The Abyss



LEONIART PROJECT II
International Exhibition of Visionary MailArt

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"The Abyss" | Monsenhor enVide neFelibata & Corrado Leoni
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The Abyss

Monsenhor enVide neFelibata (YZONK.com) [PORTUGAL] and Corrado Leoni (LEONIART) [ITALY] prepared a mutual artistic interchange where traditional mail_art and DigitalMedia dive into a melting pot to create the INEDIT Visionary mail_art.

LEONIART PROJECT



The LeoniArt Project is an International Exhibition of Visionary Art founded by the Italian artist Corrado Leoni in 2017.

The project was born as a last process of a vision of the art, where its leads can share their dreamlike emotions in a worldwide stage free from material and spiritual borders. The first exhibition took place in Genoa, Italy, at the historic Palazzo Doria Spinola and involved painters and photographers from 32 different countries. These artists form the starting point of the visionary community.

LeoniArt Project is a non-profit organization. We are a collective of artists that promote and inspire one another through our art-calls. Our vision of art is one in which photographers and painters can show their artworks at no cost. In return we encourage artists to spread the vision of the LeoniArt community by creating events under the same conditions in their own country.

While the second edition of the main project is taking place, some side events were born, called “LeoniArt Drops,” a glimpse of visionary art, made up of small exhibits and performances which lead the viewer’s up to the next exhibition of the LeoniArt Project.

#theabyss_leoniart

CORRADO LEONI

Corrado Leoni, LeoniArt, is an Italian visionary artist and the founder of the LeoniArt Project. At a young age, Leoni's calling for art brought him into the international stage, winning the first world aware "Save Venice," organized by Prora-Canon. As a visionary artist, Leoni performed various solo and collective exhibitions in Italy and abroad. In the last three years, his artworks have been exhibited in Porto (Portugal), Basel (Switzerland) and New York (U.S.A.). Leoni took part in The Contemporary Art Fair in Marbella, Spain, The Visionary Art Trip, in Belgrade, Serbia, and The International Poetry Festival in Genoa (solo exhibition "The Wheel of Rebirth").

In 2005 his painting, "The Wonderland Island," was chosen to represent Italy at the "Pyramide Europe" exhibition in Barcelona, Spain. Leoni painted the entire ceiling of the Jupiter Theatre for the ship, Costa Serena, where his painting, "The Jupiter Sky," was reproduced in large scale (2152 sq. ft) as permanent artwork. Leoni's painting "Scenes from Alexandria of Egypt" was used for the perimeter of the library in the ship, "Carnival Splendor".

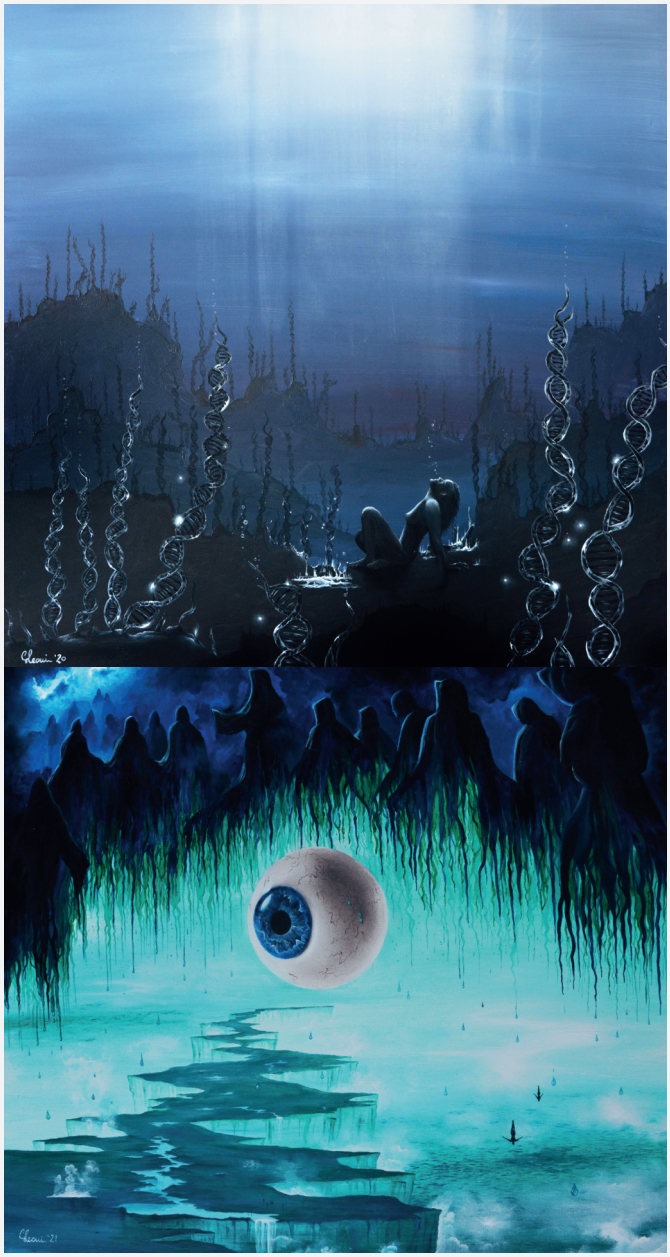
With twenty years of experience as a professional photographer, during



