

VDMFK-INFORMATION

ASSOCIATION OF MOUTH AND FOOT PAINTING ARTISTS
ACROSS THE WORLD

December 2021 / 203



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Dear artists and readers,

Our President Serge Maudet has asked me to write the foreword once again. He is still in rehabilitation and is continuing to recover from his operation. He sends his best regard to us all.

The year is coming to an end. It certainly hasn't been easy for many of us. The pandemic retains its grip on us and, with the news about natural disasters, climate change, famines, ethnic conflicts, etc. that we are constantly bombarded with via electronic media, the world seems to be falling apart. It is difficult to tell here what is real, what is fake. What is fake news or 'alternate reality' and what is information based on facts. What is sometimes sold to us via Twitter, Telegram, Facebook, etc. as the truth often turn out, upon closer inspection and with some research, to be half-truths or opinions from people who crave likes and hearts. If we succumb to the impulse and use likes and hearts, then the algorithm does its work. It floods us with even more of this news disguised as truth until we believe that it is the only truth. It becomes a reality and we read the comments full of hate and rabble-rousing. How are you meant to deal with it? A new virus settles into us and becomes a digital pandemic.

I take a deep breath and ask myself: "What's really important in my life?" It's the simple things that come to mind here: health, food and drink and painting, of course, I always like to be warm and have people I trust around me, things should be peaceful and my garden should be green and blooming. I had all that this year, and much more. I am thankful for that. So, despite the news from the media, this year wasn't so bad for me personally. I sincerely hope that it was a good year in your personal life.

Thanks to the numerous people who continue to support us mouth and foot painters, and our self-help organisation VDMFK, we are largely free from finan-



VDMFK Vice-President Thomas Kahlau from Germany.

cial worries. We can devote ourselves fully to our artistic work and are able to exist in our day-to-day lives. Despite the difficult circumstances, the office and the VDMFK Board have again done good work. We can continue to rely on them.

And what will the new year bring? Of course, there will continue to be disasters and conflicts somewhere in the world. I can't and shouldn't close my eyes to that. The worry lines on my forehead will get even deeper in light of the global pollution of the environment and climate change. I, as an individual, can't prevent any of it.

But I will still be able to count on the important things in my microcosm in the new year. Here, I gather the energy required to overcome the challenges of day-to-day life and tackle new tasks. In the poem 'Stufen' (Steps) by Hermann Hesse, it says "...each beginning bears a special magic...". I always feel this magic on the morning of New Year's

Day. Let's preserve this magic of new beginnings for as long as possible and remain optimistic. Let's look at what we can do now so that people and nature thrive and improve around us. If as many people as possible do that, then it will have an impact on the whole world.

Let's stay optimistic and vigilant!

Thomas Kahlau
Vice-President of VDMFK

Miscellaneous

Mount painter Carl Ernst Fischer ("CeFischer") from Germany made a name for himself with his cartoons

and picture stories of Oskar the Cat. These were also published in book form. Here, we reproduce

two of his cartoons: something to laugh about in extraordinary times.



Benzin ist zu teuer

«Petrol is too expensive.» Innovative ideas for how to combat ever-increasing petrol prices were already in demand in the past, as the caricature 'Petrol is too expensive' by CeFischer proves.

Der blöde männliche Stolz wird abgelegt und im Haushalt geholfen. Mutti muß entlastet werden.



«Away with stupid male pride – let's do some household chores. Mum needs a helping hand.»

A different approach to household chores. CeFischer's imagination knew no bounds in his caricatures.



Ah Kwai Ng (Full Member/Malaysia), 'Village life – team of oxen', poster paint, 39 x 27 cm.

Artists' activities

ARGENTINA

Barcia, Cesar Andres (Scholarship Holder)

- Cesar Andres Barcia was invited by the cultural authority in his home city of Capilla Del Señor to exhibit his work on the 286th anniversary of the city. This event took place on 14 September 2021 and was a special day because it was accompanied by the reopening of the 'Museo del Periodista' where he exhibited his work. Furthermore, Cesar Andres Barcia was asked by the National Agency for the Disabled to represent the painting section on the occasion of the 'ReinventARTE' festival. This was a great honour for the artist. He had the following to say: "It was a wonderful experience, which I am very grateful for and I am honoured that I was able to be there for the first event at a national level." The artist spoke to the guests and the media on site on 17 and on 23 September 2021.

Moya, Maria Celeste (Scholarship Holder)

- Maria Celeste Moya had the honour of being invited to participate in the creation and opening of an art space at a



traditional company in Catamarca in which she can now exhibit her work. This art space offers the city a showcase

for exhibitions, and the dissemination and sale of art.

CROATIA

- The opening of the 'Duhovnost i umjetnost' (spirituality and art) joint exhibition, which 22 artists participated in, took place on 5 July 2021. This also included **Stjepan Perkovic (Scholarship Holder)**, who exhibited his work in acrylic on canvas titled Zlatne sjene (Golden shadows). He was also honoured with a gold medal for his painting 'Yellow hat' in the online competition 'Perfect Summer's Day Contest'.

INDONESIA

Agus, Yusuf (Associate Member)

- Yusuf Agus held a solo exhibition at Hotel Aston in Madiun on 6 February 2021. He was also a judge for a painting competition for children in Madiun in 2021.

BRAZIL

- Various artists from Brazil were able to tell us about interesting invitations and activities, like the two **Scholarship Holders Daniel Rodrigo Ferreira da Silva and José Marcos dos Santos** (photo below), for example, who were invited to paint a wall on a very well-known street in São Paulo. **Associate Member Maria Goret Chagas** (photo on the top right) participated in an exhibition on 21 March 2021 for 'International Women's Day'. On 21 June, she

participated in the exhibition on the occasion of the 5th anniversary of the 'Art Lab gallery of Sao Paulo' together with **Gonçalo Borges (Associate Member)** and **Scholarship Holder Daniel Rodrigo Ferreira da Silva** (photo on the bottom right). Maria Goret Chagas also displayed 21 of her works as part of the 'Talent overcomes limitations' exhibition. This exhibition took place in collaboration with the Brazilian Academy of Sciences, Arts, History and Literature.



INDONESIA

Subadri, Sabar

(Associate Member)

- Sabar Subadri organised a painting workshop in collaboration with the Library and Archival Office of the City of Salatiga in which he taught young people the technique of proper perspective and the use of acrylic paints. This workshop was also a celebration of VDMFK day and was entitled 'Painting workshop for the promotion of literacy on the basis of social inclusion and to commemorate VDMFK day'.



Associate Member Sabar Subadri on the occasion of the workshop which he organised.

Rusdi, Faisal

(Scholarship Holder)

- Faisal Rusdi participated in the 'Jogja International Disability Art Biennale 2021 Rima Rupa Exhibition' at the Katamsi gallery in Yogyakarta from 18 to 30 October 2021. This exhibition was organised by the 'Jogja Disability Art' association.

MIIT', Dr Guido Folco. The exhibition opened on 5 November 2021 and was on display until 20 November 2021.

NEW ZEALAND

Stonham, Ross

(Scholarship Holder)

- Ross Stonham displayed a large number of his works at a solo exhibition in Rotorua. This was realised in collaboration with Art United and the local publishing house.

great honour, during the '43rd National Week for the Prevention and Rehabilitation of Disabilities', of receiving the 'Persons With Disability-PWD Bayani Ka Award 2021'. The award was given to people with disabilities who have excelled in their chosen fields and who are role models for other people with disabilities and their communities on 9 August 2021 in Muntinlupa.

Tongco, Julius A.

