

# VDMFK-INFORMATION

ASSOCIATION OF MOUTH AND FOOT PAINTING ARTISTS  
ACROSS THE WORLD

July 2022 / 204



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# Foreword by the President

*Dear artists, dear ladies and gentlemen!*

*I sincerely hope that you and your loved ones are in good health as you read this new brochure.*

*I am very touched that I can pick up the pen again today to address you. I had to withdraw for a while for health reasons.*

*Today I am here for you again to support you, to encourage you and to listen to you. Together we will continue the work of our founder Arnulf Erich Stegmann and make it better known so that it will continue for a long time to come. I would like to use this foreword to thank an artist whom I am sure you know more or less well - Thomas Kahlau. As Vice-President of our Association, Thomas Kahlau represented me during my absence. He championed our interests, took a stand when necessary and saw projects through to completion. I did not have to worry about anything, he had my fullest trust and always will. I would like to thank him for this valuable support he gave me during my recovery period.*

*Thomas Kahlau is not only an artist and a colleague for me - he is above all a friend. Thank you from the bottom of my heart, dear friend!*

*Something else is also close to my heart. I wanted to talk about what an excellent job our publishing houses are doing, sparing no effort to find new ideas so that they can sell more and thus promote the Association of Mouth and Foot Painting Artists. Without their knowledge and their expertise, the Association would not be what it is today. I would like to add that the artists in France are in active exchange with the publishing house and work with it, each in his or her own way. So we can develop together and as far as I am concerned, I know I am in good hands. I would like to say a big thank you to all the publishing houses!*



**VDMFK President Serge Maudet, mouth-painter from France.**

*And now I would like to talk to you about something we all have in common - our creativity.*

*You know that the Association always needs new motifs to expand the selection for reproductions, to be able to exhibit new works and much more.*

*I thus invite you to regularly send us your new pictures.*

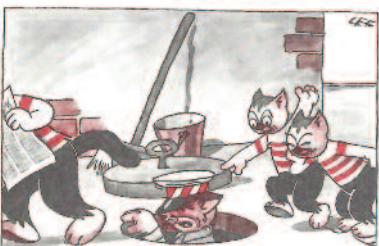
*Last but not least, I would like to thank the entire Board, the Managing Director and his team for the work they have done. I can't wait for us to meet again on site. I find that it is always more pleasant to meet in person. With artistic greetings!*

*Yours sincerely*

Serge Maudet  
President of VDMFK

# Miscellaneous

The mouth painter Carl Ernst Fischer (Cefischer) from Germany made a name for himself with his caricatures and the picture stories of the cat 'Oskar'. These were also published in book form. We show three of these caricatures on this page.



The caricature 'Lucky'.



'Strictly by the book' - another caricature of CFischer , which can only be correctly interpreted by the sign in the foreground with the inscription 'Do not enter'.



The caricature 'The dear neighbour'.





*Patricia Jane Saerang (Associate Member/Indonesia), 'Young woman in white blouse & purple skirt ', mixed media, 30x23 cm.*

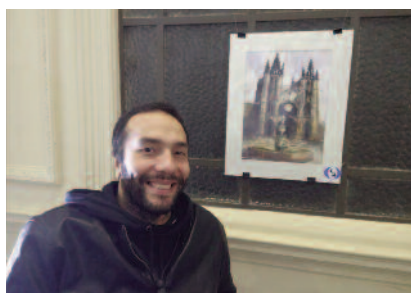


# Artists' activities

## ARGENTINIA

### Barcia, Cesar Andres (Scholarship Holder)

- Cesar Andres Barcia was honoured to paint a work in tribute to the Cathedral of Burgos, Spain, which will celebrate its 800th anniversary in 2022. The exhibition included works by about 50 watercolourists from Argentina. Cesar Andres Barcia was invited by the



Association of Watercolourists of Argentina to participate in this event. The exhibition was held on 26 May 2022 at the premises of the Spanish society in Argentina in Buenos Aires. However, this was not the only event in which the artist participated in recent months. On 6 April 2022 and 6 May 2022, he gave painting demonstrations. He also gave a demonstration of his skills together with foot painter Antonella Agostina Semaan. Both were invited to exhibit their works in the largest and busiest train station in Argentina, where about 200,000 people pass daily. They showed their works and presented their skills as part of the International Day of People with Disabilities on 3 December 2021.

### Sosa, Carlos Alberto (Scholarship Holder)

- Carlos Alberto Sosa has made several appearances on Argentinian TV stations, which have given him a broad audience. He also presented his work at events in the cities of Pilar and Campana in December 2021.

## AUSTRIA

### Ploier, Paulus (Full Member)

- The Austrian mouth painter Paulus Ploier, together with the Association of Mouth and Foot Painting Artists, succeeded in bringing the "3-H Congress Crisis Support for Baby, Toddler and Family" to the town of Bad Ischl under the motto "Helping-Hoping-Healing". From 2 to 5 May 2022, the high-calibre congress with the subtitle "Relationship, rupture and bonding – It's never too late for bonding" took place. At the same time, under the motto "Art Heals", there was the exhibition of works by mouth and foot painting artists from around the world. This exhibition can be admired until the end of September.

