

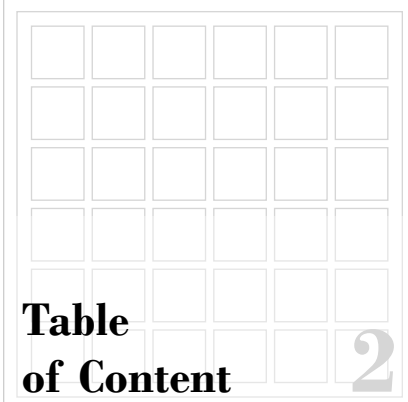


03 Mar 2025 – 14 Mar 2025

**Poems and Song Lyrics:  
Inspiration for Visual Artists**



**Poems and Song  
Lyrics: Inspiration  
for Visual**



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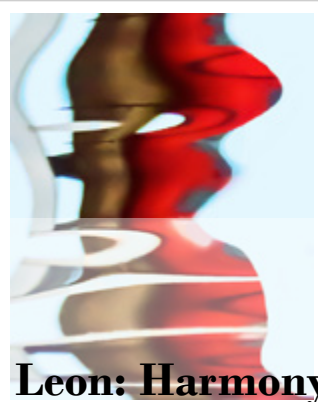
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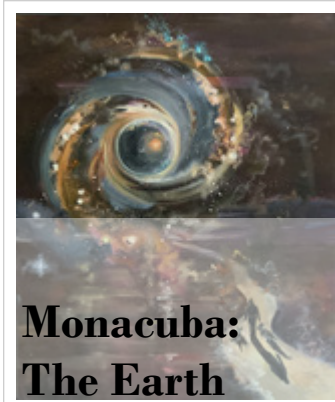
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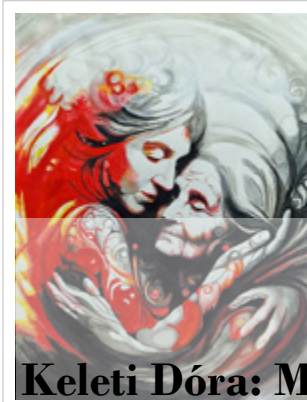
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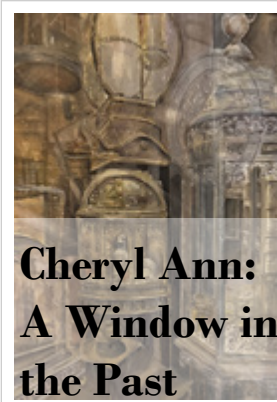
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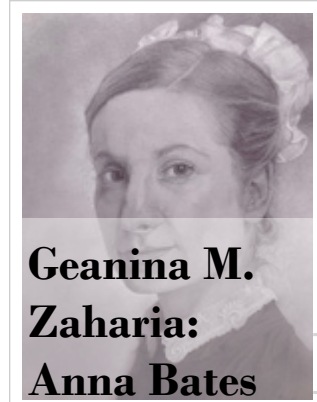
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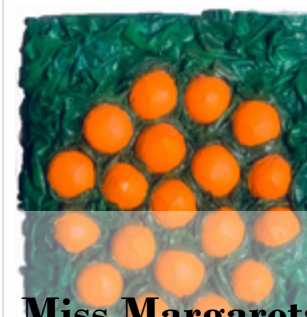
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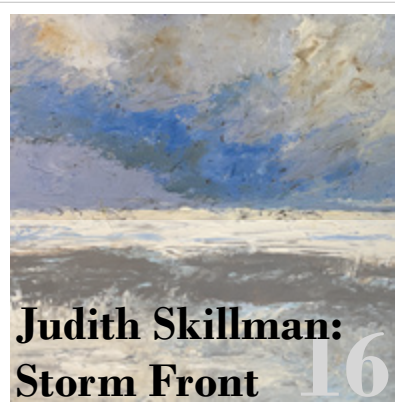
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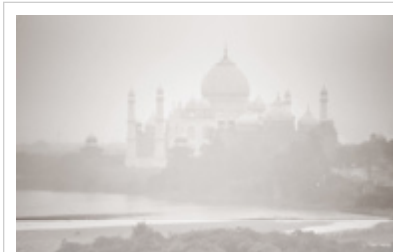
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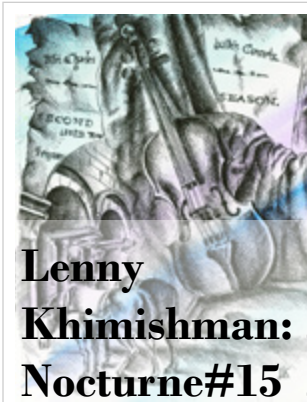
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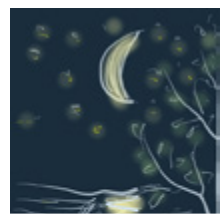
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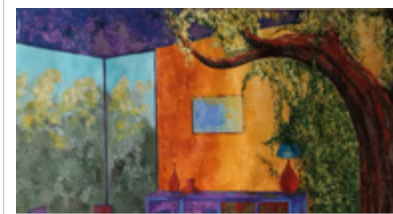
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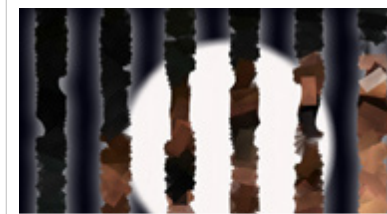
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## Exhibition Information

The history of art is full of examples of interrelation, “collaboration” and reciprocal influence between exponents of different artistic genres. We could mention poets, novelists and writers in general who have inspired their literature in visual artworks, such as the formidable influence of El Greco on Spanish and universal literature. We can also refer to the frequent exchange of ideas between Picasso and Stravinsky; and to how much the music of Tomás Marco inspired Joaquín Michavila’s paintings.

