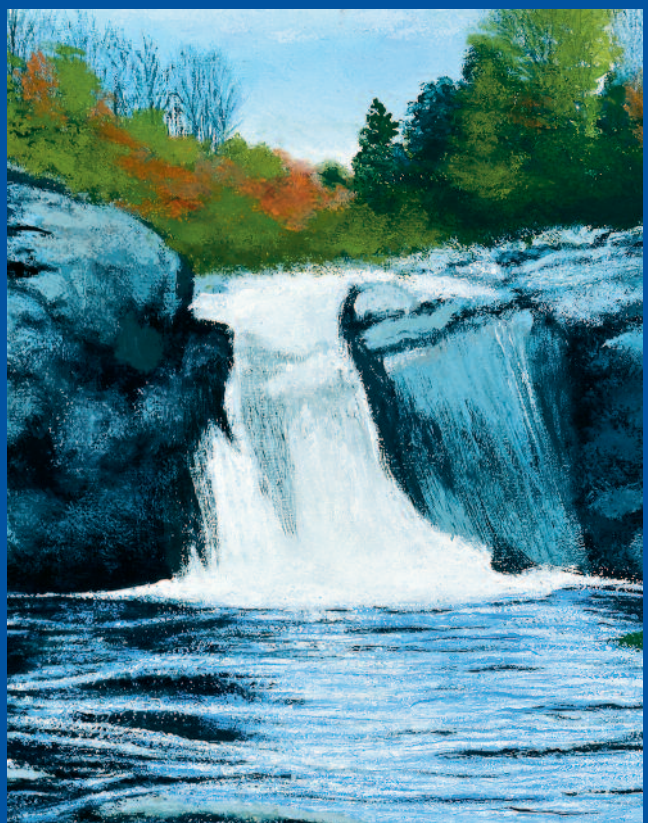


# VDMFK-INFORMATION

ASSOCIATION OF MOUTH AND FOOT PAINTING ARTISTS  
WORLDWIDE

July 2014/188



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## **Dear mouth and foot painting artists worldwide,**

*For this third foreword I should like to share my ideas with you about a matter close to my heart: the importance of being in a closely bonded team.*

*You all know that the world we live in today is changing – and that times aren't always easy. I am very fortunate to work together with a team which I have complete faith in, and that goes particularly for the Managing Board and the jury. Our aim is to adapt ourselves as best we can to this new situation.*

*The fact that our Association finds itself in a good position today is due to the close cooperation that exists between the Association, you, the artists, and the publishing houses.*

*Let me explain what I mean by cooperation by proposing two simple ideas:*

*1) Cooperation between the Association and the publishers: The publishers have done an excellent job in fulfilling their role, which is to market postcards, calendars and other articles. In recent years I have become aware that the publishers address special wishes to the artists of their country to meet the expectations of their customers. They organise meetings between the artists of their country (such as exhibitions and painting workshops, etc.), which makes it possible for the artists to forge closer ties with each other.*

*2) Cooperation between the Association and the artists: On the one hand, the Association organises international exhibitions to promote mouth and foot painters in different countries, and, on the other, it also works for the "benefit and support of its artists". In my view, these are very important ideas and we, the artists, have to "count ourselves lucky and always be aware of them". This was the philosophy which Arnulf Erich Stegmann, Marlyse Tovae and Eros Bonamini pursued, and I believe it is completely right that we should uphold this tradition.*



**President of the VDMFK Serge Maudet from France.**

*I should also like to offer you a couple of ideas which struck me in my capacity as President of the Association when I went to meet the Polish publishing house which celebrated its 20th anniversary together with its artists last May. During my talks with the good people there, I began to realise that everyone works "hand in hand" with each other when they organise meetings, exhibitions and other events. They enable everyone to share their ideas under the best possible conditions. Communication is essential – in all areas. This has already proved fruitful, and I should like to thank our Polish colleagues for that.*

*In conclusion: I know that I can count on you, dear artists, to join us in securing a long and bright future for "our wonderful and great Association"!*

*I hope you enjoy reading this latest edition of the VDMFK bulletin. And for those of you in the northern hemisphe-*

*re, since summer is all but upon us, I urge you to use this beautiful time of the year to find new ideas for your works.*

*Serge Maudet  
President of the VDMFK*

# Miscellaneous

## Publishers' activities

### SLOVENIA

- The Slovenian publishing house showcased works by its artists at a joint exhibition which was held in a gallery in downtown Ljubljana. Most of the 23 pictures on display were new works by Slovenia's mouth and foot painters. The exhibition opened for a month on 7 March 2014 and closed on 7 April 2014. The venue in the centre of Ljubljana is ideal for this kind of exhibition because many tourists also frequent the gallery. Consequently, the exhibition attracted many visitors.

In addition, the Slovenian artists presented 37 of their works at the Russian Centre of Culture and Science in Ljubljana city centre. The exhibition was organised by the publishing house and



**Martina Pavlovič at the exhibition.**

centred on the theme of flowers. Furthermore, the exhibition also included a workshop for secondary school pupils.



**Children look on in amazement at the art of foot painting.**

## Artists' activities

### CROATIA

#### Stjepan Perković (Student Member)

- Stjepan Perkovic presented a selection of his works at the Festival of Equal Opportunities which took place in Zagreb from 27 to 29 May 2014. Dedicated to people with disabilities, this event attracted around 1,000 visitors and generated considerable media interest.

### GERMANY

#### Markus Kolp (Associate Member)

- Markus Kolp is currently exhibiting around 40 of his landscape, winter and flower paintings in Bobingen. The show opened on 14 March and is scheduled to last until 1 September 2014.

### INDONESIA

- The artists **Muhammad Asroel (Associate Member)**, **Patricia Saerang (Associate Member)**, **Sabar Subadri (Associate Member)** and **Agus Yusuf (Associate Member)** gave a demonstration of their painting skills at Lake Bratan, Bali, on 20 June 2014. This event attracted great interest among the local population and among many tourists.

### ITALY

#### Barbujani, Mario (Full Member)

- In association with the Province of Rovigo, Mario Barbujani organised a collective exhibition which was held in Trecenta from 19 to 27 April 2014. The pictures, which were exhibited both in the municipal library and in various shop windows in the town centre, featured works by **Mario Barbujani (Full Member)**, **Mario Barzon (Full Member)**, **Guido Chinello (Student Member)**, **Natalina Marcantoni (Full**

**Member)** and **Giulio Volpin (Associate Member)**.

#### Portelli, Santina (Full Member)

- Santina Portelli exhibited her works at the "Altes Dampfbad" museum in Baden Baden (Germany) from 11 to 23 March 2014.