(Scholarship Holder)

- Julius A. Tongco can look back on a variety of activities over the course of 2021. These include participation in the art exhibition titled 'Bohol Bohul 9', which was held on 28 October 2021 in the Shangri-La Plaza Mall in Mandaluyong City, among other things. He was also honoured that the 'Easel

ITALY

Portelli, Santina

(Full Member)

- Santina Portelli was invited to be guest of honour at the 'Siamo come te bianche' exhibition in Turin. The title, inspired by one of her texts, was greatly appreciated by the Director of 'Museo

PHILIPPINES

Delos Reyes, Jason C.

(Scholarship Holder)

- Jason C. Delos Reyes was given the

CROATIA

Perkovic, Stjepan

(Scholarship Holder)

- Stjepan Perkovic conducted his first art workshop on 14 April 2021 in his studio. Despite the circumstances of the pandemic, he was able to host a small group of foreign students who were spending a semester in the Croatian capital, Zagreb, as part of the EU Erasmus Programme. The EU seeks to

support education, training, youth and sport in Europe with this programme. The students who attended the workshop with Stjepan Perkovic came from the four different faculties of management, philosophy, science and dentistry. In this workshop, they painted with their feet together with the foot painter.



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Artists' activities

Organization', which campaigns for support for the artist community and particularly for the disabled, chose his work 'The Frequency of Life' as the design for the face mask to be sold. Furthermore, Julius A. Tongco participated in a joint exhibition on 2 July 2021 which focused on works with motifs from the Philippine landscape.

RUSSIA

Protsenko, Yelena (Scholarship Holder)

- Yelena Protsenko put on an art exhibition of her work on 23 October 2021 in Moscow. She gave another exhibition at the end of November 2021.



SLOVENIA

Vertelj, Zeljko (Scholarship Holder)

- Vertelj Zeljko can look back on a varied year in 2021. His solo exhibition, which was held on 22 June 2021 in Ljubljana on the theme of 'We are beautiful', was a highlight of the year. He also attended numerous continuing education courses and painting courses.

SLOVENIA

Znidarsic, Benjamin (Full Member)

- On 10 September 2021, there was a charity auction of donated works of art which were collected by artists on the initiative of Full Member Benjamin Žnidaršič. The artists delivered a large number of works to be auctioned with the indispensable help of graduate art

historian Polona Škodić and painter Benjamin Žnidaršič. The proceeds from more than 40 paintings were donated to a scholarship fund for two music students. The 'Ars Viva Institut' and the Postojna-Cerkljica Rotary Club organised this event. The organisation has significantly influenced the cultural space in the region and is the basis for scholarships and support for young artists in Slovenia.



Full Member Benjamin Žnidaršič (centre) is recognised by the Postojna-Cerkljica Rotary Club for his commitment to auctioning works for a good cause.

SPAIN

- Fifty Meninas returned to the streets of Madrid for the fourth year in order to provide a vibrant and supporting exhibition at the entrance of the Debut Temple from 1 November to 15 December 2021. One of these Menina was painted by three mouth and foot

painters from Spain. These were the three **Scholarship Holders Maria Paz Alvarez Rojas, Florin Anghel and Maria Belinda Redondo Martin**. The Menina to be painted for the famous Urban art exhibition had dimensions of 180 x 140 x 90 cm. It was delivered in white. The artists then had the task of designing their own sculpture.





Santina Portelli (Full Member/Italy), 'Child & snowman', watercolour, 30 x 24 cm.

New Associate Members

MEXICO

Cháidez López, Lidia de Jesus

Date of birth: 14 March 1970

Place of birth: Culiacan

Painting technique: Mouth painter

Scholarship Holder since: 1998

Lidia de Jesus Chaidez Lopez was born in Culiacan, Province of Sinaloa, on 14 March 1970. She attended primary school and secondary school. In April 1983, during her second year at secondary school, she was involved in a serious car accident which resulted in quadriplegia. Thanks to the support of a local group of handicapped people, she was able to complete her education at secondary school in 1992. She then attended a one-year preparatory course before she went to university to study social psychology. She graduated in



Lidia de Jesus Chaidez Lopez will become an Associate Member of the Association on 1 March 2022.

August 1997. In her youth, the artist began to paint with her mouth and

since 1996 has been painting on a regular basis.

SLOVENIA

Vertelj, Zeljko

Date of birth: 26 July 1959

Place of birth: Ljubljana

Painting technique: Mouth painter

Scholarship Holder since: 1998

Zeljko Vertelj was born in Ljubljana on 26 July 1959. In January 1992 he was involved in a serious road accident which resulted in tetraplegia with paralysis of all four extremities. Even before his accident Zeljko Vertelj was a successful painter, which is why he was eager to continue his career as an artist despite his handicap and took up mouth painting in 1994. The artist's favourite sources of motifs are the landscapes of his native country, examples of which he has already shown at several exhibitions.



Zeljko Vertelj from Slovenia at work. On 1 March 2022 he will become a VDMFK Associate Member.

New Scholarship Holders

The following mouth and foot painters will be supported by the Association from 1 March 2022.

ARGENTINA

Navarrete, Cristian Andrés

Date of birth: 27 July 1979

Place of birth: Plaza Huincul

Mouth painter

Cristian Andrés Navarrete was born on 27 July 1979 in Plaza Huincul, Neuquén. He completed primary school and subsequently technical secondary school. On 25 December 1996, when jumping into a river, he broke his cervical spine at the level of C3- C5. During an operation, a plate was inserted in his neck region to adjust his neck. He was in a coma, and the doctors had little hope that his health would improve. He had to spend two months with a tracheotomy in an intensive care unit. At the end of 1997, he was transferred to a rehabilitation centre in Buenos Aires (IREP). He lived with his parents in Buenos Aires for six years, because the city offered more possibilities to people in his situation. In 2007, he returned to his hometown, where he was able to start a new life with his mother. Via Sergio Peña (VDMFK Scholarship Holder), he got to know the Association.

Sarubi, Mauro Enrique

Date of birth: 25 May 1990

Place of birth: La Paz

Mouth painter

Mauro Enrique Sarubi was born on 25 May 1990 in La Paz. From birth he has suffered from motoric cerebral palsy. Since 2009, Mauro has been attending the San Francisco de Asís Therapy Centre in the city of Carlos Paz (Córdoba) for social integration. There, Mauro Enrique Sarubi was encouraged by Professor José Rodríguez to take up painting. At first, he painted with acryl. These works were exhibited in the Legislative Building of Córdoba. He also participated in the Salon de Artes de

Vidas Especiales. In addition, he presents his works at national and international encounters of plastic artists, which take place in various provinces of Argentina. He has already received a number of awards and recognitions.

AUSTRIA

Neururer, Marin

Date of birth: 3 December 2004

Place of birth: Bludenz

Foot painter

Marin Neururer was born on 3 December 2004 in Bludenz. Soon, however, his parents noticed that something was wrong. After many doctors' visits and periods in hospital, they were told he had PCH II (pontocerebellar hypoplasia). For Marin Neururer, this meant a lot of handicaps, including lack of fine motor skills, uncontrolled, spastic movement of his entire body, epileptic seizures and the inability to stand, walk or talk. When he was three, he enjoyed going to nursery school, which he attended for two years. After that, he was put in school (Special Education Centre), which unfortunately did not function at all, because Marin needed feeding with a PEG tube. His parents then decided to care for him at home. Whenever Marin Neururer is free of health problems, he is a very cheerful teenager. He loves listening to music, and is fond of bright lights and anything which lights up in colour. He laughs a lot and enjoys being cuddled. Painting bright pictures will give him a new challenge and provide him with an activity his family will support him with.

