

Exhibited illustrations to the book:

Mária Duričková: „Rozprávky Čierneho Filipa“ /Fairy Tales of Black Filip/, Mladé letá Bratislava, 1989, combined technique, paper
Jozef Pavlovic: „Sievka Drievka o Alenka z Polienka“ /Little Steve - the Little Piece of Wood and Little Alen - the Little Piece of Log/, Mladé letá, Bratislava, 1989, ink, watercolor, paper
Address of the author:
Buliková 15, 851 07 Bratislava, The Slovak Republic
Brief characteristics:

PETER KLÚČIK

Peter Klúčik was born on March 16, 1953 in Bratislava. He graduated at the Secondary School of Applied Arts and the College of Fine Arts in Bratislava in 1980 at the Department of Book Production and Illustration with the professor Albin Brunovský. The author lives and works in Bratislava, dedicates himself to painting, graphics and illustrations of books for children. His domain is a bizarre variety of nature motifs. He himself claims that the "design of nature" is his powerful inspiration. He is a representative and follower of the illustration stream of the fantasy realism. In his illustrations we can find prehistoric animals and different combined little creatures and monsters that were born in his multi-layer fantasy. Details evoke even the impression of ornaments. Definitely he is one of the most suitable candidates for illustration of humorous and adventure fantasy literary materials, but he also illustrated the books for the youngest children. The precise colored picture drawn by pen is a typical technique of the author. The comprehensive composition comprises situational humor, motivation elements with regard to unlimited fantasy. The drawing is stylized, the space is filled in and it also features a charge of decorativeism. For his illustrations to the book of A. Tolstoj „Žltý klúčik“ he was awarded the Honorable Mention in the competition „The Nicest Books of Czechoslovakia“. In 1987 he took part in the Biennial of Illustrations Bratislava. The author particularly applies diminutive fine-shaping of details over the areas topically relevant for big deeds and heroic adventures in exotic natural greenery of bizarre fauna with exaggeration. The respect-bearing miniature drawing evokes in perceivers the association of an enormous banknote hiding inside itself the corners of the child mysteriousness. In spite of this his illustrations are understandable, they apply documentary drawing descriptiveness, humorous elements and they breathe with an unprecedented aura.

Exhibited illustrations to the book:

Renáta Bockayová: „Štiplík a vybrané slová“ /Štiplík and the Selected Words/, Mladé letá, Bratislava, 1997, color drawing, paper
Address of the author:
Štrajbiarska 5, 851 05 Bratislava, The Slovak Republic
Brief characteristics:

EVA KOČANOVÁ

She was born on May 21, 1967 in Bojnice. She studied at the Faculty of Pedagogy of Comenius University in Bratislava. Her striving in illustration work has not been that evident. She surprised though by her inconspicuous but rather a resourceful illustration in the book „Štiplík a vybrané slová“ at the Biennial of Illustrations Bratislava 1999, that was publishing in Mladé letá publishing house in Bratislava. She uses color drawing on paper /alternating the radiant yellow and orange as well as warm brown tones/ for fine-shaping the diminutive zoomorphic little figures and little human beings. She uses them as a mosaic for building up compositions. They form then the expression of her illustrations in which the little figures live their common as well as separate little lives, represent „the selected words“, and a personality is identified in them in the sense of expression by which they are designated - named.



GETTING A VIEW ON THE SLOVAK ILLUSTRATION WORKS

If we are to speak about the history of illustration works in Slovakia we have to mention that at their roots and birth there was an undeniable influence exerted by the Czech fine arts artists /J. Vodrážka, J. Hála/. If we go deeper into the history we will find well-known names there such as J. Mánes, M. Alš, A. Kašpar. In the period between the wars we already note the Slovak illustrators, nevertheless also after the World War II there appear number of illustrators stemming from Bohemia. After the World War II thus the Slovak book for children integrated illustrations of the Czech masters. In the beginning of the 70s we are no longer depending on the Czech authors, they appear only here and there and gradually the authors start to pay debts to the Czech book which gave space to authors influenced by traditions of folklore fine art - ornamental art, lace, embroidery /L. Fulva, V. Bombová, F. Hložník/, those using the heroic topics /R. Dubrovic/ as well as those with alternative use of humor and exaggeration /M. Cipár, L. Nesselman/. The founding role in respect to usage of collage in illustrations was exercised to A. Klíma, the Slovak nature scenes and textbook illustrations can be noted with Š. Čipín, the adventure of home and far away destinations is evident with M. Kellenberger, the naive view of illustration is revealed by V. Gergelová, childhood memories are revived by O. Zimka and the tougher position of an image is presented by J. Lebiš, J. Cezanek...