### POLAND

#### Jerzy Galos (Student Member)

- Jerzy Galos held a solo exhibition featuring 20 of his works on the Kraków University campus from 23 to 30 May 2014. He had also presented his works at a previous solo exhibition which took place at the "St. Brother Albert" community centre in Kraków from 3 to 17 April 2014.



*Mariusz Mączka (Full Member/Poland), "Harlingen harbour in the evening light", oils, 60x50 cm.*

# Anniversary in Poland



*Participants in the 20th anniversary celebrations of the AMUN publishing house in Poland.*

May 2014 marked the 20th anniversary of the AMUN publishing house in Poland. Numerous mouth and foot painters from all over the country and various members of the VDMFK Managing Board traveled to the celebrations with their President, Serge Maudet.

The AMUN publishing house in Poland is celebrating its 20th anniversary this year. To mark the occasion, an artists' meeting took place from 9 to 11 May 2014. This meeting was accompanied by an exhibition, which opened on 24 April and finished on 5 June 2014. 83 works by 28 mouth and foot painters covering 20 years of the activities of the

AMUN publishing house were on display for at the Pałac Sztuki, one of the most prestigious galleries in Kraków. The vernissage also featured a demonstration of painting with Stanisław Kmiecik (Full Member) and Jerzy Omelczuk (Associate Member), who showcased their skills in front of highly interested guests. The publishing house



*Two members of the VDMFK Managing Board, Tom Yendell (left) and Kun-Shan Hsieh (right), with Polish Student Member Dorota Szachewicz.*



*Jerzy Omelczuk (Associate Member) presents a painted portrait to Serge Maudet, President of the VDMFK.*

# Anniversary in Poland



**Welcome cocktail: Members of the Managing Board Kun-Shan Hsieh and Tom Yendell with the Polish student member Piotr Pawłowski and companions.**

was delighted to welcome 200 visitors to the opening, and the exhibition, too, aroused considerable media interest. The artists' meeting was held from 9 to 11 May 2014. On this occasion the Polish publishing house had the honour

of welcoming high-ranking visitors. President of the VDMFK Serge Maudet and the members of the Managing Board Ruth Christensen, Thomas Kahlau, Kun-Shan Hsieh and Tom Yendell as well as VDMFK Director

Mario Famlonga did not wish to pass up the opportunity to convey their congratulations in person. A total of 22 Polish artists took part in the meeting.

*Continued on p. 8*



**The two student members Katarzyna Warachim (on the left) and Dorota Szachewicz.**



**Member of the Managing Board Ruth Christensen (on the right) with Dorota Bakaj from the AMUN publishing house and her companion Lis Olsen.**

# Anniversary in Poland

The following Polish mouth and foot painters took part in the artists' meeting:

**Full Members:** Stanisław Kmiecik, Mariusz Mączka.

**Associate Members:** Krzysztof Kosowski, Jerzy Omelczuk.

**Student Members:** Arkadiusz Cyprian, Jerzy Galos, Monika Kamińska, Mikołaj Kastelik, Jadwiga Markur, Damian Mynarek, Bartosz Ostałowski, Henryk Paraszczuk, Małgorzata Pauspert, Piotr Pawłowski, Agnieszka Sapińska, Monika Sawejko, Walery Siejtbatałow, Jan Sporek, Dorota Szachewicz, Katarzyna Warachim, Małgorzata Waszkiewicz and Mariola Wower.



*President of the VDMFK Serge Maudet conveyed his congratulations on behalf of the entire Association.*



*Flowers from the Polish mouth and foot painters for VDMFK President Serge Maudet, VDMFK Director Mario Famlonga, publisher Florian Stegmann and Dora Bakaj.*



*Above: Member of the VDMFK Managing Board Thomas Kahlau from Germany on the city tour in Kraków.*



*Left: Mouth and foot painters with their companions: (from left to right) Krzysztof Kosowski (Associate Member), Arkadiusz Cyprian (Student Member) and Monika Kamińska (Student Member).*





Jun-Wei Lee (Full Member/Taiwan), "Colourful butterflies", watercolour, 68x34 cm.

# We mourn for

[Student Members who have passed away](#)

## BRAZIL

[Pereira Carvalho, Etedsued](#)

**Date of birth: 25 October 1959**

**Passed away on: 12 March 2014**

**Painting method: Mouth painter**

Etedsued Pereira Carvalho was born in São Paulo on 25 October 1959. One day in 1998 he arrived at the gate to his garage, and noticed that his car had a flat tyre. He knelt down to see what the problem was. For the rest of his life he was unable to remember precisely what happened. When he opened his eyes again he found himself lying in a hospital bed. Quite simply – and tragically – a man had suddenly been stricken with an epileptic fit and lost control of his vehicle. It crashed into Etedsued Pereira Carvalho. He had been a truck driver before his accident and had never painted in his life. Although he liked drawing, he doubted that he would be able to take his skills any further in the future. But in March 1998 Etedsued Pereira Carvalho began to develop his mouth painting skills at the Santa Casa de Misericórdia therapy centre where he received important encouragement from a number of social workers. Five years later, in 2003, the VDMFK awarded him a scholarship. The artist repeatedly held exhibitions of some of his works at the Santa Casa centre. Etedsued Pereira Carvalho passed away on 12 March 2014.

## CANADA

[Barkhouse, Averill S.](#)

**Date of birth: 1 July 1951**

**Passed away on: 9 January 2014**

**Painting method: Mouth painter**

Averill Barkhouse was born in Windsor on 1 July 1951. From 1956 to 1963 he attended Rawdon elementary school and in 1968 he completed his education at Hants North Rural High School. After that he worked as a welder. In

1971 Averill Barkhouse had a motor vehicle accident which left him a quadriplegic. He preferred to produce oil paintings. His favourite hobbies were painting, reading and listening to good music. He joined the VDMFK as a scholarship holder in 1991. Averill Barkhouse passed away on 9 January 2014.