BRAZIL

Bandeira, Ivana Soares

Date of birth: 4 January 1988

Place of birth: Porto Velho

Mouth painter

Ivana Soares Bandeira was born on 4 January 1988 in Porto Velho, Brazil. At

the age of two, her parents noticed that she often collapsed, that items fell out of her hands, and that she always asked to be carried. At some stage, she started using her mouth instead of her hands to pick up things, after which the family started consulting numerous doctors in her village. All of them believed there was nothing wrong with Ivana Soares Bandeira. It was not until they visited a hospital in Goiânia that a doctor diagnosed demyelinating neuropathy. As the years went by, she lost the ability to move her arms and legs, and her feet became deformed. At the age of five, she was already writing and painting with her mouth. During a visit to hospital, she found out about Pituku Waiâpi (a deceased Association Scholarship Holder), an experience which motivated her to paint with her mouth and improve her capabilities. After secondary school, she studied Mathematics and Geometry, and did a PhD in Computer Graphics; other courses included English, Japanese and French. Her first exhibition took place in 2015. Through painting, Ivana Soares Bandeira got to know Associate Members Maria Goret Chagas and Gonçalves Borges. On her second trip to Japan, she attended a traditional Japanese painting course.

De Sousa Silva, Diogo Alexandre

Date of birth: 5 April 2012

Place of birth: Franca - SP

Mouth painter

Diogo Alexandre de Sousa Silva was born on 5 April 2012 in Franca, SP, and from birth has been confronted with handicaps. He was put in intensive care for a month and 19 days in the paediatric hospital of Santa Casa de Misericórdia de Franca, where he was intubated for several weeks. His situation was critical. After a time, he was diagnosed with arthrogryposis (joint deformity). Diogo Alexandre de Sousa Silva is an excellent pupil, both in school and in his private painting course. He is euphoric

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New Scholarship Holders

and vigorous, and for most of the time very inspired and charismatic. He is a keen learner who draws, paints, plays, and loves football. Artist Maria Goret Chagas drew his attention to the Association.

COLUMBIA

Garcia Giraldo, Alcides

Date of birth: 26 June 1976

Place of birth: Roncesvalles Tolima

Mouth painter

Alcides García Giraldo was born into a modest farming family on 26 June 1976 in Roncesvalles, Tolima. Because of limited opportunities, he only attended primary school, learning merely to read and write. At the age of 23, Alcides García Giraldo had an accident with a firearm which caused a spinal cord injury and made him tetraplegic. He moved to Ibagué Tolima, where he met the mouth painter (and Scholarship Holder) Fabián Castillo Ortiz, who encouraged him to start painting with his mouth.

DENMARK

Carstensen, Luna Suzhuo Kalstrup

Date of birth: 30 August 2011

Place of birth: Kunming, China

Foot painter

Luna Suzhuo Kalstrup Carstensen was born on 30 August 2011 in Kunming, China with arthrogryposis multiplex congenita (AMC). She was adopted when she was three. Together with her father, mother and older siblings, she lives in a house in Smukke Djursland in Denmark. Her siblings were also adopted from China. Luna Suzhuo Kalstrup Carstensen had a foot operation in China, but further surgery or treatment was required in Denmark. At five, she started nursery school, and was in a primary from the age of seven. She is given full support in school, and has special equipment for her school tasks,

consisting of a computer and mouse as well as a small side desk. Luna Suzhuo Kalstrup Carstensen is very passionate and loves expressing herself bodily and artistically. She loves dancing, styling herself, drawing and writing stories. Luna was born a boy, but from an early age only played with girls' toys and dresses. Since the age of six, she has identified as a girl. Luna Suzhuo Kalstrup Carstensen is a happy, amusing and very caring young lady.

INDIA

Lakhe, Shankar

Date of birth: 3 December 1978

Place of birth: Lakhangaon

Mouth painter

Shankar Lakhe was born on 3 December 1978 in the village of Lakhangaon in the state of Maharashtra, India. In 1997, after finishing school, he joined the Indian army. During his active military service, on 15 February 2001 he suffered an injury of the spinal cord (fracture and luxation of C4 & C5), which caused permanent paralysis under his neck. After being released from military service, on 15 January 2006 he moved into the Paraplegic Rehabilitation Centre (PRC) in Khadki, Pune for extended rehabilitation. Shankar Lakhe is married and the father of a son and daughter. His interest in art was aroused when he met VDMFK Scholarship Holders. In June 2019, he started painting with his mouth.

Malik, Anjona

Date of birth: 1 January 1986

Place of birth: Uttar Pradesh

Foot painter

Anjona Malik was born on 1 January 1986 without arms and a paralysed leg in Uttar Pradesh. Since she came from a poor family, she was not able to continue education after primary school education, and with only one leg she had no chance of finding work. Eventually, she became a beggar, and started wri-

ting God's name with her foot on a sheet of paper. An American artist found out about Anjona Malik, and encouraged her to paint with her mouth. After basic training with the artist, she eagerly continued to educate herself. Her painting is very varied, and her repertoire includes Indian deities, plants, animals and landscapes. Many well-known magazines have done reports on Anjona Malik.

Sharma, Monika

Date of birth: 28 January 1986

Place of birth: Yamuna Nagar

Mouth painter

Monika Sharma was born on 28 January 1986 in Yamuna Nagar. Although she was born healthy, at the age of eight she had high fever and her entire body became paralysed. Later, she was diagnosed with progressive myopathy. A year after the diagnosis, Monika was able to speak again. She learnt to write and paint with a pen in her mouth, and was so ambitious that she managed to finish her art studies with a Bachelor's degree. Monika Sharma is supported by her family in everything she does.

MEXICO

Arredondo Osorio, Jesus Abigail

Date of birth: 10 August 1992

Place of birth: Los Mochis, Sinaloa

Mouth painter

Jesus Abigail Arredondo Osorio was born on 10 August 1992 in Los Mochis, Sinaloa. She is the eldest of three siblings. At the age of 18, she was involved in a car accident which completely changed her life. For many years, she struggled with her fate until one day, after a medical examination, she met Lidia Cháidez López (an VDMFK Scholarship Holder), who told Jesus Abigail Arredondo Osorio about the Association. She was invited to a workshop, where she was surprised to disco-

New Scholarship Holders

ver the magical world of painting. In 2017, she officially began lessons with teacher Lidia Cháidez López in her personal workshop as well as at the Arnulf Erich Stegmann Workshop. She has attended courses and participated in exhibitions.

Cota González, Luis Fernando

Date of birth: 14 July 1993

Place of birth: Los Mochis, Sinaloa

Mouth painter

Luis Fernando Cota González was born on 14 July 1993 in Los Mochis, Sinaloa, Mexico. He lived there with his father and two brothers, and attended secondary school. In 2011, he went for a walk to a river with his family and friends, and was so enthusiastic when he saw the water that he forgot to check how deep the river was and jumped in. He became unconscious, and when he regained consciousness, he was in hospital. The medical care was inadequate, turning damage which may have been temporary into a situation which permanently confined Luis Fernando Cota González to a wheelchair. He was unable to move his limbs because his intervertebral discs were pressed together. For a whole year, he was without medical assistance until he went to another doctor who told him it was too late, and that he would not be able to walk or use his hands. In 2015, the husband of VDMFK Scholarship Holder Lidia de Jesús Cháidez López drew his attention to the Association, and two months later, he attended a painting course by Luís Gilberto Soto Álvarez (a deceased Scholarship Holder). He has had lessons and participated in exhibitions, and until today has been taught by Lidia Cháidez López.