Intentionally I have not mentioned the name of Albin Brunovský who played an outstanding role in the area of illustration work especially for the benefit of our book publication culture and school education. His early works derived from the young wave of graduates of the school of Hložník and they moved along an imaginative line. In 1967 this author headed the department of book culture at the College of Fine Arts in Bratislava. Today, he and a number of younger artists, including several of his disciples, represent one stream of the Slovak art of the 70s and the beginning of the 80s, a new way of art that utilizes imagination. Let us mention only few of his pupils: K. Ondračka, M. Dusíková, who lives presently in Italy together with her husband - illustrator Stano Dušák. This stream, exceptionally fantasy oriented produced a powerful generation of illustrators. Many of them were awarded valuable prizes for their works abroad as well as at home: BIB Bratislava - the international exhibition of illustrations, at which birth A. Brunovský actively participated. One cannot but mention also K. Šutaková - Ševčková, L. Končáková-Veselá, K. Štandová, J. Kiselová-Štraková ...

Another world-famous personality of the Slovak illustration, also a pupil of V. Hložník, is D. Kállay with his fantasy-like and witty, highly artistic dimension of illustration bringing up another generation of artists. We can mention some other illustrators, such as M. Kellenberger, P. Čisárik, O. Bajusová, R. Brun, P. Klúčik, M. Pográn as well as the novice, pupil of D. Kállay, Peter Uchnár, who was awarded the prize Golden Apple at the BIB'99, one of

Exhibited illustrations to the book:

Peter Glöckl: „Zlatový rybič“ /The Knight with Golden Hair/, Neografit publishing house, Martin, 1997, pen drawing, watercolor, paper
Address of the author:
Štrpkovské 5, 811 01 Bratislava, The Slovak Republic
Brief characteristics:

VLADIMÍR MACHAJ

Vladimír Machaj was born on December 8, 1929 in Martin. In 1956 he graduated at the College of Applied Arts in Prague as a pupil of Professor A. Štrnadl. From 1962 he worked as an art editor in the publishing house Mladé letá. The artist belongs to the extraordinary active illustrators of the Slovak books for children. In spite of a broad variety of titles V. Machaj approaches the illustration work individually, he tries to express consistently the essence of the literary original in an adequate visual form. His illustrations organically link the graphic composition with the competing powerful painting perception. The color is dominant, the expression in its essence is demonstrative, in spite of his effort to make it compassionate. The illustrator is a holder of the bronze medal of the Biennial of Applied Graphics in Brno /1976/, prize of Martin Banka 1976 for his graphic and illustration work, golden medal of the International Book Fair in Moscow /1976/ and the silver medal of the International Book Fair in Leipzig /1977/. He was awarded the Prize of Ludovít Fulla for his illustration works for children and youth in 1978. Vladimír Machaj in respect to the number of books and productively belongs to the most prolific illustrators. He illustrated books for the smallest children, traditional fairy tales, folding picture-books and the whole register of picture-books into which he inserts his creative invention and experience of an artist. He remained faithful to illustration all life long and his books passed through hands of several generations.

The illustrators in many cases seem to be over-decorated, often attacking by their colorfulness and the way of an aggressive narrative form. He connects the artistic idea organically with the pragmatic phenomenon of the literary model.