## GREAT BRITAIN

[Singleton, David John](#)

**Date of birth: 25 October 1947**

**Passed away on: 18 November 2013**

**Painting method: Foot painter**

David John Singleton was born in Liverpool on 25 October 1947. He was diagnosed with a form of spasticity and athetosis commonly known as cerebral palsy. Although David John Singleton learned to use his upper limbs, he used his feet to do everything. He discovered his love of using crayons for drawing and colouring in everything at an early age. Passionate about all this, he took part in and won many competitions as a child. When David John Singleton was seven years old his parents were contacted by the late Peter Spencer, a member of the VMFK Managing Board, who felt that David John Singleton had great artistic potential. He attended the Liverpool College of Art for 2½ years. In 1967 the VDMFK began supporting David John Singleton with a scholarship. The foot painter always enjoyed his paintings and especially loved animals and landscapes. He used to be a member of the Merseyside Artists Association and took part in competitions with non-disabled artists who never actually knew that he painted his pictures with his feet. He was occasionally able to sell some of his pictures at his many solo exhibitions. David John Singleton had several hobbies, including swimming, reading and collecting models of vintage cars. He passed away on 18 November 2013.

## POLAND

[Betlewicz, Ireneusz](#)

**Date of birth: 18 September 1954**

**Passed away on: 3 April 2014**

**Painting method: Mouth painter**

Ireneusz Betlewicz was born in Ostróda on 18 September 1954. He attended secondary school and went on to pass his school leaving examination. Ireneusz Betlewicz took private art lessons over many years. Before his illness he would always paint with his right hand, since he had never had any movement in his left hand. When, in 1989, he developed muscular atrophy, he began to teach himself to paint with his mouth. Both his arms and his legs were disabled. He joined the Association as a scholarship holder in 1992. Ireneusz Betlewicz passed away on 3 April 2014.

## SPAIN

[Iniesta, Manuel Mena](#)

**Date of birth: 11 October 1956**

**Passed away on: 15 December 2013**

**Painting method: Mouth painter**

Manuel Mena Iniesta was born in Cuenca on 11 October 1956. He became a tetraplegic in 1986. This left him completely paralysed in the upper and lower limbs. In November 1994 he decided that he wanted to take up mouth painting in a serious way. He was supported in his endeavours by well-known artists who taught him to paint. The VDMFK began to support him as a scholarship holder in 1998. Manuel Mena Iniesta passed away on 15 December 2013.

[Vazquez Aznar, Maria Dolores](#)

**Date of birth: 15 March 1955**

**Died 22 February 2014**

**Painting method: Foot painter**

María Dolores Vázquez Aznar was born with cerebral palsy on 15 March 1955. Even so, she managed to complete her education and training as a lawyer and

painter. Completely self-taught, she wrote and painted with her left foot. María Dolores Vázquez Aznar staged and took part in successful exhibitions. Her leisure pursuits included music and macramé. In 1988 the VDMFK began offering consistent support to the artist in the form of a scholarship. María Dolores Vázquez Aznar passed away on 22 February 2014.

## USA

### Pace, Mary Jane

**Date of birth: 10 March 1950**

**Passed away on: 19 October 2013**

**Painting method: Mouth painter**

Mary Jane Pace was born in Cambridge, Maryland, on 10 March 1950. She had been born with the birth defect known as arthrogryposis, which meant that she could not use her limbs and was confined to a wheelchair. In the 1980s the mouth painter spent some time study-

ing the art of painting under the direction of a distinguished professor of art. After a certain time she turned away from painting and only came back to it a few years later. Mary Jane Pace was very keen to constantly improve her painting. In addition, she wrote several books which were well received by the public. The VDMFK started to support her as a scholarship holder in 2012. Mary Jane Pace passed away on 19 October 2013.

### Rios, Ruben A.

**Date of birth: 14 August 1969**

**Passed away on: 10 February 2014**

**Painting method: Mouth painter**

Ruben A. Rios was born in Los Angeles on 14 August 1969. He attended elementary school and high school before going on to the Community College for Commercial Art. In February 1988 he was hit by a bullet which left him paralysed from the neck downwards. He received his first mouthpieces from a

rehabilitation centre and made his first attempts to draw with a simple ballpoint pen in 1991. Then he taught himself the art of painting. One day, when Ruben A. Rios was visiting the rehabilitation centre again, he showed his therapist some of his sketches. The rehabilitation centre was astounded. Ruben A. Rios's works were subsequently put on display in the display cabinets on the corridor at the centre. Robert Thome (Full Member of the VDMFK) saw these works and said he would be more than willing to support Ruben A. Rios from that time on in his artistic endeavours. The artist took part in several exhibitions, including two which were held at the Art Abilities Expo in 1994 and 1995. The VDMFK began to support Ruben as a scholarship holder in 1996. Ruben passed away on 10 February.

### Publishers who have passed away

## ISRAEL

### Lichtenfeld, Benno

The publishing house in Israel and the VDMFK mourn the loss of Benno Lichtenfeld, our long-time publisher.

During the Second World War, Benno Lichtenfeld and his wife Odelia were interned at the concentration camp in



***Benno Lichtenfeld was the long-time founder and manager of our publishing house in Israel.***

Auschwitz. Here, they suffered torture and experienced indescribable hardship. Odelia Lichtenfeld, 15½ years old at the time, marched barefoot through the snow in bitterly icy temperatures. These were the weather conditions in January 1945 on the so-called "death march" from Auschwitz to Buchenwald. Despite the horrors they had witnessed and the physical and psychological scars they suffered, both of them survived. Most of the members of their respective families had died in the Holocaust. Benno and Odelia met after the war and married in 1948. One year later they moved to Israel, built a home and started a family – which eventually produced two children. Their oldest son, Dr Itzik Lichtenfeld, runs the Israeli publishing house today. Benno was an intellectual; he was a gentleman; he was extremely well educated and he was the proprietor of one of the most important publishing houses in Israel. In 1984 he took on the role of manager of the VDMFK's publishing house in Israel. For over 25 years he established and nurtured close relations with mouth and foot painters.

He was a caring, affectionate and outstanding father figure for the Association; he had a good sense of humour and was full of integrity. The suffering which he and his wife had been forced to endure in the concentration camp at Auschwitz led to very close links and a sense of solidarity with disabled painters. He devoted his life to this cause; it gave him a sense of purpose in life, a reason to live, and he fulfilled his dream of helping those whose fate had treated them mercilessly – a sort of "community of common destiny". During these years he did his best to increase the number of mouth and foot painters; he organised many exhibitions each year and forged personal bonds with everyone and with each artist in the Association. We bow our heads in memory of a good and excellent friend. We mourn his passing because we have lost a wonderful, deeply appreciated man whom we loved and who is now sorely missed by his family and all of us. We will never forget him.

