

VDMFK-INFORMATION

ASSOCIATION OF MOUTH AND FOOT PAINTING ARTISTS
WORLDWIDE

July 2016/192



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**Ladies and gentlemen,
Dear artists,**

«On the importance of mutual sharing».

It is with great pleasure that I wish to share some feelings, impressions and ideas with you today.

You are no doubt already aware that I like to talk with other artists and exchange ideas on how we can devise techniques and tools which allow us greater independence in pursuing our shared enjoyment of painting.

In order to extend this exchange of ideas to our fellow colleagues from different countries, I kindly ask you today to consider what kind of tools would help each of us hold a paintbrush in the mouth or foot – a movable easel, perhaps, a rotating palette or anything else which might make it easier for us to pursue our passion.

Please do not hesitate to send us your suggestions. We intend to publish the best ones in our twice-yearly magazine for the benefit of each artist in our Association. Thanking you all in advance for your ideas!

I'd now like to briefly talk about the importance of enabling children to discover this 'other' form of art in schools and at leisure centres.

I regularly take part in exhibitions which are organised by the French publishing house and held all over France. We reserve a day exclusively for the pupils and students of the municipality in which the exhibition is held. We painters run painting workshops, organise guided tours and hold discussions with and for the children. Above all, we talk about issues of disability, about being different and about the 'other' form of art. It is always a great joy to meet and speak with the children. Our task is to stimulate the development of the society we live in and change the way it views us.



VDMFK President Serge Maudet from France.



Today, I also wish to share with you something which has been close to my heart over many years. Specifically, I wish to mention someone to whom I am extremely grateful. For many reasons, I wish to thank Mr Hans Massber-

ger for his incredible devotion to the artists of the Association and, indeed, to the Association itself. Hans was fourteen years old when he first met Mr Erich Stegmann, the founder of our Association. He was present at the founding of the Association in 1956 and at all the major events which have taken place ever since. Today, Hans is still as close to the artists as he has always been. For these and many other reasons I wish to convey to him my profound and heartfelt gratitude.

I hope you enjoy reading this, the latest issue of our magazine and look forward to receiving new works of art from you in the near future.

*Serge Maudet
President of the VDMFK*

Miscellaneous

Publishers' activities

GREAT BRITAIN

- In its concept for an exhibition, the UK's MFPA publishing house came up with the singular idea of including British celebrities. A key element of this exhibition was that each of the artists should paint a picture displaying the mouth or feet of ten different celebrities. For this reason the show was called 'The Mouths and Feet that made them famous'. In this case the publishing house focused on celebrities in the fields of music, sport and TV entertainment. They included Olympic Games time trial winner Sir Bradley Wiggins and Mr Johnny Wilkinson, the renowned rugby player and member of the English squad which managed to win the Rugby World Cup in 2003. This idea came to fruition at an exhibition which was held at London's Camden Image Gallery in October 2015. The initial lead-in event was attended by **Alison Lapper (Full Member)**, **Tom Yendell (Full Member/Member of the Board)** and **Barry West (Scholarship Holder)** on behalf of the ten participating artists. The other artists whose works were also on display consisted of **Leanne Beetham (Scholarship Holder)**, **David Cawthorne (Full Member)**, **Steve Chambers (Full Member)**, **Katrina Gardner (Scholarship Holder)**, **Rosie Moriarty-Simmonds (Scholarship Holder)**, **Ian Parker (Associate Member)** and **Robert Trent (Associate Member)**.



Mr Tom Yendell (on the left), Ms Alison Lapper (centre) and Mr Barry West (on the right) at the opening of the exhibition.



Mr Barry West (sitting) and Royal Ballet dancer Bennett Gartside whose foot is depicted in the painting in the background.

Artists' activities

ECUADOR

Guillermo, Santiago (Scholarship Holder)

- Mr Santiago Andrés Guillermo Llivisaca took part in the ninth international Abilympics which were held in the French city of Bordeaux in March 2016. This event is considered the world's biggest competition for people with disabilities. In this case he scored a major success by being honoured for outstanding achievements in the 'painting' category. Mr Guillermo was the sole representative of Latin America to

take part in this competition.

MEXICO

- The Mexican artists organised the Chocolate – Deleite de los sentidos ("Chocolate – a sensual delight") exhibition depicting 21 colourful artworks which narrate the history of chocolate and cacao - the fruit which comes from Mexico. The Mexican APBP publishing house and the artists presented these works at the Centro Cultural Mexiquense Bicentenario, a cultural centre located in San Miguel Coatlinchán, Texcoco, State of Mexico from 8 April to 31 May 2016.

POLAND

Sapinska, Agnieszka (Scholarship Holder)

- Mouth painter Ms Sapinska held a highly successful solo exhibition at the municipal and cultural centre of Bolesławiec from 9-27 May 2016.





Aleksandr Ivanov (Associate Member/Belarus), 'Spring Landscape with two Children at a Swing', oils, 51x40 cm.

Exhibition in Austria



Austrian mouth and foot painters attending the opening of the exhibition are seen here with the guests of honour at the vernissage.

St. Florian Monastery hosted an international exhibition which was organised and staged by the Austrian publishing house. 160 works by 80 artists were on display from 6 to 24 April 2016.

The Austrian publishing house organised an international exhibition which was held at St. Florian Monastery. On display were 160 works by 80 artists from 29 countries. Some 330 guests attended the opening and a further 3,000 visitors made full use of the opportunity

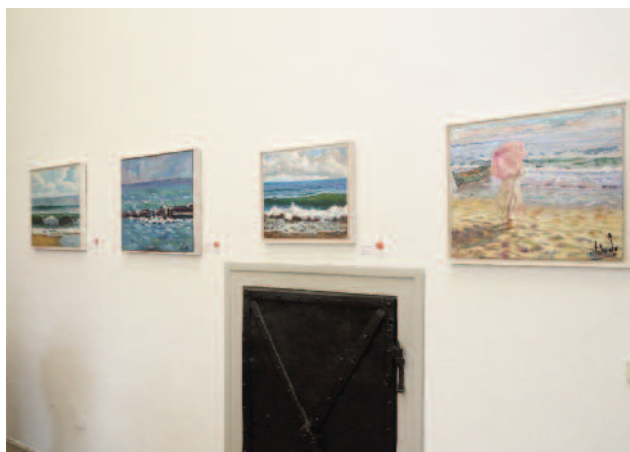
to admire the pictures of the foot and mouth painters.

