

VDMFK-INFORMATION

ASSOCIATION OF MOUTH AND FOOT PAINTING ARTISTS
WORLDWIDE

July 2015/190



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Dear artists,

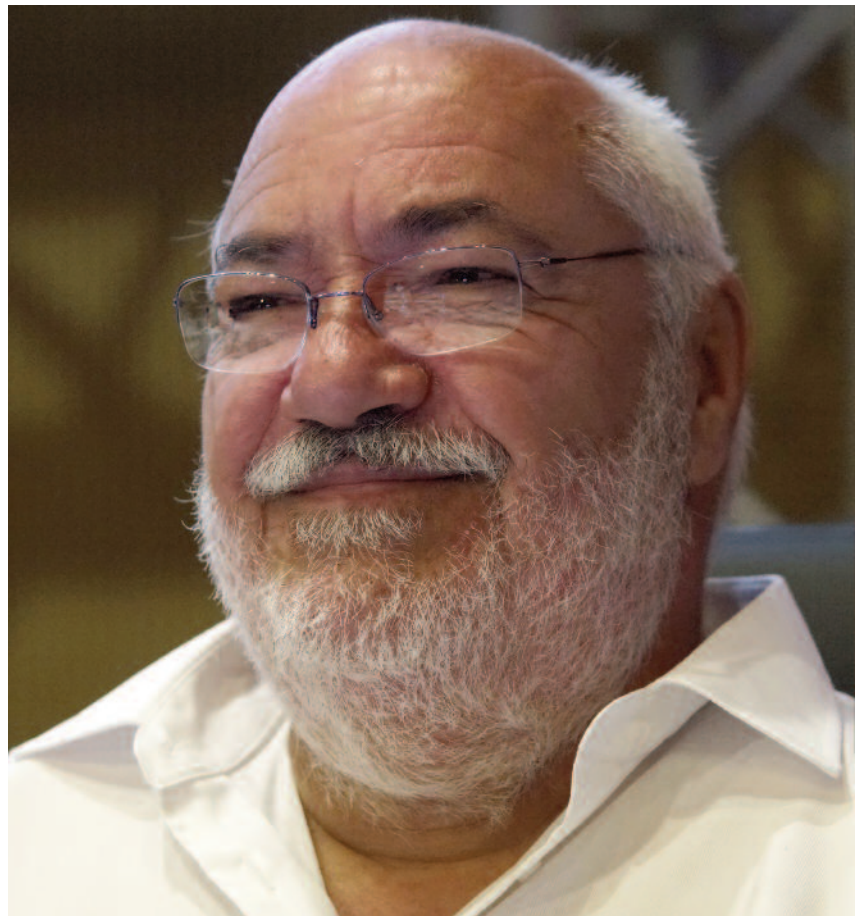
Summer is a good time of the year to stage art exhibitions and a good time for us to promote the interests of our Association.

It would be wrong to forget that we have an exceptional opportunity to play our part in this endeavour. Such opportunities enable us to pursue our vocation with steadfast commitment and happiness, to enjoy our time, and, above all to do all this at our own pace.

I honestly think we should follow the example of the Impressionists. We should escape from our indoor workshops as often as possible in order to paint, draw and soak up new energy in natural outdoor surroundings and under the gaze of passers-by. By doing so, we can be in direct contact with them, share our feelings with them and tell them how our Association helps us build up an individual sense of self-value and self-esteem. Our founder, Mr Arnulf Erich Stegmann, frequently did the same.

And there is another way to ensure people talk about us and draw the attention of the press to us. We can also paint outstanding public figures. Two examples of this are Cristóbal Moreno Toledo's painting of Pope John Paul II and Mariam Paré's portrait of the actor Pierce Brosnan who played James Bond in a series of movies. The artists had the privilege of meeting them in person and presenting each of them with their particular painting. Here, I only mention these two artists, although I know that others have already followed the same route.

I wish to mention another aspect of our Association: somewhat paradoxically, we compete with each other in exhibitions organised by the Association, by the publishing houses or by anyone of you, and yet, at the same time, we act



VDMFK President Serge Maudet from France.

in solidarity because we present the works of all our artists. That also includes any of our artists who lack mobility for various reasons. It is precisely this spirit of solidarity which gives a sense of purpose to 'our' Association.

We shall soon have the honour of celebrating the sixtieth anniversary of the international Association of Mouth and Foot Painting Artists. We can only feel proud of being part of the VDMFK. The reason why we have achieved this result is all down to the individual contribution of each one of us, of the staff working for the Association and of various publishers across the world. I wish to thank all of you for your efforts.

Finally, I hope that our sources of inspiration will never dry up. Creativity should never be allowed to wither on the vine. I shall continue to dedicate all

my energy to upholding, and asking you all to follow, the inspiring example which Mr Arnulf Erich Stegmann set all of us.

*Serge Maudet
President of the VDMFK*

Miscellaneous

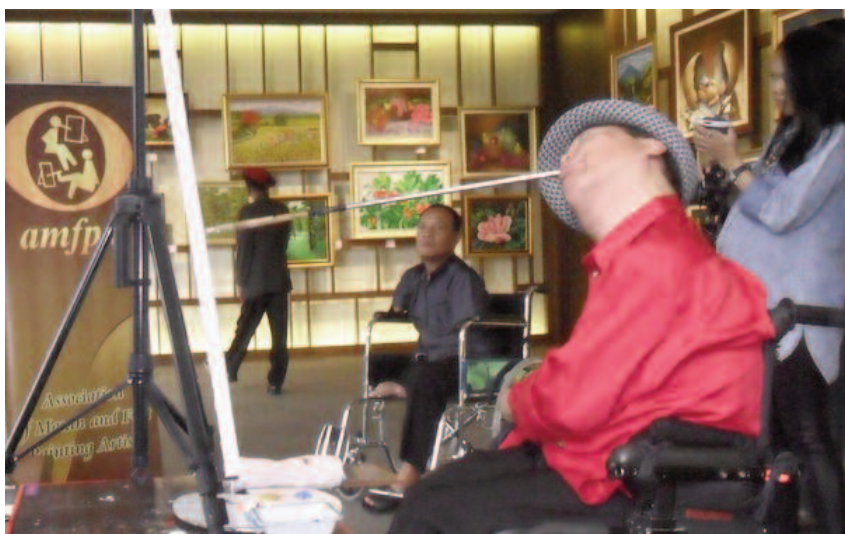
Artists' activities

INDONESIA

- Various artists from Indonesia opened a joint exhibition at the Veranda Hotel in Jakarta on 28 May 2015. The show, which shall run until 30 August 2015, has been organised by Mr **Faisal Rusdi (Student Member)** whose own works are also on display. Further works include paintings by **Mr Sabar Subadri (Associate Member)** and **Mr Yusuf Agus (Associate Member)**. In addition, **Mr Benjamin Tan Boon Chuan (Full Member)** was also invited to participate. The exhibition also includes works by Mr **Muhammad Asroel (Associate Member)** and **Mr Salim Harama (Student Member)**, even though the two artists were unfortunately unable to attend the opening. To mark the opening, the artists provided painting demonstrations and gave a press conference which was attended by over twenty reporters. The artists shall continue to provide painting demonstrations until the exhibition closes on 30 August.



