

LA MAR D'IL.LUSTRADES

A SELECTION OF FEMALE ILLUSTRATORS AND VISUAL ARTISTS
FROM THE MEDITERRANEAN BASIN



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ORGANIZED BY:

10 years

FUNDACIÓ ASSEMBLEA DE CIUTADANS I CIUTADANES DEL MEDITERRANI (FACM)
FUNDACIÓN ASAMBLEA DE CIUDADANOS Y CIUDADANAS DEL MEDITERRANEO (FACM)
FONDATION ASSEMBLEE DES CITOYENS ET CITOYENNES DE LA MEDITERRANÉE (FACM)
MEDITERRANEAN CITIZENS ASSEMBLY FOUNDATION (MCAF)

مؤسسة مجلس مواطني و مواطنات المتوسط

IN COLLABORATION WITH:

MOSTRA VIVA
DEL MEDITERRANI



HISTORIJSKI MUZEJ
BOSNE I HERCEGOVINE



VALENCIA
WORLD DESIGN
CAPITAL 2022
Pont del Mediterrani award 2019
by Mostra Viva del Mediterrani

La mar d' il·lustrades

Coinciding with the designation of Valencia (Spain) as the World Capital of Design for 2022, the International Festival Mostra Viva del Mediterrani, sponsored by the Mediterranean Citizens' Assembly Foundation (MCAF), presented in its 2019 edition the exhibition "La Mar d'Il·lustrades" which shows the work of a selection of 18 female illustrators and visual artists from 18 of the 21 countries on the Mediterranean basin (Spain, France, Italy, Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Albania, Greece, Turkey, Cyprus, Syria, Lebanon, Israel, Palestine, Morocco, Tunisia and Egypt). The Illustrators and artists present their work through various styles and profiles, but in the group, common elements can be discovered when it comes to understanding the visual identity of the Mediterranean culture, this time through the women's gaze. **Curator: Tomás Gorria (gorria.info)**

This exhibition, which is integrated into Mostra Viva del Mediterrani Festival 2019 Edition as part of Pont del Mediterrani Award for Valencia World Capital of Design 2022, is presented at the 2020 Sarajevo International Winter Festival, in the sign of the Sarajevo Olympics of Culture 2021.

Artists and countries participants
In alphabetical order: Aicha Abouhaj (Morocco), Maria Chiara Banchini (Italy), Zeineb Ben Haouala (Tunisia), Diala Brisi (Syria), Florence Bouchain (France), Daphne Christoforou (Cyprus), Ana Hoxha (Albania), Tea Jurišić (Croatia) Sonya Korshenboym (Israel), Lejla Kučukalić (Bosnia-Herzegovina), Virginia Lorente (Spain), Irena Milačić (Montenegro), Theda Mimilaki (Greece), Deena Mohamed (Egypt), Samara Rana (Palestine), Vesna Skornsek (Slovenia), Büşra Üzgün (Turkey), Maya Zankoul (Lebanon).

As part of the cultural and artistic activities of the Sarajevo Circle of the Mediterranean Citizens' Assembly Foundation (MCAF), the realization of the exhibition "La mar d'Il·lustrades" in Sarajevo in 2020 is organized by :

Mediterranean Citizens' Assembly Foundation in collaboration with:

- International Festival Mostra Viva del Mediterrani (MVM - Valencia/Spain)
- MCA Sarajevo circle
- Sarajevo International Winter Festival 2020
- Museum of History of Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Alija Kučukalić Memorial Atelier Foundation (MAAK).
- Valencia World Capital Design 2022 (Pont del Mediterrani award 2019 by Mostra Viva del Mediterrani)

MOROCCO

Aicha Abouhaj



Moroccan self-taught visual artist based in Casablanca. A graduate in graphic design, Aicha began working in different communication agencies as a graphic designer and illustrator.

“I was constantly looking for original creations and strong graphic content”. Her works reflect characters with lines that recall the forms of tattoos and the patterns of her Amazigh culture, influenced by the work of contemporary painters such as Picasso and Matisse. Aicha is also a co-founder of the Electrofen association, which exploits and recycles obsolete electronic objects to create pieces of art. She has participated in several exhibitions and art workshops in different cities of Morocco.

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ITALY

Maria Chiara Banchini



Maria Chiara is an Italian illustrator based in Milan. Ex designer, Maria Chiara prefers clean lines and harmonious colors. In 2011, together with 7 fellow illustrators, she founded Studio Armadillo, where she

still works. Her training as a graphic designer is guessed behind each of her illustrations. Her images have several layers but they are clear, clever and elegant, conceptual and emotional at the same time. Her style is perfectly suited for children's publishing projects, book covers, international magazines and advertising campaigns. Now she is thinking of including fashion illustration in her portfolio.