www.leoniartproject.org

which he conducted many reportages for different Italian and international magazines, Leoni founded the artistic movement “Kaleido,” together with the painter Roberto Bixio. In the 1990’s, he proposed thematic exhibitions based on metamorphosis and fantastic landscapes in a multimedia show. Static photographic images magically turned into pictorial artwork, giving a visionary sense to the lifeless object such as stones, iron scraps, tree branches, and elements that suffered the transformation of time and nature.

In 2019, beyond LeoniArt Project events, he will take part in the event “A Book About Death” at Islip Museum, New York. Special limited edition postcards of his work have been available for visitors.



MONSENHOR
ENVIDE NEFELIBATA

Monsenhor enVide neFelibata has specialized training in puppet theater, ceramics, engraving, and computer technology.

He has been involved in puppet theater since 1998 and is one of Teatro e Marionetas de Mandrágora puppet company founders, with regular activity since 2002. He is also one of the directors and teachers at Escola da Marioneta (School of Puppetry) and co-organizer of "Ei! Marionetas - International Puppet Festival of Gondomar". He is responsible for the art direction of this structure where he creates puppets, set design, props, teaches puppetry to adults and professionals of the area, collaborates with other puppet theater companies and public and private institutions. The work of its professional puppet company has already been presented at over 350 national and international festivals and gatherings in the form of shows, animations, performances, workshops, training actions, exhibitions, and art installations.



As an artist, he dedicates himself to the constant exploration of art desecration, provocation, collaborations, and conjoint creations with other artists. Researches, develops, and publishes techniques and materials of art expression applied to