## BRAZIL

### Borges, Gonçalo (Associate Member)

- This year Gonçalo Borges can celebrate an artistic career that spans 55 years. For this occasion, he held an exhibition



from 2 to 20 February 2022, which took place in the art gallery "Space for Art, Culture and Design in the neighbourhood Jardins" in São Paulo. In addition, Gonçalo Borges was given the honour of painting a portrait of the very famous presenter Rolando Boldrin and presenting it to him on the occasion of his 85th birthday live on the TV channel "TV Cultura", which broadcast a special program on the occasion of this birthday.

### Chagas, Maria Goret (Associate Member)

- Maria Goret Chagas was able to hold an exhibition in the Parliament of the State of São Paulo, where she showed 25 works in acrylic and watercolour. This was entitled "Creative skills and strokes with heart" (Habilidades criativas e pinceladas com o coração). The works were on display from 30 May to 10 June 2022.



### Cunha, Marcelo da (Associate Member)

- Marcelo da Cunha was able to hold an exhibition at the Brazilian Society of Fine Artists. He describes this as the greatest award of his 28-year career as a painter. He exhibited a total of 50 works. This bore the name "Diversidade". With this combination of words, he wanted to refer to the diversity of his paintings that made up the exhibition.

- Furthermore, on 30 November 2021, he was able to open his studio in Campo Grande, Rio de Janeiro. This event, called "Celebrate", was also to review the 30 years since his accident in 1991. For this occasion, he chose a work to present for each year since his accident.

### Pohl, Luisa de Almeida (Scholarship Holder)

- Foot painter Luisa de Almeida Pohl received a very great honour. She is part of a commercial shown on Brazilian television about courage and inspiration, starring the world-famous footballer Neymar. This commercial can be viewed

# Artists' activities

wed on YouTube through the following link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hK3MxNKdxss&t=45s>

## CROATIA

- **Scholarship Holders Stjepan Perkovic and Alen Kasumovic** participated in a humanitarian art colony organised by the Association of Railway Painters "Blue Light" from Zagreb on 30 April 2022 under the title "Blue Light for the Blue Iris Flower". At this both artists also gave painting demonstrations.

### Perkovic, Stjepan (Scholarship Holder)

- Stjepan Perkovic participated in an international group exhibition in the Italian city of Ascoli-Piceno. The exhibition was organised by "AthensArt The

International Arts Festival" under the motto "Friendship through art can change the world". Here Stjepan Perkovic showed two of his paintings. A total of 36 artists from different countries participated. The exhibition ran from 7 April to 15 May 2022. Furthermore, in November 2021, Stjepan Perkovic participated in the art competition "Luxembourg Art Prize 2021", in which he was awarded with a certificate.

## ESTONIA

### Luks, Meelis (Scholarship Holder)

- Meelis Luks was allowed to present his works in St. John's Church in Tallinn. The opening of the exhibition took place on 28 January 2022. It lasted until 24 February 2022. Works were exhibited that had not yet been seen in exhibitions. Of course, the exhibition also

included older creations of his foot painting.

## GREAT BRITAIN

- **VDMFK Board Member Tom Yendell and Scholarship Holder Barry West** gave an interview to the morning show of the TV channel ITV on 19 November 2021. This resulted in an extraordinary external impact on the mouth and foot painters of Great Britain, the publishing house there, and the VDMFK in general. This double interview can be described as the best public relations work ever done on the British market.

### Moriarty-Simmonds, Rosaleen (Scholarship Holder)

- Rosaleen Moriarty-Simmonds has been appointed High Sheriff of South

*Continues on page 8*



*The three Norwegian Scholarship Holders Wenche Løseth (top right), Brit Grøtterud Skotland (bottom right) and Aase Helene Sveen (top) were present at the exhibition in the publisher's show room.*

## NORWAY

- After a long closure due to corona, the publisher of Norway was able to reopen its exhibition premises in Oslo to the public. This opportunity was seized by organising an exhibition in No-

vember 2021. The publisher presented over 80 works by 23 artists from 12 countries. Around 150-200 visitors viewed the exhibition each day. Also present were three female artists, which included **Scholarship Holders Wenche Løseth, Brit Grøtterud Skotland, and Aase Helene Sveen.**





# Artists' activities

Glamorgan by Queen Elizabeth II. This decision was made between the Queen and the Privy Council on 16 March 2022. The ceremony of her declaration took place on 5 April 2022.

## GREECE

### Iliadis, Triantafillos (Full Member)

- Triantafillos Iliadis has been given the great honour of exhibiting a work in the important Athens War Museum, which also draws attention to the VDMFK. This is only the second time since 1998 that he has received such an honour.



## INDONESIA

### Amanatullah, Muhammad (Scholarship Holder)

- On 20 April 2022, Muhammad Amanatullah received a great honour. He was able to meet the President of Indonesia, Joko Widodo, and present him with a portrait painting. Meeting with the President is a privilege and a rare event, which made the artist very happy. On this occasion, Muhammad Amanatullah met not only the President of the Republic, but also Mrs. Khofifah Indar Parawansa, the Governor of East Java Province. The artist was invited by the Ministry of Social Services. The President's visit to his town of Gresik was to meet with the fishing community.



*Artist Muhammad Amanatullah (left) with President Joko Widodo, to whom he presented a portrait.*

### Subadri, Sabar (Associate Member)

- On 16 May 2022, Sabar Subadri was given the opportunity by the Salatiga City Government to present a painting as a souvenir to the Minister of Tourism and Creative Industries of the Republic of Indonesia, Sandiaga Uno, on the occasion of his official visit to the city as a representative of the citizens of Salatiga.

