

VDMFK-INFORMATION

ASSOCIATION OF MOUTH AND FOOT PAINTING ARTISTS
WORLDWIDE

July 2017/194

60
YEARS OF
VDMFK



1957-2017

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Foreword

Dear Artists, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I hope the new VDMFK-Information finds you in good health!

The year started on an emotional note. As you all know, we celebrated our Association's 60th anniversary.

Events to mark the occasion and the General Assembly were held in Spain, in the wonderful city of Barcelona with its unique cultural heritage. It has several remarkable museums, including those dedicated to Joan Miró and Pablo Picasso.

This city was therefore the ideal venue for our exhibition. A wonderful exhibition of works by mouth and foot painters was staged at the Maritime Museum, a place seeped in history.

Readers of these pages will be able to recall what we experienced or discover this for themselves.

Following the death of my friend Trevor Wells, Board Member, as well as the resignation of Professor Manuel Parreño, the General Assembly elected two new members: Soonyi Oh and Grant William Sharman. I congratulate them on their appointments, and welcome them to the Board. Professor Manuel Parreño had been a member of the Board since 1995. I thank him for the many years during which he was a member of the Board, as well as for his loyalty to the Association. He is a remarkable artist and a remarkable individual from whom I have learnt a very great deal.

Thanks are also owed to the artists who came to Barcelona from near and far, to the publishers, the organisers, all those persons who helped to make this special occasion a success.

I also thank the artists who supported me and made my re-election possible. I feel greatly honoured by the trust you placed in me, and am proud of the people around me who accompany me in my function as President.



VDMFK President Serge Maudet

I shall also continue to do everything in my power to safeguard our founder's legacy. My dream is that this will never come to a standstill. For this purpose, we need to develop our passion collectively and in the same direction.

We are lucky to live lives of honour and dignity, with a shared passion; for this reason we are duty-bound to take the right decisions to ensure that the future of the Association is not jeopardised. I hope you enjoy reading this publication, and trust that we shall soon be able to receive your latest works of art.

Yours sincerely,

Serge Maudet
President of the VDMFK

Opening evening event

100 mouth and foot painters gathered in the Spanish city of Barcelona from 9 to 14 April 2017 to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the VDMFK. The Full and Associate members were presented with a wide-ranging programme.

The celebratory week in Barcelona began with an opening event on the first evening at which the mouth and foot painters who had travelled from around the world were welcomed. VDMFK President Serge Maudet took the opportunity to welcome the artists in person. He declared: "In my name, as well as in the name of all my Board Members and of the Management of our Association, I welcome you in Barcelona on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the Association, which was founded by Arnulf Erich Stegman, and thank you for being here today." In his speech he then addressed some of the issues that bring the VDMFK family together. President Serge Maudet emphasised: "I am delighted that I am able to share this special event with you. We shall be spending a number of days together, and I hope that these will be dynamic, rewarding, mutually stimulating and above all convivial days."

Welcoming address by the Director

Speakers on the first evening included VDMFK Director Mario Famlonga. In ad-

dition to numerous organisational matters, he also spoke about the anniversary, declaring: "In recent days I have increasingly been asking myself why I am in the privileged position of hosting this event. For it is first and foremost you, our treasured members, valued publishers, co-workers, friends and family members of the mouth and foot painters who have earned this role in a very real sense." He then went on to discuss the future of the Association. "I think the prospects are good that this wonderful story will continue for a great many years to come. The founder and earlier artists did a tremendous job, and all of you here are nurturing this precious tree, ensuring that it continues to bear fruit for coming generations of mouth and foot painters," Mario Famlonga declared. In addition, he drew attention to the cultural importance of Barcelona, saying: "Barcelona, as one of the most-visited cities in Europe, is certainly a worthy place for this special event. It is here that Iberian temperament, Mediterranean influences and modern, surrealist culture come together. The city is a meeting place for artists, designers and people with heightened sensory skills. Amongst the famous artists who have been inspired by this region are Picasso, Miró, Dahlí and Gaudi. Their legacy is omnipresent in Barcelona."



VDMFK President Serge Maudet's address was projected onto a large screen. He welcomed the assembled guests with a short speech.

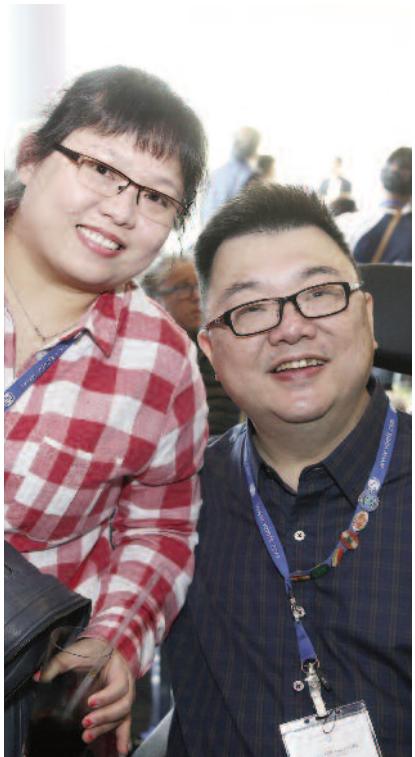


VDMFK Director Mario Famlonga took the opportunity to welcome the artists and their companions in person.



Making friends across continents: Brom Wikstrom, Full Member from the USA, and Lissu Lundström, Full Member from Finland.