Mr Sabar Subadri, Associate Member from Indonesia, at a question and answer session with reporters.



Mr Benjamin Tan Boon Chuan from Indonesia was invited to take part in the Jakarta exhibition.



The two Associate Members Mr Sabar Subadri (on the left) and Mr Agus Yusuf (in the middle) talking to Student Member Mr Faisal Rusdi (on the right), who organised the exhibition.

Artists' activities

BRAZIL

Ventura, Clênio Marcio (Student Member)

- On 2 April 2015, Clênio Marcio Ventura provided two painting demonstrations which were viewed by 1,400 pupils and students aged between 11 and 17. His works were displayed over a long period of time at the Centro Histórico e Cultural Mackenzie (CHCM) of the Universidade Presbiteriana Mackenzie in São Paulo.

GERMANY

Kolp, Markus (Associate Member)

- Markus is a mouth painter from Augsburg, Bavaria. From 27 March to 26 April 2015, Markus took part in an exhibition entitled *Grauwerte* ("Grey Values") at the Kunsthau in the town of Schwabmünchen. Altogether, 73 paintings, drawings, photographs and sculptures by 64 artists were on display. Markus contributed to the exhibition with a watercolour landscape of reedy marshland.



Mario Cav. Barzon (Full Member/Italy), 'Flowers in a brown pot', oils, 30x40 cm.

Exhibition in Germany



The mouth and foot painters assembled at the exhibition in Frankfurt. VDMFK President Serge Maudet (third from left) also travelled to Germany in order to celebrate with the German artists.

An international exhibition was held in Frankfurt from 4 May to 19 June 2015. The German publishing house showcased over seventy works by thirty-five mouth and foot painters from all over the world in the modern display areas of the 'Haus am Dom' conference and meeting centre in Frankfurt.

Almost all the German mouth and foot

painters and many representatives of the VDMFK attended the opening of the exhibition on 4 May. The Oberbürgermeister – the Lord Mayor – of Frankfurt am Main, Mr Peter Feldmann, assumed the patronage of the exhibition. City Councillor Elke Sautner, his deputy, opened the exhibition and appeared delighted by the wide range of pictures on display. Director Mr Mario Famlonga and President Mr Serge Maudet also

spoke about art and their passionate enthusiasm for painting. Over two hundred guests were particularly moved by the highly personal words of Board Member Mr Thomas Kahlau – the mouth painter first joined the Association in 1986.

Moreover, it wasn't just the exhibition preview which managed to attract a throng of visitors. The Haus am Dom is a conference and meeting centre, so it



Mr Mario Famlonga reviewing the roots of the VDMFK: Arnulf Erich Stegmann was born only a short distance away from Frankfurt.



Mr Thomas Kahlau presents his work 'View of Frankfurt Cathedral' as a gift to the City of Frankfurt. On the left: MFK Managing Director Mr Florian Stegmann with City Councillor Ms Elke Sautner.

Exhibition in Germany



Over two hundred guests and representatives of the press attended the exhibition preview at the Haus am Dom.

regularly hosts events with large audiences. Products from the MFK publishing house, order forms, information material and exhibition catalogues are available at the entrance. A film about Frankfurt-born foot painter Antje Kratz not only offers an insight into her life; it

also impressively demonstrates how her images are created by foot. In addition, Antje frequently provides painting demonstrations or gives interviews to the press at the Haus am Dom. Her PR work is complemented by various information panels about the lives of

German artists and the MFK publishing house. Interested parties can take part in a prize draw and win the Frankfurt skyline as a repro or obtain credit vouchers for the range of paintings on display.



Frankfurt-born Antje Kratz, surrounded by amazed children at her painting demonstration.



Even President Serge Maudet showed the young artists what you can achieve when you paint with your mouth.

Exhibition in Poland

The Polish publishing house held a joint exhibition of Polish mouth and foot painters from 17 April to 17 May 2015.

A gallery in the old quarter of Gdansk hosted a joint exhibition which had been organised by the Polish publishing house. On display were thirty recent works created by Polish mouth and foot painters. The exhibition opened on 17 April 2015. It took place over the course of one month and finished on 17 May 2015. The three Full Members Mr Stanisław Kmiecik, Mr Krzysztof Kosowski and Mr Mariusz Maczka attended the opening. They used the opportunity to provide a painting demonstration which met with great interest among the many visitors. Plenty of people came to the exhibition over the course of the month, partly because of the gallery's central location – it also gave many tourists the opportunity to admire the pictures of the mouth and foot painters.

On the right: The exhibition, which was organised by the Polish publishing house, received extensive coverage in the local media.



Two Full Members of the VDMFK, Mr Stanisław Kmiecik (on the right) and Mr Mariusz Maczka, attended the opening of the exhibition.



Mr Mariusz Maczka during the painting demonstration which accompanied the opening of the joint exhibition that had been organised by the Polish publishing house in Gdansk.



The three Full Members Mr Stanisław Kmiecik, Mr Krzysztof Kosowski and Mr Mariusz Maczka with the representatives of the Polish publishing house.



Robert Thome (Full Member/USA), 'Portrait', oils, 55x75 cm.

We mourn for

ITALY

Fregoni, Tranquillo

Date of birth: 26 March 1956

Passed away on: 10 February 2015

Painting method: Mouth painter

Prof Tranquillo Fregoni suffered from a congenital deformity of the arms and legs, as a result of which he could use neither of them. Despite his disability, he attended elementary and secondary school at which he learned to write and paint with his mouth. In addition, he was also accepted to study at one of the most prestigious art schools in Lombardy, where he took classes under the painter Gino Meloni. Tranquillo was also awarded a diploma after completing a drawing and painting course at the Accademia di Belle Arte di Brera ("Brera Academy of Fine Arts") in Milan. He became one of the VDMFK's Student Members at the tender age of ten years old and then a Full Member of the Association in 1983. As a Student Member, he staged numerous solo exhibitions and often participated in collective exhibitions. He frequently held public exhibitions in Italy. Even so, his paintings were also admired at shows further afield – in Sydney, Madrid, Vienna and



Mouth painter Tranquillo Fregoni had been a Full Member of the VDMFK since 1983. He passed away on 10 February 2015.

Locarno, for example. Tranquillo consistently scored a great string of success with his works. In addition to painting, he was an avid football fan and movie-goer. What's more, he liked to play with computers, listen to music and go off

on protracted journeys in search of characteristic places which then inspired him with ideas for new pictures. Tranquillo Fregoni passed away on 10 February 2015.