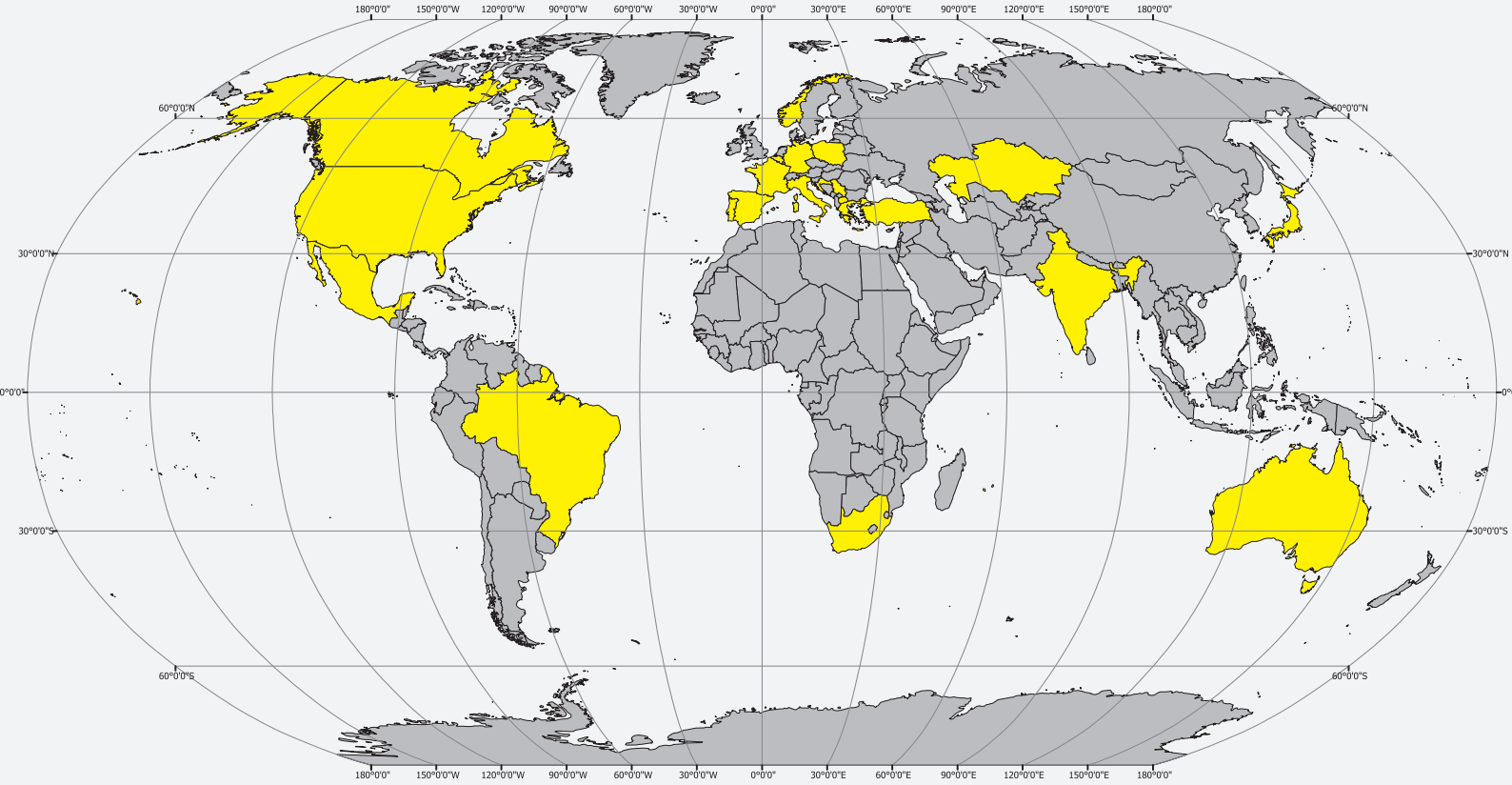


puppetry art. He has recently participated, organized, and curated exhibitions of mail_art and art_by_mail in galleries, museums, libraries, and unconventional spaces. Art consulting has also been carried out in the aspect of puppets as an element of artistic and dramatic expression.

Active mail_artist before even knowing of the existence of a word to define this artistic genre, he foments, since he remembers, the art exchange between professionals and aspirants. He also organizes itinerant collective exhibitions allowing national and international artists to show their works inside Portugal.
He also promotes free software and supports the open-source community by translating software into its native language.

And, behold, all things have their likeness; and all things are created and made to bear record of me; both things which are temporal, and things which are spiritual; things which are in the heavens above, and things which are on the earth, and things which are in the earth, and things which are under the earth, both above and beneath, all things bear record of me.
And thou art after the order of him who was without beginning of days or end of years, from all eternity to all eternity.
Behold, thou art one in me, a son of thy God; and thus may all become Gods.