Opening evening event



Gilbert Tan Yue Liang (right), Associate Member from Singapore with his companion.



Mouth and foot painters from around the world used the opportunity to get to know each other. In this case four Associate Members (from the left to the right): Sabar Subadri, Muhammad Asroel and Yusuf Agus from Indonesia with Netta Ganor from Israel.



Two Associate Members from New Zealand: Kevin Bruce Griffiths (left) and Kerrin Tilley.

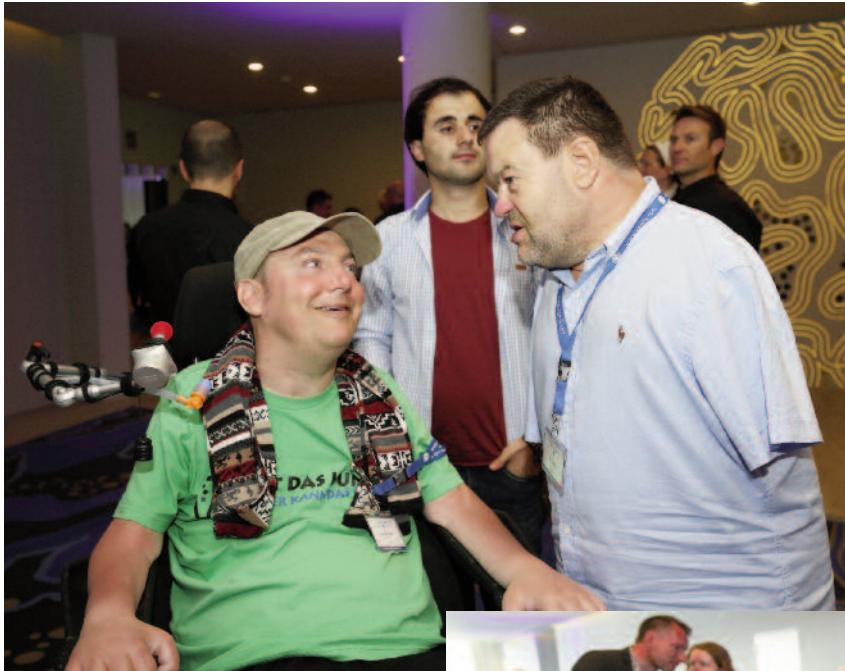


Full Member Vojko Gasperut with the wife of the deceased VDMFK artist Klaus Spahni from Switzerland.



The opening evening featured traditional Spanish music.

Opening evening event



Lars Höllerer, Full Member from Germany (left) chatting to Board Member Tom Yendell from Great Britain.



Board Member Manuel Parreño with his wife.



Mariam Paré, Associate Member from the USA, in conversation with Netta Ganor, Associate Member from Israel.

The atmosphere amongst the mouth and foot painters and their companions was already excellent on the opening evening. All were looking forward to the week's various scheduled events.

Gala evening



Highlights of the week in Barcelona included the gala evening to mark the 60th anniversary of the VDMFK, at which the Anniversary Book was presented.

The second day of the General Assembly in Barcelona revolved around the gala evening held to mark the 60th anniversary of the VDMFK. This featured the book presentation as well as performances by Full Member Simona Atzori from Italy and Lena Maria Klingvall, Scholarship Holder from Sweden.

General Assembly participants in Barcelona marked the 60th anniversary of the VDMFK with a gala evening. The Swedish scholarship holder Lena Maria Klingvall heightened the festive mood with her singing. She sang numerous songs from different regions of the world. Guests were delighted with her performances, and Lena Maria Klingvall earned a lengthy round of applause. Highlights of the evening also included the performance by Full Member Simona Atzori from Italy, who danced on stage together with two friends. Guests watched her performances in rapturous silence. She began by presenting her foot painting skills, and then amazed her audience with her dancing abilities. Simona Atzori deservedly earned an extended and enthusiastic round of app-

lause, and calls of "bravo" rang out throughout the hall. A further item in the programme was a competition that tested knowledge about 60 years of VDMFK as well as facts about various individuals who have been involved in the Association.

60 years VDMFK book

The key event of the evening was the

presentation of the book '60 Years of VDMFK – Artists, Pictures, History'. Author Alexander Batliner travelled specially to Barcelona to present the book. In his address, he discussed the contents of the work. He explained some of the difficulties arising out of the fact that the history of the VDMFK had already been

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The Swedish Scholarship Holder Lena Maria Klingvall softened the hearts of her audience with her singing. She was rewarded with an extended round of applause.

Gala evening



Full Member Simona Atzori from Italy amazed the audience with her dancing. She began by presenting her foot painting skills, before switching seamlessly to the dancing part of the show, where she was supported by two friends.

set out in the commemorative book produced to mark the VDMFK's 50th anniversary. "I therefore asked myself how I could produce a commemorative book of this nature, without simply reiterating the older text and then adding a few new chapters to cover the past 10 years. I was determined to create something

new. Of course, history is an important part of a 60th anniversary. But because history cannot be rewritten, I addressed this aspect only marginally in the commemorative book," Alexander Batliner stated. For this reason, he posed the question of what marks the VDMFK out, or what gives it the right to exist. In this

conjunction, he explained: "I repeatedly came to the same conclusion. Namely, that it is the artists who represent the heart of the Association. Without painters who paint with their mouths or feet, the world simply would not have an Association of mouth and foot Painters." For this reason, it was a logical



Alexander Batliner, author of the book '60 Years of VDMFK – Artists, Pictures, History', presented the commemorative book to mark the Association's 60th anniversary. Following his address he handed over the first example of the book to VDMFK President Serge Maudet.