High-ranking guests of honour

Guests of honour attending the vernissage included the Governor of Upper Austria, Dr Josef Pühringer, Provost and Consistorium Member Mr Johannes Holzinger, in whose monastery the exhibition was held, the well-known reporter of the Austrian Broadcasting Corporation (ORF), Ms Claudia Lind, as well as VDMFK President, Mr Serge Maudet, and VDMFK Director, Mr Mario Famlonga.

Words of praise

«The works on display cover a spectrum ranging from landscape paintings and portraits to interpretations of classic works of art. They offer a profound insight into the dreams and desires of the artists», the Monastery wrote on its website. VDMFK President Serge Maudet commented that «these works should best be regarded as presentations of inner views, feelings, dreams and visions.» In his opening address Governor Pühringer remarked that the works on display offered an example of



160 works by 80 mouth and foot painters from 29 different countries were on display at the exhibition.

Exhibition in Austria



VDMFK President Mr Serge Maudet was delighted to have the opportunity to address a few words to the assembled guests.



Full Member Paulus Ploier presenting the Governor of Upper Austria, Dr Josef Pühringer, with a portrait he had painted of him.

human greatness and creative energy above and beyond aesthetic experience. In particular, they not only expressed inner emotions but were also synonymous with visual expressions of great determination and outstanding skills, he said. Provost Johannes Holzinger expressed his great pleasure that the Monastery would be hosting the works of the renowned artists for a month. The fact that the exhibition rooms faced the basilica could only enhance the stimulating atmosphere, he went on to say. «After all, each of these pictures reveal the inner worlds of the painters

who express themselves in all manner of different ways: each depiction is an authentic expression of life.» The Provost pointed out that the Monastery had managed to stage the exhibition thanks to the excellent national and international contacts maintained by Augustine Canon Dr Ferdinand Reisinger. He further commented: «Created by very special people, these special works of art can now be viewed and fully appreciated in a special house.»

Representatives from Austria

Various artists from Austria also took this opportunity to attend the opening of the exhibition. They included Mr Josef Habeler (Associate Member), Mr Heinz Halwachs (Full Member), Mr Thomas Pezeshki (Scholarship Holder), Mr Paulus Ploier (Full Member) and Mr Weldegaber Tekeste (Associate Member). Mr Ploier presented a clearly delighted Dr Josef Pühringer, the Governor of Upper Austria, with a portrait he had painted of him.



VDMFK Director Mario Famlonga (second from left) also took part in the vernissage.



Prälat Konsistorialrat Johannes Holzinger, in whose monastery the exhibition was held.

Exhibition in Slovenia

Scholarship Holder Angela Medved, foot painter from Slovenia, celebrated her 84th birthday at the end of May. This makes her the oldest Scholarship Holder in the VDMFK. The Slovenian publishing house honoured its artist with a lifetime exhibition.

The VDMFK has supported Angela Medved from Slovenia as Scholarship Holder for nearly 30 years. Recently the foot painter celebrated her 84th birthday. This offered the Slovenian publishing house a good reason to honour the artist's lifetime achievements with a lifetime exhibition.

An eventful life

Angela was born the fourth child in a family of eleven on 27 May 1932. She spent her childhood in a small village. Currently, she lives in the vicinity of Maribor. Right from birth she was unable to use her arms like other children. Thanks to her irrepressible willpower, however, she managed to do everything which others did even though she was different. She began to write with her feet at the age of six. As a little girl she learned to use her feet to carry out the kind of everyday tasks which were



Slovenia's mouth and foot painters were keen not to miss the opening of the lifetime exhibition which the Slovenian publishing house had organised in honour of the artist Angela Medved.

necessary for her to lead an independent life and to become integrated into society. She now knits, sews, writes and paints with her feet and she taught herself foot painting.

Exhibition

The exhibition opened on 12 February 2016. Her family, many of her friends and Slovenia's mouth and foot painters were delighted to attend the opening.

Altogether, 28 of her works were exhibited at the Salus company gallery. Also on display were various crochet tablecloths and woven baskets and flowers which the artist had made with much love and effort using her feet. The exhibition lasted until 11 May 2016 and proved highly popular with the public.



Angela Medved (on the left) talking to Scholarship Holder Željko Vertelj.



Foot painter Angela Medved (on the right) with Klara Soos, head of the Slovenian publishing house.



David M. Nolt (Associate Member/United States), 'White Fence & Swallow in Green Landscape', oils, 51x41 cm.

We mourn for

Deceased Scholarship Holders

ARGENTINA

Marcos Romano, Ramón

Date of birth: 13 September 1964
Passed away on: 25 October 2015
Painting method: Mouth painter

Ramón Marcos Romano was born in Buenos Aires in 1964. Ramón was involved in a serious car accident which left him a quadriplegic in December 1993. Four years later, in 1997, he began mouth painting: the only way to express his artistic potential which he had always known to exist. He became a VDMFK Scholarship Holder in 2001. The artist preferred to paint watercolours covering a wide range of subjects. Ramón Marcos Romano passed away on 25 October 2015.

CZECH REPUBLIC

Šrámek, Petr

Date of birth: 13 September 1954
Passed away on: 8 January 2016
Painting method: Foot painter

Petr Šrámek was born in Česká Lípa on 13 September 1954. Born a twin, Petr's tragic forceps delivery resulted in him suffering from perinatal encephalopathy, a so-called spasmus quadriparesis imbecilitas. This meant that he was barely able to move his arms and legs. With the aid of his sister, the foot painter learned to paint and write with his feet in his childhood and had already taken part in a major London exhibition in 1988. Further solo and group exhibitions were to follow. Petr became a VDMFK Scholarship Holder in 1993. Petr Šrámek passed away on 8 January 2016.

FRANCE

Hamache, Abdeltef

Date of birth: 14 June 1952
Passed away on: 1 May 2016
Painting method: Mouth painter

Abdeltef Hamache was born in Lyon (Rhône-Alpes) on 14 June 1952. Abdeltef successfully completed his studies of the humanities (sociology, psychology and philosophy). In 1974 the artist contracted a rare disease called syringomyelia (a disease of the spinal cord with the formation of cavities in the grey marrow) which left him a quadriplegic. In February 2002, he began mouth painting in the course of his occupational therapy programme and became determined to master this field of activity. The VDMFK first granted him a scholarship in 2003. Abdeltef Hamache passed away on 1 May 2016.