LEONIART PROJECT II



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LEONIART PROJECT II

ARTISTS

BRENO BARROS	Brazil
CAMERON GRAY	Australia
CARLA STICHELBAUT	Belgium
CECILIA OSUNA	Mexico
DAVE BASS	United States of America
DENISE GOMEZ MARKOWSKI	United States of America
EDUARDUS	Holland
FRAN MARIN	Spain
GIZEM BULDAN	Turkey
JEAN GUY HINSE	Canada
JELENA KRSTIC	Serbia
JOÃO PEDRO OLIVEIRA	Portugal
KRISTINA	Kazakhstan
LADY MOONBROCH	United States of America
LEE BALAN	United States of America
MAMTA BARUAH HERLAND	India
MARICA SERVOLO	Italy
MARINKSY	Croatia
MARTA FRACKOWIAK	Poland
MAURICIO SILERIO	Mexico
MAURIZIO RE	Italy
MONICA PORRO	Italy
MONICA REX	United States of America
OLGA VARELI	Greece
PAOLA MISCHIATTI	Italy
PAUL HARALD SMITH	Germany
PEDRO BERICAT	Spain
PIETER VAN TONDER	South Africa
PLOIX STÉPHANE	France
R. J. POOLE	Australia
ROKSANA KIAS	Poland
SILVANO PERTONE	Italy
SVEIN IVAR ASK	Norway
SUSANNE SCHUMACHER	Germany
TAKAGI YUKIMASA	Japan
VALENTINA BARONI	Italy
VERLEY	Spain
VLADO GORESKI	North Macedonia

BRENO BARROS
BRAZIL

“Supernova”
photo, double exposure, 2020



I am Breno Barros, an amateur photographer from Belém, PA, Brazil.
I work mainly with nudes, using digital analog photography, although I prefer working with film. I have been working with nude photography for about ten years, almost in natural surroundings involving water and the Brazilian countryside. In my work, I try my best to promote the integration between subjects and nature, in order to associate both as a single matter, where nudity is considered a mere, natural part of the whole scene.

CAMERON GRAY
AUSTRALIA

“Brought to light”
digital art, 2016



ARIA nominated Australian artist Cameron Gray creates scenes of the human potential. His works portray a peek through the veil, asking us how we can be greater, live fuller and love deeper. From celestial visions to cosmic animations, Cameron is certainly a front runner in the digital art revolution. And with timing so divine, Cameron weaves together the dualistic aspects of light and dark, bringing them once again into a state of oneness.

CARLA STICHELBAUT
BELGIUM

"The Abyss"
digital art, 2020



Carla Stichelbaut known as C4U, is a self-taught artist that built her skills first in photography and digital media. Her unique surreal compositions often contain a hidden dark side. She found her way to traditional art by using charcoal and pastel techniques. The vibrant and delicate world of watercolor paintings brings out her love for nature. Her nudes express human vulnerability in a very identifiable way. For C4U, art is oxygen, a necessary connection to inner values.

CECILIA OSUNA
MEXICO

"The root of fear"
handmade drawing with digital colors, 2020



I was born in Mexico, a surreal country where death has a party and sadness disguises itself in color and sugar skulls. Art is everywhere, even on neighborhood store signs. My sensitivity has been submerged in that environment of contrasts, since my childhood I have enjoyed deciphering my emotions through painting, which became a habit and a necessity for me.

A graphic designer by profession, my artistic training is more intuitive and almost self-taught. My work consists of painting and illustration.

DAVE BASS
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

“The attic window”
photo manipulation, 2020



David Bass is a fine art photographer presently living in Western Wisconsin, USA. His current work focuses on the depiction and interpretation of the human form using traditional and experimental photography techniques, both analogue and digital. Special areas of interest include infrared, pinhole, instant, cyanotype, full spectrum and hybrid digital/analogue process where both are combined. His work can be found in numerous private collections and has been published and exhibited in the United States and Europe.

