

January – Barbara Jelenkovich

Barbara Jelenkovich was born in Trieste in 1961. Upon completion of an arts program at a high school in Trieste, she attended and graduated from the Academy of Fine Arts in Venice where she studied interior decorating. Barbara published her first book in 1985. Since then she has published in excess of 110 books with some of the largest publishing houses in Germany and Italy. These books have been translated into twenty-four languages and have been enthusiastically received all over the world. Her watercolors are gentle and exciting for Japanese children, for Italian children they are colorful and explosive, while the artwork for German children is rich with details. Barbara's magical realism attracts children, as well as adults, from all over the world. www.jelenkovich.com

February – Petra Kern

Petra Kern, once a journalist and stylist, nowadays prefers to draw patterns. Petra did not begin expressing herself through her pattern creations until 2009. Ink, tempera, watercolors and acrylic paints are all tools of her trade. Flowers and birds from nature seem to dance from her fingers onto the paper with a subtle interplay between them. Petra says she never has to look very far to find inspiration for her art. Her years of life experience have provided plenty to choose from. Looking to the future, these patterns will be found on everyday items. We imagine their transformation into fine, elegant objects gently enhancing the world around us. www.petrakern.com

March – Polona Lovšin

Polona Lovšin is a trained painter. She enjoys the reputation of an independent cultural artist, an illustrator. For more than five years, she has been actively involved with children's illustrations. During this time she has worked with many Slovenian publishers. Polona never uses just one color and dislikes clean colours believing that within a colour lie many more. She takes new work as a challenge for her artistic development. She loves to experiment and delight us with her many styles. Creating for the young children of today is what gives Polona great pleasure; in particular, her creations for daughters Ema and Mima. In her own original style, Polona links truth and magic, the gentle and the wild, and the real and dream worlds. www.polonalovsin.com

April – Vesna Klančar

Vesna Klančar, a graphic designer by profession, now works with computers in a small design and production company. Cats, dogs and other animals serve as her primary inspiration for decorated tiles, calendars, mugs and screensavers on computers. While creating, new ideas are constantly being born and fighting for Vesna's time and attention to be brought to life. Her sketchbook is always brimming with ideas, leading to unique and pleasing creations. vixivixi.webs.com

May – Chiara Sepin

In 2000, Chiara Sepin graduated from a two-year study of advertising graphics at the International School of Graphics in Venice. Since 2004, she has participated in workshops presented in partnership with the International Exhibition of Illustration for children in the city of Sarmede. In 2006, Chiara ventured out on her own and now works independently as a graphic designer and children's illustrator. In 2007, a culinary book (Skrobek cooking) for children was published, a joint project between Chiara herself and Peter Ferlugo and later in 2009, the Italian version (Mestolino, cuoco bambino) was published. Chiara is a contemporary woman, whose work illustrates the complexity of our world in a friendly and ingeniously witty manner to her young audience. www.pika.it

June – Suzana Šlebir

Suzana Šlebir studied design and received her diploma in Ljubljana. In 2011, in part due to the economy and labor situation, Susan made the decision to treat herself and devote a year to just simple creativity. After exploring the adult world, she found that her preference and passion lay in her own colorful fairy-tale world where harmony, joy and colour prevail. In the present, Susan prefers to work with watercolors because of the wide array of bright and passionate colors which seem to cater to her current creative needs. In this complex world, we wait expectantly as her creative hands and brushes work their magic. suzana-kii-kii.blogspot.com

July – Sanja Janša

Sanja Janša is a designer and illustrator, and books are her favourite thing to work with. After completing her education at the School of Design and Photography, majoring in fashion, and after studying at the Academy of Fine Arts and Design, majoring in visual communication, Sanja began working independently in the arts. One day in the future, Sanja would like to live in a city with a milder climate, but for now lives in Ljubljana. Her creations infuse the city and countryside with the restlessness of warm breezes, dazzling suns and shadows, along with a pinch of humour. sanja-jansa.blogspot.com

August – David Ličen

David Ličen graduated in Graphic Design at the Academy of Fine Arts in Ljubljana. That same year he began postgraduate studies at the Academy of Fine Arts, his first year was completed in Helsinki, Finland. He is a member of the Society of Slovenian artists. He has presented his works in numerous solo and group exhibitions at home and abroad. Together with his wife Polona, David has run the art design center, Lična House, in Ajdovščina since September of 2003. www.licnahisa.com

September – Jožica Rade

Jožica Rade is an art teacher, a specialist in art therapy and director of the company Creatissimo. She enjoys drawing, writing and creating for children, and organizes workshops which encourage creative expression. Jožica looks for inspiration in nature and people, often with camera in hand and a pinch of curiosity in her pocket. She also devotes a few hours a day to teaching children at a Montessori elementary school. www.creatissimolab.com

October – Tjaša Sosič

Tjaša Sosič is a young graduate of fine arts education. She is a creator of jewelry, draws, designs bags and takes photographs. In all of her creations one feels the region of Kras, the local fauna intermingled with ancient settlements. Her stylized silhouettes of trees and leaves on backgrounds

of effective colors appeal to us - what will complement and build upon these into new stories?
unikatiassha.webs.com

November – Claudio Boatin

Claudio Boatin was born in the town of Pieve di Soligo in the county of Veneto. He perfected his art technique under the sculptor Peter Hand in Pisa, the master Scarabello at the Institute Giorgione in Treviso, and the painter and architect Enzo Strada. Following his specialization he won a number of awards and critical acclaim. His gentle filigree drawings and translucent hues create soft images of the past that become more idealised as time passes. A symbol is an element which forms the heart of his work: objects, signs and presence acquire intense meanings and subtext. Signs come through magical landscapes that are shelters for many metaphysical surprises. www.claudioboatin.it

December – Mojca Fo

Mojca Fo is an illustrator and architect. This gentle woman is committed to continuous work. She claims it is important to follow one's energy and work for those goals and objectives which are important to us. Her work today is based primarily on creating fabulously surreal images. Isolated people, cats, birds and flowers and walking about rounded small worlds, creating symbolic landscapes, shelters for the lyrical soul. www.fo.si