More recently we can talk about the “collaboration” between artistic partners, such as painter Emilio Vedova and composer Luigi Nono; or the one between painter Jackson Pollock and composer Raphaël Cendo.

But we want you to focus in this exhibition, on poems and song lyrics as sources of inspiration for visual artists.

We invite you to create and submit works of painting, drawing, engraving or collage, inspired by poems or song lyrics. That’s the challenge this time.

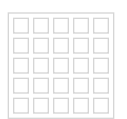
The resolution of the image of the works you will submit is of great importance, so that their quality and artistic values can be clearly appreciated by the Gallery and the curator. For this reason, images that have a minimum of 1500 pixels are recommended.

Just as important as the quality of the image is the text written by you, in which you will convincingly explain the relationship between your visual artwork and the poem or song lyrics that inspired it. We request to include as part of that text or description the fragments of the poem or the song lyrics that were your source of inspiration.

We want to emphasize that in addition to the artistic and creative values of visual artworks, the Gallery and the curator attaches great importance to the description you submit together with the image. Please take this into account.

Curator: Zaplaflora

Location: Online Exhibition



## TRAXI: Conversation with the Stars



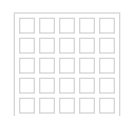
Art No: PP2961  
Artwork Dimensions:  
w: 30 cm (12 inches)  
h: 40 cm (16 inches)  
Year Created: 2021  
Medium: Acrylic  
Surface: Canvas

Inspired by: Song "Wealth" by rock band Tangra (Text by Alexander Petrov)

My work "Conversation with the Stars" is deeply inspired by the eternal Bulgarian song "Wealth" performed by the rock band Tangra. The song captures a poetic and philosophical reflection on the true riches of life — life under the stars, with a heart full of dreams and questions about the universe.

In the painting, the abstract window and vibrant colors symbolize the artist's "doorway" to the stars, echoing the text: "The window is my door and I walk towards them and question them" The girl looking up represents the dreamer in all of us, longing for a connection with the cosmos, asking eternal questions about love, art and existence. The stars shine as witnesses of our struggles and hopes, proof of the beauty of Life: "...there is the greatest wealth — one window and countless stars"

Through this artwork, I celebrate the song's universal message: our richest possessions are often our simplest—our dreams, our art, and the stars above.



# Alexander Kusenko: A Storm is Coming



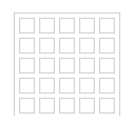
Art No: PP2966  
Artwork Dimensions:  
w: 100 cm (40 inches)  
h: 80 cm (32 inches)  
Year Created: 2022  
Medium: Oil  
Surface: Canvas