DENISE GOMEZ MARKOWSKI
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

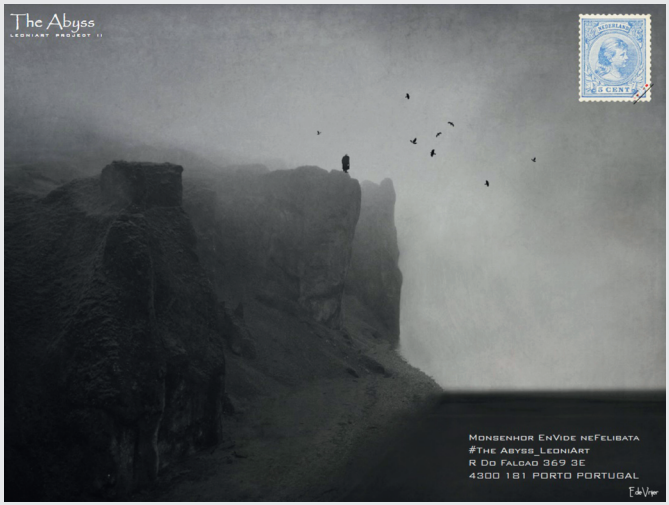
“The source” - installation, photography and digital art, 2020



Denise Gomez Markowski is a photographer, mixed media artist and jewelry designer from San Antonio, Texas. Markowski is currently a student at the Southwest School of Art, her love for nature, surrealism and history can been seen throughout her work.

EDUARDUS
HOLLAND

“The Abyss”
photo manipulation, 2019



In brief, I have worked in the graphic industry and have photography as a hobby. I am now retired.

FRAN MARIN
SPAIN

“New life”
digital art, 2019



My name is Fran Marin and I was born in Sabadell (Barcelona, Spain) on November 6, 1965. Barcelona inspires me in my photographic works. Photography and digital publishing are my great hobbies. Always with a camera in hand.

GIZEM BULDAN
TURKEY

“Galactic Abyss of the soul”
digital art, 2020



I was born in 1989 in Izmir city, Turkey, as a visual, emotional and musical artist. I recreate my soul on my artwork. I began to create surreal digital art at 2016 and it's been a part of my life. Besides, there is one more thing that's part of my life, it's music. Also, I like to sing.
Life is sometimes enjoyable, sometimes full of pain. But I always heal myself with art. I'm a dreamer, surrealist and spiritualist.

JEAN GUY HINSE
CANADA

“Within the mother of the sea”
digital art, 2020



For as long as I can remember, I have had the holy fire for photography. Being able to write with light has always attracted me. In 2008, I bought my 1st camera with several lenses, all used, to photograph the works of my wife artist, among other things. I trained mainly by browsing the internet. A diligent practice of photography gave me a lot of happiness. My favorite subjects remain birds, insects, animals and landscapes. On the other hand, macro photography remains my favorite technique.

JELENA KRSTIC

SERBIA

“Above the stars”
photo manipulation, 2020



My name is Jelena. I am 24 years old and I am from Serbia. I graduated from college last September and now I am pursuing a career in graphic design and video editing. I've always had a passion for art. It started from drawing when I was little, to doing fine-art photography and finally learning software programs for years to make it a hobby and a full-time job. Besides art, I love traveling and exploring new places, although Covid-19 has been making that difficult for obvious reasons.

JOÃO PEDRO OLIVEIRA

PORTUGAL

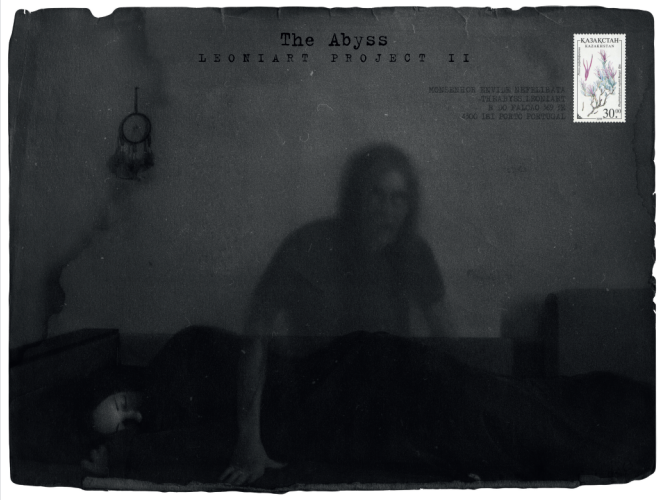
“Enter the Abyss”
digital art, 2020



Composer João Pedro Oliveira holds the Corwin Endowed Chair in Composition for the University of California at Santa Barbara. He studied organ performance, composition and architecture in Lisbon. He completed a PhD in Music at the University of Stony Brook. He received over 70 international prizes and awards for his works, including the prestigious Magisterium Prize, the Giga-Hertz Award, 1st Prize in Metamorphoses competition among others. His music is played all over the world.