*The Managing Board of the VDMFK*

# The significance of painting

The significance of painting as seen by our foot painter Antje Kratz, Full Member from Germany.

Colours decipher the signals of my heart

*I was fascinated by colours as far back as I can remember, and that hasn't changed right up to the present day. I love colourful pictures with intensive shades and hues, and with highly expressive motifs. So it was hardly surprising for me to find that my favourite subject at school was art and painting. It first became my hobby before I had the opportunity to turn my childhood pursuit into my vocation. I came into this world without arms, as a thalidomide child, so my feet became my hands and I managed to develop such fine motor skills in my feet that I never felt that I had missed out on not having my own hands.*

*As a result, it appeared completely logical to me that I would become a foot painter. I started out by joining the Municipal Theatres in Frankfurt am Main as an intern. When I was there, it became clear to me that I had picked the right career. Mr Haindl, the head of the painters' shop at the time, took me under his wing, taught me so many vital things and, as I see it, gave me all*



**Antje Kratz, Full Member from Germany.**

*the right tools to become an artist in life. In other words, I was now able to reveal my innermost life with the aid of colours and also create works which actually meant something to the viewer; works which convey something very unique and personal. These are simply pictures I've painted, that's all, and if you look at them closely, and if like me you immerse your thoughts into the world of images, you can per-*

*haps sometimes recognise the joy, sorrow, love and yearnings which have gone into their creation. Some of the signals I send from my heart can be deciphered with the aid of colours.*

*In any case, the knowledge and artistic skills I had since gained through my work also stood me in good stead in 1981 when I first heard about the VDMFK and sent out an application to them. Before then I was an insignificant artist staging a few little exhibitions with the dawning realisation that I would probably not be able to secure my livelihood from art alone.*

*But it all turned out quite differently. I was adopted into the great family of artists; my works were displayed at exhibitions throughout the world. Henceforth I would have a secure income and the financial support which has now enabled me, for over 25 years, to devote myself completely to my art and to my artistic further development – and to allow myself the luxury of planning my own life. I have become an independent and self-confident artist. With the aid of the VDMFK I can live my life as an independent artist. This is a priceless stroke of luck*



**Antje Kratz (Full Member/Germany), "The mountain church", oils, 51x74 cm.**

# The significance of painting

for me. Without the VDMFK, my life would certainly have taken another route; my love of colours would only have remained a great hobby of mine, and painting would never have meant so much as it means to me now.

Perhaps I wouldn't have been quite as satisfied with my life as I am today. Thanks to all these fortunate circumstances which arose through my love of painting and which have accompanied me through my life, and thanks to the great comfort I have felt by being in the great community of mouth and foot painters, I can truly say to myself: «I am not disabled, I just live life a little differently, that's all!». And so perhaps the best way for me to answer the question of what truly is the significance of painting... is to respond with a quotation from my role model, the painter, Emil Nolde : «Colours came as a stroke of luck to me – it was as if they came to love my hands.»

Antje Kratz  
Full Member from Germany



Antje Kratz (Full Member/Germany), "Still Life I", oils, 74x51 cm.

## Kratz, Antje

Date of birth: 25 September 1961

Place of birth: Frankfurt am Main

Full Member of the VDMFK since 1988

Painting technique: Foot painter

Antje Kratz was born without arms as a thalidomide child. For this reason she attended a school for the physically disabled as a young girl. Antje Kratz successfully completed her time at school with a German certificate of secondary education. She had already

felt drawn to painting at an early age. As a result, she very soon received the opportunity to turn her hobby into her vocation as a young woman. From 1978 to 1981 Antje Kratz worked as a trainee assistant at the paint shop of the Municipal Theatres in Frankfurt am Main. This was where she learned a lot about art under Hermann Haindl. She also completed a course of studies at his "artists' courtyard" in Hofheim am Taunus. In 1981 she was accorded the status of a scholarship holder in the Association. Seven years later, in 1988,

she became a Full Member of the VDMFK. Antje Kratz currently lives in Frankfurt am Main. She has frequently presented her works to the general public at solo and group exhibitions in various places close to this metropolis. Antje Kratz paints with her right foot. Her preferred motifs are still lifes and Italian landscapes. Her paintings are characterised by an assured, highly differentiated and idiosyncratic style of expression.

# VDMFK personalities

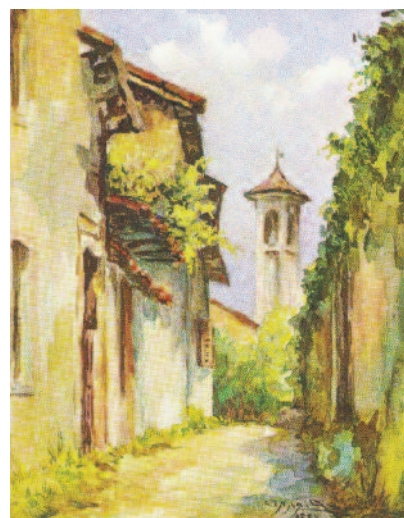
**In this section we are honoured to introduce you to mouth and foot painters who rendered outstanding services to the VDMFK Association in the course of its – now over 50 years old – history. This time around we present Eugène Pirard, a mouth painter from Belgium.**

Eugène Pirard was born a perfectly healthy child in Verviers on 21 July 1911. In 1919 he became stricken with spinal polio which robbed him of his ability to speak and left him blind. It took months for him to recover his powers of sight and ability to speak. In fact, it took until 1921 before Eugène took his first steps again and gradually recovered his ability, more or less, to walk “normally”, as many non-disabled people might say. Yet his arms and hands would remain paralysed forever; as a result, anything he would normally be expected to do with his arms and hands he did with his mouth. Eugène attended the college of art in Verviers over a period of seven years. He mainly painted landscapes, drawing particular inspiration from forest woodland and heaths. Eugène was one of the founding members of the Association. He was voted onto the Managing Board of



***Eugène Pirard was elected to the Managing Board of the VDMFK in 1965. He passed away in 1971.***

the Association at the 1965 Delegates' Convention which was held in Toronto. Eugène Pirard passed away on 23 January 1971.



***Eugène Pirard (Full Member/Belgium), watercolour. Name and dimensions of painting unknown.***



***Eugène Pirard (Full Member/Belgium), "Riverscape in summer", watercolour, 10x13 cm.***

## ARGENTINA

### Moya, Maria Celeste

(Student Member)

- Mouth painter María Celeste Moya had already participated in a number of different solo exhibitions and given various painting demonstrations by November 2013, during the course of which she also visited schools to talk about her life as a painter and the VDMFK.