INDIA

Elangovan, Naidu

Date of birth: 22 August 1950
Passed away on: 2 April 2016
Painting method: Mouth painter

Naidu Elangovan was born in Ammapalayam (Tamil Nadu) on 22 August 1950. Naidu served in the Indian Air Force until he had a disastrous diving accident in May 1974. This event left him a quadriplegic, which made it impossible for him to use his limbs. He began learning the art of mouth painting by himself in 1977. His first paintings were presented in the course of an exhibition before wide sections of the public in 1978. In 1981, the artist exhibited his works on the premises of the State Bank of India in Pune. This exhibition was held to mark the occasion of the International Year of Disabled Persons. It was followed by further exhibitions which were held with great success throughout India. He became a VDMFK Scholarship Holder in 1984. Naidu Elangovan passed away on 2 April 2016.

ITALY

Galvan, Sonia

Date of birth: 20 August 1970
Passed away on: 17 February 2016
Painting method: Foot painter

Sonia Galvan was born in Thiene (Vicenza) on 20 August 1970. Having suffered from severe spasticity since birth she was left unable to use her arms. Sonia began painting and drawing with her left foot in early childhood. She taught herself everything she was able to do with her feet. Sonia became a VDMFK Scholarship Holder in 1998. The foot painter preferred to use colouring crayons. Sonia Galvan passed away on 17 February 2016.

SOUTH AFRICA

Fouche, Elsie C.

Date of birth: 21 February 1954
Passed away on: 12 November 2015
Painting method: Mouth painter

Elsie C. Fouche was born in Pietersburg (today's Polokwane) on 21 February 1954. After finishing her secondary school education she completed and passed a computing course. Elsie had an accident while swimming which left her arms and hands paralysed. The artist started drawing and painting with her mouth in early 1981. She attended an art class for this purpose. She became a VDMFK Scholarship Holder in 1981. Elsie C. Fouche passed away on 12 November 2015.

USA

Koehler, Jeremy Kortney

Date of birth: 4 May 1977

Passed away on: 29 January 2016

Painting method: Mouth painter

Jeremy Kortney Koehler was born in Amarillo (Texas) on 4 May 1977. Having graduated from high school, he suffered severe injuries in a car accident in June 1995 which left him quadriplegic (C4-5). He decided he wished to become a mouth painter in 2002. He began by teaching himself before he started taking private art lessons with a renowned artist. As a mouth painter, he took part in several exhibitions and organised numerous solo exhibitions in his area, each of which was crowned by success. The VDMFK first granted him a scholarship in 2004. Jeremy Kortney Koehler

passed away on 29 January 2016.

Patton, Shirley

Date of birth: 1 May 1947

Passed away on: 2 January 2016

Painting method: Mouth painter

Shirley Patton was born in Rector (Arkansas) on 1 May 1947. In 1971, she graduated from Memphis State University in English and psychology before moving with her husband to Whittier, California, and beginning her career there as medical transcriber. Shirley set up her own company in 1981. In September 1988, at the age of 41, she was diagnosed with chronic progressive multiple sclerosis. Her condition deteriorated so much that she could no longer work and was obliged to give up her company. After her divorce, Shirley Patton was left alone with her 10-year-old daughter. Having been left to mana-

ge life completely on her own, she found herself unable to make a sustainable livelihood and was obliged once again to move to the closest members of her family in Memphis. Her medical condition continued to deteriorate and she gradually became dependent on a hospital bed. Through her struggle against her disease she discovered the energy to develop various activities despite her disability. In the summer of 1995, she began teaching herself to paint using her mouth. A year later, in 1996, the VDMFK granted her a scholarship. Shirley Patton passed away on 2 January 2016.

Deceased publishers

GREECE

Baïba, Claire

It is the sad duty of the Association to inform our members that Ms Claire Baïba, local VDMFK manager in Greece and Cyprus, passed away on 8 January 2016. Claire was born in northern Greece and studied law at the University of Athens, as well as international law in Paris. She soon developed a connection with and sensitivity towards the work and the activities of the Association since her uncle, Mr Christos Baïbas, was a mouth painter and the first Greek member of the Association. In 1991, Claire initiated the activities of the VDMFK in Greece in collaboration with our publishing house in the UK. Her efforts to promote the work of the Association resulted in increasing success on the Greek market, so she extended her activities to Cyprus. She looked for talent and invested much time, energy and resources to encourage new members. Her commitment brought



Ms Claire Baïba, our publisher in Greece, passed away on 8 January 2016.

five new artists from Greece and Cyprus to the VDMFK over the past 25 years. Claire embodied a unique combination of business acumen and outstanding implementation skills coupled with em-

pathy, optimism, and a genuine interest in people. She was a born leader with a look and feel of realism and spirituality, which in turn was immediately and deeply felt by those around her in a passionate, unconventional and meaningful manner. While she was devoted to her family - to her husband and two children - she always summoned the energy to support and help others. Many people regarded her as a mentor. Her bright and cheerful personality as well as her love of life will always be remembered - the world is smaller without Claire.

The significance of painting

The significance of painting as seen by mouth painter John Louw, Associate Member from South Africa.

My greatest interest in life was to work with metal and all my training was directed at achieving this goal. But my hopes and dreams were dashed before my nineteenth birthday. On my way home from work I had a motorcycle accident which left me quadriplegic. For the first time in my life I felt totally lost. I had to go through my course of rehabilitation 600 km away from my home.

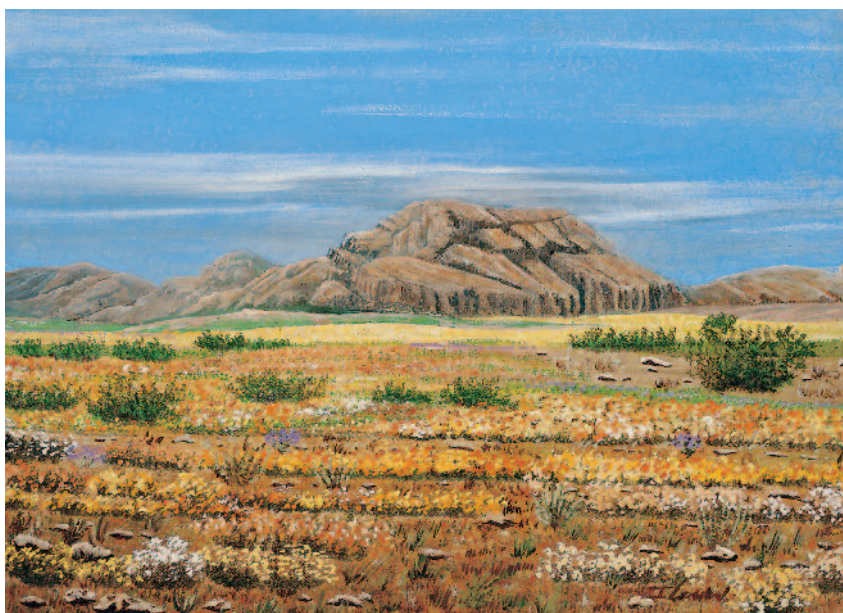
Having returned home after a very traumatic year, I had to start coping with life again. I was totally disoriented and had no idea how I could regain my independence – I was obsessed by this thought. Although my attempts to recover my independence were met with a lot of good will and compassion, ultimately, they were geared towards helping me accept my pitiful fate. At this time everyone was doing their best to help me accept the fact that I would be dependent on the welfare of others for the rest of my life.