## MEXICO

### Zavala Rodríguez, Rubén (Scholarship Holder)

- The artist Rubén Zavala Rodríguez held his large exhibition "Matices de vida" at the Casa de la Cultura in Ocotlán, Jalisco, Mexico. More than 40 works were admired by the public, including the visit of 500 children from different neighbouring schools. The opening took place on 19 February 2022. The exhibition lasted until 24 April 2022. Rubén Zavala Rodríguez gave drawing and painting classes to children and young people in the community.

## PHILIPPINES

### Delos Reyes, Jason C. (Scholarship Holder)

- Jason C. Delos Reyes was invited to participate as a guest artist in the virtual art exhibition conducted by "Philippine Women's University" and "Pintabs - Studio Arts Group" on 15 December 2021. Other artists of the Association also participated in the activities. Among them, for instance, was Scholarship Holder Julius Tongco.

## POLAND

- AMUN, the publisher from Poland, held an exhibition in Raciborz from 2 to 28 February 2022. On display were a total of 33 paintings by Polish mouth and foot painters. **Full Member Stanisław Kmiecik, Full Member Walery Siejtbałow and Scholarship Holders Martynka Gruca and Mikołaj Kastelik** were present at the vernissage, where painting demonstrations were also given.

## SLOVENIA

### Vertelj, Zeljko (Associate Member)

- On 7 February 2022, on the eve of the Slovenian Cultural Festival, Zeljko Vertelj held a solo exhibition in the gallery "Štala" in the town of Podcerkva, which was very successful.





Chris Opperman (Full Member/South Africa), 'Roses', watercolours, 38x31cm.



# We mourn for

## ITALY

### Portelli, Santina

**Date of birth:** 26 June 1948

**Passed away on:** 8 May 2022

**Painting technique:** Mouth painter

Dr Santina Portelli was paralysed in all limbs from birth. At the age of six, she moved to Milan with her parents, where she lived until her death. After completing her school education, she studied art history and foreign languages. In 1975, she began studying the psychology of developmental ageing, which she completed in 1985 with a doctorate from 'La Sapienza' university in Rome. For this she wrote the psychological study 'Living with Disability'. Already in her childhood she loved to get dirty with colours and soon she became one of the best students of the art course. In the following years, under the tutorship of Master Gianni Guidolini Santamaria, she took up oil painting, a technique she favoured throughout her life. However, ceramic painting was also part of her repertoire. Through constant artistic engagement with the masters of the studio, Santina Portelli succeeded in improving her technique and expressiveness. As early as 1966, she received a scholarship from the Association. In



***Dr Santina Portelli from Italy passed away on 8 May 2022. She had been a Full Member of the VDMFK since 2000.***

1994 she became an Associate Member of the VDMFK. She became a Full Member in 2000. Her painting was an expression of contemporary beauty, not to be found in the abstract formalism of lines and colours, but to be found in the morphological purity of the compositions, which reveal the essence of the human spirit: the eternal inner torment. During her artistic career, she had parti-

cipated in numerous collective and solo exhibitions in Italy and abroad and received various prizes and recognitions.

## Deceased Scholarship Holders

## BRAZIL

### Caldeira, José Antonio Rodrigues

**Date of birth:** 30 April 1964

**Passed away on:** 19 November 2021

**Painting technique:** Mouth painter

José Antonio Rodrigues Caldeira was born on 30 April 1964 in Sintra, Portugal. After attending high school, he decided to immediately pursue a job. During his military service, he discovered his passion for skydiving. As a result, he embarked on a military career and

completed a course as a paratrooper NCO in the Portuguese Air Force. While on leave in the air force, he was helping his brother with construction work and fell from a six-metre-high scaffold. He suffered serious injuries to his cervical spine between the C2 and C7 vertebrae and was told days later by the doctor treating him that he had become a quadriplegic as a result. After a month-long stay at the São José Hospital in Lisbon, he was transferred to a rehabilitation centre. He later moved to the 'Casa de Repouso Celinha' clinic in Amadora and in 1995, with the encouragement of his physiotherapist, began to paint with his mouth. He then devoted himself extensively to computer work with an empty pen in his mouth. In 2003, while in

hospital, he met his wife, who from then on supported him in his painting. As his wife was Brazilian by birth, they decided to build a new life in Brazil and moved there. Since 2009, the artist has been painting oil paintings in addition to acrylic hose and regularly taking private painting lessons. José Antonio Rodrigues Caldeira had been supported by the VDMFK as a Scholarship Holder since 2010. He passed away on 19 November 2021.



## Sousa Nascimento, Nalu

**Date of birth:** 25 July 1961

**Passed away on:** 2 February 2022

**Painting technique:** Foot painter

Nalu Sousa Nascimento was born on 25 July 1961 in São Paulo. As a thalidomide victim, her hands were attached to her upper body. At the age of eight, she began to paint and draw with her left foot. Her enthusiasm for it knew no bounds and she devoted herself to painting as a self-taught artist in the following years. The artist took part in several exhibitions. The press also frequently reported on the artist, who has been supported by the VDMFK since 2005. Nalu Sousa Nascimento passed away on 2 February 2022.