### Vrbica, Wolfgang

(Full Member)

- Wolfgang Vrbica joined **César Andrés Barcía (Student Member/Argentina) and Sergio Hernández (Student Member/Argentina)** as well as other artists in taking part in a collective exhibition which was held at the Temaikèn Biopark in the city of Belén de Escobar on 7 December 2013. A further collective exhibition took place at the Museo de la Balanza in Buenos Aires on 9 and 10 November 2013. On this occasion, artists such as Mirta **Susana Maidana (Student Member/Argentina) and Analia Gaytan (Student Member/Argentina)** demonstrated their painting skills.

## BRAZIL

- The artists **Marcelo da Cunha (Associate Member), Danielle Dias de Souza (Student Member), Jefferson Maia Figueira (Student Member), João Paulo da Silva Fontenele (Student Member), Eduardo Moreira de Melo (Student Member), Denyson do Nascimento Lopez (Student Member), Luciano Alves dos Nascimento (Student Member), Victor Pereira Santos (Student Member), Carlos Eduardo Rosa Fraga (Student Member) and Eusuclemia Rufino Vieira (Student Member / USA)** took part in the 7th art and crafts fair which was held at the SulAmérica Convention Centre in Rio de Janeiro from 3 to 7 April 2013. Every VDMFK artist from Rio de Janeiro exhibited two pictures at the city's biggest handicrafts fair. The event

attracted some 18,000 visitors – a record number.

- 22 mouth and foot painters from Brazil took part in the “Rio Mais Que Maravilhoso” exhibition which was held at the Yacht Club of Rio de Janeiro from 10 to 17 December 2013. The artists came from the federal states of Rio de Janeiro, São Paulo, Minas Gerais and Paraná. Each of them exhibited a picture portraying a particular aspect of Rio de Janeiro. The 100 or so guests attending the vernissage included the Fleet Admiral of the Yacht Club. In total, about 300 people came to see the works on display at the exhibition each day.

- The two **Brazilian student members Rose Mary Orth and Adolfo Simões de Oliveira Neto** each presented five of their works at an exhibition called “Ways and Flowers” in the Banco do Brasil in Toledo from 2 to 27 September 2013. The exhibition attracted around 1,000 visitors.

### Borges, Gonçalo

(Associate Member)

- Gonçalo Borges held his solo “Vencendo com Arte” exhibition from 20 to 27 March 2014. About 500 visitors viewed the works of the mouth painter which were presented at headquarters of the Brazilian Bar Association in Santo André.

### Chagas, Maria Goret

(Student Member)

- Maria Goret Chagas was extremely busy between July and December 2013. Her many activities included an art workshop with children as well as an exhibition featuring 18 of her works which was held at a municipal theatre from 29 July to 8 August 2013. She also staged an exhibition in a shopping mall and gave a presentation to 700 pupils of a public municipal school from 12 to 25 August 2013.

### Dias de Souza, Danielle

(Student Member)

- Danielle Dias de Souza exhibited 10 of her works at an event staged in Vila Isabel, Rio de Janeiro, on 30 September

2013. She also participated in several joint exhibitions which were held last year.

### Maia Figueira, Jefferson

(Student Member)

- Jefferson Maia Figueira exhibited two of his paintings at the Largo do Machado cultural exposition in Rio de Janeiro on 27 October 2013. At the same time he gave a demonstration of his painting skills which left a deep impression on the 1,000 or so visitors who attended the event.

### Moreira de Melo, Eduardo

(Student Member)

- Eduardo Moreira de Melo held an exhibition at the centre of the New Evangelical church of the Assembleia Deus Vitoria em Cristo in the District of Rio de Janeiro on 18 April. Some 4,000 people came to view Eduardo Moreira de Melo's works.

## CHINA

### Li, Changjiang

(Full Member)

- Changjiang Li presented a number of his works at the 2nd Harbin exhibition of group art in Heigang on 20 October 2013.

## DENMARK

### Wahlberg, Ann Lund

(Full Member)

- Alongside 180 other artists, Ann Lund Wahlberg displayed a number of her works at the ArtNordic in Copenhagen. This art show attracted around 3,500 visitors from 8 to 11 May 2014.

## ESTONIA

### Luks, Meelis

(Student Member)

- Meelis Luks exhibited his works at the Cultural Centre in Loo from 6 to 28 February 2014 and at the Kondas Centre

*Continued on p. 16*

# Artists' activities

in Viljandi from 5 March to 13 April 14.

## FRANCE

### Dubarre, Arnaud

(Student Member)

- In the course of 2013, Arnaud Dubarre staged various exhibitions of his works at various venues including Saint-Victorien, L'Isle-d'Espagnac, Malville and Sisteron. Each exhibition was held over several days. In addition, Arnaud Dubarre took part in joint exhibitions organised by the French publishing house.

## GERMANY

### Kolp, Markus

(Associate Member)

- Markus Kolp took part in a group exhibition which was held in Schwabmünchen on 3 and 4 May 2014.

## HAITI

### Alvares, Herold

(Student Member)

- Herold Alvares took part in the "Lakeview East Festival of the Arts" in Chicago on 14 and 15 September 2013. During this event he gave painting demonstrations and presented his works which were received with great interest by the public.

## INDIA

### Janarthanan, Kesaven

(Student Member)

- The international Rotary Club conferred its "Youth Excellence Award 2014" on Janarthanan Kesavan for his exceptional achievements in the field of mouth painting and his battle against prejudice.

### Thrippanikkara, Sunitha

(Student Member)

- From 14 to 18 November 2013 Sunitha Thrippanikkara organised her first solo exhibition at the Darbar Hall Ground, a well-known gallery in the city

of Kochi, Kerala. She presented 27 of her pictures at this event. Thousands of art lovers, including many prominent dignitaries and celebrities, visited the exhibition. As a result, the exhibition and the artist received extensive media coverage.

## INDONESIA

### Pard, Sadikin

(Associate Member)

- Sadikin Pard invited the Student Member Salim Harama to stage an exhibition with him, which was held at the Mitra Plaza Mall in Malang from 27 December 2013 to 5 January 2014.

### Rusdi, Faisal

(Student Member)

- Faisal Rusdi exhibited his works at the Ministry of Education building in Jakarta on 23 February 2014. This exhibition was organised by the Indonesian Association for Deaf People.