PERU

Trillo Matos, Jimmy Jesús

Date of birth: 29 July 1989

Place of birth: Chincha

Mouth painter

Jimmy Jesús Trillo Matos was born on 29 July 1989 in Chincha with arthrogryposis multiplex congenita. The disease prevents Jimmy Trillo from using his hands and feet. At six, he attended a special school for the handicapped, where he learnt to draw. Computer and art courses stimulated his interest in painting, and he learnt to create shadows and landscapes with a pencil and paint watercolours. Until he was fifteen, he had a series of operations. After school, Jimmy Jesús Trillo Matos continued to teach himself autodidactically by watching Internet tutorials and painting in his spare time. A friend introduced him to the Association, and with him he visited publisher Olga Tito. Despite his handicap, Jimmy Jesús Trillo Matos is active and in good form. He lives with his parents in Lima and is supported by his two elder brothers.

POLAND

Gawryszewski, Grzegorz

Date of birth: 9 May 1963

Place of birth: Warsaw

Mouth painter

Grzegorz Gawryszewski was born in Warsaw on 9 May 1963. There, he finished primary school and went to a vocational college to train to be a "Machine and Equipment Mechanic". As a child, he trained to canoe, speed skate and race bikes. On 12 March 1981, he had an accident during one of his daily training sessions. Grzegorz Gawryszewski broke his cervical spine and became a tetraplegic. Now tied to a wheelchair, he received support from his family. His desire grew to achieve something on his own, and to do something "with his own hands". This is what gave him the

idea to start painting. He began with the most basic of means using a sheet of paper and a pencil attached to a rod. In May 2019, Grzegorz Gawryszewski started painting with watercolours, and later on supplemented this with oil colours. Along with painting, he is also interested in chess and aviation.

Sobierajska, Joanna Irena

Date of birth: 18 October 1970

Place of birth: Leszno

Mouth painter

Joanna Irena Sobierajska was born on 18 October 1970 in Leszno. In 1992, after completing her education, she started to work as an occupational therapist at the Psychiatric Clinic in Koscian. Three years later, she got married. At the beginning of 2000, during maternity leave after the birth of her son, Joanna Irena Sobierajska contracted multiple sclerosis. Her relatives give her great support and the initiative to carry on. Despite her growing handicap, she is therefore determined to remain as active as possible, and has resumed painting and drawing. In 2019, a fair was held in her city, and Joanna Irena Sobierajska took the opportunity to exhibit her work, displaying it before the local community. She also participates in workshops, courses and open-air art events. The artist likes best to paint her flowers, landscapes, animals and portraits in watercolours, and some of them in acrylic.

SOUTH AFRICA

Afrikaner, Henry

Date of birth: 20 January 1979

Place of birth: Karl Bremer

Foot painter

Henry Afrikaner was born on 20 January 1979 in Karl Bremer, South Africa, and attended secondary school in Scottsville. Until his accident, he lived at his mother's home with his two sons.

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New Scholarship Holders

In 2007, he broke his neck at the level of C5/C6 while playing rugby, becoming a tetraplegic. In 2013, he moved into Huis Andries Olivier (a home for paraplegics). While he was there, he was a board member for a year. In a course at the University of Stellenbosch, he became familiar with pastel painting. He also plays wheelchair rugby. His main goal in life is to become independent and to lead a happy and normal life. His hobbies are painting, watching sport, and listening to music.

Joubert, Corne

Date of birth: 17 August 1988

Place of birth: Bethal

Mouth painter

Corne Joubert was born on 17 August 1988 in a small town called Bethal in the Province of Mpumalanga in South Africa. On 2 January 2007, he broke his neck in a diving accident, and became a C5 tetraplegic. At the time of his accident, he was training to be a car mechanic, but his accident put an end to his apprenticeship. Corne Joubert was then in a rehabilitation facility for three months, and then he went to live with his parents for the first three years following his accident. In August 2010, he moved into a Living Centre for quadriplegics to become more independent, where he met Gert Volschenk (a former Associate Member). He mentored Corne Joubert for almost a year. After the death of Gert Volschenk, Corne Joubert further educated himself autodidactically with the help of online videos. He is fond of oil painting, and draws inspiration from landscapes.

SPAIN

Basa, Marian

Date of birth: 17 November 1984

Place of birth: Galati, Romania

Foot painter

Marian Basa was born in Galati, Romania on 17 November 1984 with arthrogryposis multiplex congenita.

Very early on, he learnt to use his feet for everyday activities such as drawing and painting. At the age of ten, he ran his first exhibition. Because his mother could not afford to pay for his studies, his teacher decided to help him sell his hand-painted Christmas cards. His school produced 20,000 reproductions of these and all of them were sold within a week. At the age of 19, he started studying at the Faculty of Fine Arts in Bucharest. In 2018, he moved from Romania to Barcelona, where he paints before passers-by in the Old Town or on Paseo de Gracia, and also sells his paintings there. He applies several techniques, but likes acrylic best. His favourite themes are portraits. Besides painting, he likes travelling, learning languages, playing chess and indulging in sport.

En Namry Ahmed, Anouar

Date of birth: 1 January 1979

Place of birth: Morocco

Mouth painter

Anouar En Namry Ahmed saw the light of day on 1 January 1979 in Morocco. In 1995, he moved to Spain. In 2002, at the age of 23, Anouar En Namry Ahmed was involved in a road accident, in which he was so severely injured that he became a tetraplegic. He spent a year in hospital, and thereafter returned home. After a number of years, he moved into the Care Centre for the Disabled in Pozoblanco and finally into a centre in León, where he also started painting with his mouth. Anouar En Namry Ahmed has been painting since 2019 and is continually improving his technique.

SWEDEN

Mullback, Lars

Date of birth: 1 June 1961

Place of birth: Karlsborg

Foot painter

Lars Mullback was born on 1 June 1961 in Karlsborg. It was a complicated birth, and lack of air led to cerebral palsy.

When he was one-and-a-half, Lars Mullback was housed in a facility for the physically handicapped. At preschool age, he stayed there for three months of the year, and in the first three years of school, he attended the facility full-time. Thanks to social reforms in Sweden, Lars Mullback became one of the first severely handicapped people to be allowed to attend a regular school in his hometown. His childhood dream had been to become a film director, so at the age of 20, he applied for the only courses in film directing available in Scandinavia at the time, but he was turned down due to his handicap. In the ten years that followed, he sat the entrance exam every two years until, in 1989, he was finally accepted. In 1997, he made a film about Sweden's services for the disabled, and unearthed its faults. Since 2015, at least sufferers of cerebral palsy have a legal right in Sweden to receive better care. The struggle thus reformed care for the benefit of many. In 1998, Lars Mullback got married, and the couple moved to the country where they bought horses and founded a training facility for people with cerebral palsy which provides around-the clock care and medical support. Since 2018, Lars has painted in his spare time. His ambition and goal is to have more time to himself. He runs an art gallery in Göteborg to get to know the world of art.

USA

Bannon, Linda

Date of birth: 21 February 1979

Place of birth: Illinois

Foot painter

Linda Bannon was born without arms on 21 February 1979 in Illinois. For many years, her doctors encouraged her to use prostheses to "appear normal". At the age of twelve, she shocked her doctors by saying: "This is my normal state. If others don't like it, they can look away." From then on, she stopped using artificial limbs. Linda did not let her disability affect her in any way. She

New Scholarship Holders

participated in school activities, attended high school, and graduated from college. She had to help out in the household and look after her younger siblings. Sadly, she had to give up her dream job as a teacher due to classroom exertion. Linda Bannon loves art and painting as a way of keeping in touch with her environment.