Exhibited illustrations to the book:

Toniino Lesconi: „Adolescenti pred zrkadlom“ /Adolescents in front of the Mirror/, Don Bosco publishing house, Bratislava, 1998, watercolor, ink, paper
Toniino Lesconi: „Jojomni reč tela“ /Mysterious body language/, Don Bosco publishing house, Bratislava, 1998, watercolor, ink, paper
Address of the author:
Košická 43/D, 821 08 Bratislava, The Slovak Republic
Brief characteristics:

JURAJ MARTIŠKA

He was born on April 2, 1969 in Ružomberok. He graduated at the College of Fine Arts in Bratislava. His illustration work concentrates mostly on the literature for the young generation. Thus he adapts the illustrations to the character of young people of this age group. His comic and satiric means of expression become his strengths and he applies them to the category of teenagers. His figures have unbelievable dynamics, temperament and humor. They are full of joy, color and freshness and they are uncompromising just like their addressees. He presented himself at the Biennial of Illustrations Bratislava 1999 by two books related to the mentioned topic: Adolescents in front of the mirror and Mysterious body language.

the most prestigious prizes that this exhibition of illustrations in Bratislava, besides the Grand Prix and plaques, awards. This event that made many illustrators famous all over the world has a long-standing tradition. It was first organized in 1967. Last year it provided a stage for the exhibition of illustrators from almost all the continents already for the 17th time.

Besides this gigantic competitive presentation of originals of illustrations of books for children that regularly takes place every two years in the months of September and October, the secretariat of BIB organizes promotional exhibitions of illustrations at home as well as abroad. Let us mention at least the most significant exhibitions of the past two years. Besides Slovakia, the countries that hosted the Slovak and world illustrations in their galleries and museums include Britain, Austria, Mexico, France, Finland, Denmark, Germany, Italy, Japan and ather. In 2000 the Slovak illustration works will be presented in Norway, Denmark, Iceland, the Czech Republic, Poland, the exhibition of individual UNESCO BIB workshops will go on tour to France, Germany - Special significance is given to presentation of awarded illustrations of the previous BIB events that comprises the original works of the BIB secretariat property. More than 100 originals will be put on show in 7 cities of Japan within the course of one year. Similarly, every year the BIB secretariat that resides in Bibiana - the international house of art for children, takes part in the international book fair in Bologna where it establishes new contacts, maintains those already acquired and presents the latest illustration works.

At this presentation we wish to show you the picture of the current Slovak illustration that includes authors of the older, middle as well as the youngest generations. It reflects the present situation in the Slovak illustration that derives from the possibilities and conditions of the given area of art as well as situation in the publishing industry in Slovakia.

The Slovak illustration, thanks to the outstanding non-commercial event of Biennial of Illustrations Bratislava, has surpassed and continues to surpass the limits of fantasy that forms the basis of the fairy tale. It thus has become in a certain sense world-famous, it has acquired the credit of quality and it has become synonymous with the capital of the Slovak Republic - Bratislava.



Mgr. Barbara Brathová
Art Historian
Head of the BIB Secretariat

Exhibited illustrations to the book:

Krista Bendová: „Osmajánka rozprávka 8x8-64 rozprávok“ /Osmajánka Narrates 8x8-64 Fairy Tales/, Bavič, 1998, combined technique, paper
Address of the author:
Gorkého 5, 811 01 Bratislava, The Slovak Republic
Brief characteristics:

SVETOZÁR MYDLO

Svetozár Mydlo was born on July 10, 1948 in Ružomberok. In 1963 - 1967 he studied at the Secondary School of Applied Arts in Bratislava. In 1973 he graduated at the College of Fine Arts in Bratislava as a pupil of Professor P. Matejka. His illustrations radiate with humor, his artistic statements almost reach the limits of grotesque. S. Mydlo is one of the illustrators with an incredibly expressive orientation towards comic dimensions of illustrations for children. They compete also with irony and demonstrative strength of expression. He participates with the author of the text in shaping and finishing or designing the book, he does not focus strictly on the specific description of the literary version. The author is also a graphic designer. For his illustration work he was awarded the Prize SVU in the competition for the Nicest Book of Czechoslovakia for illustrations to the book of B. Škárak „V každom nátku trošku chémie“ /In Every Corner a Little Bit of Chemistry/ /1979/, the Prize of the Slovak Centre of Book Culture for illustration to the book of D. Hewier „Nevplazuj jazyk na ľavú“ /Do not show your tongue at the lion/ /1982/. The illustration to this book was also awarded the Honorable Mention IBA Leipzig /1996/. The author in his works presents a kind of collage of different motifs in graphical shorthand, he applies expressive poster symbols attracting the viewers, he uses a witty composition of zoomorphic and civil elements deprived of loving attraction and shifted to the level of caricature. He also frequently uses graphical play with the word. The text is artistically adapted and it is an equal partner to illustrations. He is a universal author who we come across often enough also in connection with graphical design of many a book.

