



VDMFK INFORMATION



**ASSOCIATION OF MOUTH
AND FOOT PAINTING ARTISTS OF
THE WORLD**

**JULY
2026/212**

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***General Assembly in London:
Gala Evening in the Historic Guildhall***

Credits

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Foreword by Tom Yendell, President of the VDMFK

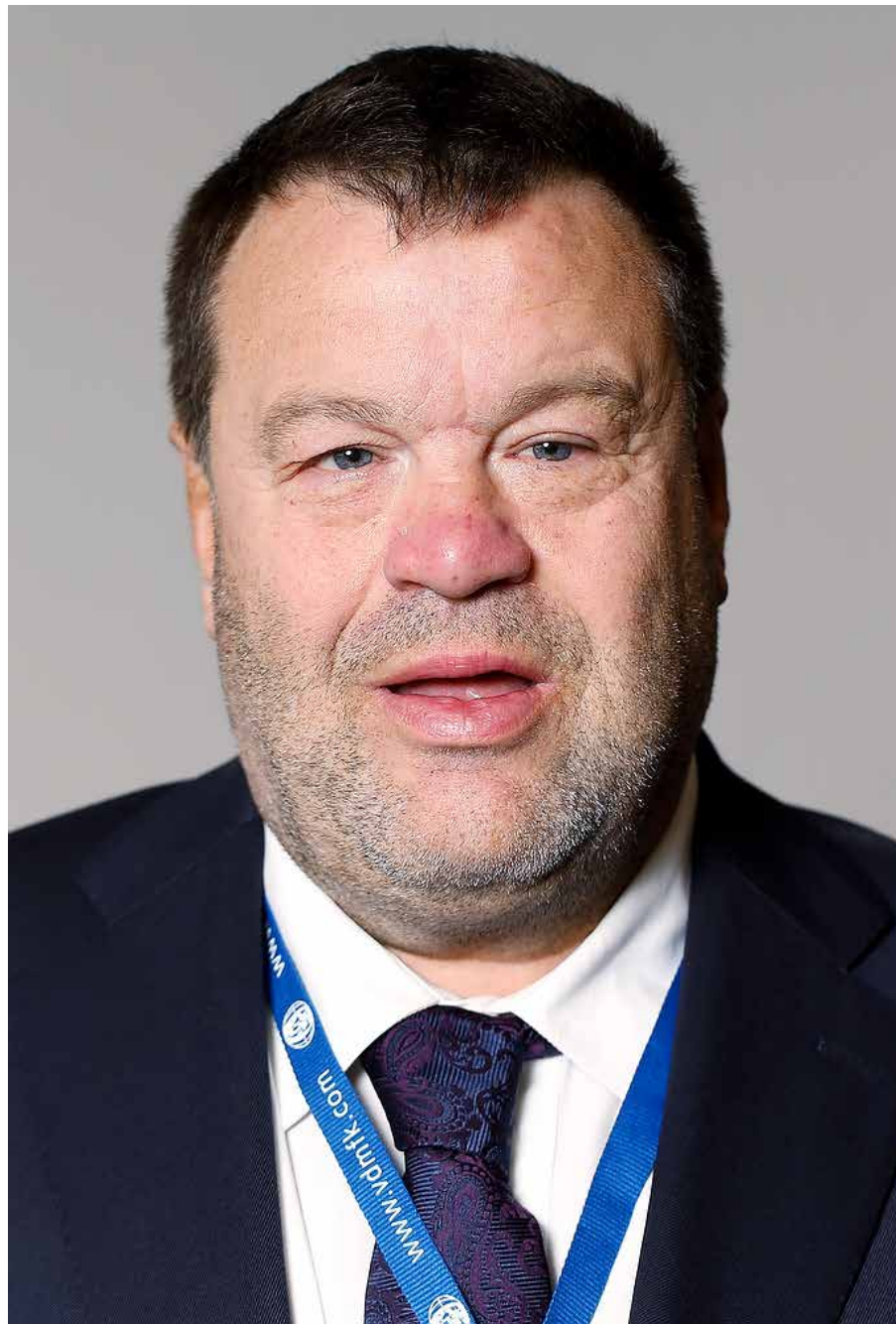
Dear mouth- and footpainters from all over the world

It gives me great honour and pride to write to you as the fifth President of the Association of Mouth and Foot Painting Artists.

Our conference in London in April was a wonderful celebration of the 70th anniversary of our amazing organisation.

I believe our founding father, Eric Stegmann, would be delighted to see that his vision of disabled mouth and foot artists being able to make a living through their art is as strong today as it was 70 years ago, when he first signed the founding papers of the Association.

I was delighted in London to welcome so many artists from around the world to our special event. It was heart-warming to bring our world-wide family together, not only to work hard during the conference, but also to celebrate, socialise, and have fun together.



I was also very pleased to have many of our publishers from around the world represented at the conference. It was wonderful to speak with them about the future of our fantastic organisation.

Over the past number of years, it has become clear that our traditional markets for cards, wrapping paper, books, and printed merchandise are not as strong as they once were. In some countries around the world, post offices are even closing.

During the conference sessions, we heard presentations from both Board Members and Publishers explaining how our Association has moved from analogue printing to digital printing. Traditionally, our cards were printed on large four-colour presses, and over the years we produced and sold many millions of cards to the public, and we keep offering this for our traditional customers.

The new digital printing format now allows customers to purchase a single image on a single product, such as a canvas for a wall, a cushion for a sofa, or a mug to drink from.

Although this new type of business allows many more images to be used and gives customers a much wider choice, it also means that products are more expensive to produce, resulting in lower profit margins.

Tom Yendell, the new President of the VDMFK

I strongly believe that this new business model will only succeed if we, as a worldwide community, work together. For the last 70 years, our Association has often been fragmented. We have had the Association, the artists and the publishers, all being involved individually. However, our new markets require us to work together as one united group.

One of the most important things we must do is grow our customer community around the world. We need more and more people to see our products and, hopefully, buy them. I believe the main way of achieving this will be through methods that are still relatively new to us. We must use social media and online business much more effectively so that we can create a worldwide community of people who support our artists.

In this issue of this information magazine, you will see that we are asking all our artists – Student Artists, Associate Members, Full Members, Board Members, and even the President – to work harder to become more visible to the public, both in everyday life and on social media.

I truly believe that today it is no longer enough simply to be a Mouth and Foot Painting Artist. There are many handicapped people around the world doing amazing things. One

thing we can do exceptionally well is share our incredible stories with our customers.

I particularly like the idea of sharing videos and photographs of our artists carrying out everyday activities, accompanied by the simple statement: 'I am also an artist.'

I am therefore personally asking you to support our publishing houses around the world by helping to create and share these stories. Short photographs and videos – even just ten seconds to one minute long – of you doing everyday activities such as cooking, participating in sport, visiting galleries, creating art, or anything else you believe our customers would find interesting, would be wonderful.

If we want our amazing association to continue thriving for another 70 years, we must all embrace the future. Let's work together as a community and do our very best to tell the public about our wonderful artists – and, of course, encourage them to support our art.

Tom Yendell
President of the VDMFK



**I am also
an artist.**

Ruth Christensen (Denmark),
'Baby Penguin', oil, 40 × 30 cm.