Thunder! Ivan Franko, 1880

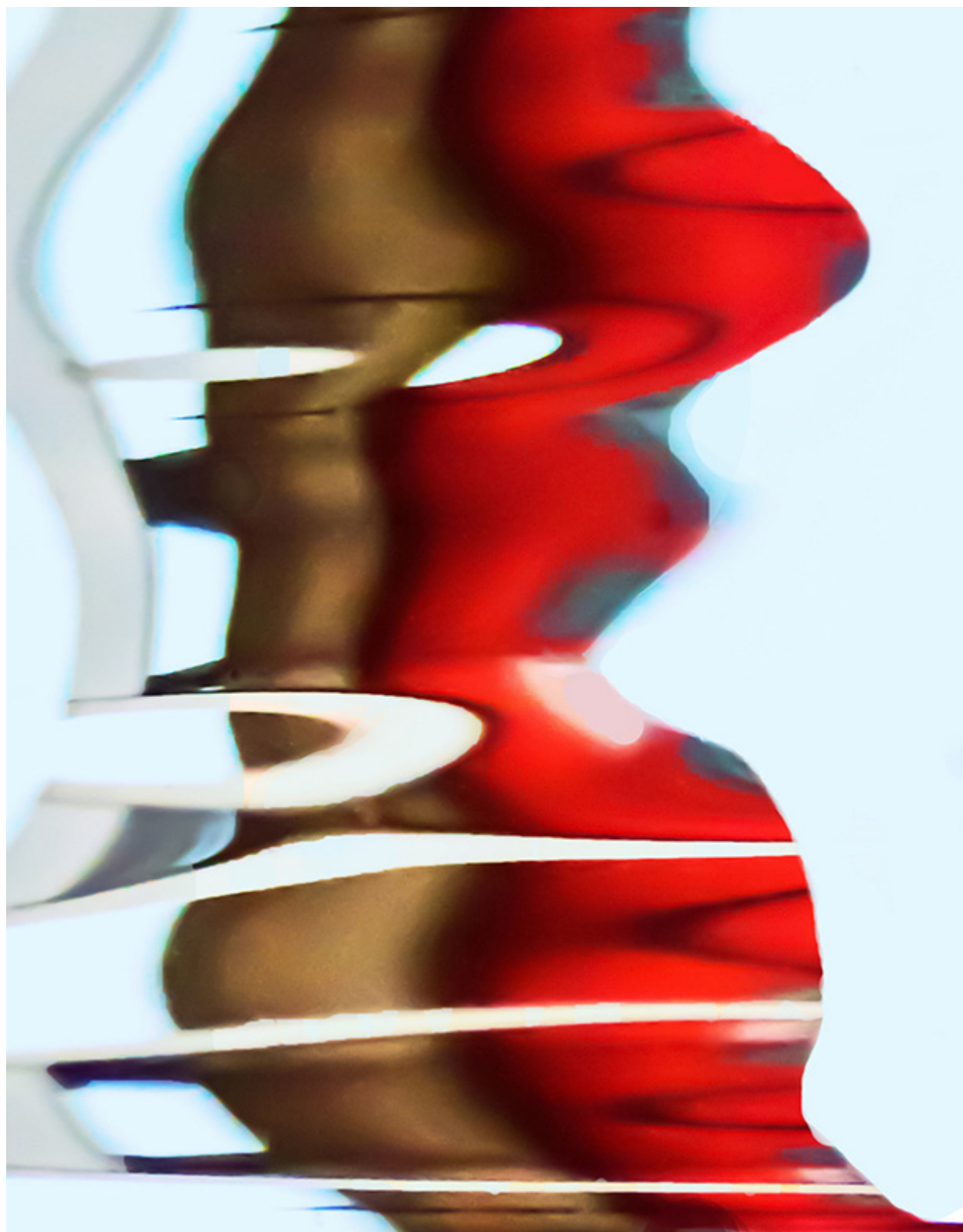
Thunder!  
The blessed season is coming,  
A luxurious shiver permeates nature,  
The thirsty earth awaits a fruitful downpour,  
And the wind walks over it, stormy,  
And from the west a dark cloud flies —

Thunder! Thunder!  
A mysterious shiver permeates the nations, —  
Perhaps a blessed wave is coming...  
Millions are waiting for a happy change,  
Those clouds are the shadow of a fruitful future,  
Which humanity, like a beautiful spring, will renew...

“A Storm is Coming” was created just before the invasion of my homeland, Ukraine—02/22/2022—like a premonition of trouble. It reflects my emotions and the shifting nature of life. From light to dark, calm to tension, the painting speaks beyond the artist. I am not a prophet, but may no one ever feel such anguish.



## Leon: Harmony



Art No: PP3023  
Artwork Dimensions:  
w: 27.94 cm (11 inches)  
h: 35.56 cm (14 inches)  
Year Created: 2019  
Medium: Other  
Surface: Paper

This photo was taken with the influence of a poem by Boris Pastorak "Winter Night".  
Love relations are only outlined with a few striking strokes: «clashing hands», «clashing feet», «heat of temptation». I. Far more important than «fate crossing», ie. the connection around the living true source of light of two single hearts.

Excerpt from the poem:  
The lighted ceiling carried  
A shadow frieze:  
Entwining hands, entwining feet,  
Entwining destinies.



# Monacuba: The Earth



Art No: PP3036  
Artwork Dimensions:  
w: 50 cm (20 inches)  
h: 60 cm (24 inches)  
Year Created: 2023  
Medium: Oil  
Surface: Canvas

Mikhail Lermontov

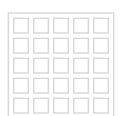
I`m alone on the path just taken...

1.

I`m alone on the path just taken;  
Glittering, it stretches through the fog;  
Quiet night. All harkens to the Maker,  
And two stars begin a dialogue.

2.

It is grand and solemn in the heavens!  
In the azure radiance Earth rests...  
Why then does my heart seem so heavy?  
Do I hope? Or do I have regre...



## Keleti Dóra: Mom



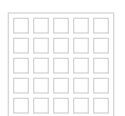
Art No: PP3042  
Artwork Dimensions:  
w: 50 cm (20 inches)  
h: 65 cm (26 inches)  
Year Created: 2024  
Medium: Acrylic  
Surface: Paper

The "Mom" painting was inspired by a very interesting coincidence. A dear friend of mine wrote to say that I should definitely read Mother, A cradle to hold me by Maya Angelou. Which, I have to admit, I hadn't heard of before.

In the poem, Angelou admits that as a child she did not fully understand the sacrifices her mother had made for her. As she grew up, she realised the unconditional love and strength of her mother, who supported her all the way. By the end of the poem, the mother remains not only a physical protector, but also a spiritual and emotional support.

The poem beautifully expresses the universal feeling that mothers quietly but powerfully shape the lives of their children, and that this love never fades.

Reading the poem, I had the irresistible urge to paint this picture.