Gala evening

step to devote particular attention in the book to the VDMFK artists. "Each Full Member and each Associate Member has been presented on a dedicated page. Each page focuses on key personal and artistic information, contains a short curriculum vitae, along with a photograph of the artist as well as of a painted work," author Alexander Batliner explained. In addition to presenting the artists, however, attention has also been paid to the history of the VDMFK. History belongs to the VDMFK, as well as to the artists. "We decided, nevertheless, to devote less space in this book to the history of the Association. This not least because the book published to mark the VDMFK's 50th anniversary focused primarily on the history. In addition, we decided not to set out every detail of the history, but instead to let pictures do the talking, and to integrate these in the book in the form of a collage with captions," said Alexander Batliner in his address. The deceased former Presidents of the VDMFK represent one aspect of the history. For this reason it was decided to devote a section of the book to them. Alexander Batliner explained: "The three former Presidents of the VDMFK were a particular focus of the history. The importance of the work of Arnulf Erich Stegmann, Marlyse Tovae and Eros Bonamini for the VDMFK, as well as for mouth and foot painters around the world, was underscored in



José Gerardo Uribe Aguayo, Full Member from Mexico, greatly enjoyed the evening.

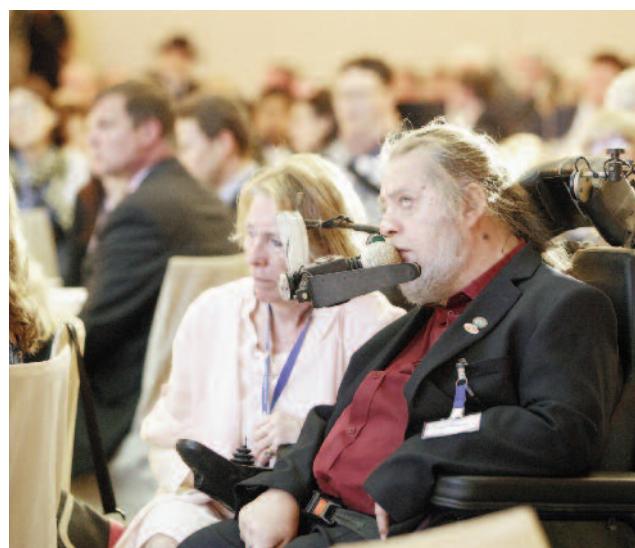
separate chapters. The purpose of this was two-fold. To remember the lives of the deceased Presidents, while at the same time to present a number of high-profile works by the three protagonists. All three made names for themselves not just as VDMFK Presidents, but also as artists or painters. We wanted to honour this fact accordingly." The book also includes contributions by external authors. These include President Serge Maudet as well as Legal Consultant Dr Johannes Gasser, who each wrote a foreword for the book. Specialist contributions were also made by Board Member Prof. Manuel Parreño, who wrote about the importance of the

VDMFK for mouth and foot painters, as well as by Jury Member Mag. Albert Ruetz, who threw light on the artistic value of mouth and foot painting. Alexander Batliner thanked all four individuals for agreeing to be part of this book. The author concluded by presenting the first copy of the book to President Serge Maudet. "It gives me great pleasure to be able to present this book to you today. I congratulate the VDMFK on its 60th anniversary, and hope that it will continue for many more decades, thus ensuring that mouth and foot painters around the world will

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VDMFK Director Mario Famlonga hosted the competition, which tested knowledge of the VDMFK and its key persons.



Jerzy Omelczuk, Associate Member from Poland, followed Simona Atzori's dance routine with close interest.

Gala evening

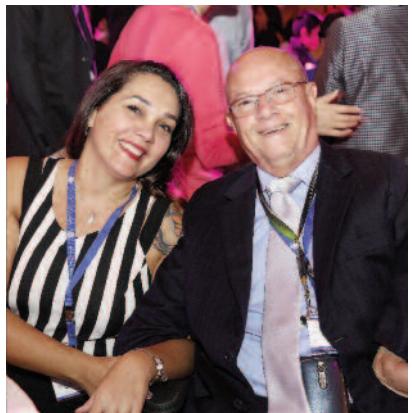
retain the many and extensive opportunities that they currently have. Pablo Picasso said: 'There are painters who transform the sun into a yellow patch. Yet there are others who, thanks to their artistry and intelligence, transform a yellow patch into the sun.' I dearly hope, cherished artists, that you will in future continue to transform many yellow patches into suns. The importance of this process not just for you, but also for the VDMFK, is demonstrated by this book. The fact that this book is appearing in English, German, French and Spanish guarantees that it will continue to be valued and can be read by artistic circles around the world."



An anniversary wouldn't be an anniversary without a birthday cake. VDMFK President Serge Maudet had the honour of blowing out the candles.



Shu Ko, Full Member from Taiwan, watched the various presentations.



Gonçalo Aparecido Pinto Borges, Associate Member from Brazil, with his companion.



Benjamin Tan Boon Chuan, Full Member from Indonesia, in fine spirits with his companion.