EVENTS

Ruth Christensen 05



General Assembly in London

From 12 to 17 April 2026, the 13th General Assembly of the Association of Mouth and Foot Painting Artists of the World (VDMFK) took place in the British capital, London. The occasion was not only the General Assembly, but also a very special anniversary: the 70th anniversary of the Association.

Artists from all over the world travelled to attend the 13th General Assembly of the VDMFK together, which also coincided with the 70th anniversary of the Association.

The Association was founded in 1956 by the German artist Arnulf Erich Stegmann and today comprises around 720 artists from 71 countries. It supports people with severe physical disabilities who earn their living by painting with their mouth or foot and promotes their artistic development as well as their economic independence.

Dialogue, decisions and community

In addition to organisational matters, the General Assembly agenda included important decisions, among them the election of a new President and the re-election of the Board members. In this context, Tom Yendell from Great Britain was elected as the fifth President of the VDMFK. Long-serving Board member and Vice-President Thomas Kahlau was not re-elected to the Board. At the same time, Keith Jansz from England was newly elected to the Board.

The event is a valuable platform for personal exchange and for reuniting

with long-standing companions. It provides an opportunity to establish new contacts within the international community of artists.

Cultural highlights of the anniversary week

One particular highlight was the gala held in the historic Guildhall, which provided the ceremonial setting for the 70th anniversary. Equally impressive was the opening of the exhibition on 14 April 2026 at Lindley Hall in Westminster, where works by artists from more than 33 countries were exhibited. The exhibition impressively demonstrated how art transcends borders, empowers people and connects communities worldwide. A special event was the visit by Sophie, Duchess of Edinburgh, who visited the exhibition 'Defying Limits, Defining Art: 70 Years of the Mouth and Foot Painting Artists' and devoted her attention to the mouth and foot painting artists present.

A week full of inspiration

The days in London were characterised by intensive discussions, creative inspiration and a strong sense of community. The event once

again demonstrated how art can bring people together – regardless of their background or personal disabilities.

The General Assembly in London will remain a lasting memory for the participants not only because of its anniversary character, but above all because of its special atmosphere and the shared experience.



The number of participants and accompanying persons was befitting a General Assembly.



Numerous publishers also took part in the celebrations marking the 70th anniversary of the VDMFK.



The VDMFK Board following the partial Board elections at the General Assembly. Tom Yendell was elected as the fifth President of the VDMFK.



General Assembly in London

The anniversary week began with an opening evening, during which Director Mario Famlonga and former President Serge Maudet also addressed the participants.

Below, we reproduce excerpts from Director Mario Famlonga's speech.

'On behalf of the Board of the VDMFK, I extend a very warm welcome to you to this General Assembly. It is a personal honour for me to welcome you to this anniversary celebration.

Where better to come together to celebrate the 70th anniversary of this worldwide Association than in the birthplace of the Industrial Revolution? Hundreds of years ago, countless sailors, families and adventurous entrepreneurs set out from London and the United Kingdom in search of their fortunes around the world. They all helped to set in motion the globalisation that we now take for granted. The driving force has always been people – people who believed in something, who had courage and who forged new paths.

However, the real reason why we are celebrating the 70th anniversary of this unique Association here in London today is another one. More than 60 years ago, an open-minded young man, commissioned by Arnulf Erich Stegmann, came to London on a very special mission and settled here. And just as the British spread their language and entrepreneurial spirit throughout the world, he too sought, with the help of publishers, to make the unique works of the Mouth and Foot Painting Artists known around the globe. I am sure you all know whom I am referring to – Heinz Abletshauser, one of the



Former President Serge Maudet and VDMFK Director Mario Famlonga took the opportunity during the opening evening to address the participants.

Association's most important publishers.

Shortly before his passing, I promised him that the Association, its members and the publishers would all come to London to express once again their gratitude for his tireless dedication. Sadly, fate had other plans. Heinz Abletshauser passed away in February 2025.

The distribution network developed by him and many other publishers over the past decades has enabled thousands of Mouth and Foot Painting Artists to lead independent lives centred around their art. For that reason I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to all the publishers present for their many years of dedication and contribution. The times have certainly not always been easy. Over the course of its 70-year history, the Association has had to overcome some critical moments. Presidents have passed away, members have left us, Directors and publishers have been replaced, yet the wheel of the Association continues to turn. The challenges of the future will certainly not become any smaller. Digitalisation promises opportunities. It also streamlines many processes, making entire business sectors obsolete. At times like these, it is important to remain united and not lose the values that have brought the Association this far. After all, it is precisely these values that make the cooperation between the artists, publishers and staff so unique. At the same time, we must remain open to new ideas. We cannot determine where the wind comes from, but we can decide how we set our sails. A celebration such as today's gives us the opportunity to come together, strengthen trust and draw strength together.'





General Assembly in London

On 14 April 2026, the exhibition marking the 70th anniversary of the VDMFK was opened at Lindley Hall in Westminster.

It was entitled: Defying Limits, Defining Art: 70 Years of the Mouth and Foot Painting Artists Works by artists from 33 countries were on display.

The opening took place in the presence of Sophie, Duchess of Edinburgh.



Sophie, Duchess of Edinburgh (centre), was shown the exhibition by VDMFK President Tom Yendell (left). She also took the opportunity to speak with the artists. In addition, she was presented with a portrait of herself.



VDMFK President Tom Yendell during his opening address







General Assembly in London

One particular highlight of the week was the gala held in the historic Guildhall, which provided the ceremonial setting for the celebration of the VDMFK's 70th anniversary. Below are some impressions of this memorable evening.



In his ceremonial address, Mario Famlonga took the guests on a journey through the 70-year history of the VDMFK. He reviewed the most important milestones, recalled successful periods as well as challenges and paid tribute to the personalities who, through their commitment, have shaped and

further developed the Association over the decades.

The anniversary celebrations were officially opened with an address by the Minister of State for Social Security, Sir Stephen Timms. Entertainment appropriate to the occasion was provided by a Beatles

tribute band, which created an excellent atmosphere with well-known classics.

The anniversary evening drew to a close in a festive atmosphere, giving guests the opportunity to exchange memories and celebrate the 70th anniversary of the VDMFK together.





General Assembly in London

As part of the General Assembly, the conference also took place, during which numerous decisions were made.

The members voted as follows: Tom Yendell was elected the 5th President of the VDMFK, narrowly beating Thomas Kahlau. Ms. Ann Lund Wahlberg and Mr. Kun-Shan Hsieh were confirmed as Board members for another six-year term. Mr. Thomas Kahlau, however, was not re-elected. Instead, Mr. Christopher Keith Jansz from Great Britain secured a seat on the Board. The mandate of long-standing legal counsel Dr. iur. Johannes Gasser was also re-confirmed.



Kun-Shan Hsieh was confirmed as a Board member for the fifth time.



Keith Jansz was newly elected to the Board with a very strong result.

General Assembly in London

The anniversary celebrations concluded on a high note with a shared evening at the Leake Street Tunnel in London.

The approximately 300-metre-long tunnel beneath Waterloo Station was once part of the access route to the Eurostar terminal. It gained international recognition in 2008 when the street artist Banksy held the 'Cans Festival' there. Since then, the Leake Street Tunnel – also known as the 'Banksy Tunnel' – has become one of the few legal graffiti areas in London. The artworks change almost daily, making the tunnel a living gallery of urban art.