MEXICO

Herrera Olivares, Demetrio

Date of birth: 14 May 1932

Passed away on: 20 March 2015

Mouth and foot painter

Demetrio was born without arms, so he was obliged to perform certain activities with his feet as a child. He began drawing and painting with his right foot in 1950 and swiftly took part in various competitions, winning small cash prizes as a result. The Association first awarded Demetrio a scholarship in 1964. This enabled him to focus even more intensively on painting. He became a Full Member of the VDMFK in 1981. In addition to his work as an artist he was

also happy to indulge in numerous hobbies and pastimes including singing, music and football. Demetrio's approach to his work was firmly rooted in the modern Mexican school of painting – muralism. His paintings explored and reflected the landscapes of his home country. He conveyed the warmth of his surroundings with great realism and clarity. Demetrio was extremely fond of depicting his fellow countrymen and women. He displayed his works to the general public in a series of individual and group exhibitions in Mexico over the course of many years. This also drew the attention of the media, which frequently granted him extensive coverage.



Demetrio Herrera Olivares passed away on 20 March 2015.

Deceased Student Members

BRAZIL

Waiâpi, Pituco

Date of birth: 13 October 1977

Passed away on: 9 January 2015

Painting method: Mouth painter

Pituco was diagnosed with polio two months after his birth. He was then sent for treatment to Bélem because according to local tradition, children of índios tribes who had been born virtually disabled were supposed to be killed by their parents. And so, with the aid of a state organisation, Pituco found himself in a so-called 'índios house'. After years of physiotherapy and surgery he started walking, though with difficulty. Once back with his family and his tribe he fell ill with malaria, followed by a severe intestinal infection, as a result of which his muscles were weakened to such an extent that – once again – he could no longer walk or use his arms and hands. His first experience of mouth painting came at the age of eleven. Although he started out by teaching himself to paint, he subsequently took lessons under the artist and professional teacher Sara Kubistscheck. Pituco took part in a number of exhibitions in hospitals, universities, at the government building in Brasília and in other places. The VDMFK first supported him as a Student Member in 2004. Pituco Waiâpi passed away on 9 January 2015.

MALAYSIA

Bin Rakib, Ismail

Date of birth: 3 September 1970

Passed away on: 5 November 2014

Painting method: Mouth painter

Ismail was born on 3 September 1970 with shortened arms and legs. He taught himself to paint with his mouth at school. The VDMFK first supported him as a Student Member in 1998. Ismail enjoyed painting subjects and

motifs from his homeland. His work displayed great artistic talent which he further developed by attending painting classes. Ismail Bin Rakib passed away on 5 November 2014.

NEW ZEALAND

Flutey, Anthony Joseph

Date of birth: 5 February 1965

Passed away on: 18 January 2015

Painting method: Mouth painter

Anthony ('Tony') was born on 5 February 1965. In November 1991 he fell six feet from a scaffold during work at the Accident and Emergencies unit of Christchurch Hospital where he was employed. During the accident he injured his C4/5 vertebra, leaving him unable to use his arms or legs from that time on. He discovered mouth painting in the course of occupational therapy and came to enjoy it more and more over time. The VDMFK first supported him as a Student Member in 2004. Anthony Joseph Flutey passed away on 18 January 2015.

POLAND

Paraszczyk, Henryk

Date of birth: 17 April 1954

Passed away on: 2 February 2015

Painting method: Mouth painter

Henryk was born in Majdan Stary on 17 April 1954. During his military service he lost both his arms and a leg in a railway accident which occurred in July 1977. For a number of years he gradually felt his desire to paint stir within him. However, his wish long remained a secret desire. Only after Henryk had seen a report about a mouth painter on TV did he decide to take on this challenge. So he began his first attempts at painting in March 1994. The VDMFK first supported him as a Student Member in 1996. Henryk arranged for his portrait of the Holy Father to be presented to John Paul II and commented

«When I paint, my thoughts are with God, who helps me overcome the difficulties in my life». Henryk Paraszczyk passed away on 2 March 2015.

The significance of painting

The significance of painting as seen by mouth painter Francisco Palos Jiménez, Associate Member from Spain.

What does art mean to me?

For me, art means everything. It was certainly my life-saver! I discovered the world of painting and art a few years ago when I had my accident. And yes, I was alive, but it felt as if I wasn't – I no longer had any illusions. In a way, my physical limitations also froze up my power to think: I hadn't a clue what I could do in order to lead a more fulfilled and happier life.

But then I finally found the answer one day. It was like this: I gave my little daughter, who was very young at that time, a set of watercolour paints as a present. And she said: "Hey, come on, Dad, see if you can paint better than me!" It was very hard for me because I could barely move and was unable to play, draw or paint with her. Just at that moment I remembered there was an association of people with disabilities who use their mouths to paint. It was the moment when I thought, well, why not give it a try? This simple gesture, the simple courage



Mouth painter Francisco Palos Jiménez, Associate Member from Spain, working away on a new picture.

of holding a paintbrush in my mouth so I could draw with my daughter, this tiny but tremendous moment changed my whole life. I started drawing and painting with her and I liked what I saw.

I spent hours of my time on painting. I started to feel better. The more I painted, the happier I felt. In a sense, I shared this feeling of happiness with my family and friends and they in turn shared their happiness with me when

they saw my pictures.

I reminded myself that it hadn't really been such a long time since I was feeling very down and depressed because I was confined to a wheelchair. Gradually I stopped thinking that I was "just" a disabled person and became someone else: a simple, modest artist. I felt happy when I woke up each morning because I knew I had a goal in front of me: I found myself constantly thinking about what I could draw or paint. I longed for the time when I would sit in front of a canvas and allow my imagination to run wild, when I could play with colours and their nuances. In fact I could think of nothing else but painting.

I was and still am a novice. Art, you see, is something you never ever stop learning. You keep discovering new and interesting things, you add them to your pool of knowledge and skills, and you use them in your work. After all, in one sense you don't have to "understand" art. Art can be felt and loved, so when you create art, you feel completely alive in yourself. It's strange how the way you bring your colours to the canvas can frequently vary, depending on how you're feeling at any given moment.



Francisco Palos Jiménez (Associate Member/Spain), Flores en la Puerta ("Flowers around the front door"), acrylic, 50x65 cm.

The significance of painting

Artists not only paint what they have before them. They also integrate their feelings and emotions into their work. The same also happens with viewers: the way they enjoy artworks depends on their mood.

Much later on in a journal I saw Cristóbal Moreno Toledo talk about the Association of Mouth and Foot Painting Artists. This aroused my curiosity, so I carefully looked into the matter. I couldn't believe how kind and helpful the people at the VDMFK were right from the start.

They encouraged me to join the Association, which gave me a great feeling of happiness. They advised me to contact the great painting masters, to visit art galleries, to read books on the subject and to watch videos about painting. It felt as if there weren't enough hours in the day for me to absorb everything there is to know on the subject of art. One day I met the great painter and professor, Teresa Andorra, who gave me very good and useful advice. She taught me to see art from a different perspective. I learned a lot from her and I am extremely grateful to her for that. One of my greatest joys was when I saw how one of my images had been reproduced on a post card. Another was when I was adopted as an Associate Member of the VDMFK. No, I couldn't believe it. For me, it meant that my style of painting had finally been recognised.