John Louw from South Africa has been an Associate Member of the VDMFK since 1997.

After some very long and frustrating years, I met a VDMFK scholarship holder. I watched him at work and admired his determination and single-

mindedness. Thanks to his inspiration and encouragement, I took up mouth painting.



John Louw (Associate Member/South Africa), 'Namaqualand Springtime', oils, 30x40 cm.

I read everything I could find about Arnulf Stegmann, the founder of VDMFK, and felt increasingly inspired by his life, his struggle and his ideas.

Suddenly, a door opened up before me. This new inspiration gave me an enormous boost. I now had something I could try to master again in life. The day I received the VDMFK scholarship proved that my efforts were not in vain. Now I could work towards a completely independent future in which I would not have to rely on others. The financial support I initially received from the VDMFK was extremely important to me. As the years went by, my personal development became increasingly important to me. People gradually offered me respect

The significance of painting

instead of sympathy. I can now exhibit my work alongside non-disabled people and view my abilities as being on the same level as theirs.

For me, the significance of painting is that from being a desperate young man I have become a confident personality with a future, a family and a life-long commitment to painting.

Arnulf Stegmann's ideas remain alive thanks to the hard work of the VDMFK managers. The Association has inspired people like myself for over fifty years and I am convinced that it will continue to inspire many more in the years to come. I can only thank you all!

*John Louw
Associate Member/South Africa*



John Louw (Associate Member/South Africa), 'White Flowers', watercolour, 37x27 cm.

Louw, John

Date of birth: 26 January 1949

Place of birth: Namaqualand

Associate Member since: 1997

Painting method: Mouth painter

In 1967, 18-year-old John Louw had a serious accident on his mountain bike which left him paralysed in all four limbs. He took up mouth painting a few years later and soon made good pro-

gress. By granting him a scholarship in 1987, the Association enabled him to study painting under renowned painters and artists. John successfully completed his art diploma course in 1993. He has been an Associate Member of the VDMFK since 1997.

John's favourite motifs are African wildlife. In addition, he enjoys painting landscapes of his South African homeland. Although his preference is for oil

painting, he also likes watercolour painting.

John lives in a small South African village called De Aor. The poverty that he saw and experienced in and around the village led him to set up a home for street children. Today, this home offers accommodation to around thirty-five children.

VDMFK personalities

In this section we are honoured to introduce you to mouth and foot painters who have rendered outstanding services to the VDMFK in the course of its nearly 60-year history. This time around we present former President Marlyse Tovae.

Marlyse Tovae passed away after a short illness in her home town of Geneva on 28 July 2001. Mouth and foot painters all around the world mourned for their President, who had led the Association for over fifteen years.

Marlyse was born without arms in Strasbourg on 27 July 1933. Even though she was still a young child, she had already learned to perform daily tasks by using her feet. After completing elementary school, Marlyse attended a high school for girls. She displayed great talent and dedicated herself to painting and drawing at a very early

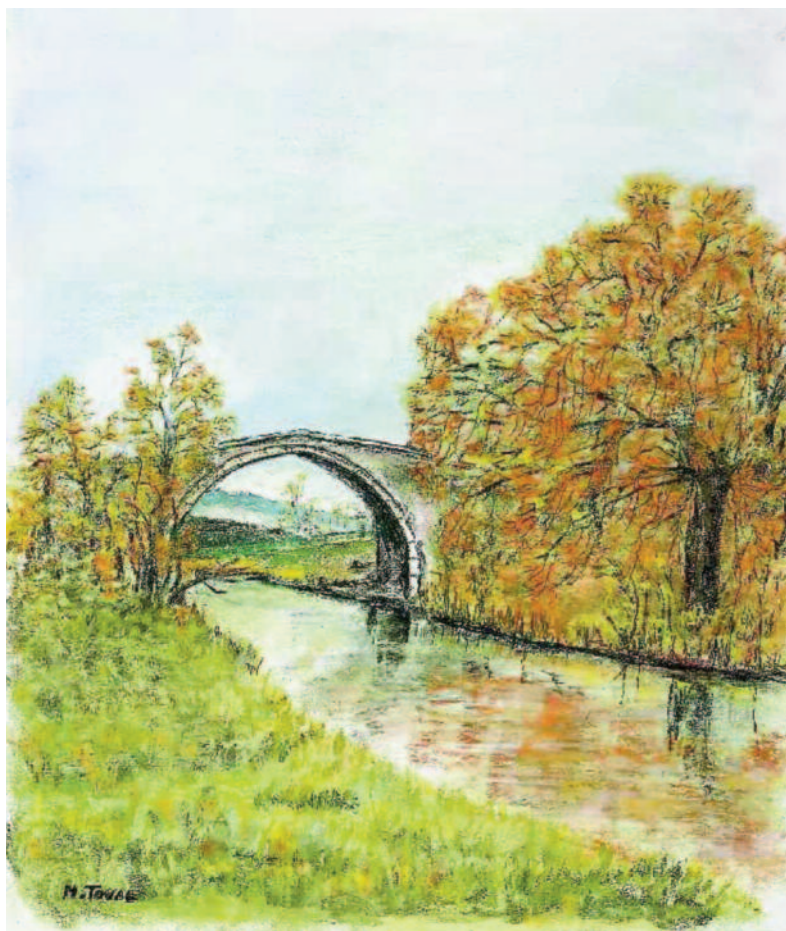


Ms Marlyse Tovae presided over the VDMFK for fifteen years before passing away on 28 July 2001.

stage. Marlyse painted with her right foot. Her feet had long become highly sensitive organs and tools that enabled her to meet all her needs in life. Later on

she studied foot painting in Strasbourg under the well-known painter Marthe Kiehl and attended the Strasbourg art school. She began winning awards even before she had completed her training. Initially, this petite artist produced still lifes, landscapes and compositions which were powerfully expressive. Marlyse saw the centre of her artistic interests in her depictions of animals. Gradually, she turned more to non-objective painting and also produced ceramics, metalwork as well as large-scale mosaics. These works bordered on perfection in regard to their handcrafted treatment and expressiveness.