Against this extraordinary backdrop, the guests brought the celebrations to a close in a convivial atmosphere





General Assembly in London

The following mouth and foot painting artists took part in the General Assembly in London:

FULL MEMBERS

ÁÁLVAREZ Alberto	Argentina
PLOIER Paulus	Austria
MATTHIAS Theresa Helen Susie	Canada
WAHLBERG Ann Lund	Denmark
LUNDSTRÖM Lissu	Finland
MAUDET Serge	France
DUBARRE Arnaud	France
KAHLAU Thomas	Germany
KRATZ Antje	Germany
JANSZ Christopher Keith	Great Britain
LAPPER Alison	Great Britain
TRENT Robert	Great Britain
YENDELL Tom	Great Britain
ILIADIS Triantafillos	Greece
TAN Boon Chuan Benjamin	Indonesia
ATZORI Simona	Italy
KIMURA Hiroko	Japan
MORITA Machiko	Japan
URIBE Aguayo José Gerardo	Mexico
SHARMAN Grant William	New Zealand
LIU Jingsheng	People's Republic of China
KMIECIK Stanislaw	Poland
MACZKA Mariusz	Poland
Leong TAN Kok	Singapore
KIM Myoung Ki	South Korea
LIM In-Suk	South Korea
OH Soonyi	South Korea
PARK Jeong	South Korea
KOSOWSKI Krzysztof	Spain
CHEN Shih-Feng	Taiwan
HSIEH Kun-Shan	Taiwan
KO Shu	Taiwan
TUNG Fu-Tsai	Taiwan
PARÉ Mariam	USA
WIKSTROM Brom	USA

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

BARCIA Cesar Andres	Argentina
BORGES Gonçalo Aparecido Pinto da CUNHA Marcelo	Brazil
CHAGAS Maria Goret	Brazil
MENESES Valderrama Maira Isabel	Brazil
PERKOVIĆ Stjepan	Chile
BEETHAM Leanne	Croatia
DEÁK Ferenc	Great Britain
RAVINDRAN Mavichery Vadakkeveettle	Hungary
ASROEL Muhammad	India
SUBADRI Sabar	Indonesia
AGUS Yusuf	Indonesia
GANOR Netta	Indonesia
VOLPIN Giulio	Israel
CHÁIDEZ López Lidia de Jesús	Italy
BOOT Hanneke	Mexico
TILLEY Kerrin	Netherlands
HUANG Guofu	New Zealand
DULNUAN Amado Binwag	People's Republic of China
CHONG Keow	Philippines
TAN Yue Liang Gilbert	Singapore
BOTTO Patrick John	Singapore
SODOMS Martin Charl	South Africa
SWARTZ Brenton Nicholas	South Africa
HWANG Jung Eon	South Africa
SONG Jin Hyun	South Korea
ANGHEL Florin	South Korea
LIAO Jui-Chin	Spain
CHANG Chia-Syun	Taiwan
LIN Yu-Chen	Taiwan
YANG En-Tien	Taiwan
Yang Shu-I	Taiwan
NOLT David M.	Taiwan
PARSONS Sara Jane	USA
TORO Varela Nelly del Carmen	USA
	Venezuela

Mei-Hui CHEN (Taiwan),
'2 Butterflies & Yellow-Flowering Meadow Flowers', watercolour, 69 x 34 cm.



陈惠惠

PERSONAL

We mourn for

AUSTRIA

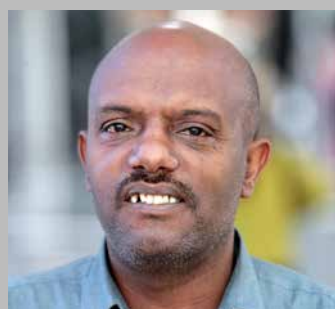


Habeler, Josef

Date of birth:
25 December 1944
Painting technique:
Mouth painter
Associate Member of the
VDMFK since: 2010
Passed away on:
25 January 2026

After attending primary school, Josef Habeler trained as a bricklayer. He was also employed as an excavator operator. In December 2000, he fell from a tree. He sustained a dislocation fracture of the cervical spine. Since then, he was no longer able to use either his arms or his legs. His several-week stay in hospital was followed by a nine-month period of rehabilitation. In July 2001, during the time of his rehabilitation, he realised that life could once again be worth living. He discovered another side of his life to which he had previously had no access – painting with his mouth. This fascinated him so deeply that it never let him go. Through mouth painting, he was able to bear his fate more easily and forget it completely for hours at a time. Josef Habeler made rapid progress. By chance, he learned of the Association of Mouth and Foot Painting Artists, which supported him as a Scholarship Holder from 2004 onwards. In 2010, he became an Associate Member of the Association. At first, Josef Habeler painted silk scarves and shawls. Soon, he also devoted himself to watercolour painting. He also tried his hand at acrylic and oil painting. Landscapes were among the principal motifs of the mouth painter. On the occasion of nationwide exhibitions, the artist was able on several occasions to present his works to a wide public.

AUSTRIA



Tekeste, Weldegaber

Date of birth:
09 March 1962
Painting technique:
Mouth and foot painter
Associate Member of the
VDMFK since: 2000
Passed away on:
14 February 2026

Weldegaber Tekeste lost both arms in a bomb explosion in 1977. At a rehabilitation and training centre in Switzerland, he developed his great talent for painting. Just over ten years later, he received a scholarship from the

Association, which gave him the opportunity to present his works to the public. In 2000, he was approved as an Associate Member by the VDMFK. Weldegaber Tekeste painted with bold brushstrokes. The colours form independent elements of his compositions, whether he paints a South Pacific landscape or the portrait of a native inhabitant. The latter demonstrated that he was a master of contemporary portrait painting. Furthermore, Weldegaber Tekeste also created gentler, more emotional and almost romantic landscape paintings, such as his depiction of a house in a valley in the Swiss Alps in the soft atmosphere of late summer. Such works demonstrate his remarkable talent and keen eye for naturalistic representation. Weldegaber Tekeste achieved considerable success with his paintings at numerous exhibitions.

SLOVENIA



Gasperut, Vojko

Date of birth:
24 December 1949
Painting technique:
Mouth painter
Full Member of the VDMFK
since: 2004
Passed away on:
28 December 2025

Vojko Gasperut suffered a diving accident in 1967 as a result of which he became a tetraplegic. Subsequently, he spent a long period in a rehabilitation centre. Even during his childhood, he had shown an interest in painting. In the course of his rehabilitation, this interest was rekindled. In 1971, he attended a painting course for the first time. He also took part in various events in the field of fine arts and organised exhibitions himself. On this occasion, he met the painter Uros Zitnik, who had a significant influence on the art and career of Vojko Gasperut. Thereafter, the mouth painter attended various art schools and courses. In 1987, he received a scholarship from the Association. He became an Associate Member of the Association in 2000. Since 1 March 2004, he had been a Full Member of the Association. Vojko Gašperut primarily worked in oil painting. He also enjoyed producing graphic works. His preferred motifs were landscapes and still life on canvas. He was able to present his works to the public on numerous occasions through exhibitions. For his works, the artist received several awards and honours. In 1993, he was, among other distinctions, awarded a commendation and diploma from the Community of Koper. Vojko Gasperut was also intensively involved in humanitarian activities.