M. V. Ravindran, Associate Member from India, and his companion enjoy the evening.



The Congress that convened on the occasion of the General Assembly had a number of tasks. These included electing two new Board Members, confirming the President in his office and appointing as Honorary Members individuals who had performed particular services for the VDMFK.

The Congress of all Full and Associate Members was also held in Barcelona during the Full Assembly. The Congress had an extensive list of agenda items to work through. The key items were the re-election of the President, the election of two new Board Members as well as the appointment of Honorary Members.

The Full and Associate Members met for the traditional Congress over two days. The event gave Members the opportunity to question the Board. They also attended to various tasks pursuant to the articles of association. These included re-electing the VDMFK President Serge Maudet. Because no other Members put themselves forward for election, Serge Maudet was unanimously approved for a further term of office as President of the VDMFK. Following his re-election, Serge Maudet expressed thanks for the trust that had been placed in him. He promised that he would continue in future to promote the rights and interests of all artists.

An eventful life

Serge Maudet was born in 1954. His hands and legs have been paralysed since his birth. In his childhood, his mot-

her taught him to use his mouth and to hold a pencil with this. "I was born with a paint brush in my mouth. Painting was my first means of expression. As a child, I drew the things I couldn't do. For me, it therefore became a way to express my feelings," said Serge Maudet. At the age of 17 he decided to study accountancy in a correspondence course. It quickly became clear to him that he was not made for this kind of work. He then decided to devote him-

self wholeheartedly to drawing. At the age of 22 he was awarded an Association scholarship. In the year 1983, he became a Full Member of the VDMFK. In October 2002, he was then elected to the Board at a General Assembly meeting held in Lisbon. In July 2013, on the occasion of the General Assembly in Vienna, the Members then elected him to the office of President. Serge Maudet

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VDMFK President Serge Maudet was unanimously confirmed for a further term of office.

Congress

took private art lessons with a professor in Paris. As a landscape painter, he worked with the great tradition of French Impressionism. Many pictures and some details however reflect his personal, painterly worldview.

Two new Board Members

Full and Associate Members then elected two new Board Members. These new elections were made necessary by the death of Board Member Trevor C. Wells and by the resignation of Board Member Prof. Manuel Parreño. Prof. Manuel Parreño informed the President some time ago that he would not be standing for re-election on this occasion, for reasons of age. In a number of voting rounds, the Full and Associate Members elected Ms Soonyi Oh, foot painter from South Korea, and Grant William Sharman, mouth painter from New Zealand, to the Board of the VDMFK.

Soonyi Oh was born in 1966. At the age of two, she lost both her arms in a tragic accident. She was then obliged to spend many years in hospital. At the age of five, she learnt to use her feet for various mundane tasks. In the fourth year of primary school her teacher encouraged her to paint, holding a brush between her toes. By this means, foot painting became her hobby. This has remained the case to this day. In



Soonyi Oh, foot painter from South Korea, was appointed to the Board of the VDMFK for the first time by the Congress in Barcelona.

1985, Soonyi Oh presented her pictures for the first time at an exhibition staged in Taiwan. In the same year, the foot painter was admitted to the Korea High School Art Competition. She began studying only one year later, and graduated as an illustrator. In 1987 the Association awarded her a scholarship. At the beginning of the 1990s, she attended a further two-year art course. She has been a Full Member of the VDMFK since 1992. Soonyi Oh focuses mainly on landscape painting. In this conjunction, she mostly applies oil painting techniques.

Grant William Sharman was born in 1961. He broke his neck at the age of 15, playing rugby. This left him tetraplegic. He was forced to abandon his dream of becoming a pilot. While at the clinic, he worked for seven years for a wallpaper manufacturer as a porter. After leaving the clinic, he worked for the Health Department in Auckland as a patient lawyer and advisor. In 1980, he was taught how to paint holding a brush in his mouth by mouth painter Bruce Hopkins, a VDMFK Member who died in 1985. These lessons bore fruit, and one year later brought him an Association scholarship. He became an Ordinary Member of the VDMFK seven years later. Grant William Sharman specialises in floral and landscape painting. His pictures are characterised by a deep understanding of the natural environment as well as by his fine painting instinct.



Grant William Sharman, mouth painter from New Zealand, has been appointed to the Board of the VDMFK.

Two new Honorary Members

The assembled artists were then asked to rule whether two individuals, who had rendered particular services for the VDMFK, were to be appointed as Honorary Members. The proposed candidates were publishing director Roswitha Malsch from Italy and the departing Board Member Prof. Manuel Parreño from Spain. Both were unanimously accorded honorary membership.



Roswitha Malsch was appointed as an Honorary Member in recognition of her services as a publisher in Italy. The certificate and the flowers were presented to her by Director Mario Famlonga and Sonja Rasberger of the VDMFK Office.