## Cheryl Ann: A Window into the Past

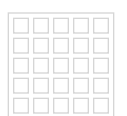


Art No: PP3069  
Artwork Dimensions:  
w: 50.8 cm (20 inches)  
h: 71.12 cm (28 inches)  
Year Created: 2025  
Medium: Watercolor  
Surface: Watercolor Paper

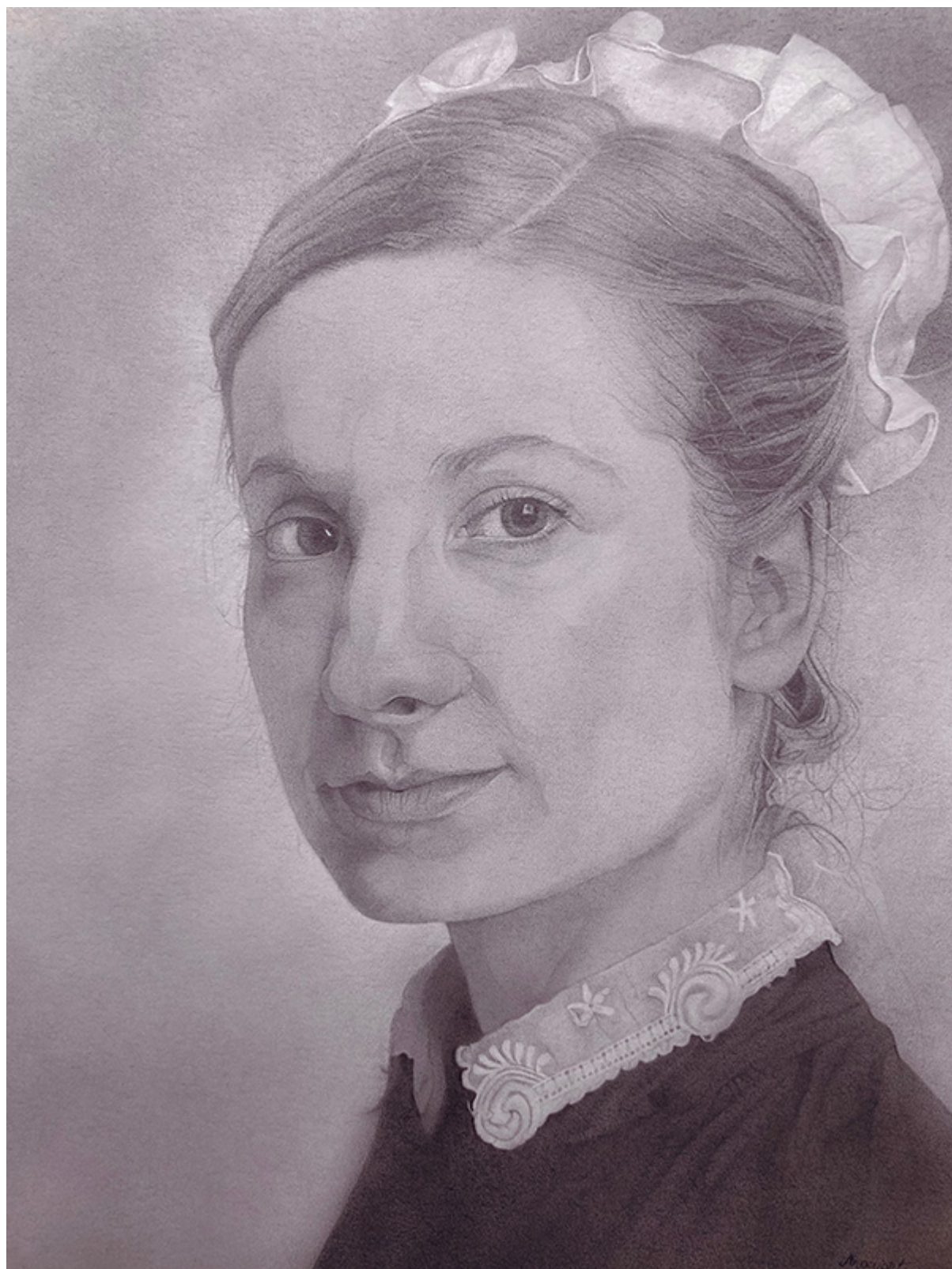
The watercolor was created to honor the City of Asheville. It is one of my favorite cities to visit and was saddened by the flood devastation. It is an interpretation of a window view of a storefront which was located near the edge of the town. I wanted to invite the viewer in and explore the objects from another time behind the window but also wonder what is real and what is a reflection. The watercolor is enhanced by touches of gold, silver, and copper leaf adding to the sense of a precious past that has been lost.

The poem by Andy Candler that inspired the piece:

...I open the windows,	Where do I store them
And drift in thoughts	On shelves of time?
Floating and tumbling	What if one slips
Through emotions caught.	Too dear to let it fly?



## Geanina M. Zaharia: Anna Bates



Art No: PP3046  
Artwork Dimensions:  
w: 11 cm (4.4 inches)  
h: 14 cm (5.6 inches)  
Year Created: 2024  
Medium: Pencil  
Surface: Paper

Poems and Song Lyrics: Inspiration for Visual Artist



This a handmade graphite pencil portrait drawing of a beautiful English maid, an artwork created on the musical chords of Downtown Abbey theme, composed by John Lunn, performed by the City of Prague Philharmonic Orchestra!