We mourn for Deceased Scholarship Holders

COLOMBIA

Tamayo Ospina, Héctor Jairo

Date of birth:

24 September 1960

Painting technique:

Mouth painter

Scholarship Holder of the VDMFK since: 1987

Passed away on:

10 March 2026

Héctor Jairo Tamayo was born in Medellín on 24 September 1960. In 1978, he sustained an injury to the fifth cervical vertebra in an accident and became tetraplegic. He attended primary and secondary school. In 1982, he began teaching himself to draw with his mouth. In 1983 and 1985, Héctor Jairo Tamayo received art instruction. He also participated in exhibitions in Medellín in 1983 and 1985. His hobby was chess. From 1 January 1987, Héctor Jairo Tamayo received a scholarship from the Association.

GERMANY

Mittelbach, Werner

Date of birth:

30 September 1959

Painting technique:

Mouth painter

Scholarship Holder of the VDMFK since: 2018

Passed away on:

8 June 2026

Werner Mittelbach was born in Augsburg on 30 September 1959. After completing secondary school, he began an apprenticeship as a carpenter. In 1975, a medical examination revealed weakness of the muscles on the left side of his body, predominantly affecting his trunk. After completing his apprenticeship and successfully passing his master craftsman's examination, he was

forced to give up his work at the end of 1984 for health reasons and apply for a disability pension. In 1991, he was diagnosed with genetically inherited spinal muscular atrophy (SMA). Until the end of 2016, Werner Mittelbach painted and drew by hand. Over the years, the strength in his arms and the mobility of his hands and fingers steadily deteriorated and, as a result, he began his first attempts at mouth painting in December 2016.

Since then, he has only been able to paint with his mouth. For his wide variety of subjects, he preferred mixed media.

HUNGARY

Mozgainé Palotár, Maria

Date of birth:

13 May 1953

Painting technique:

Mouth painter

Scholarship Holder of the VDMFK since: 1996

Passed away on:

16 December 2025

Maria Mozgainé Palotár was born on 13 May 1953 in Barcs Somogy (Hungary). She completed primary school and subsequently grammar school (with school-leaving exam). In 1959, she contracted the debilitating disease poliomyelitis. As a result, her arms, legs and respiratory muscles were paralysed. She was permanently dependent on a ventilator. At around the age of eight, Ms Mozgainé Palotár made her first attempts at painting with her mouth and taught herself the technique.

ISRAEL

Argi, Elie

Date of birth:

23 January 1948

Painting technique:

Mouth painter

Scholarship Holder of the VDMFK since: 1985

Passed away on:

3 January 2026

Elie Argi was born on 23 January 1948 in Alexandria (Egypt). In 1970, he injured a cervical vertebra while trampolining and was paralysed in all four limbs from that time onwards. Six years after his accident, he began painting with his mouth. For two years, he was self-taught and copied subjects from painting books. In 1978, his paintings were noticed by the artist Gitit Hertel, who then taught him for one year. He subsequently attended an art school for one year, where he was taught by Rafi Lavi. The school unfortunately then closed. Mr Lavi then continued to teach him at his home for a further year. In 1983, he and his wife moved to the countryside and devoted himself once again to painting. He graduated from art school with distinction and received a special scholarship. His studies covered the process of drawing, from simple line drawing to academic anatomical sketching. He painted with acrylic on canvas, worked with oil paints, produced numerous watercolours as well as freehand pencil or nail drawings and also created lithographs. His style ranged from surrealist to realist. He participated in several group and solo exhibitions and taught painting to children and adults.

We mourn for Deceased Scholarship Holders

MEXICO

López Montañez, Saúl

Date of birth:

5 March 1976

Painting technique:

Mouth painter

Scholarship Holder of the VDMFK

since: 2006

Passed away on:

11 January 2026

Saúl López Montañez was born in Guadalajara, Jalisco (Mexico), on 5 March 1976. He became tetraplegic as a result of a car accident. Only a series of complex operations enabled the doctors to save his life. Through his positive attitude, Mr Montañez learned to live with his circumstances. Through his grandmother, he met the artist Sunny Bernard, a Scholarship Holder of the Association, who offered to become his teacher so that he could become acquainted with the technique of mouth painting and learn it himself.

exhibition and the New Zealand Championships for Athletes with Disabilities.

NORWAY

Bakkelund, Björg Karin Vangen

Date of birth:

11 October 1951

Painting technique:

Mouth painter

Scholarship Holder of the VDMFK

since: 2011

Passed away on:

12 February 2026

Björg Karin Vangen Bakkelund was born in Lena on 11 October 1951. Mrs Bakkelund was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis in 1989. She had painted for many years before losing the use of her hands and legs. In 2008, Mrs Bakkelund began painting with her mouth. Her mouth painting skills steadily improved. She painted landscapes and floral subjects in acrylic.

USA

Heagy, Ronald Charles

Date of birth:

18 March 1962

Painting technique:

Mouth painter

Scholarship Holder of the VDMFK

since: 2013

Passed away on:

27 February 2026

Ron Heagy was born in Wisconsin, USA, on 18 March 1962. As a wrestler, bodybuilder, member of a football team and enthusiastic skier, the future looked bright for this talented young man. However, one day before his 18th birthday, while he was on holiday in California, his life changed forever, when he broke his neck in a surfing accident.

When he woke up on his 18th birthday, he was told that he would never walk, be able to feed or dress himself again. Many people gave up on him, but he did not give up on himself. Instead, he accepted the tragedy and turned it into a triumph. With perseverance and sheer determination not to give up, he graduated from San Diego State University with a master's degree in social work. Inspired by his mother, he held a paintbrush between his teeth and began to paint. With his excellent eye for beauty and detail, and a positive attitude towards life, Ron Heagy was proof that nothing is impossible.

NEW ZEALAND

Stonham, Ross

Date of birth:

8 February 1958

Painting technique:

Mouth painter

Scholarship Holder of the VDMFK

since: 1995

Passed away on:

6 January 2026

Ross Stonham was born in Auckland on 8 February 1958. Before becoming tetraplegic as a result of a swimming accident on 19 June 1989, he worked as an IT administrator for an insurance company. He had an interest in sport and painting. In 1992, he began painting with his mouth and, from 1993 onwards, took private lessons with Tom Bryan. He participated in the Bruce Hopkins Art Award

SPAIN

Navarro Díaz, José Antonio

Date of birth:

14 August 1965

Painting technique:

Mouth painter

Scholarship Holder of the VDMFK

since: 1998

Passed away on:

18 November 2025

José Antonio Navarro Díaz was born in Valencia on 14 August 1965. Antonio Navarro had cerebral palsy from birth, which made it impossible for him to use his limbs, leaving him able to move only his head. In 1997, he tried painting with a brush held in his mouth for the first time. The artist was self-taught. The mouth painting artist found a great passion in painting.

The significance of painting

Below, Associate Member César Andrés Barcia, a mouth painting artist from Argentina, explains what painting means to him.