## CROATIA

## Radic, Goran

**Date of birth:** 13 September 1974

**Passed away on:** 11 November 2021

**Painting technique:** Mouth and foot painter

Goran Radic, the artist born on 13 September 1974 in Bjelovar, suffered from phocomelia and therefore had no arms. After finishing high school, he wanted to attend the Academy of Arts in Zagreb, but due to organisational problems on the part of the academy, he was ultimately unable to pursue his studies. Goran Radic had been painting with his mouth or feet since primary school, depending on the technique. He created pastel or pencil drawings with his foot. Watercolours, tempera or oil paintings, on the other hand, he painted with his mouth as well as with his feet. However, he preferred to paint with oil colours on canvas. He was supported by the VDMFK as a Scholarship Holder from 2004. Goran Radic died on 11 November 2021.

## DENMARK

## Vendel-Jensen, Yvonne

**Date of birth:** 15 May 1948

**Passed away on:** 25 December 2021

**Painting technique:** Mouth painter

Yvonne Vendel-Jensen was born in Copenhagen on 15 May 1948. After primary and secondary school, she graduated in social education, became a self-taught theatre teacher and an actress in children's theatre. In 2002, Yvonne Vendel-Jensen was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis, which developed into a severe and rapidly progressive disseminating disease. Her upper and lower limbs were completely paralysed and she could only move her head. In December 2013, she decided to try mouth painting. As a self-taught artist, she quickly became enthusiastic about painting. From 1986 - 2012, she took art classes at the Holboek School of Art. There she studied sculpture, graphics, clay, intuitive painting, acrylic painting and watercolour painting. The artist also participated in various exhibitions in Copenhagen. She has been awarded a scholarship by the VDMFK since 2015. She passed away on 25 December 2021.

## MEXICO

## Martínez Ibarra, Ixmael

**Date of birth:** 8 July 1967

**Passed away on:** 25 December 2021

**Painting technique:** Mouth painter

Ixmael Martínez Ibarra was born on 8 July 1967. At the age of 15, he suffered an accident that caused paraplegia at the level of the thorax, which left him unable to move his arms as well as his legs. As occupational therapy, Ixmael Martínez Ibarra began to paint with his mouth. Painting was his whole purpose in life and he was determined to develop in this field. The VDMFK granted him a scholarship from 1999 onwards. Ixmael Martínez Ibarra passed away on 25 December 2021.

## Deceased publishers

## NORWAY

The Association of Mouth and Foot Painting Artists of the World mourns the death of publishing director Øivind Heier. He passed away on 4 May 2022 after battling cancer for many years. He is survived by his wife Eirin, three daughters and seven grandchildren, as well as a large circle of close friends.



Øivind Heier had headed the Norwegian publishing house since 1973 and held this position until a month before his death. His wife worked by his side for 40 years, and together they recruited new artists and organised exhibitions. His daughter Tonje joined him 10 years ago and continues to run the Norwegian office. Øivind Heier found working for and with the artists of the Association extremely rewarding - it was a true passion for him.

Continued on page 12

# We mourn for

## SLOVENIA

### Avbersek, Franc

**Date of birth: 3 April 1947**

**Passed away on: 14 January 2022**

**Painting technique: Mouth painter**

Franc Avbersek was born on 3 April 1947 in Velenje, Slovenia. After obtaining a Master's degree in Mining Engineering, he held several management positions in the energy industry, most recently as Managing Director of a mining company. Franc Avbersek was a member of the Slovenian Parliament. In addition to his active professional and political life, he was the father of three children and grandfather of six grandchildren. He had always been intensively involved in art, especially painting. He began painting at a young age, and later took up sculpture in clay and wood. Only three weeks before his accident, he created his last wooden sculpture. In June 2015, Franc Avbersek fell from a cherry tree. After eight months of treatment in hospitals, he remained a quadriplegic at the highest level. It took a lot of willpower and the best possible home care from his family to improve enough for him to return to art. In 2016, encouraged by Full Member Vojko Gasperut, he started painting with a brush in his mouth. He had a severely damaged spine that only allowed him to move his neck and shoulders. From December 2017 to April 2018, Velenje hosted the first exhibition of his sculpture work before the accident and his mouth paintings after the accident. In May 2018, he participated in a collective exhibition of eight mouth painters, also in Velenje. Franc Avbersek has been supported by the VDMFK as a Scholarship Holder since 2020. The artist passed away on 14 January 2022.

## SOUTH AFRICA

### Bezuidenhout, Jeramias Jesias

**Date of birth: 14 February 1968**

**Passed away on: 6 January 2022**

**Painting technique: Mouth painter**

Jeramias Jesias Bezuidenhout was born on 14 February 1968 in Orgies, South Africa. On 17 March 2001, he had an accident in the swimming pool in which he sustained a neck injury at the level of the C4, C5 and C6 vertebrae. He was completely paralysed from the neck down to the lower extremities (quadriplegic) ever since. He used an electric wheelchair to get around. At the suggestion of his wife, who is herself an art teacher, he began training in mouth painting in 2007 and found great pleasure in it. The artist's work focused mainly on South African wildlife, but more specifically on birds in acrylics. Jeramias Jesias Bezuidenhout was supported by the VDMFK as a Scholarship Holder from 2011. The artist died on 6 January 2022.

## USA

### Brown, Reva

**Date of birth: 30 March 1938**

**Passed away on: 6 January 2022**

**Painting technique: Foot painter**

Reva Brown was born on 30 March 1938 in Monroe, CO, USA. She was paralysed in her arms and hands from birth. From childhood, she performed activities with her right foot and also began to write, draw and paint as a self-taught artist using her right foot. The foot painter received lessons from an artist. Reva Brown participated in several exhibitions, among others with distinction at the Sister Kenny Institute in Minneapolis. The foot painter preferred landscapes and figurative subjects in her motifs. Reva Brown was awarded a scholarship by the VDMFK from 1982. She passed away on 6 January 2022.