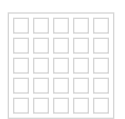
# Zbigniew “Ramsko” Kozłowski: Słowik



Gallery  
Award

Art No: PP3048  
Artwork Dimensions:  
w: 50 cm (20 inches)  
h: 70 cm (28 inches)  
Year Created: 2023  
Medium: Acrylic  
Surface: Canvas

Poems and Song Lyrics: Inspiration for Visual Artist



The painting “The Nightingale”, inspired by Hans Christian Andersen’s fairy tale, is full of symbolism and deep metaphors, referring to the theme of freedom, authenticity and the illusory nature of the world. The painting seems to ask what is real and what is artificial. It may refer to the fairy-tale contrast between the real song of the nightingale and mechanical imitation. The painting captures the spirit of Andersen’s fairy tale, but at the same time gives it a new, more contemporary and existential dimension. It is a reflection on authenticity, freedom and human nature, presented in a symbolic and ambiguous way..

# Zsami: My Dream



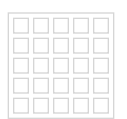
Art No: PP3053  
Artwork Dimensions:  
w: 50 cm (20 inches)  
h: 50 cm (20 inches)  
Year Created: 2024  
Medium: Oil  
Surface: Canvas

I love the dreamy, mystical works of the Pre-Raphaelite artists. They're a bit like Marquez's fairy realism to me. Among the Pre-Raphaelites I also like Dante Gabriel Rossetti, who was not only a painter but also a poet... His paintings have inspired many of my paintings. One, inspired by a passage from his poem

Dante Gabriel Rossetti The Blessed Damozel

poem excerpt

She cast her eyes along the flood  
She saw the deep flowers grow  
Whereon the Lord's feet rest  
From Heaven, with sweet perfumes they are fed  
The light thrill'd through her golden hair  
Into her bosom stray'd.



## Miss Margaret: Dance The Orange



Art No: PP3055  
Artwork Dimensions:  
w: 40.64 cm (16 inches)  
h: 55.88 cm (22 inches)  
Year Created: 2021  
Medium: Acrylic  
Surface: Canvas

This is a mixed media work using acrylic on cloth and coconut shells. The line is a line in my favorite sonnet, sonnet number one, from Rainer Maria Rilke's 55 Sonnets to Orpheus. The whole line is "Dance the orange! Dance the taste of the fruit experienced." The poem begins "Wait...that tastes good!" I think I liked the reference to happy taste and happy color combined with happy movement, it had an affect on me that I would describe as uplifting.



## Nina Litvin: A Lady with Fan



Art No: PP3058  
Artwork Dimensions:  
w: 55 cm (22 inches)  
h: 55 cm (22 inches)  
Year Created: 2025  
Medium: Oil  
Surface: Cardboard

This oil painting depicts a mysterious woman with a calm, intriguing expression. Soft tones highlight her features, while bold colors add depth. She holds a shimmering blue and gold fan, adding elegance and mystery. Nature blends into her form, symbolizing a connection between dream and reality. 'A Lady with a Fan' embodies grace, mystery, and quiet strength.

This is a translation of a poem by Yuriy Maimaksa that inspired me to create this painting:

I like the image of you, a lady with a fan...	I won't have such courage –	Your sweet look, with a little jolliness,
You are so painfully distant and close,	By touching feathers of the fan,	It seems to me a distant place of happiness!
You look so confident with it	To tell you of my love,	But I hope and I live as long
That I suppose I can't approach you!	That has already been tested by time...	As such lady waves a light fan!



# Krisztina Lőrincz: Spring Wind



Curator's  
Award

Art No: PP3059  
Artwork Dimensions:  
w: 100 cm (40 inches)  
h: 70 cm (28 inches)  
Year Created: 2025  
Medium: Oil  
Surface: Canvas

Poems and Song Lyrics: Inspiration for Visual Artist

"The spring wind sheds water, my flower my flower..."

This is an old, lovely Hungarian folk song (first line).

Spring is not only a time of rebirth of nature, but also a time of mating and love. This is the theme of a well-known folk song in Hungary called "Spring wind".

A simple, lovely little song. Freddie Mercury sang this folk song IN HUNGARIAN to a Hungarian audience at a concert in Budapest in 1986.



## Judith Skillman: Storm Front



Art No: PP3060  
Artwork Dimensions:  
w: 30.48 cm (12 inches)  
h: 30.48 cm (12 inches)  
Year Created: 2025  
Medium: Oil  
Surface: Wood

This painting was inspired by a poem titled Oppression, which appeared in Commonwealth Magazine.

### Oppression

Not the worst part, nightmares.  
Not the heat dome  
nor the same dun yard  
sewn to earth outside the glass slider  
with its pinch-pleated burgundy draperies.  
Twenty hyenas corner Red the lion  
on TV and no one interferes.  
Not the producer,

not the one with the camera  
nor the British narrator.  
The lion a done for.  
You can see it in his eyes  
as he makes little charges  
toward one or the other  
while they circle and laugh,  
yip, bite his back.