Ms Roswitha Malsch was born in Germany in 1932. In July 1953, she married Alfredo Iachelli, with whom she had three sons Giovanni, Angelo and Alberto. Roswitha Malsch is the cousin of the first wife of President Arnulf Erich Stegmann. It was he who encouraged Roswitha and Alfredo Iachelli to work as publishers in Italy. In the year 1956, the couple founded the Italian publishing house S.P.A.M. (Solo Pittori Artisti Mutilati) at the heart of the city of Verona. With her warm and sensitive nature, Roswitha Malsch nurtured successful relationships with the artists. She also discovered the talent of the deceased President Eros Bonamini. Over many years she accompanied the then Board Member Eros Bonamini as an interpreter, exercising the discretion that is so important in this capacity. Her main role is to select the motifs that are to be reproduced for the Italian market. In addition, she processes additional orders, reads all the customer correspondence and attends to all the tasks that are designed to promote the artistic development of the artists. She continues to work with dedication and passion to this day. She is always a role model for the employees of the publishing house, and welcomes them every day with a heartfelt smile. She never finds the work burdensome. In fact, quite the

contrary: over the past 60 years she has never lost the enthusiasm for what she does. For her, the VDMFK is an institution that she serves with passion. At the same time, she never forgets that artists have been the central focus of these successful years – a success that she has devoted all her energy towards achieving, notwithstanding many obstacles and prejudices.

Prof. Manuel Parreño was born in 1938. He caught polio at the age of seven months. This left his arms and hands paralysed. For this reason, even as a small boy he found himself compelled to perform a wide range of tasks with his feet. He was attracted to painting from an early age. He produced his first drawings at the age of four, and at the age of eight he won first prize in a school competition. Through independent initiative, as well as with the help of lessons at art school in Seville, he continued to develop his artistic talent for drawing and painting. He became a Full Member of the Association in 1957. He has been a member of the Board since 1995. His favourite occupation remains drawing and painting. He has received many honours and awards for his work over the years. In 1980 Prof. Manuel Parreño was appointed Professor of the "Taller Municipal de Artes Plásticas" in his home country. In 2000, he was also named Honorary Member of the "Pontificia y Real Archicofradía de Nuestra Señora de la Soledad de la Portería" in Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, whose patron is Her Majesty, Queen Sofia of Spain. This was in recognition of the presentation and blessing of a work for a local church.



Sonja Rasberger presents the honorary membership certificate to Manuel Parreño, awarded in recognition of his service as a Board Member of the VDMFK.

Congress



Paulus Ploier, Full Member from Austria, took the opportunity to speak.



VDMFK President Serge Maudet and Legal Consultant Dr Johannes Gasser hosted the Congress during the General Assembly in Barcelona.



Ann Lund Wahlberg, Full Member from Denmark, presenting her statement.



The new VDMFK Board (from left to right): Soonyi Oh, President Serge Maudet, Tom Yendell, Ruth Christensen, Grant William Sharman, Legal Consultant Dr Johannes Gasser and Kun-Shan Hsieh. Thomas Kahlau is missing on the picture, who was unable to travel to Barcelona for health reasons.

Congress



En-Tien Yang, Associate Member from Taiwan, casting her electronic vote during the elections to the Board.



Antje Kratz, Full Member from Germany, also took part in the elections to the Board.



The deceased Board Member Trevor C. Wells was remembered during the Congress. His widow also spoke to the assembled artists.



The two French Full Members Fanny Bourgeois-Le Boulaire (left) and Henri-Clairy Hembert in animated discussion during the Congress.

Competition

The painting competition 'Festive Events' was staged by the VDMFK in 2016. The winners were announced during the Congress in Barcelona.

The competition 'Festive Events' staged by the VDMFK in 2016 attracted entries from many artists. A total of 602 works from 54 countries were submitted. 44 Full Members, 60 Associate Members and 498 Scholarship Holders took part. The pictures were evaluated in two categories: firstly in the category "Full and Associate Members" and secondly in the category "Scholarship Holders". It is

important to note that two works won first prize in the "Full and Associate Members" category.

The winning works were as follows:

Full and Associate Members category:

1st prize: Markus Kolp, Associate Member from Germany, with his work 'Verbunden' ('Connected').

1st prize: Benjamin Znidarsic, Full Member from Slovenia, with his work 'Na zdravia' ('Cheers').

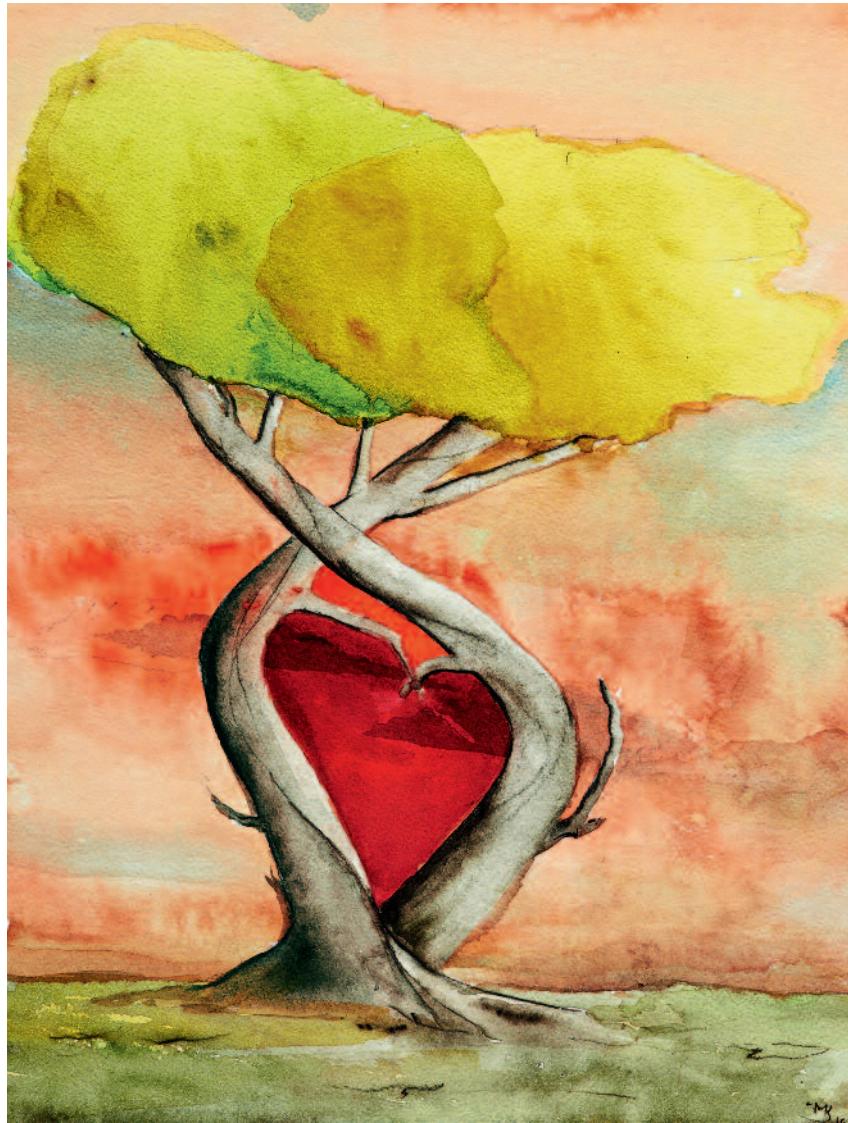
3rd prize: Luca Bucchi, Full Member from Italy, with his work 'La cicogna' ('The Stork').

