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THE BATIKGUILD



drawings made with the batik technique on paper. Year round she is at Calligrane Paris (calligrane.fr/pages/melanie-dusarse).

Brigitte Gustafsson, (Strangnas, Sweden)

Congratulations to Brigitte for having her 'Reindeer' batik chosen for the month of December in the Batik Guild 40th Anniversary 2026 calendar.

Nella Horvát (Subotica, Serbia) Congratulations Nella, on having an honourable mention for your batik in the International Year of Batik figurative batik competition. www.batikinternational.com

Maria Magdolna Nadrowska (Cluj, Rumania)

Congratulations to Maria for being awarded first place in the Abstract category in the International Year of Batik competition. In August 2025, she presented a solo exhibition at the Bernády Gallery in Târgu Mureş, Romania. Entitled 'The Anatomy of Autumn', the exhibition featured a wide selection of works created with batik techniques on silk, alongside several pieces combining batik and eco-print processes. This body of work will be exhibited again in February 2026 in Baia Mare, known as the 'City of Painters'. See her article earlier in this magazine.

Valentina Pushkareva (Baden-Wuttenberg, Germany) is teaching some batik workshops. She also participated in a masterclass in Brussels. She finished a new piece of tulips to submit for an open call in Brussels. Her goal is to start showcasing batik at different exhibitions to bring more attention to the technique. But, being honest, at the moment she says she had only rejections. (Many batik artists find this. Rosi). She is determined to continue doing these attempts.

Congratulations to Valentina for being awarded an honourable mention in the Figurative Category of the Year of Batik competition.

Rosi has invited Valentina to share the role of Area 8 - Europe Representative with the idea of her taking over in the Spring. It is good to have younger members involved in the Batik Guild Committee.

Valentina is working on a series of new small artworks, which all began with a small painting she created in acrylic a few years ago called 'Mister Summer' which she later translated into batik. This piece became a kind of preparation for 'The One Who Creates' which was published in the previous issue. There, she used the same techniques, but on a much larger scale. Technically, 'Mister Summer' was meant to be a practice work, yet the result exceeded all her expectations.



Mister Summer

In her own words 'the image is mischievous and playful, yet filled with kindness. That kindness and warmth feels like something from childhood. In his mood, he reminds me of my grandfather, who always found kind words for us and eagerly joined our games. Then came "Spring Girl" – almost like a companion to Mister Summer. Where she came from, I honestly don't know. Complex and lyrical, she carries both beauty and a touch of unease. To me, this whole series feels almost mystical – as if the images come through me from some unknown space. And I know for sure: there will be more'.

Christina Szabo, (Szentendre, Hungary) had a wonderful trip to South Korea where she met Gu Kyung-mi, a South Korean batik artist and fantastic person! They spent hours in Gu Kyung-mi's studio while she was explaining how she works. She uses Korean rice paper and natural dyes to create her artworks. They had lots of fun and almost forgot to take pictures. Besides Christina's regular monthly workshop, she has been asked to do a Team Building Batik Workshop for a Pharmaceutical Company. This will be in November for 12 top managers.



Christina and Gu Kyung-mi

Ria van Dijk (Zoetermeer, Netherlands) was invited to exhibit her work on 17 August for only one day! Titled 'My Life in Batik', it was a lot of work to set up in only four hours - 9 am to 1 pm. Thankfully Ria had friends to help. She exhibited 60 works including children's clothes right through to her recent work. Approximately 200 visitors came to the exhibition. She sold the work in this photo below after the exhibition. The buyer preferred it as horizontal and not vertical as Ria had planned.