Baughman, Dianne Lynne

Date of birth: 21 September 1955

Place of birth: Chester

Mouth painter

Dianne Lynne Baughman was born on 21 September 1955 in Chester, South Carolina. Because of a congenital injury to the spinal cord, she is unable to walk, and the muscles in her arms and legs do not function. She studied Psychology at the University of South Carolina, graduating with a Bachelor's degree, and had been planning to do a PhD in Psychology in order to later work with children. After the death of her father, Dianne Lynne Baughman supported her mother, and learnt to paint from her. Sometimes she would start painting and continue until late into the night, not wanting to stop. She likes painting landscapes and animals. When she is painting, she is happy and feels free. Dianne Baughman is married with a son, a stepdaughter, and five grandchildren.

Biagi, Alexander

Date of birth: 6 December 1980

Place of birth: Denver

Mouth painter

Alexander Biagi was born on 6 December 1980 in Denver, Colorado. At the age of 24, he fell ill with CIDP. CIDP is an autoimmune neuromuscular disease which leads to muscular atrophy, inadequate motor skills and sensory disturbances. Before his illness, he was very active, and played basketball and football. For years, he also played the piano and drew every day. In 2016, Alexander Biagi had an HSCT (haematopoietic stem cell transplantation). During the

course of his life, he was operated upon 21 times, 11 of these due to sport injuries, and the remaining 10 because of his disease. He continually finds his way again, and manages to adjust in order to pursue the activities he loves. In 2015, Alexander Biagi started painting with his mouth.

ZIMBABWE

Thomu, Givean

Date of birth: 8 April 1993

Place of birth: Karoi

Mouth and foot painter

Givean Thomu was born on 8 April 1993 in Karoi, in a rural region of Zimbabwe. In 1999, when he was six, he lost both arms when playing with a power cable. On the same day, both his hands were amputated at the hospital of Harare. Givean Thomu had to learn to write and paint with his mouth and to bathe and dress himself and to eat with his feet. Since his parents died before the accident, he was transferred, after a six-month stay in hospital and the start of rehab, to an orphanage in Karoi. Later, Givean Thomu was relocated to the Afros Jiri Vocational Training Center in Bulawayo, where he trained to become an artist. After his 18th birthday, he moved to the Mzilikazi Art Craft Centre, where he further developed his painting skills. His ambition has driven him to look for Internet tutorials for further training. His favourite themes are landscapes and animals.

The significance of painting

The significance of painting as seen by Mariam Paré, Associate Member from the USA.

The significance of painting

Since prehistoric times, artists have painted colours onto cave walls in order to express their ideas about people and the world. Like those before us, we modern painters continue to record life, culture and what is most important to humanity.

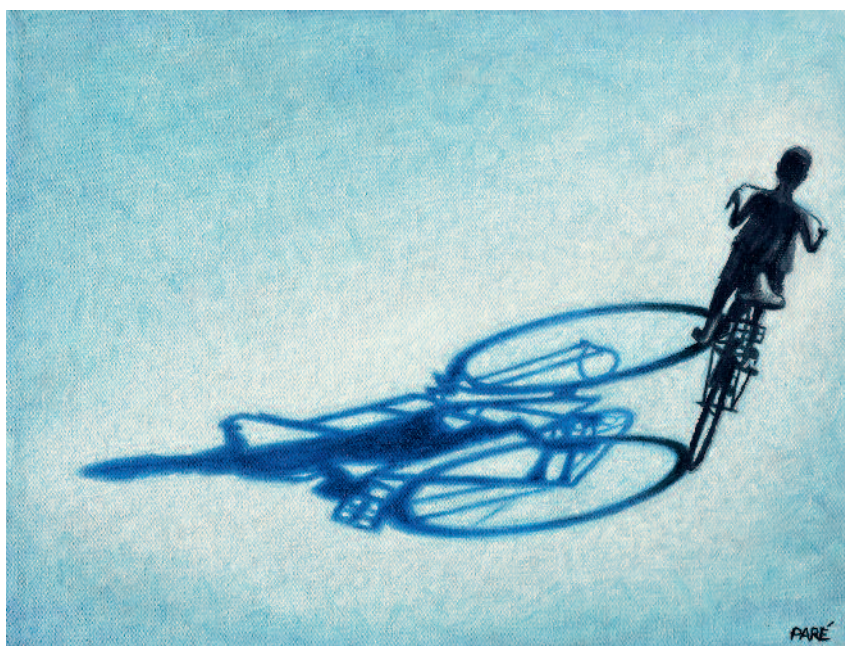
Painting can sometimes communicate meaning which cannot be better expressed in any other way. One example of this would be the striking mural "Guernica" by Pablo Picasso, which depicts the horror of the Spanish civil war. We attribute value to the clever manner in which Picasso chose to convey his message. We feel that we understand more about the tragedy of the bombardment of Guernica in the year 1937 in the face of his painting than we would have been able to experience from press photos or even from narratives. Painting gives form and depth to our feelings.



Mariam Paré from the USA has been an Associate Member of the VDMFK since 2016.

The act of painting begins with a dialogue between our mind and the world we see. Our marks on the canvas are our answer to the voice we hear. Painting stirs the imagination, which allows us to pause, reflect and contemplate.

Our visual experiences become richer and deeper through the painting process. Before I was a painter, I saw only what everyone sees – the expected, the names of things: tree, sky, house, person. My eyes were trained to only see the obvious. Painting teaches us to observe things in more detail until we perceive the true nature of the things around us. We learn to perceive colour through their subtlety and temperature. We discover characters through their posture and the visual context. We become more aware of distance, per-



Mariam Paré (Associate Member/USA), Reverie, oil, 23 x 31 cm.

The significance of painting

spective and light. Painting allows us to see them more clearly.

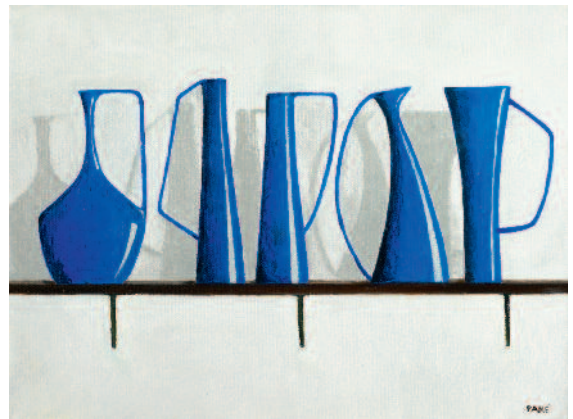
When we paint, we do not simply paint a replicated image of something, we open the door to the possibility of being deeply moved and deeply moving others.

When we look at paintings by artists such as Vincent Van Gogh or Paul Cezanne, we can see sunflowers or apples, but no one attaches importance to the simple objects in these still lifes. The significance lies in the extent to which painting moves us as humans in a way that cannot be explained. That is the greatest value of painting.

Mariam Paré
Associate Member/USA



Mariam Paré (Associate Member/USA), 'Girl in the green glasses', oil, 51 x 61 cm.



Mariam Paré (Associate Member/USA), 'Blue vases', oil, 23 x 31 cm.

Paré, Mariam (USA)

Born on: 1 December 1975

Place of birth: Kenitra

Associate Member since: 2016

Painting technique: Mouth painter

Mariam Paré was born in Morocco in 1975. She moved from there to the USA with her family when she was still a small child. At the age of 20, she was the victim of a shooting which left her quadriplegic. Before her injury, Mariam Paré was an aspiring artist and studied art. During a therapy session, she was

taught to write her name using her mouth. She rapidly adapted to this painting technique and began to enthusiastically teach herself to paint with her mouth. She has been a member of the association as a Scholarship Holder since 2006. She became an Associate Member of the association in 2016.