Francisco Palos Jiménez (Associate Member/Spain), Rupit Pueblo ("Rupit and Pruit"), acrylic, 54x65 cm.

When people ask me today what painting means to me, I simply say that art is all about creativity and enjoyment, about work, happiness and the imagination, about the search for colours. I think all these things are incorporated and distilled into a painting.

I wouldn't want to finish without having first thanked the Association for giving me the opportunity to meet many of my colleagues. I've been able to talk about our shared problems with them and we've had fun, too, discuss-

sing the tricks of our trade and ideas with each other. All this has helped me create my pictures. All this is what art means to me. For this I'd like to express my deep gratitude to the Association.

Francisco Palos Jiménez
Associate Member/Spain

Palos Jiménez, Francisco (Spain)

Date of birth: 18 November 1960

Place of birth: Barcelona

Associate Member since: 2014

Painting method: Mouth painter

Francisco Palos Jiménez was born in Barcelona on 18 November 1960. He went to elementary school but had already started working at the age of eleven. At the age of 25, he had an accident which left him a quadriplegic. His arms and legs have been paralysed ever

since. Only a short time afterwards, and quite by chance, Francisco happened to discover his love of art while he was playing at mouth painting with his daughter. He continued to paint as a form of therapy. It rapidly became his hobby to such an extent that he would spend seven or eight hours a day in front of canvases. And so he taught himself to be a mouth painter. The VDMFK first supported him as a Student Member in 1996. Coincidentally, this was the same year in which he presented his works to the public at his first

solo exhibition. He became an Associate Member of the Association in 2014. Francisco enjoys travelling as way to find inspiration for his paintings. He likes painting children with animals and landscapes, all of which are inspired by his journeys. Francisco conveys his enthusiasm through his colourful and lively approach to painting. He started out using oil paints but now prefers acrylics. Even so, he also enjoys painting with crayons, charcoals and watercolours.

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 almost 60 years old – history. This time around we present Peter N. Spencer, a celebrated mouth painter from the UK.

Peter N. Spencer was voted onto the Board of Directors of the Association at the General Assembly which convened in Madrid in 1981. He was born in Wallasey, Cheshire, on 20 August 1924. After completing his secondary education, he went to Cambridge University. He lost the ability to use his arms and hands in an aircraft accident which occurred on 27 March 1945. Peter had always been fond of drawing so he took classes at Wallasey Art School. With great perseverance and tireless effort he learned to paint and draw using his mouth. The Association adopted him as a Student Member in 1957. He was inducted as a Full Member of the VDMFK in 1959. Peter was a well-known artist in the UK. His works were



Peter N. Spencer was voted onto the VDMFK Board of Directors at the General Assembly which was convened in Madrid in 1981.

exhibited in numerous cities across the UK and around the world. Above all, he enjoyed painting portraits and landscapes. As a former pilot, he also preferred

to depict aircraft. He was accorded a great honour when he was awarded the MBE at Buckingham Palace for his human and artistic values in 1980. Board member Peter N. Spencer passed away on 7 October 1987 after a short stay in hospital.



Peter N. Spencer, 'Trident Jetliner of BEA.' oils, 61x92 cm.



Peter N. Spencer, 'Indira Gandhi', oils, precise size unknown.

ARGENTINA

Barcia, César Andrés

(Student Member)

- César had a highly eventful year in 2014. In addition to various appearances in the media, he presented his works and provided a painting demonstration at the B.A.D.A. art gallery in Pilar (Buenos Aires) during August. He was also asked to paint a picture in recognition of the outstanding social commitment of Padre José María "Pepé" Di Paola, a well-known figure in Argentina. The accompanying event was attended by celebrities and media representatives from all over the country. César was invited to take an active part in the final awards ceremony. In October, he held workshops for about forty students at an event during the Art Week which was held by the Escuela de Educación media N° 7 Roberto Arlt (Roberto Arlt secondary school No. 7) in Tortuguitas (Buenos Aires).

Moya, Maria Celeste

(Student Member)

- María provided a painting demonstration for children at the Centro General Belgrano. She also exhibited her works at exhibitions held in San Carlos de Bolívar (Buenos Aires) and San Fernando del Valle de Catamarca (Catamarca).



Ms María Celeste Moya during her exhibition in Catamarca.

Furthermore, María took part in the second Lola Mora artists' gathering at the city museum of La Rioja (La Rioja).

BRAZIL

- The Amor ao Futebol (Love of Football) exhibition was held in São Paulo from 10 June to 31 July 2014. It took place in the Memorial da Inclusão of the Secretária de Estado dos Direitos da Pessoa com Deficiência de São Paulo (Inclusion Memorial of the São Paulo State Secretariat of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities). The following VDMFK mouth and foot artists participated in this event: **Mr Gonçalves Borges (Associate Member)**, **Ms Daniela Caburro (Student Member)**, **Ms Maria Goreti Chagas (Student Member)**, **Mr Marcelo da Cunha (Associate Member)**, **Mr Marcos Santos Ronaldo Cupertino (Student Member)**, **Mr João Paulo da Silva Fontenele (Student Member)**, **Mr Luciano Oliveira Alves do Nascimento (Student Member)**, **Ms Rose Orth (Student Member)**, **Mr Clênio Ventura (Student Member)** and **Ms Eliana Zagui (Student Member)**.

Chagas, Maria Goreti

(Student Member)

- In December 2014, Maria held several talks accompanied by painting demonstrations at a business convention for managers, managing directors and board members. Hundreds of people attended the events, which were also covered by the media. In addition, she staged a painting workshop and provided painting demonstrations near the Tamanduateí metro station in São Paulo.

Fontenele, João Paulo

(Student Member)

- João took part in an exhibition held by the Sociedade Brasileira de Belas Artes (SBBA - the Brazilian Society of Fine Arts) in Rio de Janeiro from 16 to 21 October 2014. This joint exhibition attracted some three hundred and fifty visitors. João also participated in an exhibition based on submarines to mark the centenary of the Força de Submarinos (Brazilian Submarine Fleet). The art show, which was held from 17 to 28 Ju-

ly 2014, took place in the Museu Naval e Oceanográfico (Navy and Oceanographic Museum) and drew in about two hundred visitors each day. **Student Members Eduardo Moreira de Melo and Luciano Oliveira Alves do Nascimento** also exhibited some of their works at the same exhibition.

Gomes, Ivanildo

(Student Member)

- Ivanildo participated in a number of trade fairs held during 2014. These included the Reatech trade fair which took place at the São Paulo Exhibition & Convention Center on 12 April. The fair attracted over 2,000 visitors each day. One day later, on 13 April, Student Member Nalu Sousa Nascimento Santana also exhibited one of her works and provided a painting demonstration at the same event. Ivanildo also took part in an exhibition at a fair for trade, commerce, agriculture and tourism in São Paulo from 21 to 24 May 2014. Over five thousand people came to the art show. He also exhibited his paintings at the 17th Festa Ítalo Saltense which was held in the art pavilion of the city of Salto (Buenos Aires) on 21 June 2014 and went on to use the craft fair as a platform at the São Paulo Exhibition & Convention Center on 3 July. This event attracted around 2,500 visitors.