- Nine Indonesian mouth and foot painters took up Faisal Rusdi's invitation to exhibit 45 of their works at the JS Luwansa Hotel in the capital of Jakarta from 12 to 18 December 2013. This event was accompanied by painting demonstrations and the auction of a painting. The proceeds went to an organisation for people with disabilities. The following artists accepted the invitation: **Muhammad Asroel (Associate Member), Sayang Bangun (Student Member), Salim Harama (Student Member), Sadikin Pard (Associate Member), Patricia Jane Saerang (Associate Member), Sabar Subadri (Associate Member), Benjamin Tan Boon Chuan (Full Member) and Agus Yusuf (Associate Member).**

### Subadri, Sabar

(Associate Member)

- Sabar Subadri took part in the Indonesian painting fair which was held in the city of Surabaya, East Java, from 22 to 24 November 2013. Opened by the Governor of East Java, the exhibition was also accompanied by a seminar which was attended by the artist.

## ITALY

### Barbujani, Mario

(Full Member)

- From 15 to 21 December 2013, Mario Barbujani took part in a collective exhibition, in the course of which he was awarded a diploma for his achievements as a painter.

### Marcantoni, Natalina

(Full Member)

- Natalina Marcantoni held a highly successful solo exhibition at the Arte e Cornici Pavanello arts and crafts shop from 5 to 13 October 2013.

### Carati, Bruno

(Full Member)

- Bruno Carati staged a highly successful exhibition of his paintings from 1954 to the present at the Spazio Museale Sabrina Falzone gallery in Milan at the start of November 2013. The gallery directors placed all their exhibition rooms at his disposal. While the exhibition included a significant collection of carefully chosen literary texts, it focused in particular on Bruno's pictures.

## SOUTH AFRICA

### Swanepoel, Johannes

(Student Member)

- Johannes Swanepoel was awarded a special honour by the well-known South African artist Norbert Schling at the Visual Arts Exhibition which was held in the little town of Cullinan from 10 to 11 August 2013.

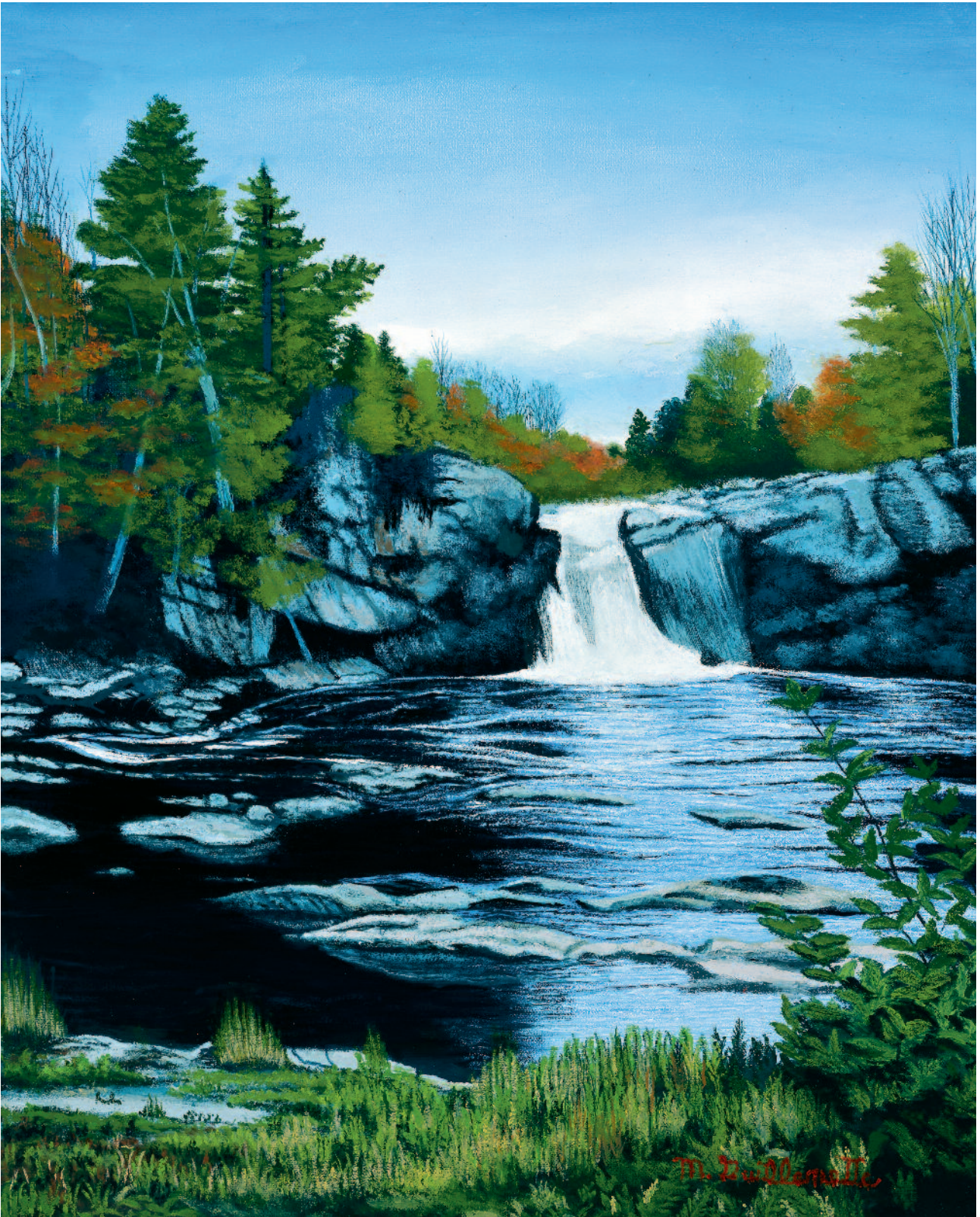
## TUNISIA

### Ben Radhia, Houda

(Student Member)

- Houda Ben Radhia exhibited 27 of her works at the Maison de la Culture Cheikh Idriss in Bizerte from 1 to 9 June 2013. Organised by the alumni association of the upper secondary schools of Bizerte, this solo exhibition was entitled 'Le printemps...H' ('Spring...H').





*Michel Guillemette (Associate Member/Canada), "Autumn wood with lake & little waterfall", oils, 50x41 cm.*

# Information from the office

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## Submission of originals

**The office of the Association kindly asks all members to read and take note of the following information.**

All consignments of originals sent in to the VDMFK are subject to inspection by the Swiss Customs Administration (Liechtenstein is Swiss Customs Territory and part of the Swiss Currency and Economic Area). Import levy is imposed on all originals, which will be paid by the VDMFK.