Scholarship Holders category:

1st prize: Domingos Dupé Ferreira Silva, foot painter from Brazil, with his work 'Laughing Clown with Balloons'.

2nd prize: Olesja Matjasch, mouth and foot painter from Russia, with her work 'The Good Clown'.

3rd prize: Christopher John Kuster, mouth painter from the USA, with his work 'Groovy Kind of Love'.



1st prize in the Full and Associate Members category: Markus Kolp (Associate Member/Germany), with his work 'Verbunden' ('Connected'), watercolour, 48x36 cm.

Competition



1st prize in the Full and Associate Members category: Benjamin Znidarsic (Full Member/Slovenia), with his work '*Na zdравia*' ('Cheers'), acrylic, 60x79 cm.



3rd prize in the Full and Associate Members category: Luca Bucchi (Full Member/Italy), with his work '*La cicogna*' ('The Stork'), oils, 45x35 cm.

Competition



1st prize in the Scholarship Holders category: Domingos Dupé Ferreira Silva (Foot Painter/Brazil), with his work 'Laughing Clown with Balloons', oils, 50x40 cm.

Competition



*2nd prize in the Scholarship Holders category:
Olesja Matjasch (Mouth and Foot Painter/Russia), with her work 'The Good Clown', oils,
50x40 cm.*



*3rd prize in the Scholarship Holders category:
Christopher John Kuster (Mouth Painter/USA), with his work 'Groovy Kind of
Love', watercolour, 26x21 cm.*

Painting demonstration

The General Assembly in Barcelona was also used to raise the profile of mouth and foot painting. For this purpose artists went to the Sagrada Familia and to the Cathedral to demonstrate their painting skills. These demonstrations attracted considerable interest from tourists and local residents.



The British Board Member Tom Yendell demonstrated his painting skills on the forecourt of the Cathedral in Barcelona.



José Gerardo Uribe Aguayo, Full Member from Mexico, chose to demonstrate his painting skills at the world-famous Sagrada Familia.



The Scholarship Holder Juan Antonio Pascual Perez, who lives in Barcelona, also chose to demonstrate his skills in the shadow of the Sagrada Familia.

City guided tour

For the Association, it was also important that the mouth and foot painters who were attending the Congress had an opportunity to explore the cosmopolitan city of Barcelona. For this purpose, excursions were organised to the Sagrada Familia or to the city centre, followed by a dinner. The artists took up these offers with enthusiasm, and enjoyed an afternoon of amiable conviviality.



Robert Trent, Associate Member from Great Britain, and his companion enjoy the guided tour.



The world-famous Sagrada Familia amazed the mouth and foot painters who travelled to Barcelona from many countries.



A guided tour of the building gave the artists fascinating insights into the architecture of the church.



Günther Holzapfel, Full Member from Germany, took the opportunity to visit the Sagrada Familia.



The outside of the Sagrada Familia is also fascinating. The mouth and foot painters were also very aware of this.

City guided tour



The three Japanese Full Members Machiko Morita (left), Hiroko Kimura (centre) and Eiichi Minami (right) visited the city centre of Barcelona together with further individuals.



The Japanese Full Member Kiichiro Mizumura with his companion, during the visit to the city centre.



Hanneke Boot, Associate Member from the Netherlands, during the excursion to the city centre.



The two Finnish Full Members Anja Hämäläinen-Numminen (left) and Lissu Lundström visiting the city centre of Barcelona together with Itzhak Adir, Full Member from Israel.



Mei-Hui Chen, Full Member from Taiwan, and Chris Opperman, Full Member from South Africa, during the guided tour.



Shu-I Yang, Associate Member from Taiwan, in the Sagrada Familia.

City guided tour



The Sagrada Família in Barcelona fascinated the mouth and foot painters.