KRISTINA
KAZAKHSTAN

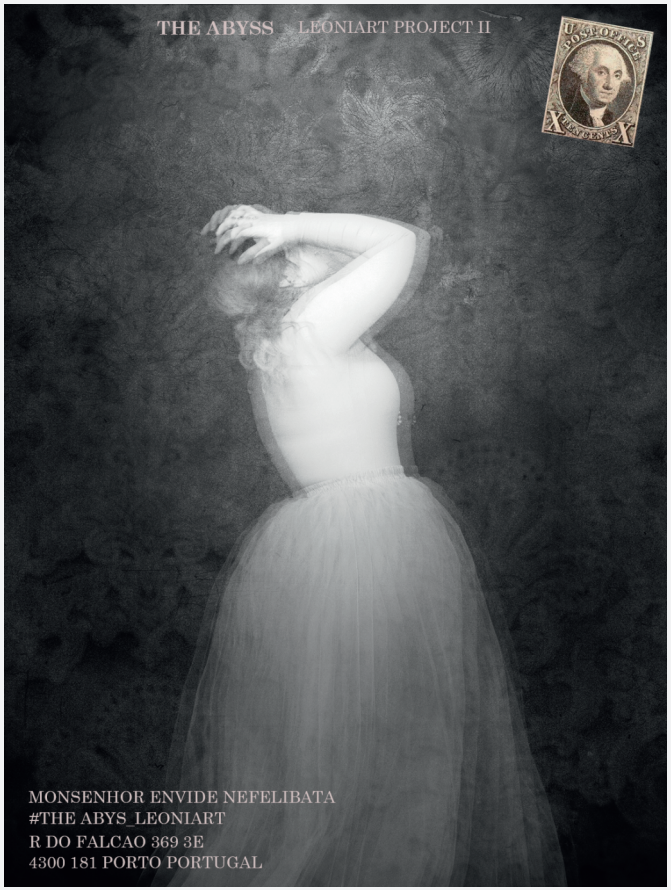
“Nightmare”
photo manipulation, 2018



My name is Kristina. I am amateur photographer from Kazakhstan. I take photos about my everyday feelings, doings… life. Some things cannot be said. I try to capture them in my photos. Photography tells without words, so I feel free in my story.

LADY MOONBROCH
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

“Dark Waters”
photo, 2020



Lady Moonbroch is a self taught visual artist currently residing in Portland, Oregon. Her dark, surreal imagery touches on concepts such as the ephemeral nature of life & inevitable death - as well as primal human emotions such as fear and sorrow. She turned to photography as a creative outlet for her wild imagination, to reflect her perspective on her own existence, and help others to feel less alone in their own. “I believe there is beauty in darkness - our light shines brightest against the shadows.”

LEE BALAN
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

“The Abyss”
digital painting, 2020



When Lee Balan was a child he believed he came from another world. He was always captivated by the urban landscape that seemed alien and threatening. Art was his refuge where he could create new worlds. He is a Surrealist, a multi-media artist using assemblage and digital-imagery. The constantly expanding metropolis is the inspiration for his art. The past, present, and future are written in the stones that comprise the city. “Cities emerge from a web of myths. Eventually every city succumbs to the outrages of time, lost forever.”

MAMTA BARUAH HERLAND
INDIA

“Eternity”
digital art, 2020



Mamta Baruah Herland is a visual artist born in Assam, India and presently lives in Norway. She works in various medium of arts: paintings, photography, digital fine art and video art, often incorporating sensitivity with existing technologies as part of a process to create works that can sometimes be defined as an art of synthesis. Her later work paints a visual connect between realities - a deep relationship between human and earth - a narrative space between the real and fantasy world.