In 2003, Miriam Paré went back to college to get her bachelor's degree in studio art. Over the next few years, she blossomed as a mouth painting artist, took part in exhibitions across the country and showed her works in private gal-

leries. As her participation in art and disabled groups increased, she began to share her message of perseverance with an audience from around the world through TV appearances, news items and newspaper reports.

Today, Mariam Paré works in her studio in Chicago. She paints her works of art, which show a wide range of themes, in oil, acrylic and modern mixed technique. She also works in videography and photography in collaboration with other artists.

We mourn for

ARGENTINA

Benitez Velozo, Maria del Pilar

Date of birth: 28 April 1957

Passed away on: 1 November 2021

Painting technique: Foot painter

Maria del Pilar Benitez Velozo was born without her upper limbs due to a congenital condition. In addition, one of her legs was irreparably damaged. So from an early age, she learned to use her feet to be more independent. At the age of five, she learned how to sew and embroider and then went on to learn how to weave and make small handicrafts. Her love for the arts became clear at a very young age, and she was further motivated by the lessons she received in sixth grade. After that, she took a correspondence course in drawing and oil painting. She became a Full Member of the association in 1999. The works of Maria del Pilar Benitez



Full Member Maria del Pilar Benitez Velozo from Argentina passed away on 1 November 2021.

Velozo are known for their remarkable technical quality. Although she painted in different styles, the use of light contrasts and various colours are distinctive features of her work. She started painting in Renaissance style, which can be seen in many of her oil paintings. On top of that, she created engravings and tapestries with great attention to detail. Her mission was to tell people how they can reach their full potential, and so she visited schools, talked to students and teachers, and demonstrated how she paints and knits. Not only that, but she had numerous exhibitions both in Argentina and abroad, where she received several awards and distinctions for her works. Her achievements were covered in the media several times.

Deceased Scholarship Holders

AUSTRALIA

Rigg, Simon

Date of birth: 1 March 1954

Passed away on: 6 July 2021

Mouth painter

Mouth painter Simon Rigg was born on 1 March 1954 in Warrnambool in the southwest of Victoria, Australia. When Mr Rigg was fifteen, he started working at a plant and tree nursery. In 1974, he got married, and two years later, the first of three children was born. In 1977, Mr Rigg graduated from a three-year full-time course with a diploma in horticulture. On 13 October 1982, he had an accident at home, after which he was confined to a wheelchair as a quadriplegic. It took Simon Rigg a long time to adjust to this situation. The VDMFK supported him as a Scholarship Holder since 1990. Simon Rigg passed

away on 6 July 2021.

INDONESIA

Bangun, Sayang Petrus

Date of birth: 6 June 1959

Passed away on: 29 January 2021

Mouth and foot painter

Sayang Petrus Bangun was born without either forearms or hands on 6 June 1959 in Batu Sanggehen (Indonesia). From 1968 to 1971, he attended Junior High School, and from 1976 to 1977 the Art and Science School in Medan. From 1973, the mouth and foot painter was an administrative clerk in an office in Deli Serdang. He got married in 1978. He was supported as a Scholarship Holder by the VDMFK since 1990, which allowed him to participate in numerous exhibitions. His hobbies were painting, singing, reading and travelling. Sayang Petrus Bangun passed away on 29 January 2021.

ITALY

Boerci, Laura

Date of birth: 14 April 1969

Passed away on: 14 September 2021

Mouth painter

Laura Boerci was born on 14 April 1969 in Milan. She had spinal muscular atrophy from birth, and was unable to move either her arms or legs. In spite of this, Ms Boerci always pursued and carried out her dreams. In 1996, she graduated from university with a degree in Political Science and thereafter embarked on a career as a theatrical scriptwriter and director. She wrote and produced 23 comedies for the Legamani Amateur Company and donated all proceeds to charity organisations. As well as this, Laura Boerci published two books and a fairytale. From 2008 until 2018, she was a city councillor with responsibility for accessibility, library and general affairs. Laura Boerci was very committed to the

We mourn for

cultural life of her country and founded a cultural circle. She was also a correspondent at a television channel, and had opened an agency and managed an artistic café. In 2007, she started mouth painting, beginning with water-colours, and then changing over to water-dilutable oil. Because she had difficulty moving her neck, the paintings she produced were small. Unfortunately, she was a member of the VDMFK family for a short time only. She passed away on 14 September 2021, only approximately half a year after she had become a Scholarship Holder of the association.

KAZHAKSTAN

Demeyeva, Maya

Date of birth: 4 May 1983

Passed away on: 20 August 2021

Foot painter

Maya Demeyeva had cerebral palsy from birth, and was therefore unable to use her arms. As well as this, she had great difficulty in walking. Because Ms Demeyeva was not able to attend school, she was homeschooled by her mother, learning skills such as engraving, and designing mirror frames and panels. Gradually, her art became more complex, and she painted abstract pictures which displayed on paper her feelings, thoughts, visions and concepts of the world. Maya Demeyeva became Scholarship Holder of the Association in 2002. She passed away on 20 August 2021.

SLOVENIA

Gruntar, Roman

Date of birth: 1 February 1965

Passed away on: 21 October 2021

Mouth painter

Roman Gruntar was born on 1 February 1965 in Postojna. A serious traffic accident in February 1998 left him tetraplegic. Vojko Gasperut, Full Member of the VDMFK, helped Roman rediscover his interest in painting as Roman had had a passion for the latter at a very early age but never really developed it further. As a kind of occupational therapy he began to paint with his mouth. Oil painting was one of his favourite techniques. In summer workshops, Roman was able to acquire knowledge of painting from other artists of the association. Roman Gruntar had received a VDMFK scholarship since 2003. He passed away on 21 October 2021.

SOUTH KOREA

Kim, Tae-Wan

Date of birth: 28 October 1967

Passed away on: 8 September 2021

Mouth painter

Tae-Wan Kim was born on 28 October 1967. At the age of three, he contracted poliomyelitis, resulting in paralysis of all his limbs. When he heard of the VDMFK and its artists, he decided to paint using his mouth, and from 1996, he received private lessons from a university professor. In the year 2001 he became a Scholarship Holder of the VDMFK. Mr Tae-Wan Kim managed to participate in numerous exhibitions. He passed away on 8 September 2021.

USA

Crouch, Wendy Paige

Date of birth: 29 June 1960

Passed away on: 19 August 2021

Mouth painter

Wendy Paige Crouch was born on 29 June 1960 in Colorado Springs. After graduating from Langley High School, she was first employed at a bank, and later as a facility management analyst at a large mortgage firm. She later decided to change jobs and in 1984 launched her own video store, which was so successful that she opened a subsidiary. The turning point came in September 1987, when she had a car accident, damaging her spinal cord, after which she became a C4-5 tetraplegic. In 1999 she started taking up mouth painting, teaching herself the skill autodidactically. After a short interruption, she resumed her artistic work with great enthusiasm. She was granted a scholarship by the association from 2004. Wendy Paige Crouch passed away on 19 August 2021.