Ah Kwai Ng, Full Member from Malaysia, inside the Sagrada Família.



In-Suk Lim, Full Member from South Korea, admiring Antoni Gaudí's masterpiece.



Daniela Brafman, Full Member from Israel, arriving at the Sagrada Família.



Relaxed atmosphere during the dinner following the guided tour, accompanied by Spanish music.



Nelly del Carmen Toro Varela (centre), Associate Member from Venezuela, with companions.

Exhibition opening

The opening of the exhibition was another highlight of the festive week in Barcelona. Over 200 works by 118 mouth and foot painters from 35 countries were shown. These works were displayed from 12 to 17 April 2017 at the 'Museo Marítim de Barcelona'.

The 'Museo Marítim de Barcelona' was the venue for the international exhibition organised by the VDMFK within the context of its 60th anniversary celebrations. 216 original works and two sculptures by 118 artists from 35 countries were presented. The exhibition was opened on 12 April 2017 and lasted until 17 April 2017. The well-known journalist Glòria Serra welcomed the artists cordially at the launch. The official opening address was held by the Catalan Minister of Culture, Santi Vila Vicente. A number of other distinguished individuals, such as Maite Fandos, Member of Barcelona's Parliament, or Laia Ortiz, Deputy Mayor of Barcelona, also praised the private viewing. A richly illustrated exhibition catalogue was issued for the occasion. This provided visitors with further background information about individual exhibited works. The exhibition attracted thousands of visitors, and was also widely reported in the media.



Numerous guests gathered at the 'Museo Marítim de Barcelona' to take part in the private viewing.



The British Full Member Alison Lapper enjoyed the exhibition opening.



The Catalan Minister of Culture, Santi Vila Vicente, held the official address and opened the exhibition.



Laia Ortiz, Deputy Mayor of Barcelona, welcomed the artists and their guests on behalf of the city.

Exhibition opening



The 'Museo Marítim de Barcelona' proved to be an excellent venue for the private viewing and subsequent exhibition.



Triantafyllos Iliadis, Full Member from Greece, in front of his art-works at the exhibition.



Maite Fandos, Member of Barcelona's Parliament, also addressed the guests with a short speech.



VDMFK President Serge Maudet spoke about the Association at the private viewing.

Exhibition opening



The Asian artists and their companions also enjoyed the evening on which the exhibition was launched.



Luca Bucchi, Full Member from Italy, in front of his paintings.



Stanislaw Kmiecik, Full Member from Poland, held a painting demonstration during the course of the private viewing.



Henri-Clairy Hembert, Full Member from France, demonstrated his foot painting skills.



Theresa Helen Matthias, Full Member from Canada.



Heinz Halwachs, Full Member from Austria, standing in front of one of his works.



Exhibition opening



The official part of the private viewing also featured musical interludes and guitar music.

The private viewing was also an excellent opportunity to meet mouth and foot painters from other countries.



The Jury Members Albert Ruetz (left) and Werner Marxer at the exhibition opening.



Keith Christopher Jansz, Full Member from Great Britain, in front of his exhibited works.



Jury Member Christian Holzner (left), VDMFK Curator for the exhibition, with Paulus Ploier, Full Member from Austria.

The participants in Barcelona



General Assembly participants in Barcelona

Board Members:

Serge Maudet, France (President)
Ruth Christensen, Denmark
Tom Yendell, Great Britain
Grant William Sharman, New Zealand
Soonyi Oh, South Korea
Kun-Shan Hsieh, Taiwan

Full Members:

Alberto Alvarez, Argentina
Heinz Halwachs, Austria
Paulus Ploier, Austria
Fernando Fernandes dos Reis, Brazil
Theresa Helen Matthias, Canada
Cody Tresierra, Canada
Kyriacos Kyriacou, Cyprus
Ann Lund Wahlberg, Denmark
Anja Hämäläinen-Numminen, Finland
Lissu Lundström, Finland
Pierre Bellot, France
Fanny Bourgeois-Le Boulaire, France
Henri-Clairy Hembert, France
Lars Höllerer, Germany
Günther Holzapfel, Germany
Antje Kratz, Germany
Triantafillos Iliadis, Greece
Steven Paul Chambers, Great Britain
Keith Jansz, Great Britain
Alison Lapper, Great Britain
Itzhak Adir, Israel
Daniela Brafman, Israel
Simona Atzori, Italy
Luca Bucchi, Italy
Natalina Marcantoni, Italy
Santina Portelli, Italy
Hiroko Kimura, Japan

Eiichi Minami, Japan
Kiichiro Mizumura, Japan
Machiko Morita, Japan
Ah Kwai Ng, Malaysia
José Gerardo Uribe Aguayo, Mexico
Jingsheng Liu, People's Rep.of China
Stanislaw Kmiecik, Poland
Krzysztof Kosowski, Poland
Mariusz Maczka, Poland
Benjamin Tan Boon Chuan, Singapore
Tan Kok Leong, Singapore
Vojko Gasperut, Slovenia
Benjamin Znidarsic, Slovenia
John Louw, South Africa
Chris Opperman, South Africa
Mi-Soon Han, South Korea
Myoung Ki Kim, South Korea
Ho Sik Lee, South Korea
In-Suk Lim, South Korea
Jeong Park, South Korea
Prof. Manuel Parreño, Spain
Mei-Hui Chen, Taiwan
Shih-Feng Chen, Taiwan
Shu Ko, Taiwan
Jen-Long Liu, Taiwan
Pei-Fei Wen, Taiwan
Ronald Dale Tabor, USA
Robert Thome, USA
Brom Wikstrom, USA