Hoffmann, Jeferson Luis

(Student Member)

- Jeferson joined other artists in exhibiting their works at an art show accompanying the 25th Festival trade fair in Nova Petrópolis. The fair was held from 1 May to 1 June 2014. This event attracted 60,000 visitors.

Moreira de Melo, Eduardo

(Student Member)

- Over the course of 2014, Eduardo exhibited his works on two occasions at the headquarters of the Assembleia Deus Vitória em Cristo (ADVC – Victory in Christ Assembly of God, a Pentecostal church). The first exhibition was held on 27 May, the second on 6 July. About thirteen thousand people came

Continued on page 16

Artists' activities

to view the two exhibitions. In addition, he displayed two of his paintings at the Brasil Beleza e Cores (Brazil: Beauty and Colours) exhibition which took place from 2 to 16 October. He won a bronze medal and was awarded a certificate at the accompanying competition.

CHINA

Yang, Jie

(Associate Member)

- Jie took part in a number of calligraphy and painting exhibitions and exchange events from June until October 2014. On 7 June 2014 he par-



Mr Jie Yang, Associate Member from China.

ticipated in an event for networking and enjoyment of art in calligraphy and painting in Shanghai, at which he also provided a demonstration of his mouth painting skills. Some of his paintings were also on display at the landscape artists and painters exhibition which was held at the Shanghai Yunjian China Art Academy on 16 June 2014.

He took part in the 2nd Songshan District Guest Exhibition for Calligraphy and Fan Painting on 15 August 2014.

On 30 September 2014 he participated in the 5th Major Exhibition on the Art of the Citizens of Shanghai – Special Fine Arts Exhibition, for which his "Impression of a Little Town" painting, executed in the traditional Chinese style, was selected as an exhibit.

On 28 October 2014 Jie took part in the opening of a cultural and art festival for Shanghai citizens entitled "Dream of the East – Calligraphy – Special exhibition" to celebrate 65 years since the

founding of the People's Republic of China" by exhibiting his calligraphic work "The joy of rain on a spring night".

COLOMBIA

Mahecha, Luís Alberto

(Student Member)

- Luís came top in a Christmas competition which was staged to design a postage stamp. He painted his winning picture by mouth and called it "Campo Navideño" (Countryside Christmas).



The winning picture was used in the design of a Christmas postage stamp.

CROATIA

Perkovic, Stjepan

(Student Member)

- Stjepan was accorded a great honour when the President of Croatia, Ms Kolinda Grabar-Kitarovic, visited the Bajka nursery school in Zagreb on 24 March 2015. Stjepan had already held three workshops with children at the same



The President of Croatia, Ms Kolinda Grabar-Kitarović, receiving a gift painted by Student Member Mr Stjepan Perkovic.

nursery school in the previous year. Although Stjepan was not actually present, the President was presented with one of his paintings entitled Trees in Winter as a gift. Subsequently, the President wrote to Stjepan and expressed her deep admiration of his work. Only a few days later, on 17 April 2015, Stjepan held a further workshop at the same nursery school.

- On 27 March 2015 Stjepan and the Croatian Student Members Ms Maria Kristina Božicevic, Mr Alen Kasumović and Ms Marija Glavic-Pocuc held a workshop and provided a painting demonstration in front of more than three hundred pupils at the primary school in Ozalj.

Radic, Goran

(Student Member)

- Goran opened his sixth solo exhibition on the Croatian island of Mali Lošinj on 1 December 2014.

GREECE

Apostolou, Maria

(Student Member)

- Maria held a solo exhibition over twelve days in the town of Lavrio during June 2014. This exhibition attracted many art lovers from Lavrio, from the local region as well as foreign tourists visiting the town. She was deeply honoured by the presence of political figures such as the Secretary of State for Culture and Tourism, the regional governor and the mayor of her municipality.

INDONESIA

Agus, Yusuf

(Associate Member)

- Yusuf exhibited his works at the Hotel Aston in Madiun from 22 December 2014 to 30 January 2015. The city mayor opened the exhibition. Yusuf took this opportunity to provide many painting demonstrations. Together with **Sabar Subadri (Associate Member)**, he also took part in the 26th FKY (Festival Kesenian Yogyakarta) in Yogyakarta.

GREECE / SWEDEN

- Two exhibitions were held in April and May 2015 to commemorate and honour the works of the outstanding Greek artist and Full Member Ilias Raftopoulos, who passed away last November. The first exhibition opened in the Swedish capital of Stockholm on 16 April 2015 and lasted until 30 April 2015. It was entitled "Remembering Ilias" and took place in the Folkkulturcentrum. Ilias enjoyed pain-

ting at this centre of art, music, theatre, song and dance. The second exhibition, "Painting by the Disabled", was held during a local cultural event in Kalyves on 9 and 10 May 2015. Kalyves is the town where Ilias was born, lived and also died in November 2014.



Full Member Mr Ilias Raftopoulos passed away in November 2014.

ta which was held from 20 to 31 August 2014.

Harama, Salim (Student Member)

- Salim Harama took part in an exhibition and a Fun Object workshop in Yogyakarta from 29 December 2014 to 7 January 2015.

Rusdi, Faisal (Student Member)

- Faisal took part in the ASEAN Festival of Disabled Artists in Myanmar from 3 to 7 December 2014.

Saerang, Patricia Jane (Full Member)

- Patricia took part in the meeting of watercolour portrait artists which was held on 1 September 2014. This three-day event featured communal painting sessions and exchanges dealing with watercolour portrait painting. She also provided a painting demonstration in Cibubur on 1 November 2014 in memory to commemorate a deceased volunteer worker at the local church.

Subadri, Sabar (Associate Member)

- Sabar had the great honour of receiving the 2015 award in the category "Never Give Up" from Liputan 6, Indonesia's flagship TV news programme. He was awarded this distinction on 20 May 2015 and provided a painting demonstration at the prize-giving ceremony which was broadcast throughout the country. At the end of 2014 Sabar

also took part in the Kalitaman Fair in Kalitaman Salatiga which was held from 12 to 14 November 2014. He exhibited his paintings and provided painting demonstrations at one of the stands in the fair.

ITALY

Calloni, Luigi (Full Member)

- Luigi took part in an art exhibition which was held at the Santuario della Madonna di Montenero, a pilgrimage church near Livorno. Padre Giuseppe Casetta, the Abbot General of the sanctuary's Vallumbrosan monastic order, presented him with a certificate of recognition for his artistic achievements during Easter 2015.



Full Member Mr Luigi Calloni is awarded his certificate of recognition.