MARICA SERVOLO
ITALY

“Giorgio Moiso”
watercolor and digital art, 2020



Italian watercolorist, born in Savona. Her artistic activity is full of active participations in collective and extemporary exhibitions in Liguria and Piemonte, Italy, but in recent years she took part in different exhibitions abroad.

MARINKSY
CROATIA

“Abyss”
photo manipulation, 2020



Marinksy (1991.) is an artist from Croatia; creating mainly in the fields of painting and photography; as well as animation and sculpture; often combining different techniques. Through a surreal atmosphere and a playful approach, works encourage reflection on everyday life; often seen through the position of the individual in society, questioning everyday actions, social norms and interpersonal relationships.

MARTA FRACKOWIAK
POLAND

“untitled”
mix media mailart, 2020



Illustrator, concept artist, painter, designer, teacher who actively which creates and paints digital images presents them on exhibition, prepares commercial projects and…
She is interested in social media, computer / mobile games, painting, drawing, photography, traveling, science, and various artistic activity. Digital painting is her greatest passion, she has been painting in this technique for 3 years…

MAURICIO SILERIO
MEXICO

“Seed”
digital art, 2017



Mauricio Silerio uses techniques like painting, drawing, engraving, sculpture, photography, photo-manipulation and digital art. He performed 77 solo exhibitions.

MAURIZIO RE
ITALY

“The angel”
photo manipulation, 2020



Photographer and professional graphic designer has collaborated over the years with local and national magazines Some books on his credits are "Le Cinque Terre, immagini di un mondo" editions Sagep, “Art and Archaeology of the time of the Pharaohs" editions whitestar and "111 places to know in Genoa" Emons editions. Free researcher in the field of Egyptology and on the history of travellers in Egypt in the 1800.

MONICA PORRO
ITALY

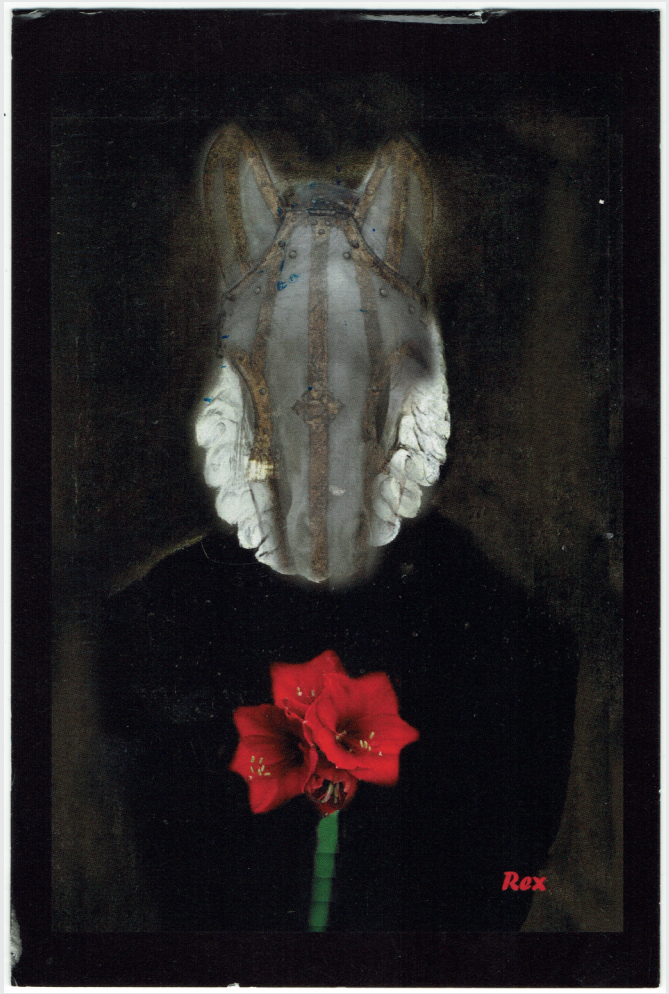
“L’essenziale”
acrylic on wood and digital art, 2020



Italian painter, Monica Porro lives and works in a little town in the north west of Italy, where she enjoys and lives in close contact with her favorite subjects: nature and animals that she paints on wood or paper with a light touch of imagination.
Her passion for drawing and painting started when she was very young. Reading manga and comics definitely inspired her deep interests for images.
She has displayed her paintings in solo and collective exhibitions in Italy, Europe and Philadelphia.