Exhibited illustrations to the book:

Olin Kazubak: „O Smrečkáčikovi, Triesočka a Lipovej kalíška“ /About the Little Spruce Boy, Little Chip Girl and a Linden Cuddle/, Mladé letá, Bratislava, 1998, combined technique, paper
Address of the author:
Budyšínska, 831 03 Bratislava, The Slovak Republic
Brief characteristics:

ZUZANA NEMČÍKOVÁ

She was born on March 10, 1955 in Bratislava. She studied at the College of Fine Arts, also in Bratislava. Her artistic work focused mainly on the painting. Therefore the evident painting style can be noted also in the illustrations of the book „O Smrečkáčikovi, Triesočka a Lipovej kalíška“ through which she presented herself at the Biennial of Illustrations Bratislava 1999. The author used a combined technique, but her illustrations are rich in colors, poetic with a sense of detail. They are exceptionally fragile and bear along one outstanding phenomenon, that reflects her painting nature and inclinations to colored drawing, as well as the fact that they can exist as solitaires. This is their specificity and virtue.

Exhibited illustrations to the book:

Jean Girard: „Muž, ktorý sadil stromy“ /The Man Who Planted the Trees/, Každý dieťa Timotej, Košice, 1997, etching, aquatinta, paper
Address of the author:
P. Harová 9, 841 07 Bratislava, The Slovak Republic
Brief characteristics:

Exhibited illustrations to the book:

W. Foster: „Krištof medzi pavkami“ /Krištof among the Pratozoa/, Columbus, Bratislava, Prague, 1997, acrylic, watercolor, paper
Address of the author:
Telborská 61, Nusle, 160 00 Praha 4, The Czech Republic
Brief characteristics:

ANDREJ AGUSTÍN

He was born on April 16, 1964 in Bratislava. In 1979 - 83 he studied at the Secondary School of Applied Arts in Bratislava. In 1989 he graduated at the College of Applied Arts in Prague. In his art works he mostly focuses on painting, nevertheless his creativity also goes as far as the illustrations for children. This young talented author presents himself by a distinct colorful and spatially perceived illustration. The general character of the illustration sympathetically complies with the spirit of a small spectator and it communicates with him on an equal level. Intentionally stylized and deformed small figures give the images a certain dose of humorous and grotesque flavor. Their characters, though, emit peace-loving messages, playfulness and comfort. The author treats the space and color with generosity, his compositions are based on the contrast of color empty spaces and on the other hand, on concentration of iconic and operative elements into groups that often leads to a certain degree of decorativeism. The author presented himself with illustrations of the book by W. Foster - "Krištof medzi pavkami" at the Bratislava Biennial of Illustrations 1997. For his work he was awarded the Prize of the Ministry of Telecommunications and Post for his stamp design in Tokyo, Japan in 1991 and the Second Prize at the international exhibition of free graphics in Haviřov in 1992. At present he lives and works in Prague.

Exhibited illustrations to the book:

Dana Podracká: „Nedočkávy prvák“ /The Impatient Schoolboy/, Mladé letá, Bratislava, 1998, watercolor, paper
Mária Dusíková: „Zlaté brána“ /The Golden Gate/, Mladé letá, Bratislava, 1997, watercolor, paper
Address of the author:
Černyševského 21, 851 01 Bratislava, The Slovak Republic
Brief characteristics:

OLGA BAJUSOVÁ

Olga Bajusová was born on September 8, 1954 in Liptovský Mikuláš. In 1978 - 84 she studied at the College of Fine Arts in Bratislava at the Department of Book Production with professor A. Brunovský. Upon graduation she devoted herself to illustration work, especially to books for children. She co-operates with publishing houses Bavič and Mladé letá. One can find her illustrations also in magazines for children /Včelka, Sniežka, Zornička/. The illustrator can be characterized by distinct colorfulness and resourcefulness which she wraps up into soft round shapes. Her intentional naive touch of images associates the depth of impressions of emotional relationship of the child perceiver and the world. For her illustrations the author was awarded the Honorable Mention in the competition "The Nicest Books" /1987/, the Bibiana Prize /1992/, "The Nicest Book of the Year" /1994/, the Prize of Mladé letá /1998/, a record entry into the honorable list of IBBY (1998). The very intentional as well as random loving nature reinforced by the watercolor technique bestowed Bajusová the popularity with the small reader just as well with the grown-up perceiver. Her work is introvert, quiet and fragile. It is an expression of the internal world of the author. Exceptionally valuable is the author's inclination towards work designed for handicapped children. It has been evidenced by the book "Five fingers on a Hand" full of emotional charge and understanding acceptance of the world of silence. O. Bajusová produces mostly for children of younger age groups. In their very small-big world she manages to freshly appeal to emotional cores of children. Her illustrations hide inside themselves the tenderness of mothers as well as the naivity of a small girl.



ĽUBOSLAV PALO

He was born on June 14, 1968 in Vranov nad Topľou. He studied at the College of Fine Arts in Bratislava as a pupil of the prominent Slovak illustrator, professor Dušan Kállay. For his accomplished illustration works he was awarded the Prize of the Nicest Book of Slovakia, the Diploma in 1994, the Prize of Matice Slovenská in 1998. He, as a young author of illustrations, participated in the Biennial of Illustrations Bratislava 1999 for the first time with his original illustrations to the book of J. Girard: „Muž, ktorý sadil stromy“ /The Man who Planted the Trees/. He developed as his means of expression the use of etching, aquatinta. The author's pieces of graphic art reflect the sense of diminutive shaping of details. Though they are borne in monochrome or two-color tones they manage to achieve, or may be this is why they achieve, an extraordinary perspective, depth and lighting effect. In any case the author is one of the promising talents produced in the department of free production - graphics and illustrations, in spite of the fact, that his illustration resembles more the nature of graphical pieces for the grown-ups.

Exhibited illustrations to the book:

Alexej Tolstoj: „Žltý klúčik, alebo Buratinovo príhody“ /Golden Key or Buratino's Adventures/, Mladé letá, Bratislava, 1999, combined technique, paper
Address of the author:
Tapeňárska 33, 851 05 Bratislava, The Slovak Republic
Brief characteristics:

DANICA PAULIČKOVÁ

She was born on January 13, 1953 in Bratislava. She studied at the College of Decorative Arts in Paris in 1991, at the School of Art in New York in 1997. For her painting work she was awarded the Grand Prix Arts Students League in New York in 1996. At the Biennial of Illustrations Bratislava'99 she presented herself by the book of A. Tolstoj, world-famous for his topic: Golden Key or Buratino's Adventures. The author uses combined technique, her illustrations are endowed with evident signs of painting style, into which she mostly invests her creative invention and for which she was also appreciated in the world. Nevertheless, she appeared at the Biennial of Illustrations Bratislava 1999 with her illustration work for the first time.

Exhibited illustrations to the book:

Božena Lenčová: „Jaskynja dŕvňých predkov“ /Cave of Bygone Predecessors/, publishing house of Matice Slovenská, Martin, 1999, combined technique, paper
Address of the author:
M. R. Štefánika 24, 902 01 Pezinsk, The Slovak Republic
Brief characteristics:

IGOR PIAČKA

He was born on October 8, 1962 in Trebišov. He graduated at the College of Fine Arts in Bratislava in 1989 and at the Academie Royal des Beaux Arts in 1988. For his illustration works for children he was awarded the prizes of the Nicest Books of the Year in 1985, 1987, the Prize of Martin Banka in 1990. The Prize of the BIB Children Jury in 1993. At the Biennial of Illustrations Bratislava 1999 he presented originals of illustrations from the book of B. Lenčová, „Jaskynja dŕvňých predkov“ /The Cave of Bygone Predecessors/. The author is typical in his exceptional approach to illustrations. He uses mostly combined technique that comprises painting and collage. He features distinct colorfulness that goes as far as exquisite depiction of images that find in their colorfulness almost an expressive outlook. Often his pictures look like self-standing, living independently from one another.