What painting means to me

I would like to tell you how important painting is to me, how it became my passion and how art has quite literally saved my life. I could never have imagined that such a traumatic event in a person's life as a spinal cord injury could also bring with it the opportunity to regain freedom and experience how, as human beings, we are able to overcome adversity that we never believed we could survive. In my life, it was art, time and the people who love me that performed the miracle of making me feel able to carry on and enjoy life again.

In 2010, eight years after my accident, art came into my life – colours and a paintbrush became the means through which I could express my feelings and my imagination. That was the beginning of this deeply enriching and challenging journey.

Through art, I discovered a passion that will stay with me forever. I discovered that, despite the situation I was in, I could capture inspiration and my innermost feelings in a work of art using nothing more than colours and a sheet of paper. And – just imagine – having come from a situation in which I could hardly do anything on my own, art gave me that freedom. All that was needed was for someone to place the materials in front of me and, from that moment on, I had the complete freedom to put everything I felt and wanted onto a blank sheet of paper. Just imagine how exciting and liberating art is for me. It is



Road to the Anthill, 26 × 35, watercolour



Daisies, 36 × 25, watercolour



Mouth painter César Andrés Barcia, Associate Member from Argentina

something wonderful that is very difficult to describe in words. It is a passion. I believe that when we discover our passion, it can completely change our lives.

The opportunity to paint has brought wonderful things into my life, such as the motivation to improve myself a little every day, to fill my thoughts and feelings with positivity and to focus on the pleasant things in life around us, on the beauty of nature, rather than looking for the negative aspects of our situation. I think of winter and the leaves falling from the trees. Thanks to art and to the importance of painting what I feel, I try to see in this natural process a connection with renewal and rebirth, as the trees shed their leaves, reminding myself that everything will flourish again with renewed strength and that this period of rest is necessary.

Art has given me a sense of belonging and social integration, creating unexpected relationships through my encounters with artists, live painting events and exhibitions. I have met people with whom I share this passion, as well as people who simply enjoy art. This experience is enriched even further because, with every work I create and every exhibition in which I participate, I feel accompanied and supported by my worldwide family of artists represented by the VDMFK. For these and many other reasons, as I mentioned at the beginning, art has quite literally saved my life.

BARCIA, CÉSAR ANDRÉS (ARGENTINA)

Date of birth:

9 September 1986

Place of birth: Santa Fe

Associate Member since: 2025

Painting technique:

Mouth painter

Cesar Andres Barcia was born on 9 September 1986 in Santa Fe. When he was one year old, his family moved to San Rafael, Mendoza, where he spent his entire childhood and youth.

On 7 September 2002, he had a cycling accident aged 15, in which he sustained a fracture of the cervical spine at the level of C5/C6. He subsequently spent a great deal of time in rehabilitation. Through numerous surgeries, he partially regained the ability to move his arms, but not the desired mobility of his hands and the rest of his body.

To continue his rehabilitation, he moved to Buenos Aires with some of his family. He attended primary and secondary school. He met the mouth painter Sergio Peña (Scholarship Holder), who told him about the VDMFK and about mouth and foot painting. In this way, art became part of his life. The Association supported him as a Scholarship Holder from 2010. He has been an Associate Member of the Association since 2025.

He began learning mouth painting on his own, as well as through online and in-person courses. After he began with oils and acrylics, he encountered watercolour painting, a technique that inspires him. His style could be classified as realism, although he aspires to the freedom and ease of Impressionism. His preferred subjects are flowers, still lifes, animals and Christmas themes.

Artists' activities

ARGENTINA

BARCIA, CÉSAR ANDRÉS (Associate Member)

César Andrés Barcia can look back on a wide range of events. Among other activities, on 8 April 2026, at the invitation of the 'Fundación Mirarte', he exhibited works and gave painting demonstrations at an event entitled 'Art, Inclusion and Community' in Luján, Buenos Aires. Furthermore, he was invited by the cultural centre of the town of Los Cardales to hold a solo exhibition from 9 March to 5 April 2026, exhibiting works in the waiting room of the town's modular hospital. He exhibited 10 works. In addition, he was invited to give a painting demonstration and exhibit several works on 28 February 2026 at the cultural centre in Exaltación de la Cruz. This is only a small selection of his activities, which include participation in group exhibitions, various media appearances and painting demonstrations.

MOYA, MARIA CELESTE (Scholarship Holder)

Maria Celeste Moya was honoured with the national 'Silver Seagull' award, presented by the Princess Alexandra Organisation. It is a recognition of her contribution to culture, her art and her life's work.

BELGIUM

From 21 to 23 November 2025, the Belgium publisher participated in the Art3F Expo – an international fair for contemporary art known for its open atmosphere and direct exchange between artists and the public. Full Member Jacques Villeneuve was present and painted a Father Christmas live – a moment that aroused much admiration and great enthusiasm among the public.



Full Member Jacques Villeneuve painted a Father Christmas during the exhibition.

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

SEKULIĆ, MLADEN (Scholarship Holder)

Mladen Sekulić held a solo exhibition in Milići from 12 to 15 May 2026. The exhibition also received considerable attention in the local media.

BRAZIL

BORGES, GONÇALO APARECIDO PINTO (Associate Member)

Gonçalo Aparecido Pinto Borges can look back on several activities in 2025. These included his participation in REATEC, a major trade fair for people with disabilities, an exhibition and live presentation at the headquarters of the Military Police in São Paulo, activities at the SENAC training institution as well as participation in the 'ART FOR ALL' exhibition at Atelier Kobra. Furthermore, the artist held a solo exhibition on 13 December 2025.

CANADA

MOHAMMADI, ROBABA (Scholarship Holder)

On 11 April 2026, Robaba Mohammadi held her first official art exhibition in the heart of Toronto, entitled 'Breath of Colors'. The exhibition took place at the Atelier Next Door gallery and was visited by more than 200 people. Among them was Senator Marilou McPhedran from Ottawa, who also delivered a thoughtful and inspiring speech on the situation of women in Afghanistan.

CHINA

GUI, XIAO FENG (Scholarship Holder)

Mouth and foot painting artist Xiao Feng Gui held an art and calligraphy exhibition at the Xin'di Art Gallery in Nanxun District. The exhibition received media coverage from, among others, Nanxun Television, the Huzhou South Taihu WeChat channel and Zhejiang Voice and attracted considerable interest. Furthermore, on the occasion of the 34th International Day of Persons with Disabilities on 3 December 2025, Xiao Feng Gui held an art exhibition in Nanxun. The exhibition was entitled 'Self-confidence and Progress – Feelings in Ink' and was additionally accompanied by guest artist Guofu Huang (Associate Member).



Scholarship Holder Xiao Feng Gui during his painting demonstration as part of his exhibition.

Artists' activities

HUANG, GUOFU (Associate Member)



Associate Member Guofu Huang also gave painting demonstrations, which attracted considerable interest.