Portelli, Santina (Full Member)

- Santina exhibited her works at the

Museo Internazionale Italia Arte in Turin from 7 to 21 April 2015.

MALAYSIA

- The two **Student Members Mr Mohd Khairuddin bin Che Rani and Mr Siti Aishah bt Yaacob** participated in the ASEAN Festival of Disabled Artists from 3 to 7 December 2014 by presenting their works to many members of the public.

- **Student Members Mr Mohd Khairuddin bin Che Rani, Mr Mat Jamil bin Ramli, Ms Aliah binti Talib and Mr Razali bin Rohani** provided a painting demonstration in front of a delegation from Myanmar at the office of the Malaysian publishing house on 9 September 2014.

MEXICO

- In order to celebrate Mexico's Independence Day on 16 September the Mexican publishing house participated in the Revolution and Independence in Mexico exhibition which was held at the Museo Nacional de la Revolución (National Museum of the Revolution) from 17 to 21 September 2014.

- The Mexican publishing house held its traditional exhibition entitled The Spirit of Christmas from 10 to 18 November 2014 at the Instituto Nacional del De-

Continued on page 18

Artists' activities

recho de Autor (National Institute of Authors' Rights). Artists from all over the country present new paintings for public display at the exhibition each year on opening day.

- Over forty original paintings were on display at an exhibition organised by the Mexican publishing house from 1 to 12 September 2014. The opening day featured painting demonstrations by various artists.

- In collaboration with the government of the Mexican state of Durango, the two **Student Members Ms María Rosalía Reyes Torres and Mr Jesús Machorro Ruiz** organised an exhibition called Pintando con el corazón (Painting with the heart). Over forty original paintings were on public display at the Museo de Historia y Arte Contemporáneo (Museum of History and Contemporary Art) in Durango from 6 June to 7 July 2014.

Corona Martínez, Lucia Emilia (Student Member)

- Lucia was invited to take part in the 1st Mostra Internazionale d'Arte EXATEC (First EXATEC International Exhibition of Art) in Milan, Italy. She contributed two paintings to the exhibition and was there in person for a total of four days.

Rios Martínez, Omar (Student Member)

- Omar organised the La creatividad no tiene límites (Creativity has no limits) exhibition which was held in Faro de Oriente (an arts and crafts factory, centre and school in the eastern part of Mexico City) from 15 May to 30 June 2014. Over thirty paintings were on display.

Uribe Aguayo, José Gerardo (Full Member)

- José completed his doctoral studies and was awarded a doctorate degree in art.

NEW ZEALAND

Sharman, Grant William

(Full Member)

- Full Member Grant William Sharman presented HRH Prince Henry ("Harry") of Wales with a painting depicting the

prince next to a helicopter. In his capacity as patron of the RFU Injured Players Foundation in England, Prince Harry used the time during his visit to New Zealand to visit the New Zealand Rugby Foundation which offers support to seriously injured rugby players and their families.



Mr Grant William Sharman, Full Member from New Zealand, had the honour of meeting HRH Prince Henry ("Harry") of Wales and presenting him with a painting.



Mr Grant William Sharman, Full Member from New Zealand, with the painting depicting HRH Prince Henry ("Harry") of Wales in front of a helicopter.

POLAND

Galos, Jerzy (Student Member)

- Jerzy held a solo exhibition at the Pałac Sokół in Skawina during which he presented twenty-four oil paintings and four watercolours.

Kmiecik, Stanisław (Full Member)

- Stanisław opened a solo exhibition at the Gminny Ośrodek Kultury (GOK - municipal cultural centre) in Stalowa Wola on 11 January 2015. This major local event received wide media coverage. Representatives from the local authorities, artists' communities and artists came to the exhibition. Moreover, children who attended the gatherings spontaneously took up the opportunity to paint with him. The exhibition, which was held over a month, featured sixty paintings.

Sapinska, Agnieszka Maria (Student Member)

- Agnieszka held a solo exhibition at the GOK municipal cultural centre of Bolimów on 23 April 2015 and also gave a painting demonstration in front of many children who viewed a number of her works on 29 April 2015. 2013 also proved to be a very busy year for Agnieszka during which she held a total of sixteen solo exhibitions. Many of these shows took place in schools where she also provided painting demonstrations.

Warachim, Katarzyna (Student Member)

- Katarzyna held a solo exhibition from featuring over thirty of her paintings at a prestigious art gallery in Bydgoszcz from 27 June to 26 July 2013. Her art show was held at the local Galeria Sztuki Ludowej i Nieprofesjonalnej (Gallery of Folk and Non-Professional Art). The exhibition met with lively interest on the part of local people and the city authority.

SLOVENIA

- The Slovenian publishing house opened the Blejsko Jezero & Slovenska Mesta (Lake Bled and Slovenian Towns) exhibition in Lendava on 13 March 2015. Incidentally, the same art show had already been staged at two galleries in Ljubljana in the run-up to this event. The following five artists appeared at the opening: **Mr Vojko Gašperut (Full Member)**, **Ms Angela Medved (Student Member)**, **Mr Silvo Mehle (Associate Member)**, **Mr Željko Vertelj (Student Member)** and **Mr Benjamin Žnidaršič (Full Member)**. The exhibition finally closed on 4 May 2015.

Gasperut, Vojko (Full Member)

- From 5 June to 30 August 2014 Vojko held a solo exhibition at the Salus company's art gallery at which he displayed twenty-seven large pictures on salt works and salt marshes.

Mehle, Silvo (Associate Member)

- Silvo exhibited eleven of his acrylic paintings at a solo exhibition in Ljubljana lasting three weeks in October 2013. The exhibition was called Ljubljana in Drawings and Colours.

Znidarsic, Benjamin (Full Member)

- Between August 30 and September 6, 2014 painted in Piran (Slovenia) 49 international artists Ex-tempore. (Ex-tempore Piran - International Painting and Ceramics art festival). After an assessment of the works on display, the best of them were chosen for a public exhibition. Of the 215 works which had been submitted, 90 were selected. Here, Benjamin's "Sea" painting won a prize, so the mouth painter was represented in the subsequent art show. He has said that receiving this award was the greatest success of his artistic career.

SPAIN

Planells Alos, Javier (Student Member)

- Francisco Javier took part in a group exhibition to commemorate the quadricentenary of Cervantes' and Shakespeare's death at a New York art gallery from 25 April to 14 May 2014. He exhibited two paintings at the show.

TUNISIA

Radhia, Houda Ben (Student Member)

- Houda presented her works and provided a painting demonstration during an entertainment show that was staged for people with disabilities from Bizerte and the surrounding area on 18 January 2015. Numerous representatives of the media covered the event. A few days later, on 23 January 2015, she presented her paintings at a charity gala dinner held at a restaurant in Bizerte for the La Voix De L'Enfant (The Voice of the Child) association.