# Elena Zapassky: Taj Mahal



Art No: PP3061  
Artwork Dimensions:  
w: 40 cm (16 inches)  
h: 25 cm (10 inches)  
Year Created: 2020  
Medium: Ink  
Surface: Paper

Poems and Song Lyrics: Inspiration for Visual Artist

Charles Baudelaire: L'Invitation au voyage

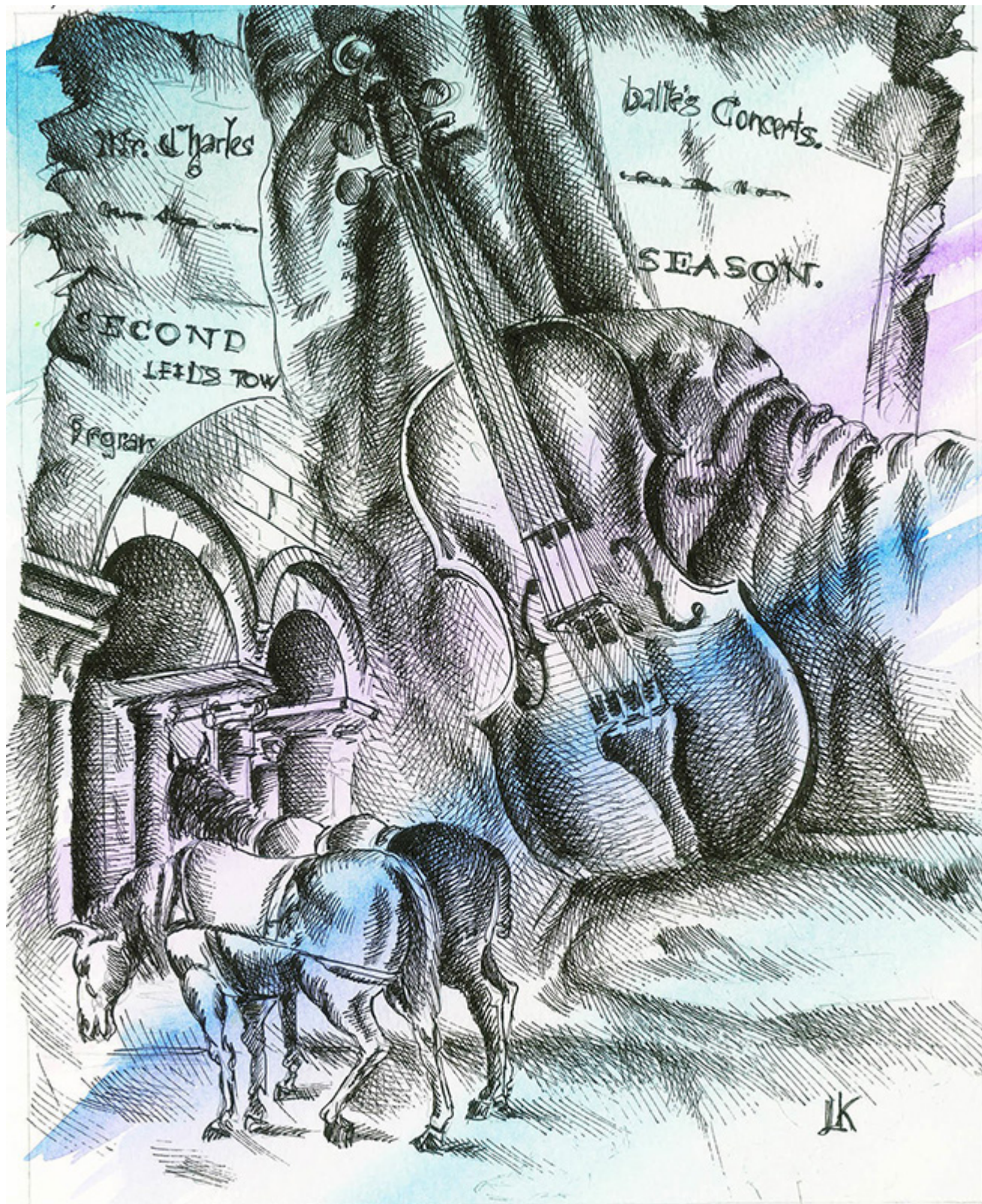
Mon enfant, ma soeur,  
Songe à la douceur  
D'aller là-bas vivre ensemble!  
Aimer à loisir,  
Aimer et mourir  
Au pays qui te ressemble!  
Les soleils mouillés  
De ces ciels brouillés  
Pour mon esprit ont les charmes  
Si mystérieux  
De tes traîtres yeux,  
Brillant à travers leurs larmes.  
Là, tout n'est qu'ordre et beauté,  
Luxe, calme et volupté.

Des meubles luisants,  
Polis par les ans,  
Décoreraient notre chambre;  
Les plus rares fleurs  
Mêlant leurs odeurs  
Aux vagues senteurs de l'ambre,  
Les riches plafonds,  
Les miroirs profonds,  
La splendeur orientale,  
Tout y parlerait  
À l'âme en secret  
Sa douce langue natale.  
Là, tout n'est qu'ordre et beauté,  
Luxe, calme et volupté.

Vois sur ces canaux  
Dormir ces vaisseaux  
Dont l'humeur est vagabonde;  
C'est pour assouvir  
Ton moindre désir  
Qu'ils viennent du bout du monde.  
— Les soleils couchants  
Revêtent les champs,  
Les canaux, la ville entière,  
D'hyacinthe et d'or;  
Le monde s'endort  
Dans une chaude lumière.  
Là, tout n'est qu'ordre et beauté,  
Luxe, calme et volupté.