On 16 May 2026, the charitable exhibition 'Cultural Support for People with Disabilities · Inspiration for Youth – Calligraphy and Painting' was opened at the Zuofu Library in Chongqing, at which Guofu Huang presented his works. The exhibition ran until 15 June 2026. More than 50 selected works of art were displayed. They demonstrated the artistic charm and perseverance of artists with disabilities and brought cultural vitality to the 36th National Day for Assisting Persons with Disabilities. The opening day was marked by a lively atmosphere in an elegant artistic setting. He gave an inspiring talk in which he spoke about his artistic journey and the stories behind his works, conveying the spirit of self-improvement to the audience. Furthermore, he exhibited his works in Zuofu. A total of 26 works of art were on display from 4 to 11 February 2026. Furthermore, the artist held a solo exhibition at the Xia-Yan Museum in Hechuan District, Chongqing from 1 to 8 October 2025. The exhibition was entitled 'Moonlit Scrolls in Graceful Motion, Where the Dance of Ink Meets the Flow of Rivers'. During the exhibition, 30 of his Chinese paintings were displayed.

CROATIA

PERKOVIĆ, STJEPAN (ASSOCIATE MEMBER)

On 17 December 2025, Stjepan Perković attended the ceremonial opening of the exhibition entitled 'Moja Hrvatska' ('My Croatia'), organised by USUN Zagreb. On the same day, an art workshop was held in the morning at the National and University Library in central Zagreb, where the exhibition also took place. The exhibition remained open until 12 January 2026. Furthermore, on 18 May 2026, Stjepan Perković celebrated the opening of his 20th anniversary solo exhibition in the town of Samobor, near Zagreb. At a gallery in the youth centre, he symbolically exhibited 20 of his acrylic and oil paintings on canvas and paper. The exhibition remained open to visitors until 13 June 2026. In addition, on 6 June 2026, Stjepan Perković celebrated the private view of his 21st solo exhibition. The exhibition programme also included the presentation of a book by a local poet as well as a concert by young talented artists from Zagreb. All of these events were interwoven and complemented one another. His exhibition, at which he displayed ten graphic works, was entitled 'Sighs of the Island'.

COLOMBIA

AYALA MORENO, CARLOS FERNANDO (Scholarship Holder)

From 20 to 30 November 2025, Carlos Fernando Ayala Moreno participated in the exhibition 'Sin Límites' ('Without Borders') in Bogotá, where he presented two oil paintings on canvas. The exhibition was very well received.

CZECH REPUBLIC

HŘÍBEK, JAKUB (Scholarship Holder)

Mouth and foot painting artist Jakub Hříbek received a great honour: on 15 July 2025, he was given the opportunity to exhibit in the premises of the Senate of the Parliament of the Czech Republic. The private view was attended not only by many visitors but also by Senator Stanislav Balík, who had also assumed patronage of the exhibition.

FRANCE

DUBARRE, ARNAUD (Full Member)



The work by Arnaud Dubarre for which he received the 2nd Press Prize.

Arnaud Dubarre had the pleasure of exhibiting at the Galerie Thuillier in Paris from 13 to 26 February 2026. At the private view, he had the great surprise and honour of being awarded the 2nd Press Prize 2026. This award has a very special significance for him, as it was the first time he presented one of his latest paintings in a style that differs from his usual work, while remaining faithful to his preferred painting technique – pastel. Thanks to this award, he was able to exhibit once again at the Galerie Thuillier from 27 March to 9 April 2026, this time with three paintings.

Artists' activities

INDONESIA

SUBADRI, SABAR (Associate Member)

Sabar Subadri participated in the 'Dolan Solotigo' (Visit to the City of Salatiga) creative bazaar on 21 June 2026, organised by the Department of Culture and Tourism of the City of Salatiga. Hundreds of people from the city and the surrounding area attended the event. At his stand, he presented numerous works of art. Furthermore, the mouth and foot painting artist had the opportunity to participate in a charity auction organised by the Kana Catholic Monastery as part of the family seminar 'Peace in the Midst of the Storm'. The event took place on 22 May 2026 in the Kaloka Conference Room at Salatiga Town Hall.

numbers of visitors. A specially designed promotional leaflet was also made available at the sales points within Eikando. This collaboration brought Netta Ganor's artworks back to the very place that had inspired them.

ITALY

BOSSI, RICCARDO (Scholarship Holder)



Riccardo Bossi celebrated the 20th anniversary of his artistic career with a solo exhibition.

Riccardo Bossi celebrated the 20th anniversary of his artistic career in 2025 and, to mark the occasion, organised an impressive solo exhibition entitled 'I colori della vita' ('The Colours of Life') in Trieste. At the exhibition, he presented more than 60 works illustrating his artistic journey between 2009 and 2025. The exhibition was received with great enthusiasm by both the public and the art critics.

Centre for Cultural Activities of the Autonomous University of the State of Mexico. The exhibition featured 13 watercolours as well as ten additional works in acrylic and oil.

SERBIA

NEŽIĆ, DEJANA (Scholarship Holder)



The painting 'Petrovaradin Fortress', which Dejana Nežić exhibited in New York.

Dejana Nežić received two great honours. 1.) She was able to exhibit her painting 'Petrovaradin Fortress' at the Bank Art Gallery in New York. The Bank Art Gallery is a contemporary art gallery known for promoting international artists and organising curated exhibitions that bring together collectors and artists from around the world. 'It is an honour for me to have my work exhibited there alongside that of so many talented artists,' said Dejana Nežić. This painting has a special personal significance for her, as the painting classes during her studies took place at Petrovaradin Fortress. She recalls climbing up to the fortress countless times and enjoying the breathtaking view over the entire city. 2.) Dejana Nežić was featured in the magazine 'Women in Adria'. 'Women in Adria' is a magazine for ambitious women that offers success stories, business advice and career guidance. It promotes networking, growth and female entrepreneurship in the Adriatic region.

IRAN

ETEZADOLSALTANEH, ZOREH (Scholarship Holder)

At the conclusion of the Hammam Festival, which took place from 31 October to 5 November 2025, Zoreh Etehadolsaltaneh was awarded the festival's honorary plaque.

ISRAEL

GANOR, NETTA (Associate Member)

Mouth and foot painting artist Netta Ganor and the Japanese publisher carried out a joint initiative through which Eikando Temple in Kyoto agreed to sell postcards featuring Netta Ganor's artwork depicting the motif 'Autumn in Kyoto'. The temple authorities at Eikando showed great interest in promoting and selling the postcards. The launch of the initiative coincided with the temple's illuminated garden season, which attracts large

MEXICO

GONZÁLEZ, ADRIANA LETICIA ESTRELLA (Scholarship Holder)

On 15 October 2025, Adriana Leticia Estrella González opened her solo exhibition 'Deflorescubierta' at the

Artists' activities

SINGAPORE

YEO KWOK CHIAN, AARON
(Scholarship Holder)



The artwork created by Aaron Yeo Kwok Chian for the President's Office of Singapore.

Aaron Yeo Kwok Chian received a great honour. He was commissioned by the President's Office to create a work of art representing Singapore. The artwork is intended to be presented as a gift to foreign dignitaries during state visits and to showcase the country's artistic talent and cultural identity.

'It is a great honour for me to be

entrusted with such a significant project. I am deeply honoured that the President's Office considers my work representative of Singapore and worthy of being presented to visiting VIPs,' said the artist. Furthermore, Aaron Yeo Kwok Chian participated in the 'Neo Kah Kiet Art Awards'. At the competition, his artwork 'The Final Stretch' was awarded Silver.