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TUNIS

Zeineb Ben Haouala



Zeineb Ben Haouala is a Tunisian-Swiss illustrator born in Lausanne in 1982. Graduated in Graphic Design, she entered the world of communication agencies in 2007 where she worked as a designer and artistic director of an international group. She co-founded in 2017 a studio based in Tunisia and is

now dedicated to her passion. Zeineb explores styles and draws, in full color, the Tunisian cultural identity not as we see it but as we live it.

glibett.com

E - mail : zeineb@glibett.com

SYRIA

Diala Brisly



“Historical events in Syria and social problems in general have boosted the heart and axis of my work. I understand art as a means to empower people, and the themes that have crossed all my projects transversally are: social justice, the empowerment of women's

voices in war and peace, and a particular desire: to give voice to children, the least heard and the most vulnerable”.

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FRANCE

Florence Bouchain



"After graduating in Brussels (Belgium) I moved to Berlin and worked for several newspapers, magazines and digital media. In this field of editorial illustration, I am covering a wide range of topics, such as political, social and interpersonal relationships. Illustrating means enlightening, making complex things visible

and complete, and in my case I can also express, through illustration, my sense of humor. At times like the current times when the speed of information has increased dramatically, I appreciate this task as a true privilege. I think, as the popular expression says, that a picture is worth a thousand words."

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CYPRUS

Daphne Christoforou



Daphne Christoforou is a visual artist from Cyprus, with a particular focus on illustration. She graduated from the Royal College of Art in London and received the V&A Student Illustrator of the Year and Adobe Achievement Award in 2015. Her

work is based on the narrative and revolves around Buddhist teachings on unexpected impulses and emotions, interaction and human behavior. Daphne's artistic process begins with drawing and writing, which will later become ceramic pieces, and sometimes textile pieces. For Daphne, the process of producing art is transformative and reassuring, not only because of the process of generating pictorial representations, but also because of the possibility of channeling captivating observations and emotions through narrative work.

<https://feelondemand.com/>

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ALBANIA

Ana Hoxha



"I am Ana Hoxha, art director and independent designer based in Tirana, Albania. Since I was a girl, when I was still drawing pencil and I had no professional education, I would already know what the pattern would mark for my work: the use of geometric shapes to crea-

te and communicate concepts and ideas. As I transitioned to the digital arts, creative programs facilitated my exploration with colors that made me work and progress even more. I think that at this moment my designs are characterized by a strong expressive simplicity and the use of geometric shapes with a high dose of dynamism".

Behance Instagram: [@anahoxha](https://www.instagram.com/anahoxha)

Email: hi.anahoxha@gmail.com

CROATIA

Tea Jurišić



"I live in Osijek, (Croatia) and I love working with traditional techniques such as watercolor, pens and ink. I believe that digital work cannot replace the texture of blank paper, the trace of watercolor drops or the smell of fresh ink.

Everything around me inspires me, mainly new and strong feelings and people who come

and go from my life. I love black humor, strange situations and Frank Zappa, who has inspired me a lot. I work on what I love and this has helped me to understand that cultivating passion is the base of true success in life".

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ISRAEL

Sonya Korshenboym



"I live in Tel Aviv, I am a freelance designer and illustrator and my work is based on stories that I find in my daily life and in my emotional state. I find inspiration in everyday life and try to show it in a fun way. I like to work with large shapes and colored lines that show objects and characters in a

simple, childish and naive way. I think art should be honest and sincere and I try to follow this idea when creating my illustrations".

https://www.behance.net/sonya_korshenboym
korshenboym@gmail.com

SPAIN

Virginia Lorente



Virginia Lorente, born in Valencia in 1973. Architect and illustrator, member of the 2i2quatre studio and creator of the @typicalvalencia brand from where it is intended to disseminate the Valencian

heritage, both architectural and cultural. APIV member. Specialized in the field of illustrated architecture, urban landscape and illustrated maps, carrying out illustration projects for both public and private clients.

www.virginialorente.com
hola@virginialorente.com

BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA

Lejla Kućukalić



(Sarajevo). Multidisciplinary artist in the field of plastic arts, architecture, music, classical dance and research.

Postgraduated at the Faculty of Fine Arts, San Carlos, Polytechnic University of Valencia PUV

(Spain). Doctorate in art: produc-

tion and investigation, PUV. Her public work can be seen in the CEMA Environmental Center Torre Guill, Murcia, an exponent of Eco Art, while other of her projects focus on functional sculpture, the Mediterranean landscape, historical memory, plastic movement and graphic design, as well as in the monographic publication and articles on art. Author of the monography "Alija Kucukalic kipar: uz komentare umjetnika".