USA

Senecal, David R. (Student Member)

- David participated in an art competition and exhibition of disabled artists which was hosted and promoted by the Sunnyview rehabilitation hospital a long while back. Twenty-five of over six hundred participants were selected for the exhibition and to act as judges. Of these twenty-five, he received an honourable mention and an inspiration award for his "Hunting Lodge" painting as well as a modest cash prize.

Vieira, Eusuclemia Rufino (Student Member)

- Eusuclemia participated in the art exhibition which was organised by the Brazilian submarine fleet from 17 to 28 July 2014. One of her paintings was awarded a prize at the same exhibition.

Continued on page 20

Artists' activities

USA

Pare, Mariam (Student Member)

- When the former James Bond actor Pierce Brosnan became aware of mouth painter Mariam Paré he was fascinated by her work and wanted to meet the artist in person. So he invited her to his

house in Malibu. During the visit, Mariam and Pierce exchanged views on art and its therapeutic value since both of them had been obliged to cope with personal tragedies in their lives. Mariam presented Pierce with a portrait of him in his typical James Bond pose. He was highly impressed and delighted, saying "This portrait is incredible of me as James Bond... so this is just exemplary art-

work... I can't do what you do." In many respects the meeting was a coming together of two highly creative people, both of them inspired by personal tragedy and united by a shared love of art.



US Student Member Ms Mariam Paré presented movie actor Mr Pierce Brosnan with a portrait she had painted of him in his famous role as James Bond.

Mariam also took part in the 8th Brasil, Beleza e Cortes (Brazil, Beauty and Colours) exhibition held by the Sociedade Brasileira de Belas Artes (SBBA - the Brazilian Society of Fine Arts) and was awarded the silver medal. Last but not least, she also took part in the 29th exhibition of the pupils of the SBBA, at which she also had the distinction of receiving a silver medal on 16 October 2014.

VENEZUELA

- The two Venezuelan artists Mr Ítalo Violo Villalobos and Ms Elizabeth Hidalgo participated in a collective exhibition of art and painting which was held at the Teatro Alfredo Sadel in the city of Cantaura (Anzoátegui) on 29 August 2014. Sixteen local artists took part in the event. Since the exhibition

was held during the holiday period, it attracted visitors from all over the country. The art show was so successful that it was extended until 15 October 2014.

Hidalgo, Elizabeth (Student Member)

- Elizabeth Hidalgo took part in Talento sin Límites: Seis Perspectivas en el Espacio (Unlimited talent: Six perspectives in space), a group exhibition organised by the Oficina Enlace con las Comunidades en Situaciones Excepcionales (Liaison office for links with communities in exceptional situations) which itself forms part of the Ministerio del Poder Popular para la Cultura ("Poder Popular" Ministry of Culture). This exhibition, which took place at the Centro de Estudios Latinoamericanos Rómulo Gallegos (CELARG - Rómulo Gallegos Centre of Latin American Studies) and which opened in Caracas on

29 November 2013, ran until 4 December 2013. It was held to mark the UN's International Day of People with Disabilities. Elizabeth also took part in a further group exhibition which was held at the Museo Alejandro Otero in Caracas from 3 December 2013 to 4 January 2014.



Weldgber Tekeste (Associate Member / Eritrea), 'Floral still life', oils, 38x46 cm.

Information from the office

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**

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.

Call for portrait photos

Dear artists,

We constantly require your portrait photos for our database, our website, our publishers and for various other purposes. Unfortunately, not all the photos we have of you are up-to-date. For this reason, please send us a recent photo of you, preferably a recent colour photo which shows you painting in front of a canvas. Please only submit high definition photos and send them to the following e-mail address: office@vdmfk.li.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

VDMFK Head Office

Social networks

Many of our artists are also active on social networks. Facebook in particular enjoys increasing popularity. The reciprocal linking of Facebook accounts of artists raises public awareness of the VDMFK and mouth and foot painters across the world. In addition, it offers mouth and foot painters the opportunity to obtain new ideas and derive new sources of inspiration for their artistic activities. It is for this reason that we regard the reciprocal linking of mouth and foot painters worldwide via Facebook as a positive development.

History of the VDMFK

Mexico City 1994: Second Artists' Gathering

The success of the first Artists' Gathering in Taipei in 1991 strengthened the Board's resolve to hold further such meetings in order to give mouth and foot painters the opportunity to deepen their friendship with each other. This is why the second Artists' Gathering was held in Mexico City from 10 October to 15 October 1994. Invitations were sent out to Full Members, Associate Members and Student Members from Central and South America. Altogether, a total of thirty-five mouth and foot painters from the states of Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Mexico, Peru and Venezuela attended the event.



Participants in the Artists' Gathering clearly did not want to miss out on the opportunity to attend the opening of the international exhibition.



Board Member Mr Eros Bonamini presenting Ms Cecilia Ocelli de Salinas González, First Lady of the Republic, with a painting.



Ms Cecilia Ocelli de Salinas González, First Lady of the Republic, with mouth painter Alberto Álvarez from Argentina and his mother.

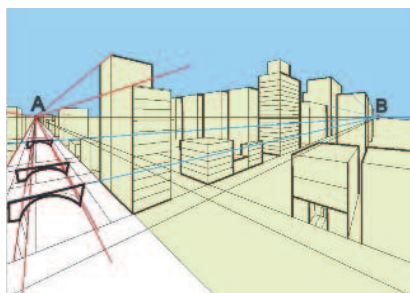
The Artists' Gathering was held in parallel to an international exhibition which took place at the Centro Cultural San Angel under the auspices of Ms Cecilia Ocelli de Salinas González, First Lady of the Republic. She also opened the exhibition. On display were 175 originals by artists from all over the world. The exhibition, however, focused primarily on the works of mouth and foot painters from Latin America. Consequently, the exhibition was widely covered in the media. TV stations and several newspapers provided detailed reports about the art show.

During the Artists' Gathering, mouth and foot painters attending the event were also given the opportunity to present questions to the Board at a specially convened conference. Legal Adviser Dr Herbert Batliner, Director Franz Moosleithner and President of the Jury Mr Hans Massberger provided the answers. The Gathering was complemented with an excursion to the pyramids of Teotihuacán and Guadalupe, as well as a talk by Full Member Mr José Gerardo Uribe Aguayo of Mexico on 'Psychology and Painting'.

Painting school

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

In the last issue of Painting School we studied perspective and already noticed that the next stage in our work would focus on vertical and horizontal lines, based on our study of bridges.



Even so, in order to ensure we proceed on solid ground, please let me return first to the issue of horizontal vanishing lines before we take a look at vertical lines.

I'd like to set out what I intend to do by taking a seafront in an urban landscape as an example.