## TAIWAN

### Lo, Chun-Yuan

**Date of birth: 27 April 1949**

**Passed away on: 22 February 2022**

**Painting technique: Mouth painter**

Chun-Yuan Lo was born on 27 April 1949. He worked as a factory worker. On 8 July 1976, a serious accident occurred when an object he was carrying touched a power cable, causing him to be thrown to the ground. He lost his left eye and both hands. Through the encouragement of a friend, he began to paint with his mouth and attended a painting class. The artist found great pleasure in painting. Since 2003, Chun-Yuan Lo was supported by the Association as a Scholarship Holder. He passed away on 22 February 2022.



# VDMFK personalities

**Under the heading 'VDMFK personalities' we present mouth and foot painters who have rendered outstanding services to the VDMFK in the past. This time we present Founding Member Riek de Vos from the Netherlands.**

Riek de Vos was born severely physically handicapped on 6 January 1928 as a result of brain damage. She could not walk and could not use her hands. Nevertheless, she attended primary school, where she learned to write, draw and paint with her mouth. At the age of 14, Riek de Vos left school. She drew to pass the time. From the age of 25 she took painting lessons. In 1954, she came into contact with founding president Arnulf Erich Stegmann. He



***Mouth painter Riek de Vos from the Netherlands at the founding meeting of the VDMFK. She was the last living Founding Member of the Association to die in 2007.***

was busy at the time looking for people who painted with their mouths or feet to found the Association. Arnulf Erich Stegmann liked her pictures so much that a picture of Mrs de Vos appeared on a card in the same year and she became a founding member.

Riek de Vos' favourite motifs were flowers. Her watercolours were appreciated and in demand because of their delicate colours. During her more than



***Riek de Vos was a Full Member of the VDMFK for 53 years.***

50 years of Full Membership of the VDMFK, she was very often able to present her works to a broad public through exhibitions at home and abroad. In addition, she received various awards and honours in Europe and America over the years. Riek de Vos passed away on 3 November 2007, the last



***Riek de Vos (Founding Member/Netherlands), 'Heide', Aquarell, 23x15 cm.***

# The significance of painting

Below is the significance of painting for mouth painter Jung Eon Hwang, Associate Member from South Korea.

## What the painting means to me?

*In the time when I was still healthy pursuing my work, I was not particularly interested in art. However, after an unexpected traffic accident I was completely paralyzed and in my despair of not being able to do anything, I met mouth and foot painting artists through my family.*

*Seeing how they painted with their mouths awakened new hope in me. Therefore, I immediately began to paint, because I saw that I could still do something. Painting, which I started by chance, has become my life. It allowed me to forget the frustration about my impairment and even the physical pain.*

*Of course, it wasn't easy right from the start. Drawing a straight line, painting a triangle or a circle with a pencil held in my mouth, all that didn't really work. Through repeated practice, my drawings took more and more*



**Jung Eon Hwang has been an Associate Member of the Association since 2021. Mouth painting became his great love.**

*shape and when, amazingly, I did manage to paint a picture, it filled me with a deep sense of satisfaction and pride.*

*It was probably my inner restlessness that told me that painting was the only thing I could do, so I immersed myself completely in painting all day,*

*spending my whole life doing it. Thank God, I also felt a joy in doing it.*

*Since I usually like flowers, I mainly paint still lifes with different flowers as objects. Every year, when the flowers start to bloom, my wife and I pack the camera and even go on trips to discover flowers as objects. These ventures also represent a great joy for me. Since I started painting, I am more radiant and the flowers I paint are also bright and clear.*

*During my time of creating alone, I encountered limits, so I attended the Yuhwa Academy for four years and continued learning there. Since painting gives me joy, I have a fervent desire to devote myself more to painting.*

*I also drew a lot of strength from the recognition of many people at my three exhibitions.*

*When I joined the VDMFK artists' association in 2003, I couldn't put my joy into words. Painting, which*



**Jung Eon Hwang (Associate Member/South Korea), "Cherrys", oil, 34x45 cm.**



# The significance of painting

*was originally a hobby, now became my profession. Now that 20 years have passed, I see it as a gift from God to have started painting.*

*I love art, which has changed my life. Now that I can devote myself to the activity that I love, I am happy. I wish that the people who see my pictures painted in this way feel this joy.*

*Jung Eon Hwang,  
Associate Member/South Korea*



**Jung Eon Hwang (Associate Member/South Korea), "Cherry blossoms", oil, 38x46 cm.**



**Jung Eon Hwang (Associate Member/South Korea), "Peony", oil, 53x73 cm.**

## **Hwang, Jung Eon (South Korea)**

*Date of birth: 14 May 1965*

*Place of birth: Seoul*

*Associate Member since: 2021*

*Painting technique: Mouth painter*

Jung Eon Hwang was born in Seoul on 14 May 1965. In 1990 he successfully completed a degree in mechanical engineering. In 1993, Jung Eon Hwang was involved in a traffic accident in which he

suffered severe injuries and became a quadriplegic. He first came across mouth painting through an acquaintance. In April 1995, Jung Eon Hwang decided to try mouth painting as well. He took a great liking to it and subsequently took painting lessons for two years with a renowned art professor named Jung Soon Lee. He became aware of the VDMFK, which supported him as a Scholarship Holder from 2003. Jung Eon Hwang has been an Associate

Member of the Association since 2021.