Exhibited illustrations to the book:

Alžbeta Verešpajová: „Súšivá mušľa“ /The Limping Shell/, Kristína Rybárová, K. Agency, Košice, 1998, Tempera, paper
Address of the author:
Lidická nám. 7, 040 01 Košice, The Slovak Republic
Brief characteristics:

TOMÁŠ ČEPEK

He was born on May 27, 1964 in Prague. He studied at the School of Applied Arts in Prague. Today he lives in Košice, Slovakia. This forms the basis for his artistic efforts that focus on illustration for children. At the Biennial of Illustrations Bratislava 1999 he presented for the first time the original illustrations comprised in the book of A. Verešpajová - the Limping Shell published by the Agency K. He used tempera as his artistic means of expression and with its use he colors with subtlety the pictures that feature distinct perspectives and views concurrently depicting environment in special dimensions and combining them with details. He notices the tiny elements /in this case the shells/ by means of human limbs and through shapes of shells, though without faces, he endows them with personalities of individuals strengthening thus at the same time the playfulness of these, almost decorative, elements.

Exhibited illustrations to the book:

Ján Ulčiansky: „Máma Ema“ /We have Ema/, Bavič , Bratislava, 1993, combined technique, paper
Ján Ulčiansky: „Veverička Veronka“ /Veronka - the squirrel/, Nona, Bratislava, 1996, tempera, pastel, paper
Address of the author:
Bauerova 18, 040 01 Košice, The Slovak Republic
Brief characteristics:

PETER ČISÁRIK

Peter Čisárik was born on July 16, 1958 in Topľice in the Czech Republic. Originally he was a theater and set designer and for more than 9 years he was attached to theater. He acquired the basis of his mastership at the Secondary school of Applied Arts in Košice, at the Department of Ceramics and later Graphics. In 1979 he started to study at the Department of Puppet Art and he graduated at the Academy of Fine Arts in Prague with his graduation work of set design to a fairy tale of Ján Mikláš "Hudci" presented in the Košice Puppet Theater. His personal victories in the area of scenes setting represent the drama pieces such as „Pukl“, „Šiestny princ“ /happy Prince/, „Golego“, „Malá morská panna“ /The Little Mermaid/, „Posledný kvet“ /The last Flower/ and especially "Krajina zázračno" /The country - Miracle/. In addition to theater he also dedicates himself to book illustration and sculpture - playing figures that are used as functional toys for children. These three areas of his interests can be considered as the basic ones. For his illustration works he was awarded the prizes: Honorable Mention in the competition "The Nicest Books" /1990/, the Prize of the Minister of Culture /1994/, the Nicest Books of Slovakia, the Nicest Book of the Year /1995/, the Nicest Book of the Bavič Publishing House, the Bibiana Prize /1993/ and for the illustration works the Prize of Ludovít Fulla /1997/. The author applies his limitless fantasy equally in theater as well as illustrations that are intellectual, tasteful, apt and refined with sophisticated elaborate humor. The books of J. Ulčiansky, an outstanding text partner of Čisárik, gained tremendous popularity. His contemporary language corresponds with the modernity of illustrations. Veronka the squirrel pops out as if from behind the stage set, a monstrous red Ema vice versa competes with surroundings of structural designs. The theater-oriented thinking and feeling of P. Čisárik transforms his „stage setting“ as well as his typical humor and wit into illustrations that acquire the flavor of plasticity and mysterious backstage atmosphere. P. Čisárik plays himself and plays theater in space. He is a big creative child that enjoys being that enjoyingbeing in this world demonstrating the later by each and every of his artistic deeds.