Marlyse was one of the founding members of the Association. She was voted onto the Board of the VDMFK at the General Assembly which was held in Edinburgh in 1959. Following the death of Arnulf Erich Stegmann, the VDMFK's founder and first President, she was elected President at the General Assembly in Madrid in 1985. Marlyse took part in exhibitions in many cities around the world; she presented her works in Paris, Strasbourg, Vienna, Rome, Sydney, Zurich, Tokyo, Stockholm as well as many other places. Marlyse received many awards and honours during her lifetime.



Marlyse Tovae, 'Bridge in Autumn Mood', chalk, 62x51 cm.

ARGENTINA

Barcia, Cesar (Scholarship Holder)

- In November 2015 Mr Barcia was invited to provide a painting demonstration to mark the International Day of Persons with Disabilities at the Bioparque Temaikèn zoo. This event aroused great interest and can be regarded as a great success.

BRAZIL

Dias de Souza, Danielle (Scholarship Holder)

- Ms Dias de Souza participated in the «Ninth Arts and Crafts Fair» in Rio de Janeiro and in the «Salão Rio 450 anos - Encantos Mil» (450 years of Rio - 1,000 delights) show at the Museum of Fine Arts in Rio de Janeiro in March 2015. In addition, she took part in an exhibition held at Petrobras Research and Development Centre (Cenpes) on 17 April 2015, at which works by mouth and foot painters were on display.

Over one thousand visitors attended this exhibition.

Maia Figueira, Jefferson (Scholarship Holder)

- Mr Figueira won a silver medal in the competition which took place at the «Salão de Arte Contemporânea» (Contemporary art show). His works were exhibited from 3-17 September 2015. He also displayed his works at the Centro Rio Janeiro on 18 September 2015 and at the Clube Naval in Rio de Janeiro from 24 September to 8 October 2015. **Eduardo Moreira de Melo (Scholarship Holder), Victor Pereira Santos (Scholarship Holder) and Carlos Eduardo Rosa Fraga (Scholarship Holder)** also participated in this exhibition. He achieved major success by winning a gold medal at an exhibition held by the «Sociedade Brasileira de Belas Artes» (SBBA; Brazilian Society of Fine Arts).

Moreira de Melo, Eduardo (Scholarship Holder)

- Mr Moreira de Melo participated in the «XXI Salão Nacional de Artes Plásticas» (201st National Visual Arts Show)

which was held by the «Corpo de Fuzileiros Navais» (Brazilian Marine Corps) in the Museu Nacional de Belas Artes (MNBA; National Museum of Fine Arts). The exhibition, which was held from 23 October to 24 November 2015, showcased works by a wide range of artists including **Jefferson Maia Figueira (Scholarship Holder), Carlos Eduardo Rosa Fraga (Scholarship Holder) and Ms Eusuclemia Rufino Vieira (Scholarship Holder)**. Mr Moreira de Melo was honoured with a gold medal and a certificate. Similarly, he won a silver medal and a certificate at the «XXX Salão de Artes Sacras» (30th religious arts show) held by the «Sociedade Brasileira de Belas Artes» (SBBA - the Brazilian Society of Fine Arts) on 17 December 2015.

Nascimento, Luciano Alves (Scholarship Holder)

- Mr Alves dos Nascimento was awarded a gold medal at the «450 Anos Encanto Mil» (450 years of Rio - 1,000

Continued on page 16

ESTONIA / FINLAND

- Foot painter **Meelis Luks (Scholarship Holder)** from Estonia had the idea of staging an exhibition at the parliament building in Tallinn. He invited the

three Finnish artists **Anja Hämäläinen-Numminen (Full Member), Lissu Lundström (Full Member) and Paula Mustalahti (Scholarship Holder)** to hold the exhibition with him. As a result, these four artists were able to present their works in Tallinn in April

2016. The exhibition was opened by President of the Estonian Parliament Mr Eiki Nestor. Also present were Mr Aivar Kokk, Chairman of the Social Affairs Committee and his deputy, Ms Monika Haukanömm.



President of the Estonian Parliament Mr Eiki Nestor congratulates Mr Meelis Luks on his idea.



The mouth and foot painters from Estonia and Finland who exhibited their works at the Estonian Parliament building.

Artists' activities

delights) exhibition which was supported by the «Sociedade Brasileira de Belas Artes» (SBBA – Brazilian Society of Fine Arts). The exhibition paid homage to the special jubilee of the City of Rio de Janeiro and showcased works by various artists of the Federal State of Rio de Janeiro.

- Mr Alves dos Nascimento staged a major solo exhibition from 9 May to 14 June 2015. Held with the support of Estácio de Sá, the exhibition attracted thousands of visitors from different countries. At the vernissage, 400 people gathered in front of the monument to Estácio de Sá. The artist provided painting demonstrations throughout the course of the exhibition and held presentations in front of children. Some 30,000 people attended the art show.

COLOMBIA

Riveros Ospina, Linda Yineth (Scholarship Holder)

- Ms Linda Yineth Riveros Ospina managed to score two major successes in the USA. On the one hand she had the honour of presenting her works at the Colombian consulate in New York City. On the other she was invited to present her paintings in Miami Beach, Florida. Furthermore, the artist can refer to numerous reports in the media.

CROATIA

Perkovic, Stjepan (Scholarship Holder)

- Mr Perkovic held a total of four workshops at schools and kindergartens in February 2016. On each occasion he painted Easter greeting cards together with the children. The young people also used the opportunity to ask questions about his foot paintings.

- "Water", a painting by Mr Perković, was distinguished with a special commendation at the Abstracts - 2016 art concours. The same honour was accorded to him for his «Rastoke Village» painting at the Landscapes - 2016 art show.



Mr Stjepan Perkovic at one of his workshops in schools. Pupils also had the opportunity to try out painting by foot.

HUNGARY

Szabó, Szonja (Scholarship Holder)

- Ms Szonja Szabó staged a solo exhibition at the town hall in Gerlingen (Baden-Württemberg), an honour accorded because her home town is twinned with Gerlingen. The exhibition was opened by the town mayor on 21 November 2015. The official delegation which travelled to Germany from the town of Tata to the opening included the municipal mayor.

INDONESIA

- The five Indonesian artists **Sayang Bangun (Scholarship Holder), Salim Harama (Scholarship Holder), Faisal Rusdi (Scholarship Holder), Sabar**



The Indonesian artists with the President of the House of Representatives Dr Ade Komarudin and the Deputy President Mr Fadli Zon.