Jung Eon Hwang prefers painting landscapes and floral motifs. Here he uses the oil and watercolor technique. Jung Eon Hwang's hobbies include working with the computer or traveling. In the past, he was able to present his work to the public at several collective exhibitions and also on the occasion of solo exhibitions.

# Letters to the editor

**The following is a letter from Netta Ganor, Full Member from Israel.**

## Stamp of the month

*In 2003, I was informed of my acceptance into the Association of Mouth and Foot Painting Artists. Until that time, I had painted exclusively for my own pleasure, as part of my therapy and to return to my love for all things creative. However, it had never occurred to me to engage in art professionally and earn a living from it. Joining the Association was a huge leap forward for me: I began to paint more, I*



*became more professional, and I gained recognition.*

*Apart from pictures published in Israel, my works were selected for Association products in Europe, Asia, and America. Thanks to the Association, I have published three children's books, which I wrote and illustrated. I have no words to describe what the Association has given me over the years.*

*This month we have reached a new peak together: the Israel Postal Service has decided to give us official recognition and issue two special stamps for the art of mouth and foot painting artists. This is undoubtedly a great honor. My colleague Izik Adir (Full Member) and I had the privilege to col-*

*laborate with designer Meir Eshel to design the two stamps together. I was commissioned to design the foot-painted stamp, while Itzik Adir created the mouth-painted stamp.*



*The pictures we painted were ordered by the designer and he cut and brought them into the shape of a painted foot and face. The project, which started at the beginning of this year, was challenging, complex, and interesting. I learned a lot from him about patience and collaboration and I am glad and proud to have participated in this project.*





Luigi Calloni (Full Member/Italy), "Pierrot", oil, 20x30 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](mailto:vdmfk@vdmfk.li)**

## Return of originals

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

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

## To all Artists and Publishers

*Dear Artists and Publishers,*

*As DHL Buchs informs us, from now on the packages of the picture submissions to us must be labeled as follows:*

- *The sender must be visible on the outside of the package.*
- *The number of pictures must also be listed on the outside of the package.*
- *If picture lists can be added, then put a list in the package and put a list on the outside of the package in an envelope.*

*As always, the address for picture deliveries is:*

*DHL Logistics (Schweiz) AG  
Für VDMFK  
z. Hd. Herrn Kurt Schäpper  
Heldastrasse 66  
CH-9471 Buchs  
Switzerland*

*We thank you for your cooperation and are happy to answer any questions you may have.*

*Mario Famlonga,  
Director*



# Presentation of painting techniques

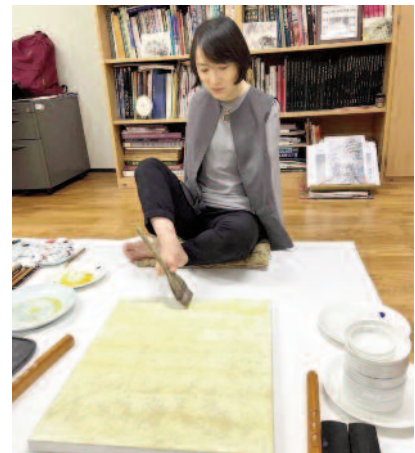
Soonyi Oh, VDMFK Board Member and foot painter from South Korea, shows tips and tricks on the subject of "Mouth and Foot Painting". This time on the subject of how to paint a colourful representation of a peony in Oriental style.



*Apply the glue with the brush 3-4 times on the plate, to which hanji (Korean paper) is applied.*



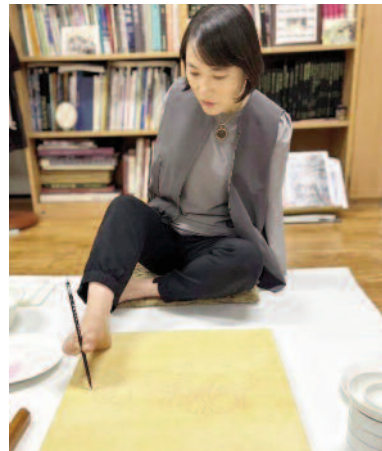
*When the plate is dry enough, begin to apply a background colour.*



*Apply 4-5 layers with the brush to make the background colour denser and denser.*



*Once the background colour is dry, sketch a peony and a butterfly.*



*When the sketch is ready, apply pink paint with a gentle brush stroke to colour a peony petal.*

# Presentation of painting techniques



*Then, using a gentle brush stroke, apply green paint to paint a peony leaf.*



*Add shades of colour to the petals to give them the shape of real petals.*





# Presentation of painting techniques



*For a leaf, apply green paint as described above to give the leaf density.*



*Use the brush to repeatedly apply the appropriate colour to petals and leaves.*



*Emphasise the shape of the petals and leaves again by drawing the outlines clearly.*

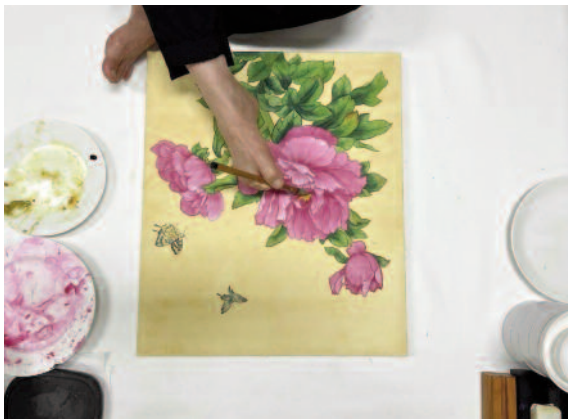


*Paint a flying butterfly in harmonious colours and at a suitable angle.*



*Complete two butterflies with different colours and shapes and clear brushstrokes.*

# Presentation of painting techniques



*Express the colour density of petals and leaves through depth and focus on the description of light and shadow.*



*When the painting is ready, choose a suitable place for the painter's stamp.*



*After stamping, the painting is complete.*

In contrast to Sumi-e, coloured painting focuses on colour. Instead of water, painting is done with a mixture of natural pigments and glue, which is applied several times.