# Lenny Khimishman: Nocturne#15



Art No: PP3063

Artwork Dimensions:

w: 40.64 cm (16 inches)

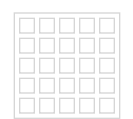
h: 43.18 cm (17 inches)

Year Created: 2017

Medium: Watercolor

Surface: Watercolor Paper

Poems and Song Lyrics: Inspiration for Visual Artist



## Keleti Dóra: Catharsis



Art No: PP3043  
Artwork Dimensions:  
w: 50 cm (20 inches)  
h: 70 cm (28 inches)  
Year Created: 2025  
Medium: Oil  
Surface: Canvas

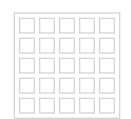
The “Catharsis” painting was inspired by (one of my favourite composers) Thomas Bergersen: Empire of Angels

“Empire of Angels” by Thomas Bergersen perfectly captures the essence of my painting, Catharsis. The music mirrors the journey from emotional suppression to ultimate liberation.

It begins softly, like repressed feelings struggling to surface, then gradually builds in intensity, just as inner strength grows. The climactic moment, with its sweeping orchestration, embodies the breakthrough—when emotions burst free in a surge of light and energy.

My painting visually represents this transformation, with fiery strokes symbolizing release and renewal.

This piece is not just about breaking through but about ascending to a higher state of freedom and self-discovery.



## Aleksandra Ciężyńska: Diamond Meadow II

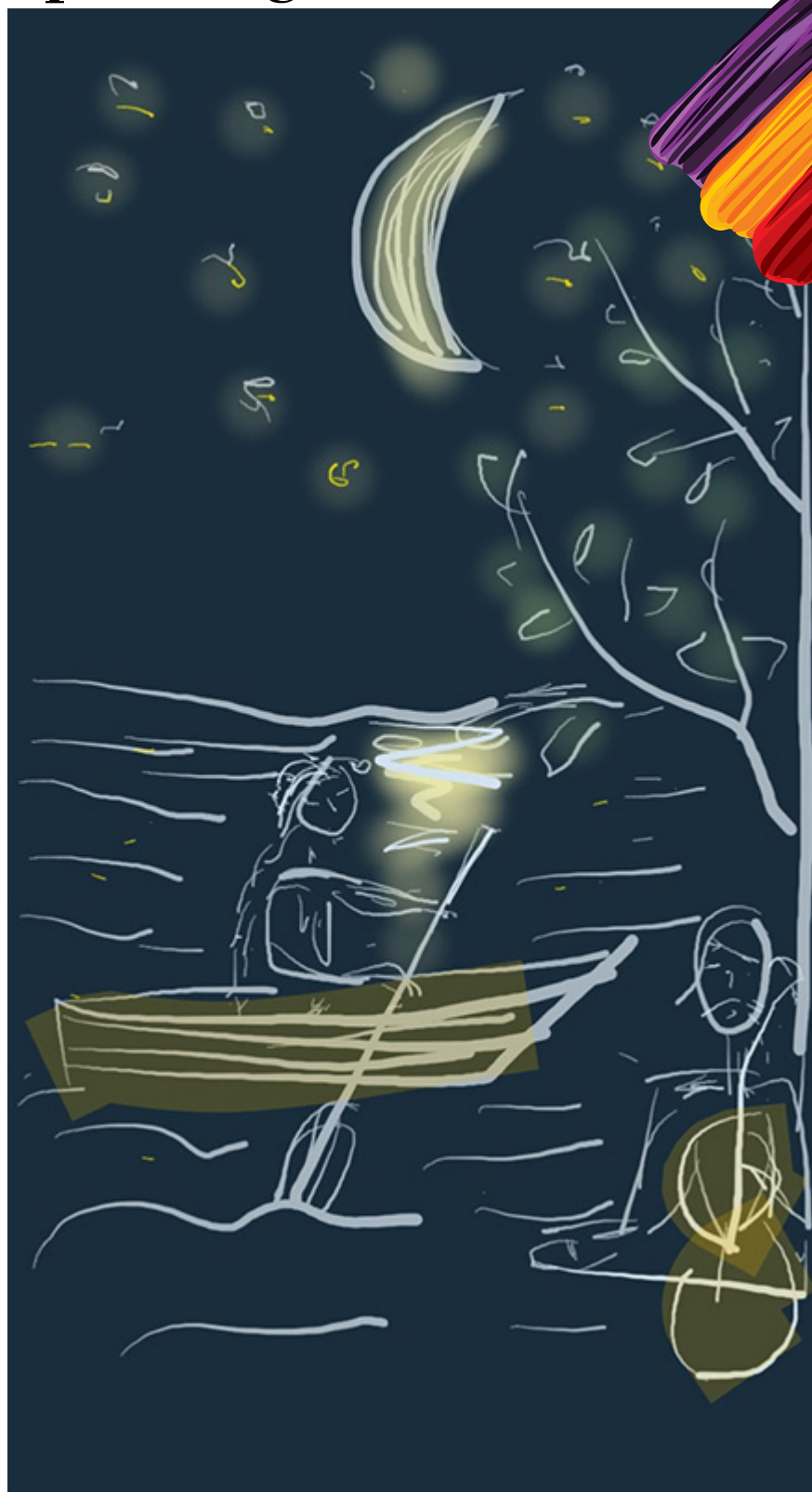


Art No: PP3070  
Artwork Dimensions:  
w: 70 cm (28 inches)  
h: 50 cm (20 inches)  
Year Created: 2025  
Medium: Oil  
Surface: Canvas



"Dandelions, kites, wind, a world far from concrete..." — these words begin the chorus of a song by Polish singer Urszula. This song is a celebration of life in harmony with nature among meadows far from the concrete world. It is a description of a beautiful world free from worries and all concerns. In my painting, I wanted to show this beautiful natural world.