As artists constantly send their originals to the VDMFK we have commissioned the forwarding agency DHL Logistics AG, Switzerland, to handle this difficult matter.

**We therefore request you to send all your parcels containing originals to the following address:**

**DHL Logistics (Schweiz) AG  
DHL Freight Division  
z.Hd. Herrn Kurt Schäpper/VDMFK,  
Schaan  
Heldastrasse 66,  
CH-9471 Buchs/Schweiz**

Please keep in mind the following points when you send in your paintings:

- no framed paintings
- no passe-partouts
- no eye bolts or other hanging devices
- no oil paintings that are not dry

Please write the following information on the reverse of your original:

Name  
Country  
Original title  
Technique  
on sale or not on sale

With your cooperation you save us additional correspondence and considerably facilitate the work of the VDMFK.

Please send **only** originals to DHL but no correspondence, reports, photographs, catalogues, biographies, etc.

**All your correspondence etc. should be addressed solely to the:**

**VDMFK  
Im Rietle 25  
P.O. Box 818  
FL-9494 Schaan  
Principality of Liechtenstein  
Email: [vdmfk@vdmfk.li](mailto:vdmfk@vdmfk.li)**

## Return of originals

Due to lack of storage we have to return the originals to our artists from time to time. We send back those originals that have already been reproduced or motifs that are not needed for other purposes any more. The VDMFK does not need these paintings any more, so please do not submit the returned originals again. You can use your works for your exhibitions or sell them. However, please take into account that the purchaser does not acquire the right to reproduce the original.

For private sales please use the form of the VDMFK, which has to be signed by the respective purchaser.

# History of the VDMFK

## Taipei 1991: First artists' meeting

The Managing Board was keen for the Association's mouth and foot painters to deepen their friendship among each other. For this reason the Managing Board decided to stage artists' meetings at which members and student members from a particular geographic region would be able to spend a few days with each other. The idea of holding such artists' meetings was also coupled with the intention to stage a conference at which the participating mouth and foot painters would have the opportunity to ask the Managing Board questions and receive answers. In addition, each artists' meeting would be accompanied by an international exhibition of the VDMFK. At the 1988 Delegates' Convention in London, a proposal was submitted to hold the first artists' meeting in Asia and to invite the mouth and foot painters from this continent to the event. And so the first artists' meeting of the VDMFK took place in the capital of Taiwan, in Taipei, from 7-9 October 1991.

50 artists gathered in Taipei to take part

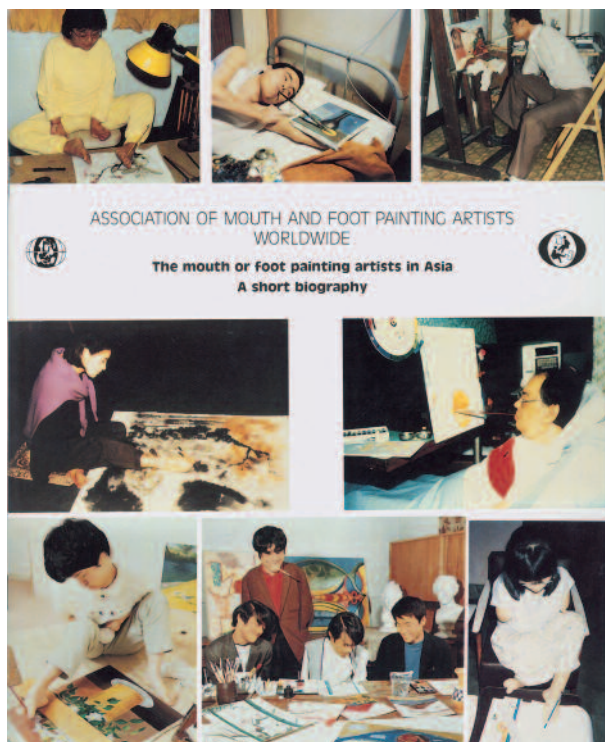


**Mrs Julie Chien, the wife of the foreign minister of Taiwan, opened the international exhibition at the first artists' meeting in Taipei.**

in this artists' meeting. Alongside the members and student members who had assembled from Asia, members of the Managing Board Eros Bonamini, Erich Macho and Legal Consultant Dr. Dr. Herbert Batliner also took part in the event. The participants made full use of the opportunity to address questions to the Managing Board during the conference. Moreover, Member of the

Managing Board Eros Bonamini held a presentation in which he set out the activities of the VDMFK to the Association's members and student members. Due to the absence of the President, Mme Marlyse Tovae, the conference was chaired by Legal Consultant Dr. Dr. Herbert Batliner. In his opening words he said: "This is the first time that we have decided to organise a meeting with members and student members from the Asian countries. I am deeply delighted that so many of our friends have accepted our invitation to gather here at this conference in Taipei. In my capacity as Legal Consultant it particularly means a lot to me that our meeting today enables members and student members in the wider Asian region to get to know each other and hopefully forge the kind of friendship which appears so important for us in the work you are called upon to do."

An international art exhibition of the VDMFK was opened in the Taipei City Library at the artists' meeting. The guests of honour included Mrs Julie Chien, the wife of the foreign minister of Taiwan, who actually opened the exhibition. In her address to the audience, Mrs Chien paid tribute to the achievements of the mouth and foot painters. Most of the 182 works presented at this exhibition were submitted by Asian artists.



**A book about the mouth and foot painters in Asia was also published to accompany the artists' meeting in Taipei.**

# Painting school

**Serge Maudet, VDMFK President and mouth painter from France, reveals further tips and tricks about the art of mouth and foot painting.**

## The sketch and the watercolour

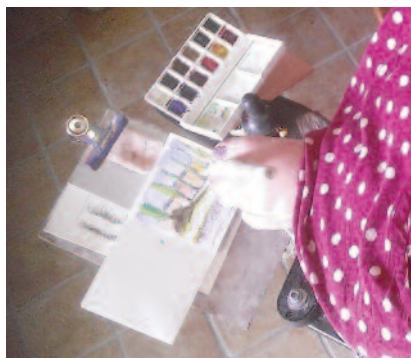
You can use a pencil, brush or ballpoint pen to make an initial sketch.



For the purposes of this exercise I've used a standard ballpoint pen – and ensured that the ink doesn't run on moistened paper.