Kaaihue, David Valentine

Date of birth: 11 May 1950

Passed away on: 20 September 2021

Mouth painter

David Valentine Kaaihue was born on 11 May 1950 in Honolulu. He attended primary and secondary school in Maui before going to college in Massachusetts and studying at the University of Hawaii. He then worked as a policeman and construction worker. On 6 May 1989 his life changed dramatically when Mr Kaaihue had a work accident which rendered him quadriplegic, whereupon he started to draw and paint with his mouth (both his legs and arms were paralysed). One of his hobbies was wood carving. In 1995 he became a Scholarship Holder of the VDMFK. David Valentine Kaaihue passed away on 20 September 2021.

Continued on page 20

We mourn for

Monaco, Michael J.

Date of birth: 19 June 1963

Passed away on: 14 July 2021

Mouth painter

Michael J. Monaco was born on 19 June 1963 in Ithaca, New York. After graduating from high school, he attended college for two years. Due to paralysis of his upper and lower limbs, Mr Monaco started mouth painting in 1986, teaching himself the skill, however later he received three years of regular painting lessons. The mouth painter took part in numerous exhibitions. The artist's favourite themes were lake and wilderness motifs. Michael J. Monaco was supported by the VDMFK as a Scholarship Holder since 1997. He passed away on 14 July 2021.

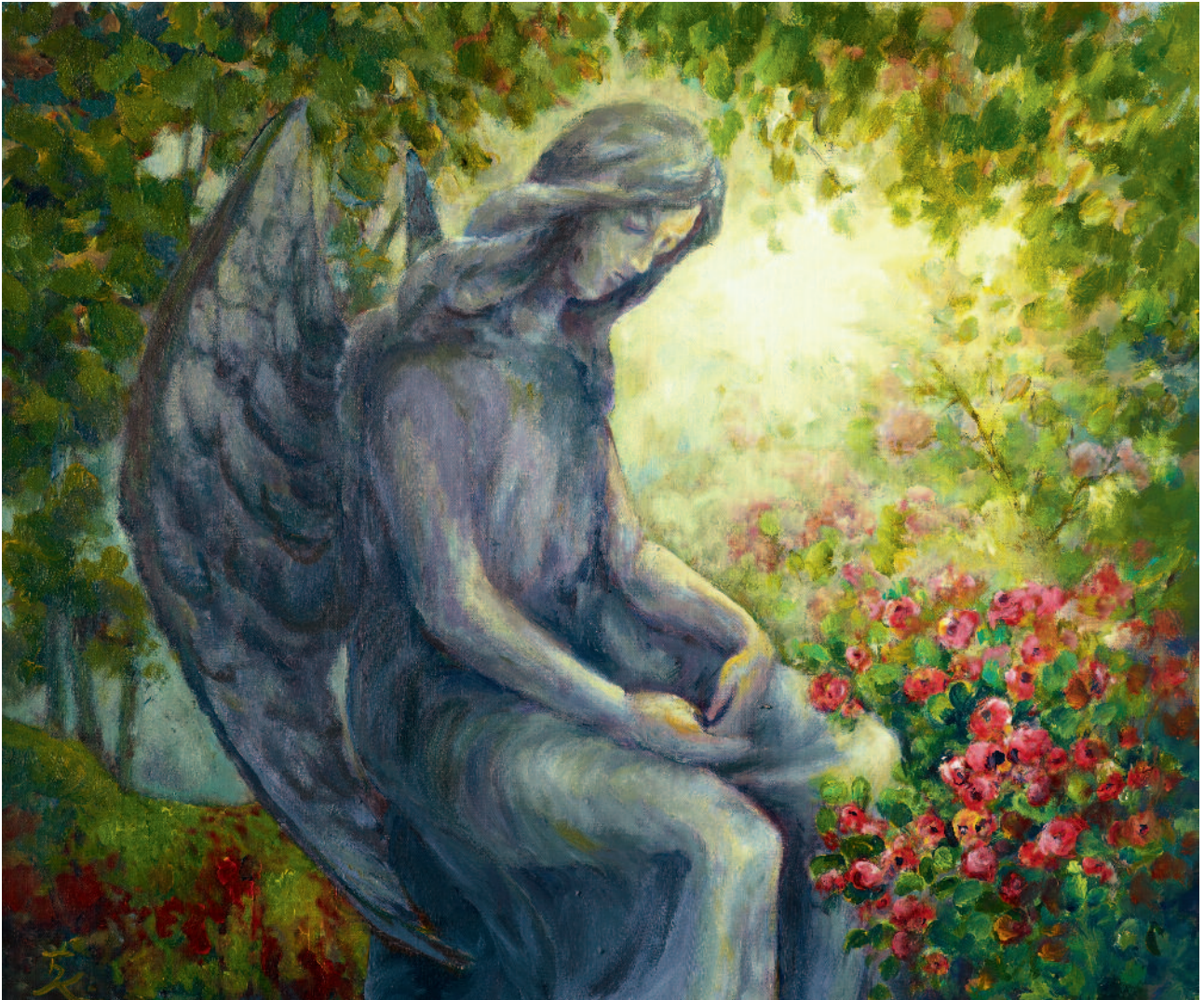
Wolf, Dana

Date of birth: 19 August 1958

Passed away on: 7 January 2021

Mouth painter

Dana Wolf was born on 19 August 1958 in Independence. On 29 January 1974, his life took a drastic turn when, at the age of fifteen, he was run over by a car, becoming a C4/C5 quadriplegic. After prolonged rehabilitation treatment, he was able to continue his school education, and graduated inter alia from college, where he received an Art degree and a certificate in Economics. Despite his handicap, Dana Wolf was able to pursue a regular occupation, one of his awards being that of Handicapped Employee of the Year. However, his health deteriorated considerably and he was forced to give up his work. Because Dana Wolf had always been interested in art, in July 1998 he started to paint with his mouth, learning this skill autodidactically. Ronald Dale Tabor (a member of the VDMFK) supported him in his quest to expand on his artistic abilities. As soon as one year later, he was supported by the VDMFK as a Scholarship Holder. Dana Wolf passed away on 7 January 2021.



Thomas Kahlau (Full Member/Germany), 'Reverent', acrylics, 50 x 60 cm.

VDMFK personalities

In the 'VDMFK personalities' section, we introduce people who have made a special contribution to the VDMFK in the past. This time we present Prof. Dr. Dr. Herbert Batliner from Liechtenstein, long-serving legal consultant and Honorary Member of the VDMFK.

Prof. Dr. Dr. Herbert Batliner, co-founder and long-serving legal consultant for the Association, died on 8 June 2019 at the age of 90. With him, the VDMFK has lost an individual who shaped the history of the Association; he even acted as a legal consultant at the inaugural meeting in 1957. He held this office until his retirement in 2013. VDMFK President Serge Maudet honoured Prof. Dr. Dr. Herbert Batliner with the following words:

"Herbert Batliner started the VDMFK in 1957 together with A. E. Stegmann and another 17 mouth and foot painters. He was an invaluable source of support for the VDMFK in his role as legal consultant for more than 50 years. He was a remarkable person and I remember many a spirited debate with him. Thanks to his skill as a negotiator, he knew exactly when compromise was necessary. Great credit is due to him in a wide range of sections of society. Everything is precisely documented, remarkable, historically objectively transparent and the consequences can be foreseen. But far beyond all this is my own experience of having met a great humanist in Prof. Dr. Dr. Herbert Batliner. His fundamental aim and desire was to be there for those who often stand apart or on the margins of society, afflicted by a challenging fate, often without hope, caught in a small world of physical disabilities: without a clear view of the world of self-determination, fulfilling self-value! Together with A. E. Stegmann, he found a way to give all these people a prospect of gaining a well-deserved place in society. Prof. Dr. Dr. Herbert Batliner had a strong emotional connection with the VDMFK and with the mouth and foot painters. He often drew strength from the numerous encounters with them.