# Lesya Shulga: The Moon on the Sky, the Stars are Sparkling



Popular  
Vote Award

Art No: PP3073  
Artwork Dimensions:  
w: 7 cm (2.8 inches)  
h: 11 cm (4.4 inches)  
Year Created: 2025  
Medium: Other  
Surface: Other

The best Ukrainian folk song about love.  
The Moon is on the sky,  
The stars are sparkling.  
The boat is sailing in the sea.  
The girl in the boat is singing her song.  
And kozak is hearing and his heart is melting...



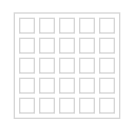
## Lili: Cuando La Mesa Se Acuerda...



Art No: PP3078  
Artwork Dimensions:  
w: 108 cm (43.2 inches)  
h: 98 cm (39.2 inches)  
Year Created: 2018  
Medium: Oil  
Surface: Canvas

Hamid Tibouchi's poem that says: "When the table remembers... when the chair, the cupboard, the sideboard remember... when they intensely remember the roots, their sap, their leaves, their tops... everything that lived within them, the nests and the songs, the squirrels and the monkeys, the snow and the wind (...) a chill runs through the house, which becomes a forest again." moved me. The tree speaks to us of mystical meanings, of elevation and eternal life, as evidenced by the symbolism of the tree of life developed in ancient cultures. I wanted to capture those feelings that its presence generates in me in a series of paintings called Brother Tree. As a mere instrument of the divine, I have tried to communicate that intense sensation of life, that great creative force, that latent energy, ready to materialize, that I sensed near the trees.

This poem by Tibouchi awakened in me that awareness of the nostalgia for wood, which was once a tree, transformed into lifeless furniture and objects.



## Steve: Quiet Night Thoughts

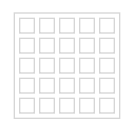


Art No: PP3082  
Artwork Dimensions:  
w: 25.4 cm (10 inches)  
h: 25.4 cm (10 inches)  
Year Created: 2010  
Medium: Other  
Surface: Paper

Li Bai (701-762), or Li Po, is one of the greatest masters of Chinese poetry, and 'Quiet Night Thoughts' is a beloved testament to his skill. It's often a first encounter for students of classical Chinese poetry, and likely the first that many of us attempt to translate.

In just twenty words, Li Bai captures a moment of waking wonder and deep homesickness. He sees moonlight, mistakes it for frost, and then is overcome with longing. This emotional simplicity is a hallmark of Chinese poetry, and this poem resonates deeply with me.

Quiet Night Thoughts  
Moonlight at the foot of the bed.  
Could that be frost?  
Head up... the moon.  
Head drooping... homesick.





## Curator's Note

First of all, I want to thank People and Paintings Gallery for this great opportunity to act as curator at the 34th International Juried Exhibition. Thank you so much for the trust placed in me.

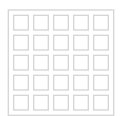
Unquestionably the theme of this exhibition "Poems and Song Lyrics: Inspiration for Visual Artists" has aroused great interest in artists from many countries. It has been a source of great inspiration. Thirty nine artworks from more than ten countries have been submitted.

It is worth highlighting the great artistic quality of the submitted artworks; the variety of content, concepts and designs; the diversity of styles and genres; and its great creative values.

So, my work as curator of this exhibition has not been an easy task.

Despite all this, I have had to select twenty artworks that in my opinion stood out for its artistic qualities above all, and I did this with great pleasure sure that they represent the spirit of this supportive competition.

Finally, I want to express here my wishes for success and great professional achievements for all the artists who enthusiastically presented their works. Many successes for those selected to exhibit at the Exhibition. For those not selected, may the enthusiasm to participate in new competitions, with works of high inspiration, great imagination and many artistic values, not fade.





## From the Guest Book

Guest: Thanks to the gallery and the curator for this wonderful exhibition!

Steve Slagle: Really enjoyed seeing the quality of all the artwork presented! Bravo!

Cosmina M Oltean: An excellent exhibition, full of fabulous artworks, harmonious, rich in color, emotions and expression. Congratulations to all the artists!

Guest: Beautiful art exhibition with great techniques diversity! Every single artwork tells a story. I m happy to be part of this project among talented artists! Thanks!

## Exhibition Results

The winners of the contest are:

Curator's Award — "Spring Wind", by Krisztina Lórinicz

Gallery Award — "Słowik" by Zbigniew "Ramsko" Kozłowski

Popular Vote Award — "The Moon on the Sky, the Stars are Sparkling" by Lesya Shulga