Choose a landscape or a simple subject. Start off by getting some practise in: make a sketch on normal paper, before you use watercolour paper.

I have prepared the following material:  
paper: 240 g; format: 17 x 25 cm, squirrel hair brush: no. 3.

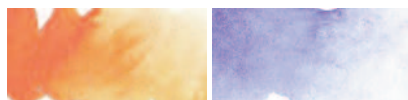


Probably small formats are better suited to all you good foot painters out there.

Begin with a colour sketch for the background (a wall or a sky). Study your

motif carefully in order to determine the approach to coloration which you wish to adopt.

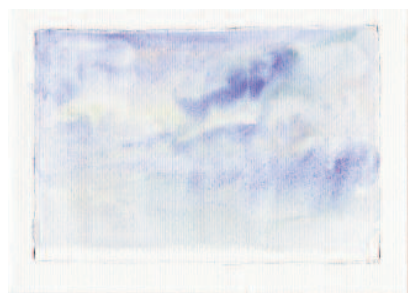
I've chosen warm and cold hues for the sky. Demarcating the areas of colour often proves difficult, particularly in an exercise like this.



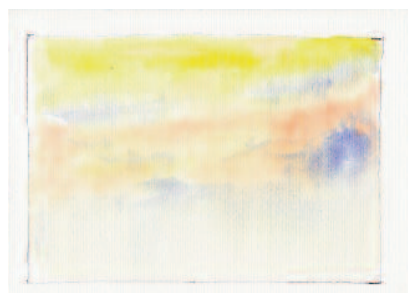
Cadmium orange, dark ultramarine blue



Coelin blue, light cadmium red



Practise by painting skies using different choices of coloration,



and then start your sketch by completely moistening the paper.



Here is how the execution of the watercolour is progressing.



The way we add the colours



makes the picture begin to come alive.



This exercise enables you to explore the motif from various angles in your studio and let your powers of creativity run riot.



*Jim Hodkinson (Associate Member/Australia), "Colourful spheres", oils, 35x23 cm.*

# Publishers' activities

## SPAIN

- The Spanish publishing house held a total of 13 joint exhibitions over the course of 2013. This long series of shows started with an exhibition held at the Cultural Centre in Mérida from 16 to 31 January 2013. A 14-day exhibition opened only a day later at the Antonio Machado Cultural Centre in Madrid. It was followed by exhibitions staged in Pontevedra, Pamplona and Teruel. Works by mouth and foot painters were again on display in Barakaldo and Madrid during May 2013. In July it was the turn of Elche (Elx). This exhibition generated enormous media interest: no less than 11 newspapers and four radio stations covered the event. In September the same paintings were presented in Cáceres and Telde. The Spanish publishing house concluded a highly eventful year by staging exhibitions in Burgos, Leganés and Andújar.



*The painting demonstrations at the opening of the exhibition in Leganés attracted considerable interest. This photo shows mouth painter Florin Anghel (Student Member).*

## SPAIN

- The Spanish publishing house staged a competition among its customers. Member of the VDMFK Managing Board



*Member of the VDMFK Managing Board Prof. Manuel Parreño Rivera hands over the first prize of a portrait to the winner Gloria Salmerón Giménez.*

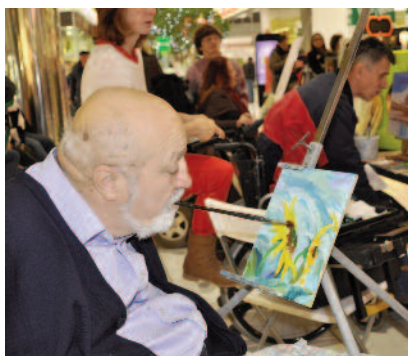
Prof. Manuel Parreño Rivera presented the winner, Ms Gloria Salmerón Giménez, with a portrait he had painted of her. This work measures 81x100 cm.

## SLOVENIA

- The Slovenian publishing house held a workshop at the largest shopping centre of Ljubljana on 4 December 2013. Six artists took part: **Vojko Gašperut (Full Member)**, **Silvio Mehle (Associate Member)**, **Nevenka Gorjanc (Student Member)**, **Angela Medved (Student Member)**, **Dragica Sušanj (Student Member)** and **Željko Vertelj (Student Member)**. The workshop was held from 5 to 8 pm since this was considered the best time to attract the greatest number of visitors. And that's exactly what happened: the mouth and foot painters attracted great interest, with many onlookers left astounded by their painting skills. The artists themselves were thrilled by this event. They emphasised that it had been a very good idea to "go straight to the people" given that exhibitions tended to attract the same groups of visitors. This occasion had furnished them with the opportunity to engage with other sections of the general public.



*The Slovenian mouth and foot painters who took part in the workshop.*



*Full Member Vojko Gašperut.*



*Foot painter Angela Medved at the workshop.*



*Student Member Nevenka Gorjanc.*

# Publishers' activities

## MEXICO

- The Mexican publishing house organised three collective exhibitions last year which featured the works of mouth and foot painters from all over the country.

1. The publishing house organised the collective "Brushstrokes filled with hope" exhibition in the historic city of Morelia. The exhibition opened in the "Jesús Escalera" room at the cultural centre on 9 April 2013. Over 15 artists had gathered there with over 50 original works on display. Mouth painter Jesús Machorro Ruíz from Morelia had organised and managed the rooms for this wonderful exhibition.

2. The publishing house organised the "Brushstrokes filled with tradition" picture exhibition which consisted of 60 original works, one each by all the Mexican artists – an exhibition which explored the theme of "Día de los Muertos" (All Souls' Day). Staged at the "INDAUTOR" National Copyright Institute, the show was held from 21 October to 8 November 2013. Nine mouth and foot painters attended the opening.

3. The publishing house had organised the collective "Spirit of Christmas" exhibition, a show featuring over 30 original works, to the south of Mexico City. The exhibition took place against the backdrop of an old paper-making machine in an elegant shopping centre. Hundreds of families came to see the outstanding exhibition which was held from 8 December 2013 to 7 January 2014. Ten mouth and foot painters gathered at the venue to exchange ideas with the visitors.



**The mouth and foot painters at the collective «Spirit of Christmas» exhibition to the south of Mexico City.**



**Numerous Mexican artists took part in the «Brushstrokes filled with hope» exhibition which was held in Morelia.**



**«Brushstrokes filled with tradition» was the name of the collective exhibition held at the National Copyright Institute.**