SLOVENIA

On 5 December 2025, an international art workshop and an international art exhibition were held at the Cultural Centre of the Embassy of Hungary, located in the centre of Ljubljana. The art exhibition remained open from 5 December 2025 to 15 January 2026. The following artists participated in the art workshop:

Vojko Gašperut (Full Member), Željko Vertelj (Associate Member) as well as Scholarship Holders Dragica Sušanj, Eric Pibernik and Dominik Lozar; Stjepan Perković (Associate Member) from Croatia; Ferenc Deák (Associate Member) from Hungary; Dejana Nežić, Scholarship Holder from Serbia and

Mladen Sekulić, Scholarship Holder from Bosnia and Herzegovina. The art exhibition was entitled 'Boundless Imagination'. The artists painted Hungarian and Slovenian towns, landscapes, the sea, Lake Balaton and more. A total of 48 works were presented. Works of art by the following mouth and foot painting artists were exhibited: from Slovenia: Vojko Gašperut, Benjamin Žnidaršič, Željko Vertelj, Eric Pibernik, Dragica Sušanj, Martina Pavlovič, Neja Zrimšek-Žiger and Dominik Lozar. From Croatia: Stjepan Perković and Alen Kasumović. From Serbia: Dejana Nežić. From Bosnia and Herzegovina: Mladen Sekulić and from Hungary: Ferenc Deák. The exhibition was opened by His Excellency Dávid Ferenc Andor, Ambassador of Hungary to Slovenia. Around 120 visitors attended the opening and all were impressed by the high quality of the exhibition.

SPAIN

HIGUERAS MARIANA, LORENZO
(Scholarship Holder)

To mark Brain Week, which took place from 9 to 13 March 2026 and was organised by the Institute of Neuroscience, Lorenzo Higuera created the artwork 'Two Hemispheres, Infinite Possibilities'. The work, an artistic panel depicting a top view of the two hemispheres of the human brain, builds a bridge between art and neuroscience and encourages reflection on the creative potential of the brain.



The mouth and foot painting artists who participated in the exhibition.

Włodzimierz Kmiecik (Poland),
'Red- & Yellow-Flowering Hollyhocks', watercolour, 41×33 cm.



SERVICE

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
Für 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
- date of completion

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.

Further developing our art and our habits

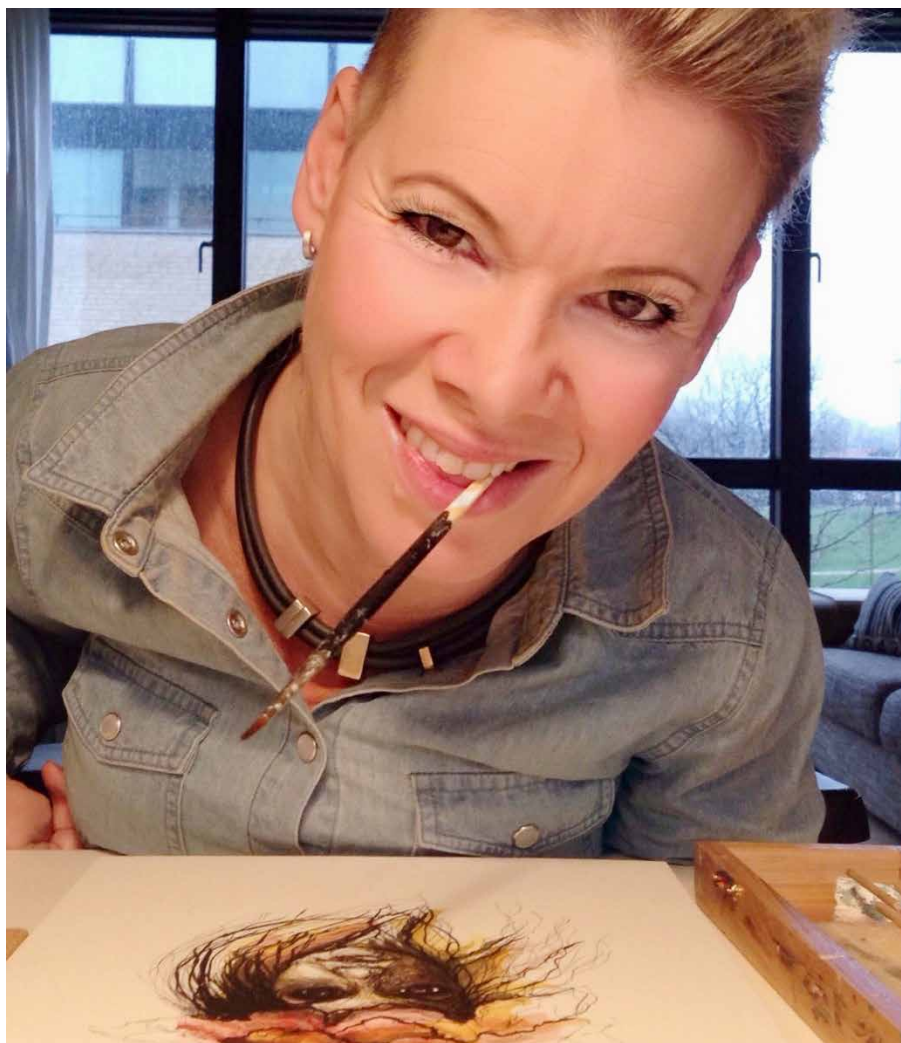
Each and every one of us artists in the Association has achieved something remarkable. One way or another, we have found a way to create art. For various reasons, we are unable to use our hands, yet we have nevertheless found our own way of expressing ourselves through art.

For 70 years, this creativity has found expression in postcards and calendars. People all over the world buy our cards and products and support us in this way. These products still mean a great deal to many people; therefore, we will of course continue to offer them, while at the same time recognising that we are at a moment of renewal and further development.

Creativity is never something that stands still. It grows. It changes. It finds new directions.

Today, we are facing such a moment of change. The world is changing and people are communicating in new ways. This new moment offers us a new opportunity to grow and to try something new. This applies both to our art and to the way in which we share that art with the world. Today, it is not only about what we create; it is also about how we create it, and about the habits we build around our artistic work.

Naturally, we still need our 'traditional motifs', such as flowers, landscapes, snowmen, religious images etc. for our long-standing, loyal customers, but we must also try out new ideas and develop more modern and contemporary forms of expression. This also includes works that can appeal to a younger and broader audience. We need new ideas, new styles – and the courage to explore them.



Ann Lund Wahlberg, Vice-President of the VDMFK

We believe that many of you are already creating such works of art. Perhaps you hesitate to submit them because they differ too greatly from the familiar postcard designs. However, we also wish to encourage this kind of development. When creating new designs, it can be helpful to think about where the image could be used. Could it work on a tote bag or a mug? Or could it be used on a mobile phone case, a notebook, a scarf – or on something else?

Sometimes, a simple yet striking motif is all that is needed. Like a single beautiful flower, a bird, a

detail, a minimalist expression, a bold and graphic expression or something entirely new. Not every design has to be complex – often, the simplest images are the strongest.

It can also be valuable to look beyond our usual audience. Do you know people between the ages of 20 and 50 who have never bought one of our cards or calendars? Try asking them what they like. What they would choose. What kind of images they would like to have in their homes or on their personal belongings. Being open to new perspectives and listening can inspire us in ways we would not expect.