Materials: Hanji, ink, oriental painting pigments, glue

"Agyobansu": Hanji is particularly absorbent and it is difficult to apply pigments, so the surface must be prepared. This process requires a special glue mixture called "Agyobansu"; this is the mixture of glue, alum, and water.

After application to the paper with a brush, a kind of film is formed on the surface, which prevents dispersion and absorption and improves colour development.



Thomas Kahlau has been a member of the Association's Board since 2013 and serves as Vice-President. In recent months he has also stood in for President Serge Maudet. We spoke to him about this experience and the VDMFK in these uncertain times.

**Mr Kahlau, it was in Vienna in July 2013 that you were first elected to the Association's Board. It has now been nine years since then. With what personal expectations did you take up this office and have they been fulfilled?**

**Thomas Kahlau:** My expectations have not been fulfilled. I did not expect that the Board would have such a high status and influence on the fate of our organisation and that the opportunities to shape and have a say in the decision-making process would develop so positively in the course of my term of office so far. I rather expected that the management would explain to the Board what has been done and what is necessary in the future, and we Board members would agree or perhaps sometimes disagree. That may have been more or less the case at the beginning, but I sensed early on that with the new management and the new Board members, a process was set in motion to structurally modernise our Association and to give the artists on the Board a stronger role and thus more responsibility and influence. The newly elected president Serge Maudet, the new economic director Mario Famlonga and the legal consultant Dr. Johannes Gasser set the course to entrust us artists and members of this unique self-help organisation with the responsibility and decision-making powers. The mutual trust and confidence grew over time. We members of the Board, who are artists and people with disabilities ourselves, have the competence and the vote to represent the interests of the members of the VDMFK. This results in a high level of responsibility and expectation. So fortunately my expectations have not been fulfilled, but my wishes and my



***VDMFK Vice-President Thomas Kahlau emphasises in the interview that the VDMFK has so far come through the period of the pandemic better than the Board had first thought.***

aspirations have.

**You not only act as a member of the Board, but also as Vice-President of the Association. In this function you have had to deputise for President Serge Maudet for the last few months. In the foreword to this brochure you are praised by him for this deputising. "He championed our interests, took a stand when necessary and saw projects through to completion. I did not have to worry about anything, he had my fullest trust and always will", he said. What was it like to temporarily carry out the duties of the President and bear all the responsibility for the VDMFK on your shoulders?**

**Thomas Kahlau:** I am happy about the trust. But the burden weighed heavily. This temporary assignment came at a time of great uncertainty due to the pandemic and the associated global economic and social repercussions. After all, it is not over yet and the war in Ukraine is taking on proportions that

probably no one thought possible. In addition, there was the worry about our President, who had to recover from serious operations with an uncertain outcome. What helped me was a certain composure and my confident basic attitude. I was also helped by the far-sightedness of our President. Shortly after his inauguration, he involved the Vice-President in his work. So I was well informed, which made it easier for me to take over as acting President. What responsibility our President bears and how heavy this burden weighs on his shoulders, I can now fully understand. However, I can also say that despite all the circumstances, it was a pleasure for me to be able to carry out this office for a short time. However, I am glad and relieved that Serge is now fully recovered and that he can over his office again. My task now is to support him again. I am happy to do so.

**How did your work as a take Board member change as a result of this**

*Continued on page 24*

# Interview

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**deputisation? Did you still find time to paint?**

**Thomas Kahlau:** I now had to chair Board meetings and the jury meeting. It was unusual to move from the second row to the top. The experience of many meetings and the support of the Director, Mr Famlonga, helped me. Also, the phone rang more often and some nights I pondered over texts I wanted to write and information I had to process and classify for myself. The sessions took place mainly virtually on the computer at home and in the form of telephone calls. So the pandemic also had its good sides. I did not have to travel as much as a President usually has to. Activities outside the house were considerably limited, so there was also some time for my easel in the studio. However, in order to be artistic and creative, I need a free mind. So the time factor was the lesser problem. Working at the easel was often less satisfying. My thoughts were occupied with other things.

**The world is changing. If it was the pandemic in the last two years, it is currently the war in Ukraine that is causing concern. How do you lead an Association like the VDMFK through such uncertain times? How has the work of the Board changed as a result?**

**Thomas Kahlau:** The foresighted and prudent work of the management and the Board in the past now show how good our decisions were. Of course, we could not have foreseen such events. But we were mindful to use the funds more efficiently, more sparingly and more farsightedly. So far, we have come through this period better than we thought in the meantime. We are observing the situation closely. Where we see a need for action, we react in a considered manner and avoid pure actionism. Of course, the staff at the publishing houses we work with and our loyal clientele have a big part to play in this. Despite these difficult times with also considerable financial burdens, our customers have continued to support us

by buying our products. At this point I would like to say thank you again and hope that they will continue to do so, even though times will remain difficult for the time being.