Subadri (Associate Member) and Agus Yusuf (Associate Member)

took part in an exhibition which was held at the parliament building in Jakarta from 14-16 March 2016. These artists also made full use of the opportunity to provide painting demonstrations.

Subadri, Sabar (Associate Member)

- Mr Subadri held a solo exhibition in a hotel in Salatiga (Central Java) towards the end of December 2015. His art show was opened by the city mayor. In addition, he teamed up with a well-known local artist to provide a painting demonstration.

ITALY

- Two exhibitions entitled *Girotondo per un amico* ("Circle dance around a friend") were held in Italy in commemoration of VDMFK-Full Member Mr Tranquillo Fregoni, who passed away last year. The first of the two art shows was staged by Dr Santina Portelli (Full Member) at the MIIT museum in Turin from 16 February to 3 March 2016. Artists participating in the event included **Simona Atzori (Full Member), Luca Bucchi (Full Member), Luigi Calloni (Full Member), Bruno Carati (Full Member), Lorena Guarise (Scholarship Holder), Natalina Marcantoni (Full Member), Dr Santina Portelli (Full Member), Giulio Volpin (Associate Member) and Roberto Zomero (Associate Member)**. The second exhibition was held at the Palazzo Terragni in Lissone (Lombardy) from 25 March to 3 April 2016. **Simona Atzori (Full Member), Luca Bucchi (Full Member), Luigi Calloni (Full Member), Lorena Guarise (Scholarship Holder), Natalina Marcantoni (Full Member), Dr Santina Portelli (Full Member), Giulio Volpin (Associate Member) and Roberto Zomero (Associate Member)** contributed to this event.

JAPAN

Ishibashi, Toshihiro (Scholarship Holder)

- Mr Ishibashi held a presentation accompanied by a painting demonstration in front of forty pupils at a secondary school in Osaka during November 2015.

Morita, Machiko (Full Member)

- Ms Morita held various presentations and painting demonstrations in 2015. From 2-28 February 2015 she also took part in a group exhibition at a social welfare organisation, on the occasion of

MALAYSIA

which she presented 31 of her works.

Bin Che Rani, Mohd Khairuddin (Scholarship Holder)

- Mr Mohd Khairuddin bin Che Rani carried out many artistic activities in 2015. They included a demonstration of his painting skills which he gave in front of over 300 residents and their families in Johor Bahru in August. He also presented his works at an exhibition which was held at a university in May.

Bin Ramli, Mat Jamil (Scholarship Holder)

- Mr Mat Jamil Bin Ramli performed a painting demonstration for the public in July 2015. In addition he exhibited some of his works at a Christmas bazaar in December 2015.

Binti Talib, Aliah (Scholarship Holder)

- Ms Aliah binti Talib took part in the People with special needs exhibition in May 2015. Mr Razali Bin Rohani (scholarship holder) also exhibited some of his works at the same art show. In addition, she held workshops at schools in the spring of last year and gave a painting demonstration to accompany a management course of a bank. This event was staged on the premises of the pu-

blishing house on 11 August 2015.

Yaakob, Siti Aishah Bt. (Scholarship Holder)

- Ms Siti Aishah binti Yaakob gave a demonstration of her painting skills at the Selangor Dredging Berhad charity bazaar in 2015. She also showcased her talents by providing a further painting demonstration on the premises of the publishing house on 9 December 2015.

POLAND

Pawlowski, Piotr (Scholarship Holder)

- Founded and still presided over today by mouth painter Mr Piotr Pawłowski, the Integracja (Integration) Foundation celebrated its 20th anniversary in October 2014. The jubilee was marked by a major celebration which was enthusiastically covered by numerous media outlets throughout Europe. Furthermore, the Foundation organised the «Człowiek bez barier» (Person without Barriers) competition with the wife of the President of the Republic of Poland acting as patron. In the course of the festivities marking the 20th anniversary, Mr Pawłowski was accorded and presented with many honours for performing his services and having established his Foundation. On this occasion he met various dignitaries from Europe and Poland.

MEXICO

Uribe Aguayo, José Gerardo (Full Member)

- Mr Uribe Aguayo took part in a group exhibition at the Instituto Electoral del Estado de Guanajuato on 8 March 2016. This art show was opened by Minister Indira Rodríguez. The exhibi-

Continued on p. 18



Ombudsman for children Mr Marek Michalak presents Mr Pawłowski with the Medal of Honour.



President of the EU Council Mr Donald Tusk thanks the artist for his services.



Photo with Ms Ewa Kopacz, Prime Minister of Poland until 2014. The two held a school lesson on "integration".

Artists' activities

tion was entitled «Ecos de lo femenino» (Echoes of the feminine).

- To celebrate International Women's Day 2016, Mr Uribe Aguayo opened an exhibition which was held from 7-12 March 2016. His works were presented alongside others which had been painted by Mexican scholarship holders. Altogether, Mr Uribe Aguayo exhibited fourteen of his oil and watercolour paintings.

POLAND

Maczka, Mariusz (Full Member)

- Mr Mariusz Maczka came second in the Człowiek bez barrier ("Person without Barriers") competition for his paintings in December 2015.

- An exhibition held from January to March 2016 provided both Mr Maczka as well as the two Scholarship Holders Mr Walery Siejtbatałow and Ms Dorota Szachewicz with the opportunity to display some one hundred of their works. The art show was held in the regional museum of Miedzychód (Województwo Wielkopolskie) and met with an enthusiastic reception both on the part of the general public as well as the media.

PORTUGAL

Rodrigues Caldeira, José Antonio (Scholarship Holder)

- With the aid of a major Portuguese security firm, José Antonio Rodrigues Caldeira staged two exhibitions. The first was held from 8-22 May 2015 and the second, which focused on the theme of the sea, from 17-31 May 2015.

ROMANIA

Vagyon, Maria (Scholarship Holder)

- Ms Vagyon staged her first solo exhibition in Baja / Hungary (Bács-Kiskun) from 8 January to 12 February 2016 with the civic mayor acting as patron. Altogether, she contributed 105 of her works which were displayed at the Bácska Palace of Culture in Baja.

SENEGAL

Diongue, Yoni (Scholarship Holder)

- Ms Diongue presented the third part of her Le pinceau de la paix ("The paintbrush of peace") exhibition in April 2016. The first two parts of this cycle had already been shown in 2013 and 2014.