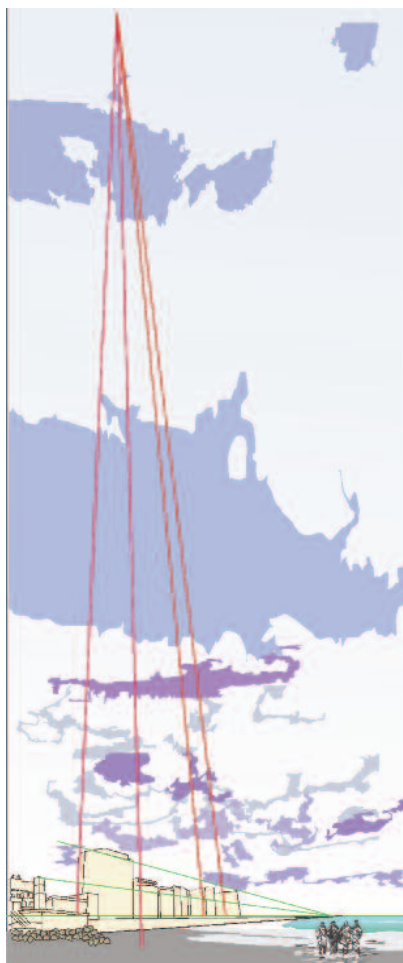


The horizon line is located where the sky meets the earth. The vanishing point is located directly in front of us.

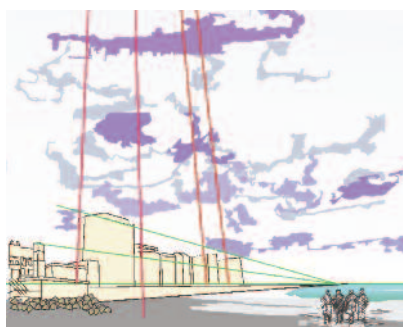


Let's just imagine we're with four people walking along the beach who are located underneath the base of the buildings.

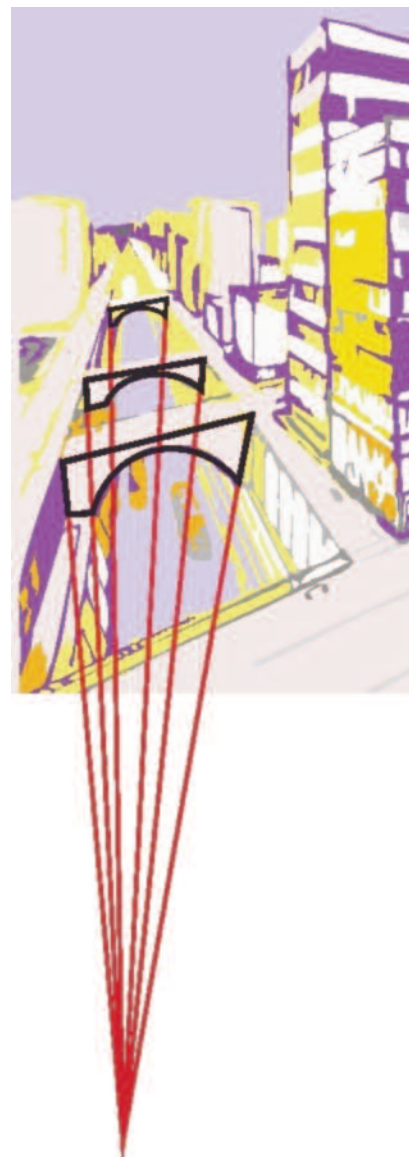
Vertical perspective plays an important role here.



We now have to imagine a vanishing point in space where the vertical edges of our structures meet again.



This vanishing point only exists in our imagination.



We do the same to achieve the illusion of depth conveyed by the bridges.

All we now need to do is apply colour to make the urban landscape look attractive.





Yohai Levy (Associate Member/Israel), 'Roses', watercolour, 35x50 cm.

Publishers' activities

GREAT BRITAIN

- The UK publishing house organised a series of «Artists in Residence» shows at leading galleries in major UK cities during October 2014. Each exhibition saw a different artist provide painting demonstrations for a day at major galleries in the surroundings of outstanding paintings by world-renowned artists. The tour was supported by the UK's Culture Minister who said: «The Mouth and Foot Painting Artists [MFPA] is a brilliant and inspiring initiative that shows how disability need not stand in the way of creativity». Spearheading the tour was Full Member Ms Alison Lapper MBE, who provided a painting demonstration at the famous Wallace Collection in London. Other participating artists included Full Member Mr



Full Member Ms Alison Lapper MBE shows youngsters how she paints during the UK gallery tour.

Keith Jansz, who painted at the Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery, Student Member Ms Rosie Moriarty-Simmonds, who showcased her painting skills at the National Museum

Cardiff, and Student Member Ms Vanessa Haarhoff, who demonstrated her paintings at the View Art Gallery in Bristol.

INDIA

- The Indian publishing house staged a painting demonstration for numerous Bollywood actors on 17 January 2015. This joint display featured the following mouth and foot painters: **Mr Ganesh Kumar (Student Member), Mr Bandenawaz Badhshah Nadaf (Student Member), Mr Jesfer Pulikkathody (Student Member), Mr Narayanan Ramakrishnan (Student Member), Mr M. V. Ravindran (Associate Member) and Mr Nadeem Riyasat Ali Shaikh (Student Member)**. The Bollywood actors Ms Rati Agnihotri, Mr Gul Panag and Ms Shreya Sharan were also accompanied by fashion designer Mr Rajat Tangri.



Artists from India taking part in the January painting demonstration.



Student Member Mr Ganesh Kumar with Bollywood star Ms Rati Agnihotri and her son.



Student Member Mr Jesfer Pulikkathody with Bollywood star Ms Shriya Saran.



The art of painting as demonstrated by India's mouth and foot painters.

Publishers' activities

CROATIA

- The Croatian publishing house organised a joint exhibition featuring works by Croatian artists at the People's Open University of the city of Velika Gorica (about 15 km from the capital of Zagreb) from 10 to 16 November 2014. The following mouth and foot painters contributed their original works to the art show: **Ms Maria-Kristina Božicevic (Student Member), Ms Marija Glavicic-Pocuc (Student Member), Mr Alen Kasumovic (Student Member), Mr Stjepan Perkovic (Student Member), Mr Goran Radic (Student Member) and Ms Ana Slonjšak (Student Member)**. The exhibition was opened by city mayor Mr Dražen Barišić. The opening was preceded by a workshop by artists from Slovenia and Croatia including **Mr Vojko Gašperut (Full Member), Mr Benjamin Žnidaršić (Full Member), Mr Silvio Mehle (Associate Member) as well as Ms Tina Pavlovic (Student Member) and Mr Željko Vertelj (Student Member), Ms Maria-Kristina Božicevic (Student Member), Ms Marija Glavicic-Pocuc (Student Member), Mr Stjepan Perkovic (Student Member) and Mr Goran Radic (Student Member)**. The workshop also featured a painting demonstration for preschool, primary and secondary pupils who admired and were astounded by the skills of the mouth and foot painters.



Children were amazed by the skills of the talented mouth and foot painters.



Schoolchildren were astounded by the painting demonstrations they attended.



Mouth and foot painters from Croatia and Slovenia who took part in the workshop accompanying the joint exhibition of the Croatian publishing house.