**Can the Full Members, the Associate Members and also the Scholarship Holders be sure that the VDMFK will get through these uncertain times in good shape?**

**Thomas Kahlau:** I cannot look into the future through the fortune-tellers' ball. No one knows how long this war in Ukraine will last and where it will lead. I can only say that we are a good team and together with the management we react flexibly and prudently to the problems. We have the prerequisites to get through difficult situations well. Whether we will always manage to do so completely unscathed and without losses is something I cannot promise. That would be untrustworthy. The economic effects due to the extensive crises worldwide will challenge us. But the foundations of our self-help organisation are solid. That reassures me and makes me rather optimistic. We will do our utmost because we know about the impact of our decisions for our members and fellows and thus also for ourselves. We are all in the same boat.

**How do such difficult or at least uncertain times change the artists? Do such drastic experiences have an impact on the motifs of the works or on painting in general?**

**Thomas Kahlau:** Artists are different, but certainly sensitive and receptive to the things that are happening around them. So there are different reactions to this time. Statements on themes of this time can also be found in the social media from us mouth and foot painting artists. Others withdraw completely into their studios, shut themselves off and try to preserve the world in their paintings. Thus, one artist paints idyllic landscapes and the other artist paints the destroyed and disturbing. Both can probably only be done for a while. Artists process. They absorb what sur-

rounds them, digest it and at some point something emerges. Whether it then becomes good or bad remains to be seen. There is no other way and some people need time to find their way back to themselves. Artists are like any other people. Only the forms of expression differ. Certainly, we will not find such motifs on art cards or in calendars. But I could imagine that in one of our future exhibitions we will also see such works. Somehow it goes on. Let us all hope that this war will end soon. The prerequisite for all actions is peace among people.





Grant William Sharman (Full Member/New Zealand), 'Pond with Pink Water Lilies', watercolours, 32x24 cm.



# Publishers' activities

## POLAND

- It is part of the tradition of the Polish publishing house to hold a workshop once a year, each time in a different place in the country. This year, the mouth and foot painters of Poland met in Wisła from 15 to 19 May 2022. Wisła is located in the Silesian Beskids and offers many beautiful views. The workshop was attended by artists **Stanisław Kmiecik (Full Member)**, **Mariusz Maczka (Full Member)**, **Walery Siej-batałow (Associate Member)** and **Scholarship Holders Arkadiusz Cyprjan, Teresa Frys, Grzegorz Gawryszewski, Martyna Gruca, Mi-kołaj Kastelik, Marika Kropidłow-ska, Bartosz Ostalowski, Agnieszka Sapinska, Joanna Sobierajska, Jan Sporek, Małgorzata Waszkiewicz and Mariola Wower** took part.

The workshop was held under the motto 'Still Life'. The course leader was the artist Monika Ślósarczyk. The mouth and foot painters showed great commitment and were highly motivated. The course teacher gave the artists a lot of valuable advice which they could use for their work. Everyone was satisfied with the workshop and is already looking forward to the 2023 event.



*The participants at the workshop in Wisła, which was organised and conducted by the Polish publishing house.*



*Full Member Mariusz Maczka devotes himself to the workshop theme of still life.*



*Full Member Stanisław Kmiecik at work.*



*Scholarship Holder Jan Sporek refines the details of his painting.*



## SWITZERLAND

- The online seminar series from Kunstverlag Au found its continuation with another workshop between January and March 2022. With the usual ambitious training format and the idea of again creating an optimal training framework over four training days, the publishing house was pleased to welcome **Full Member Lars Höllerer from Germany as well as Scholarship Holders Bracha Fischel and Antoine Leisi from Switzerland and Lea Otter from Austria**. For the year 2022, professional goals were formulated together with Editha Tarantino, who could once again be recruited as course instructor, and new painting themes were discussed, which are intended to expand one's own motif portfolio and at the same time allow for gradual arti-

stic development. Building on the content already taught and learned in last year's seminars, the task was to interpret the motif "clown" in one's own personal style of painting. The collective, creative approach was intended to produce 'works of art' up to the last day of the seminar, in order to be able to discuss each picture created as teaching content in a joint analysis at the end.

The first two days of training dealt with the clown's facial expressions in addition to the topics of colours, the optimisation of the colour palette, the use of the appropriate brush shapes, the selection of the canvas, the background, and the proportion. The third and fourth days of training, in addition to the task of ongoing finalisation and the colour design of the details of the clown, led the artists to the question of how to emotionally enhance the content of a

work of art. The suggestions made by the instructor such as gestures, posture, and accessories to be used as still features were discussed in detail and compared. The decision was made to use a trumpet, balloon, and a dog as additional elements. On the evening of the last online workshop day, four remarkably created works from our participating artists were presented, which made us look forward to the next events. The first Online Workshop 2022 was culminated by the in-depth work "Taurus", which the artists created on their own and which was realised in a colourful and impressive way.



*Lars Höllerer, Full Member from Germany, participated in the online workshop on "Clown".*



*Antoine Leisi, Scholarship Holder from Switzerland painting the clown motif.*



*Lea Otter, Scholarship Holder from Austria, working on the motif.*



*Bracha Fischel, Scholarship Holder from Switzerland, with her work on the theme "Clown".*