Exhibited illustrations to the book:

Maro Pográn: „Príbeh o prameni“ /A Story of the Well/, Liptovský Mikuláš, 1998, combined technique, paper
Address of the author:
Holubyho 16, 916 01 Stará Ľubňa, The Slovak Republic
Brief characteristics:

MIRO POGRÁN

Maro Pográn was born on April 24, 1964 in Bratislava. He studied at the College of Applied Arts in Prague. He chose oil as his means of expression. This beginning illustrator transforms into his work a courageous, not in the pejorative sense, more aggressive dimension of expression, he understands the statement of text and its artistic perception generously, putting the addressee-child on the equal level of the artist and wrapping him by means of artistic language into a kind of imaginary fireless aura. He presented his work at the international exhibition of Illustrations Biennial of Illustrations Bratislava 1995 in the book of Z. Kezičová, „Sinečný lúč Svetláčik“, published in the Doba publishing house.

Exhibited illustrations to the book:

Jonathan Swift: „Gulliverove cesty I“ /Gulliver's Travels I/, publishing house of the Spolok slovenských spisovateľov, Bratislava, 1998, combined technique, paper
Address of the author:
J. Smreka 10, 841 07 Bratislava, The Slovak Republic
Brief characteristics:

PETER UCHNÁR

He was born on August 11, 1970 in Sobrance. He graduated at the College of Fine Arts in Bratislava, the Department of Free Graphics and Illustrations, as a pupil of Professor Dušan Kállay. The author is one of the most outstanding young talents of the illustration art, evidenced also by the frequency, number and significance of prizes awarded to him in a short period of time: the Golden Pen in Belgrode 1999, the Prize of the Minister of Culture of the Slovak Republic, the Nicest Books of Slovakia 1999 and the prestigious prize Golden Apple BIB'99. He presented himself at the Biennial of Illustrations Bratislava'99 by the book of J. Swift, the Gulliver's Travels I, in which he demonstrated enormous sense of painting poetics, detail, spatial vision and empathy with the story. His extravagant, critically expressive and esthetically moving illustration is a reflection of his creative strivings.

Exhibited illustrations to the book:

Elena Čapčoková: „Meduška“ /The Little Honey Girl Bee/, Mladé letá, Bratislava, 1996, watercolor, paper
Rudo Möric: „O muške Svetuška“, /About Svetuška - the Little Fly/, Mladé letá, Bratislava, 1997, watercolor, paper
Address of the author:
Otvavská 1, 821 01 Bratislava, The Slovak Republic
Brief characteristics:

ALENA WAGNEROVÁ

She was born on June 22, 1959 in Hurbanovo. She graduated at the Secondary School of Applied Arts in Bratislava. She participated at the Biennial of Illustrations Bratislava 1999 for the first time immediately with two books: by E. Čapčoková, „Meduška“ and R. Möric „O muške Svetuška“. Both were published by Mladé letá publishing house. The author expresses herself through the technique of watercolor that reflects most adequately and truly to her perception the fragile topics of the world of small birds and insects. The author managed to fit her full-picture illustrations into the pocket bindings of both the booklets, illustrations that feature fresh colorfulness and lyrical light by which the images acquire the flair of intentional loving attraction.

CURATOR OF THE EXHIBITION AND AUTHOR OF THE TEXT: ART HISTORIAN BARBARA BRATHOVÁ
GRAPHIC DESIGN: SLAVOMÍRA PRINELOVÁ

Exhibited illustrations to the book:

Dorothea Lachner: Du wirst es Nord - Süd Verlag, Zurich, 1997, watercolor, paper
Address of the author:
Via Eleonore Duse 23, Florence, Italy
Brief characteristics:



MAJA DUSÍKOVÁ

Maja Dusíková was born on August 30, 1946 in Piešťany. She graduated at the College of Fine Arts in Bratislava. At present she lives and works in Italy, in her illustration works she uses watercolor by means of which she is able to conjure up a mysterious and affable poetics of a fairy tale shifted into a position that exerts lyric poetry by means of spectrum of colors radiating and illuminating through the illustration and concurrently softly passing from one to another. In connection with her works one should mention the book publications with which she participated in the previous two years of Biennial of Illustrations Bratislava: „Čerodajný púťáč“ /1992/, published by Spolok Š. Vajtecha in Bratislava; J.W.Grimm: Piccolo fiabe classiche /1993/, published by Finiani, in Bologna; Dorothea Lachner: Ein Geschenk vom Nikolaus /1994/, published by Nord - Süd Verlag in Gossau.