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MONTENEGRO

Irena Milačić



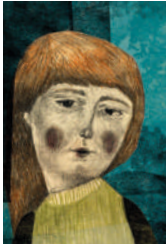
"I graduated from the Faculty of Fine Arts - painting department, although I had been working as a graphic designer for a long time. The last 6 years I spent working on the covers of books, support that I find really creative and ideal to connect all my interests in one: the link

between drawings, illustration and typography. Designing a book cover is a very interesting and inspiring work in which the main plot of a Work must be presented and also attract the attention of the reader".

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GREECE

Theda Mimitaki



Theda Mimitaki studied at the School of Fine Arts in Athens, specializing in painting. Other additional interests include graphic design, multimedia and engraving. She has participated in digital art festivals and joint exhibitions in Europe and Asia. In recent years, Theda has focused on the educational

aspects of visual arts in primary schools and the illustration of children's books. She loves to draw portraits, plants, landscapes and patterns. Her illustrations combine pencil drawings, watercolors, collage and digital painting.

www.behance.net/ThedaMimitaki

<https://www.facebook.com/thedamimitakiillustrator/mimthe@gmail.com>

EGYPT

Deena Mohamed



"I am Deena Mohamed, an Egyptian illustrator and designer, currently residing in Cairo. I started doing comics at eighteen, about an Egyptian Muslim superhero who addresses social issues such as Islamophobia and misogyny. My first graphic novel, Shubeik

Lubeik, is an urban fantasy about desires. When I'm not working on my own comics, I also do independent illustrations for local and international clients such as Viacom, UN Women, Nazra for Feminist Studies, Harrassmap and Mada Masr. I love working on projects that are involved in community development, awareness and outreach, as well as books for children".

<http://deenadraws.art>

E-mail: deenadraws@gmail.com

PALESTINE

Rana Samara



Rana Samara (Jerusalem) is a Palestinian artist graduated from the International Academy of Art in Ramallah (2015). The current moment of Samara's work - Intimate Space - explores social norms, sexuality, gender roles and other factors associated with contemporary Palestinian life. Her work

focuses on reflecting the less obvious factors that make up the daily lives of women residing in overcrowded refugee camps and in rural communities, women whose lives continue to be subjugated by both conservative traditions and the demands of life under occupation. Samara has participated in exhibitions in Ramallah, Jerusalem, Beirut, Dubai and Paris.

<https://zawyeh.net/rana-samara/>

SLOVENIA

Vesna Skornsek



"My greatest joy and challenge is to create theater or festival posters, book covers or simply illustrated artwork.

Mainly I create flat vector illustrations, using clean lines and vibrant colors, which can sometimes be mixed with different media to create the best final result. In addition to

commissioned work, I also love creating personal parallel projects that primarily combine animals, flowers and imaginary creatures from fairy tales".

www.vesnaskornsek.com

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TURKEY

Büşra Üzgün



Büşra is an illustrator and graphic designer with a studio in Istanbul. Her illustrations are characterized by the expressiveness and simplicity of their lines, but with special care for color and composition. She currently works as an art director for the Wixot agency, based in London and Istanbul.

She has been art director of several design studios in Istanbul, such as Lunapark or Onedio, specialized in animation and realization of Motions Graphics pieces. Her skills focus on various aspects of graphic work such as animation, typography or illustration.
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LEBANON

Maya Zankoul



Maya Zankoul is a Lebanese author and illustrator, known above all for her sarcastic cartoons and comics published in her books and her popular webcomic blog, Amalgam. She is inspired by the struggles of everyday life in her home country and uses a simple style to express her message. Her

latest publication, “Beirut - New York” presents a series of 40 illustrations comparing the two cities. Avid enthusiast, her illustrations also revolve around the theme of Lebanese cuisine, as can be seen in her calendar and poster series “Eat The Seasons”.
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Aitana Carrasco www.aitaneta.com



Mila Melank www.sarajevskazima.ba



Sandra Figuerola www.mostraviva.org

10 years



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The Mediterranean Citizens' Assembly Foundation (MCAF) is a network that promotes a citizen dialogue, proposals and actions. The MCA Foundation encourages democratic values of freedom, peace and respect for diversity, as well as environmental responsibility in the Mediterranean. The MCA Foundation is committed to the emergence of a Mediterranean community of peoples.

Contact:

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**MOSTRA VIVA
DEL MEDITERRANI**




**HISTORIJSKI MUZEJ
BOSNE I HERCEGOVINE**

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MAK
FONDACIJA
MEMORIJALNI ATELJE
ALIJA KUČUKALIĆ


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