Markus Kostka, Germany
Robert Trent, Great Britain
M.V. Ravindran, India
Yusuf Agus, Indonesia
Muhammad Asroel, Indonesia
Sadikin Pard, Indonesia
Sabar Subadri, Indonesia
Netta Ganor, Israel
Giulio Volpin, Italy
Roberto Zomero, Italy
Hanneke Boot, Netherlands
Kevin Bruce Griffiths, New Zealand
Kerrin Tilley, New Zealand
Jie Yang, People's Republic of China
Amado Binwag Dulhuan, Philippines
Jovito Sasutona, Philippines
Jerzy Omelczuk, Poland
Maria de Lurdes Ferreira de Oliveira, Portugal
Chong Keow, Singapore
Gilbert Tan Yue Liang, Singapore
Patrick John Botto, South Africa
Rudolf J. Lombard, South Africa
Martin Charl Sodoms, South Africa
Jong Kwan Park, South Korea
Jin Hyun Song, South Korea
Jui-Chin Liao, Taiwan
Yu-Chen Lin, Taiwan
Fu-Tsai Tung, Taiwan
En-Tien Yang, Taiwan
Shu-I Yang, Taiwan
Mariam Paré, USA
David M. Nolt, USA
Nelly del Carmen Toro Varela, Venezuela

Associate Members:

Weldegaber Tekeste, Austria
Gonçalo Borges, Brazil
Marcelo da Cunha, Brazil
Maira Isabel Meneses Valderrama, Chile

The participants in Barcelona



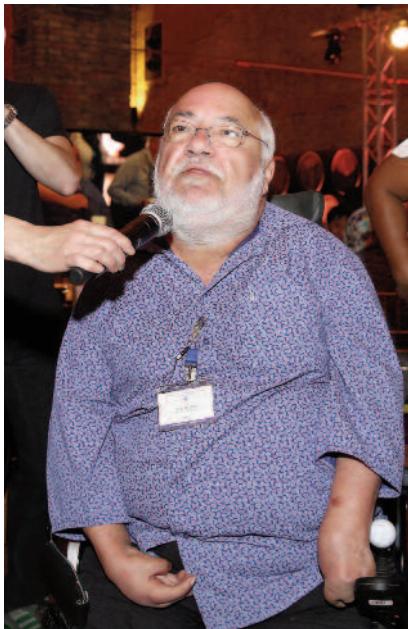
The participants in Barcelona



The participants in Barcelona



Closing evening



VDMFK President Serge Maudet during his short thank-you speech at the final evening event.



A genuine Spanish Bodega, an ideal location to mark the closing evening of a VDMFK General Assembly.



Alberto Alvarez, Full Member from Argentina (centre) with his wife (right) and Maira Isabel Meneses Valderrama (left), Associate Member from Chile.

It has become something of a tradition that the closing evening represents another special highlight of a VDMFK week. In Barcelona, the artists and guests made their way to a wine cellar. The evening also featured numerous performances.

VDMFK President Serge Maudet and VDMFK Director Mario Famlonga used the closing evening of the General Assembly in Barcelona to deliver short addresses to the guests. They thanked all those who helped to make the week such a success. Mario Famlonga also

looked back at the events of the past few days. Amongst other things, he talked about the new Board that was elected during the course of the week. He declared: "The new Board is now charged with upholding this wonderful 60-year history in accordance with the spirit and legacy of Arnulf Erich Stegmann, thereby securing the future of mouth and foot painters around the world. This is an honourable, as well as an extremely challenging task." He also recapped what he had experienced during the days in Barcelona. "As already mentioned, the selection of the



VDMFK Director Mario Famlonga during his final address and words of thanks.

venue, the hotel and the accompanying programme provided optimum conditions for this festive event. Even more important than these conditions, however, are the smiling faces, entertaining conversations, emotions as well as tears that I saw amongst you this week. These elements bring people together and ensure that the moments will be remembered for ever. After events of this nature, I am often asked what I take with me from the week. I always answer that it takes pictures. Pictures that stay in my mind for the rest of my life."

Closing evening



Jui-Chin Liao, Associate Member from Taiwan, is clearly in high spirits.



Jingsheng Liu, Full Member from the People's Republic of China, with his companion.



The two Polish Full Members Krzysztof Kosowski (left) and Stanislav Kmiecik.



The closing evening programme also included flamenco demonstrations.

Closing evening



Oversized figures welcomed the guests to the bodega. The mouth and foot painters from around the world enjoyed the original and unusual welcome.



The two American artists Mariam Paré, Associate Member (photo above), and Brom Wikstrom, Full Member (photo right), clearly enjoyed the unconventional welcome to the Spanish bodega.



Closing evening



Shih-Feng Cheng, Full Member from Taiwan, enjoying the evening.



Spanish delicacies were provided at the start of the evening.



The numerous presentations ahead of the evening meal were admired.



A Scandinavian delegation: Board Member Ruth Christensen (centre) from Denmark and Anja Hämäläinen-Numminen, Full Member from Finland.



Robert Thome, Full Member from the USA, also clearly enjoyed the entertaining welcome.



Special trains were provided to convey the guests into the bodega.