Exhibited illustrations to the book:

Isaac Bashevis Singer: Stories for Children, Grimm Press, Taipei, 1998, gouache, paper
Address of the author:
Lediny 34, 841 03 Bratislava, The Slovak Republic
Brief characteristics:

DUŠAN KÁLLAY

Dušan Kállay was born on June 19, 1948 in Bratislava. In 1966 - 1972 he studied at the College of Fine Arts in Bratislava at the Department of Free Graphics and Illustrations as a pupil of Professor V. Hložník and A. Brunovský and at the Department of Figure Composition and Landscaping as a pupil of Professor J. Želiezský. Since 1990 he has been active at the College of Fine Arts in Bratislava as a professor in charge of the Department of Free Graphics and Book Illustration. He devotes his work to free graphics, illustration, painting and drawing, Ex Libris, stamp design and partially also to poster design. In the course of 1970 - 98 he presented his work at more than hundred of exhibitions at home as well as abroad. Out of the numerous books for children that he illustrated, the most famous one and the most beloved by the author himself became the book of L. Carroll Alice in Wonderland that in its miraculous aspect enables the author a space for artistic images, fantasies and dreams, in which everything is unreal, allowed and possible. The author was awarded the Golden Apple BIB'73, Golden Apple BIB'75, Grand Prix BIB'83. Abroad his work was appreciated by the Prize of the Golden Pen in Belgrode in 1980, the Silver Medal IBA in Leipzig in 1982, in Barcelona he was awarded the prize Premi Catalonia d'Il·lustració /1984/ which is an appreciation for his pioneer entry into the field of illustration, just like the BIB prizes. Since 1983 he has been the holder of Ludovít Fulla Prize for his lifelong work and in 1988 he was awarded the medal of H. Ch. Andersen. We consider D. Kállay as our most famous and internationally recognized artist abroad. The number of illustrated books including the re-editions and foreign language mutations amounts to more than 200 titles. The work of Dušan Kállay is an expression of an absolute fine art vision and perception of the world. His figures, animals, birds and exceptionally sympathetic insects are bestowed with their unique smiling expressions, they communicate with the recipients, they become his equal partners. The author himself likes to play a kind of „theatre“ in reality vis-a-vis his friends. His modest, humane and sincere approach to people and the world is vivified by some kind of childish, but intelligent and playful creativity.

CONTEMPORARY SLOVAK ILLUSTRATION



THE ORGANISER :

MINISTRY OF CULTURE OF THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC
BIBIANA - INTERNATIONAL HOUSE OF ART FOR CHILDREN
BIB SECRETARIAT, BRATISLAVA
THE EMBASSY OF THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC IN OSLO
STIFTELSEN 3,14 FOR INTERNASJONAL KULTURUTVEKSLING
MUSEUM FJØSANGERSAMLINGENE, BERGEN

Exhibited illustrations to the book:

Jozef Pavlovic: „Lov slov“ /Words Hunting/, Matice Slovenská, Martin, 1997, ink, watercolor, paper
Address of the author:
Urbánkova 8, 811 04 Bratislava, The Slovak Republic
Brief characteristics:

MARTIN KELLENBERGER

He was born on October 11, 1957 in Bratislava. He studied at the Faculty of Pedagogy of Comenius University in Trnava, graduated in 1980. He became popular during the 80s through his artistic activity in giving the book for children its artistic finish. He derived much of his stimulation in the work of an editor in the publishing house „Mladé letá“. This author managed to push himself through in the area of illustrations in a conspicuous way, an achievement not easy to be attained nowadays. It can be described to his tenacity, swiftness and expressive color drawing as well as illustrator's concept design. Undoubtedly he learned also from the work of his father, a well-known illustrator of adventure stories. Into his illustrations he integrates also comic and humorous elements that manage to attract the small reader more and more. The author was awarded several prizes in the completion of „The Nicest Books of Slovakia“.

Exhibited illustrations to the book:

Alonka Janovčínová: „Ladulienka - snežná dievčatka“ /Ladulienka the Little Snowgirl/, Agency K. Košice, 1998, watercolor, pencil, paper
Address of the author:
Sofárikova 8, 040 11 Košice, The Slovak Republic
Brief characteristics:

DARINA KLIČ