SLOVENIA

- Former Slovenian Minister of Culture Ms Julijana Bizjak Mlakar was delighted to open the new Stala art gallery in Podcerkev (Inner Carniola) which included an exhibition of artworks created by VDMFK painters in August 2015. Numerous artists attended the opening. The new gallery is intended to display works by Slovenia's mouth and foot painters. In addition, the opening - which was accompanied by a workshop - featured an address by art historian and critic Ms Polona Škodić, who lauded the significance of cultural events and facilities for the entire village and further afield. In particular, she pointed out the significance and role of local artist **Benjamin Žnidaršič (Full Member)**. The exhibition featured works by **Yitzhak Adir (Full Member/Israel)**, **Vojko Gašperut (Full Member)**, **Silvo Mehle (Associate Member)**, **Erik Pibernik (Scholarship Holder)**, **Benjamin Žnidaršič (Full Member)** as well as **Željko Vertelj (Scholarship Holder)**.

Vertelj, Zeljko (Scholarship Holder)

- Mr Željko Vertelj staged numerous exhibitions in 2015. Among his many activities he exhibited his works in Lendava (Prekmurje) in March of that year. He donated a picture to the Hungarian minority in the Slovenian parliament at the opening.

USA

Wikstrom, Brom (Full Member)

- Brom Wikstrom initiated an exhibition in the Tallgrass Art Gallery in Park Forest Illinois, to which he invited five of his fellow artists to contribute with their works. These consisted of **Antonio Davis (Scholarship Holder)**, **Onix Flores (Scholarship Holder)**, **Donna Orr (Scholarship Holder)**, **Mariam Paré (Associate Member)** and **Dawn Smith (Scholarship Holder)**. In addition, he held a workshop for the other artists.



Artists exhibiting at the Tallgrass Art Gallery included (from left to right): Mr Antonio Davis, Ms Donna Orr, Ms Dawn Smith, Ms Mariam Paré, Mr Brom Wikstrom and Ms Onix Flores.



Coen de Rooij (Associate Member/Netherlands), 'Dutch River Landscape with Windmill', acrylic, 50x40 cm.

Information from the office

Submission of originals

The office of the Association kindly asks all artists 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
Attn. Mr. Kurt Schöpfer (VDMFK)
Heldastrasse 66
CH-9471 Buchs
SWITZERLAND**

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.

Anniversaries at head office

The head office of the Association of Mouth and Foot Painting Artists Worldwide has celebrated two anniversaries in regard to two valued, long-serving employees:

Mr Christian Holzner, member of the jury and in charge of picture administration, has been working for the VDMFK since 1995. He completed twenty years of service for the Association in December last year.

Ms Ingrid Strobl has been a member of the VDMFK staff since 1 November 2006. She has shared responsibility for running the secretariat over some ten years.

The Board of Directors and Executive Board of the VDMFK wish to extend their cordial gratitude to Mr Holzner and Ms Strobl for their exemplary commitment and dedication to the VDMFK Mouth and Foot Painters Worldwide, and for their loyalty to the Association.

*The Managing Board and Executive
Committee of the VDMFK*

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

Foot painting with the palette knife

As in the previous issue, foot painter Henri-Claire Hembert has also kindly contributed to this second lesson.

You may recall me writing that we would be dealing with the painting of flowers and greened facades this time.

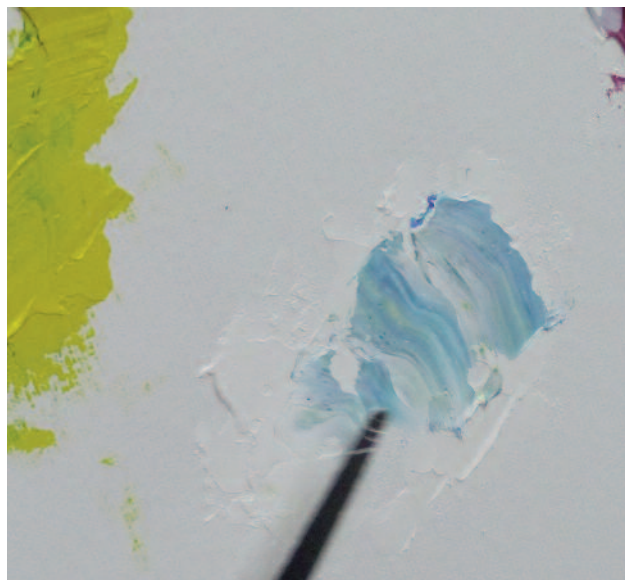
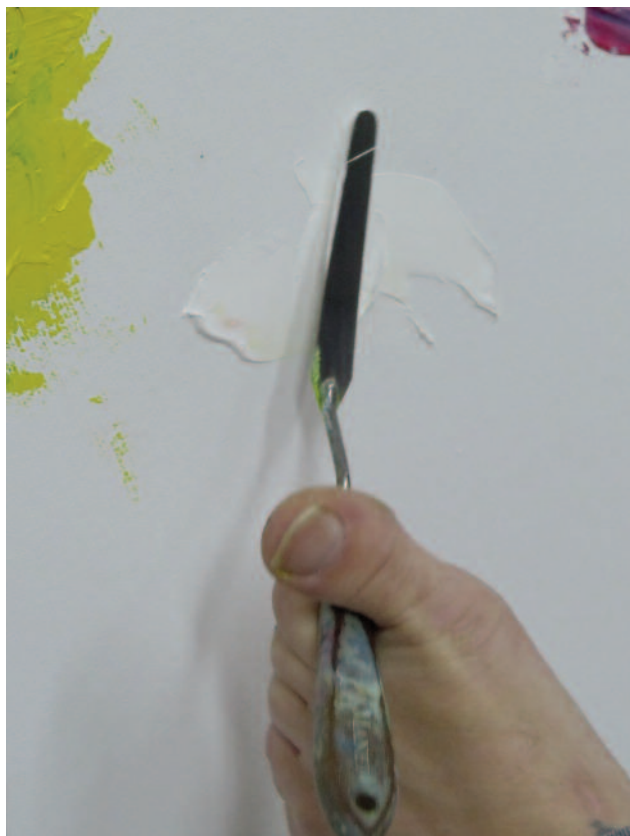
We shall first prepare a large background before describing how to work on a flower in detail.



Painting school

Creating the background

Always start by preparing a background in pure white to form the basis of your painting. Then add blue and green.



The palette work

Henri places several lines of paint next to each other on the palette. This allows him to absorb and mix the paints with a single movement of the blade. He uses magenta, Prussian blue and white to create the mixture.



The flower emerges

He applies the paint for the first petal by moving the tip of the knife in a circle.



flower is complete. He applies paint to the receptacle in the centre, and finishes by painting the stem.