Further developing our art is only one part of the journey. We must also continue to develop our habits. In today's world, it is no longer enough simply to create art and send it to a publisher. If we want to reach new target groups, we must become more visible and actively show what we do. This does not mean becoming someone else, but gradually adopting small new routines. For example, by taking photographs while you are working. Or by recording short video clips of your painting process or simply sharing moments from your everyday life.

These do not have to be perfect or professional. What matters is that they are authentic. Many of our publishers are already actively using websites and social media and need content for them – not only of finished artworks, but also of the artists behind them. And this is precisely where something truly special lies. Each of us carries a story within us. A story of creativity, perseverance and of having found a way to express ourselves – often in ways that most people would never imagine. These are the stories that people want to see and hear.

Our customers are not only interested in the finished artwork. They want to understand the person behind it. They want to see how the art is created. They want to feel a connection. Art comes from within,

and the story behind it brings it to life.

Therefore, we encourage you to share the following:

- short videos of yourselves painting,
- insights into your everyday life,
- small moments that show who you are as artists.

If you use social media, please do so actively – and remember to tag or mention your national publisher whenever you post something. If you need help finding the correct details, you can contact the VDMFK at any time.

We understand that this may feel new or unfamiliar to some of you. Not everyone is used to filming or sharing personal moments. That is perfectly natural. But even small steps can make a big difference. By gradually building these new habits, you help create a stronger connection between the art, the artist and the customers.

And by doing so, you help secure the future of our Association.

Ann Lund Wahlberg
Vice-President of the VDMFK



**Creativity is never
something that stands
still.
It grows. It changes.
It finds new directions.**

Letter to the Editor

Below is a letter from Scholarship Holder Laura Ghitta, a mouth painter from Italy.

Good day to you all. I would like to tell you how I experience and feel my art. Despite my physical disability, painting with my mouth is a great gift from God.

In painting and poetry, I have found the privileged expression of my relationship with the world and of my unconditional love of life.

Art is not for everyone, but only for those who possess a special sensitivity, emotions and reflections, which are transferred onto the canvas in abstract or realistic forms.

There are imaginative paintings, vibrant and original interweavings of colours, which produce magnificent works full of energy and hope and are capable of deeply surprising the viewer. We artists have the courage to elevate our difficulties to a higher level and to transfer them onto the canvas through our imagination and our real-life experiences.

Our paintings are created using our mouths and feet. Not everyone possesses this wonderful gift, which almost always stems from painful experiences in life, yet at the same time these experiences make us unique.

Painting a feeling is not easy. It may seem impossible, but not when life's experiences lead us to move forward. In that case, they stimulate our positivity, the courage to stand up and to be satisfied with ourselves.

I believe that we all have a purpose on this planet and I think – indeed I am convinced – that for us artists it is to present our unique way of seeing life through painting and never to surrender to the difficulties that fate places in our path. I send you my warmest embrace.

Laura Ghitta
Scholarship Holder from Italy



CARICATURES

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.



THE CARICATURE
'THE ALARM CLOCK RINGS'
MAKES FOR A RUDE
AWAKENING.



Benjamin Tan Boon Chuan (Indonesia),
'Living Room with Colourful Flowers in a Red and White Vase', oil, 45 x 35 cm



PUBLISHERS

Alciana '05

Publishers' activities

BRAZIL

The publisher in Brazil organised a travelling exhibition entitled *Maravilhas do Brasil* (Wonders of Brazil). Under the curatorial direction of Associate Member Marcelo da Cunha, the paintings were exhibited at the Palácio Tiradentes in Rio de Janeiro, a historic building in Rio de Janeiro, which now houses the Legislative Assembly of the State. The exhibition, which opened last year at the Naval Club, was also shown at the Sarah Hospital, a leading rehabilitation hospital. The opening ceremony took place on 5 December 2025, the International Day of Persons with Disabilities. The following artists participated in the event: Associate Member Marcelo da Cunha and Scholarship Holders Carlos Eduardo Fraga, Bárbara Corrêa, Jefferson Maia, Adolfo Simões, Eduardo Melo, Eusuclemia Vieira, Débora Ferreira and João Paulo Fontenele.

In addition, the publisher in Brazil organised a joint exhibition at the studio of the outstanding and



The Mouth and Foot Painting Artists of Brazil who took part in the opening of the exhibition at the Palácio Tiradentes in Rio de Janeiro.

internationally renowned artist and mural painter Eduardo Kobra, which opened on 6 November 2025 and ran until 30 November. The title of the exhibition was *Arte para Todos*, meaning 'Art for Everyone', as all paintings were created with 3D reliefs for blind people. The following artists attended the opening: Associate

Members Gonçalo Borges, Goret Chagas and Marcelo da Cunha as well as Scholarship Holders Bárbara Corrêa, Carlos Eduardo Fraga, Eusuclemia Vieira, Daniel Ferreira, Domingos Dupé Ferreira, Eliana Zagui, Ivanildo Gomes, Leandro Portella, Marcos Paulo Machado, Rita Boz and Victor Santos.



The Mouth and Foot Painting Artists of Brazil who participated in the exhibition 'Art for Everyone'.

GERMANY

Moving away from reference material and towards intuitive play with colours and forms – that was the challenge for the seven artists Thomas Kahlau, Antje Kratz, Markus Kostka, Selma Aman, Dirk Bennewith, Waldemar Merz and Werner Mittelbach, who took part in the Mouth and Foot Painting Artists publisher's painting workshop in 2025. During the course of the week, a wide variety of works were created – including vividly coloured still lifes, mystical landscapes and striking depictions of animals and people – reflecting both the artists' individual style and their openness to new creative approaches. This was a clear sign that the

Publishers' activities



The workshop participants with the publisher's management and their companions.

publisher's painting workshop once again provided a protected space for the artists to embark on new artistic adventures, approaching each day with renewed enthusiasm.

place, bringing the subject of inclusion to life in a creative and moving way. A particular highlight was the exhibition organised by the Au Art Publisher and

presented in the library's historic rooms. Works by Mouth and Foot Painting Artists were exhibited, created with extraordinary means and great dedication.

The exhibition was not only a feast for the eyes, but also an invitation to learn more about the world of artists who have found unique ways to express themselves despite physical disabilities. Through a total of 25 works, visitors were able to enjoy the creativity of the Mouth and Foot Painting Artists. These works of art tell stories of overcoming challenges, courage and the enduring joy of creating with one's own abilities. The works of the Mouth and Foot Painting Artists were on display until 2 November 2025.

SWEDEN

On 25 April 2026, the doors opened for the annual exhibition in Sweden. The walls were adorned with original works of art painted by Swedish artists and inspired by the colours of spring. Guests were welcomed by Lena Maria Vendelius, who opened the day with her beautiful singing voice and a presentation of the Mouth and Foot Painting Artists, followed by a popular raffle of three works of art painted by Eva Backlund. The gallery was filled with cheerful visitors who spent the day admiring the art. The publisher exhibited 35 original works in various painting techniques created by the Swedish artists. The exhibition continued until 19 June 2026.

SWITZERLAND

In October 2025, the Winterthur City Library was dedicated entirely to inclusion. Under the motto 'Living Library', a very special event took



The publisher's traditional spring exhibition in Sweden was very diverse and once again a great success.