Prof. Dr. Dr. Herbert Batliner was a member of the VDMFK board as a legal consultant from its founding until his retirement in 2013. He was given honorary membership of the Association for this.

He was undoubtedly a visionary whose ideas quickly gained significance and took on real shape. He shaped the development of the VDMFK with success and far-sightedness. His vision of support was, and I experienced this daily, not to offer affected people compassionate sympathy, but rather to mobilise society to provide assistance, to take human responsibility for people who have been left at a disadvantage by nature or a hard fate. What he started 60 years ago together with A. E. Stegmann, the founding of the VDMFK, took courage! Prof. Dr. Dr. Herbert Batliner had this courage to also bear the risk of failure.

He who loved, promoted and collected art and gave it to the public in abundance, had a great desire to use it to offer them the opportunity and possibility of seeing and considering the world in another dimension which, while it cannot make it possible to depict the infinite, can make it possible to experience and perceive it. He did not take the path that was considered by an era and its society to be important and right. He walked his own path, which no one had walked before and on

which he not only left great marks, but which led him into the future. The people who follow his vision, his path, and I count myself and all artists who are supported by the VDMFK among them, owe Prof. Dr. Dr. Herbert Batliner a great debt of gratitude. He made it possible for me and generations of mouth and foot painters to be proud to determine our own lives and to freely shape and master them."



Brom Wikstrom (Full Member/USA), 'Start of spring with daffodil & 2 butterflies', watercolour, 51 x 41 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 Schäpper (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.

Appeal

Dear artists!

We need portrait photos of you time and again for our artist biographies, our website, enquiries from publishing houses and various other opportunities. Unfortunately, not all of the photos that are currently in our possession are up to date and of sufficient quality anymore.

For this reason, we request that you send us an up-to-date photo of you in colour and in high resolution. The photo should show you painting, like the two examples below.

Please send us the photos to the following email address: office@vdmfk.li

Thank you in advance.

The VDMFK office

Foot painter variant



Mouth painter variant



Presentation of painting techniques

Soonyi Oh, VDMFK Board member and foot painter from South Korea demonstrates tips and tricks on the topic of 'mouth and foot painting'. This time, she provides insight into techniques for landscape painting on round paper.



First, stick round paper onto a drawing board.



Stroke the paper back and forth in order to avoid folds.



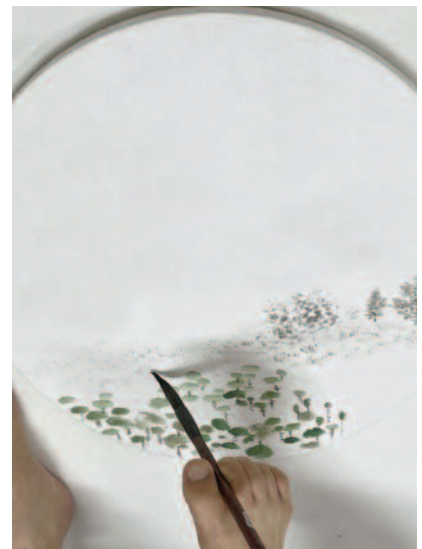
Once the paper is properly attached, paint the object in front of you with ink and paint.



Paint the stem of the lotus flower and then the leaves. Paint the leaves as a whole by expressing the characteristic points of their shape.



Next, paint the trees in the background.



Presentation of painting techniques



First draw the shape of the trees and then paint them. Then outline the trees in the distance with light and dark green to express light and shade.

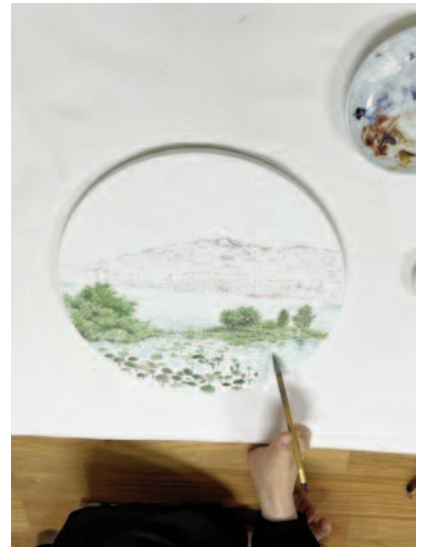


Briefly sketch the buildings in the distance.

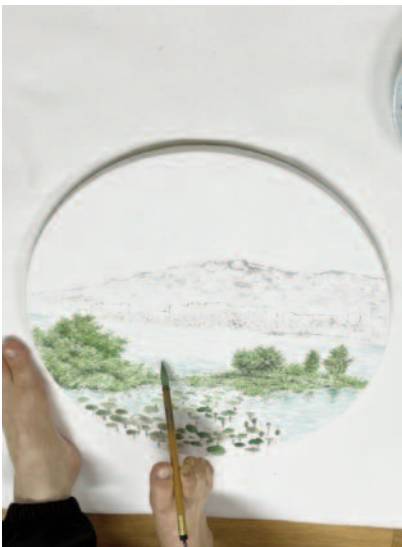
Presentation of painting techniques



After painting the mountains in the distance with ink and a wash, paint the important parts of them.



Once the lotus is drawn, paint the water around it.



Presentation of painting techniques



Paint the sky blue, but also leave an empty space.



Once the painting is finished, sign it.



The finished painting in its full beauty.



Soonyi Oh, VDMFK Board member and foot painter from South Korea.



José Gerardo Uribe Aguayo (Full Member/Mexico), 'Christmas spirit', pointillism, 68 x 48 cm.

Publishers' activities

BRAZIL

- The Brazilian publishing house held an exhibition in Santana Parque Shopping in Sao Paulo from 18 September to 10 October 2021. 24 paintings were exhibited from various Brazilian mouth and foot painters. In addition, on the four Saturdays there were painting demonstrations by various Brazilian artists. These were:

Gonçalo Borges (Associate Member), Maria Goret Chagas (Associate Member), Daniel Rodrigo Ferreira da Silva (Scholarship Holder), Arthur Ricardo David Hirche (Scholarship Holder) and Marcos Paulo Silva Machado (Scholarship Holder).



Associate Members Maria Goret Chagas (sitting, left) and Gonçalo Borges (sitting, right) with friends and organisers of the exhibition, one of whom is Paola Manograsso (standing, centre), head of the Brazilian publishing house.



Arthur Ricardo David Hirche (Scholarship Holder) impressed with the talents he possesses at his early age of 16.



Scholarship Holder Daniel Rodrigo Ferreira da Silva during his painting demonstration.



Scholarship Holder Marcos Paulo Silva Machado demonstrating his mouth-painting skills.

Publishers' activities

POLAND

- The Polish publishing house Amun organised an exhibition in Bochnia from 20 October to 11 November 2021, which was opened as part of the "Integration with sound painting" festival. 30 pictures were exhibited from 24 Polish mouth and foot painters. The following artists were present at the opening event: Full Member Stanisław Kmiecik, Associate Member Walery Siejtbatałow and Scholarship Holders Bartosz Ostałowski and Martyna Gruca. Painting demonstrations were also held at the opening event.



(from left to right): Artists Walery Siejtbatałow, Bartosz Ostałowski, Martyna Gruca and Stanisław Kmiecik with Dorota Bakaj (background, centre), representative of the Polish publishing house.



(from left to right): Artists Bartosz Ostałowski, Martyna Gruca and Stanisław Kmiecik.



Scholarship Holder Bartosz Ostałowski during his painting



Children watching the mouth and foot painters' skills with great interest.