Then he paints the second petal, and so on, until the whole



Completion

When repeating the various steps, you can vary the colours and shapes. In this way you can create your own bouquet or your own greened facade.



History of the VDMFK

1997 Vienna: 8th General Assembly

Forty years of the VDMFK

Sixty three full members and thirty nine Associate Members from thirty two countries celebrated the fortieth anniversary of the Association in the Austrian capital of Vienna from 8 to 12 April 1997. In fact, only a few Full Members and Associate Members were unable to attend these celebrations due to poor health. The mouth and foot painters from all over the world were able to experience an impressive week in Vienna. It culminated in a book presentation and an international exhibition at Vienna City Hall. Dr Thomas Klestil, President of Austria at the time, assumed the honour of acting as patron for the week. He used the opportunity to address the mouth and foot painters from around the world in the form of a letter. In it, he stated: "I am deeply impressed by the consummate artistry of the members of the Association and how you manage to cope not only with your disability and actively accept it as a major challenge, but also how you use it to develop completely new skills and in many cases achieve an extraordinary



The mouth and foot painters welcomed the opportunity to participate in the opening of the international exhibition.

depth of feeling and intense emotion in your artistic works."

The VDMFK commissioned a special publication, consisting of two books, in order to mark its fortieth anniversary. One book dealt with the history of the Association from its founding until the General Assembly in Vienna in 1997. The second included pictures by 281 mouth and foot painters from 51 countries. This book was given the title "Pic-

tures of Peace". It was created by inviting mouth and foot painting artists from all over the world to paint a picture entitled "My Picture of Peace".

Over the course of forty years it had become an established tradition for the VDMFK to accompany a General Assembly or a Delegates' Convention with an international exhibition. Vienna was no different. Over 260 works were presented to the public at large in the Volkshalle of Vienna City Hall.



Editor Robert Allgäuer (right) presenting President Marlyse Tovae with the book 'Paintings of Peace' which was specially published to mark the fortieth anniversary of the Association.

The week's activities also included a conference which featured a number of important elections. In this regard, President Marlyse Tovae had to be confirmed for a second term of office. Since she stood unopposed, Ms Tovae was confirmed as President of the Association by acclamation. Also up for election were Board Members Ruth Christensen, Charles Fowler, Eros Bonamini and Bruce Peardon as well as legal consultant Dr Herbert Batliner. Prof Manuel Parreño was the sole Board Member who did not have to stand for re-election. The General Assembly confirmed the Board Members standing for election.



Agus Yusuf (Associate Member/Indonesia), 'Flowers in Vase', oils, 50x40 cm.

Publishers' activities

CROATIA

- The Croatian publishing house staged an international exhibition focussing on the country's towns and cities at one of the biggest libraries in the country, the «Nacionalna i Sveučilišna Knjižnica u Zagrebu», from 1 to 15 December 2015. Mouth and foot painters who took part in this event included the **Slovenian artists Vojko Gašperut (Full Member), Benjamin Žnidaršić (Full**

Member), Silvo Mehle (Associate Member), Nevenka Gorjanc (Scholarship Holder), Martina Pavlovic (Scholarship Holder), Dragica Sušanj (Scholarship Holder), Željko Vertelj (Scholarship Holder) und Neja Zrimšek-Žiger (Scholarship Holder); from Serbia: Dejana Backo (Scholarship Holder) as well as from Croatia: Maria-Kristina Božicevic (Scholarship Holder), Marija Glavicic-Pocuc (Scholarship Holder), Alen Kasumovic (Scholarship Holder), Stjepan

Perkovic (Scholarship Holder), Goran Radic (Scholarship Holder) and Anka Slonjšak (Scholarship Holder).

A total of thirty-four pictures were presented. Two hours prior to the opening, a workshop attended by over two hundred pupils from two secondary schools was also held. The highly interested schoolchildren were deeply fascinated by the detailed work of the mouth and foot painting artists.



A workshop at which pupils were able to admire the artists' painting skills was held in the run-up to the international exhibition.

SPAIN

- In the course of 2015 the Spanish publishing house staged a total of nine exhibitions displaying the work of national mouth and foot painting artists which took place in Ponferrada, Ciudad Real, Santiago de Compostela, A Coruña, Millana, Gijón, Zaragoza, Pamplona and Girona. Each exhibition was held over an average of two weeks. The artists' works were displayed in shopping centres, town halls and in the buildings of local banks. Each event was extensively covered in the media.

SWEDEN

- The Swedish publishing house organised an international exhibition featuring a total of eighty pictures and three sculptures in May 2015. Forty of the works originated from international artists; the remaining forty were by Swedish painters. In addition, Swedish mouth and foot painters provided painting demonstrations and Lena Maria Klingvall a memorable musical accompaniment. The exhibition aroused great interest, with the Swedish publishing house welcoming some 150 guests to the opening.



Swedish mouth and foot painters attending the opening of the international exhibition featuring their works.

Publishers' activities

MEXICO

- The Mexican publishing house organised six group exhibitions from January to October 2015. Of these, the 'Pintando con el corazón' show which featured over fifty original works was staged at the Valle de Bravo (State of Mexico) cultural centre from 21 March to 18 April 2016. A further exhibition entitled 'Caminos de la Libertad' was held at the «Museo de Arte Popular» in Mexico City. 60 works were on display from 27 May to 16 August 2015. This was followed by the exhibition 'Límite Cero - El Arte Creativo ante la Adversidad' exhibition which featured sixty works and was held in Guanajuato park. Opened on 6 June 2015, it proved so popular that the show was extended until 7 January 2016. In cooperation with the Instituto Nacional del Derecho de Autor, the publishing house organised an exhibition entitled 'Superarte con la boca y con el pie'. Over forty original works were presented at the centre from 24 August to 4 September 2015. Finally, seventeen works were exhibited as part of the 'Independencia y Revolución Mexicana' exhibition which was held at the Museo del Telégrafo (Ciudad de Mexico) from 26 August to 6 October 2015. The series of exhibitions was rounded off by the publishing house inviting all artists to take part in the 'Iluminando el camino del más allá' exhibition which was held at the «Coyoacán» cultural centre from 29 October to 15 November 2015.



Artists from Mexico City taking part in the 'Superarte con la Boca y con el Pie' exhibition.



Mouth and foot painting artists who had featured in the 'Independencia y Revolución Mexicana' exhibition.



Artists featuring in the 'Límite Cero - El Arte Creativo ante la Adversidad' exhibition.



Scholarship Holder Felipe Romero Cortes presenting one of his works on display.