MONICA REX
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

“untitled”
mix media mailart, 2020



North American mail artist since May 2015. Currently lost in the Abyss between MailArt and ArtByMail.

OLGA VARELI
GREECE

“My way out”
photo manipulation, 2018



My name is Olga Vareli and for the last ten years I live on Crete island, Greece. I started as an amateur street photographer, and then I also took portraits of people. I have photographed several theatrical performances. But the love I feel for photo manipulation is so strong that I now devote my free time to this. I always care for my tales through an image, and the characters within it. I may combine several images for the final output, and as a story or a landscape takes shape during my photo manipulation, it is like a journey in a magical world for me. I participated in the UTOPIA festival in Athens, in 2018, held by the “DIAFRAGMA 26” photographic project.

PAOLA MISCHIATTI

ITALY

“PHOENIX”
photo, long exposure, 2016

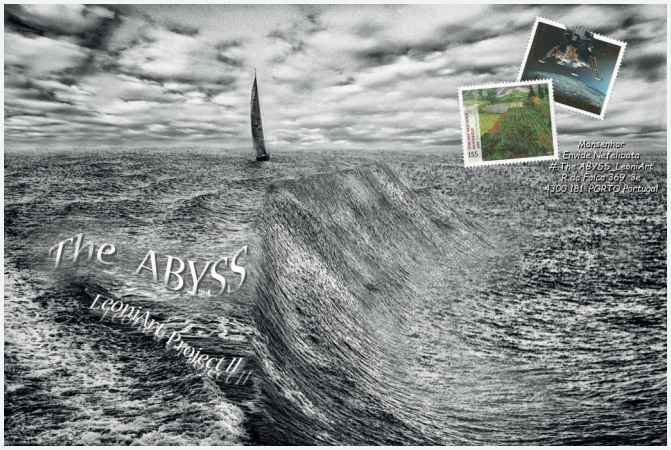


I was born as photographer, model and performer. I put myself at the disposal of my sensations, my moods, creating a quick scene, just not to get me off any single detail.

PAUL HARALD SMITH

GERMANY

“Wake me up”
digital art, 2020

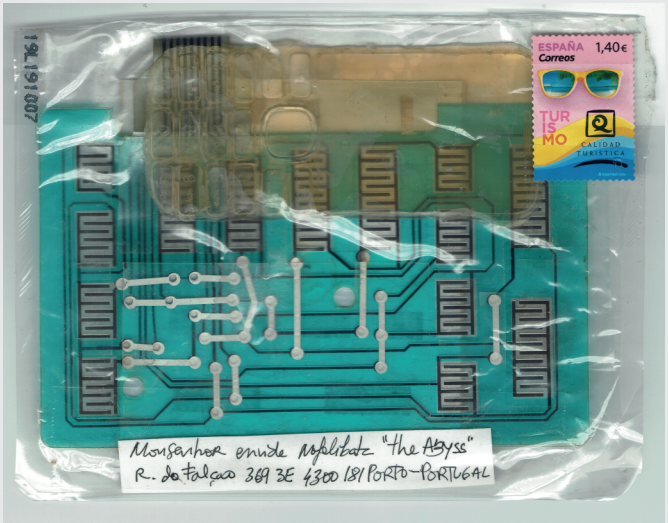


As a professional diver and later as a helicopter operator, I was always surrounded by grandiose and light-determining impressions. These constantly, sometimes indescribable changing influences, brought me first to sketches, then to painting, followed by a professional training in analogy photography. Here began my joy in experimental work in my own small B/W laboratory, according to the motto:, what happens when I taught myself the digital image processing. Now I can create in virtual space, from photos, images which tell their own and especially, their new story. As a retiree I teach at an art school and prepare my fourth photo exhibition.

PEDRO BERICAT

SPAIN

“untitled”
mix media mailart, 2020

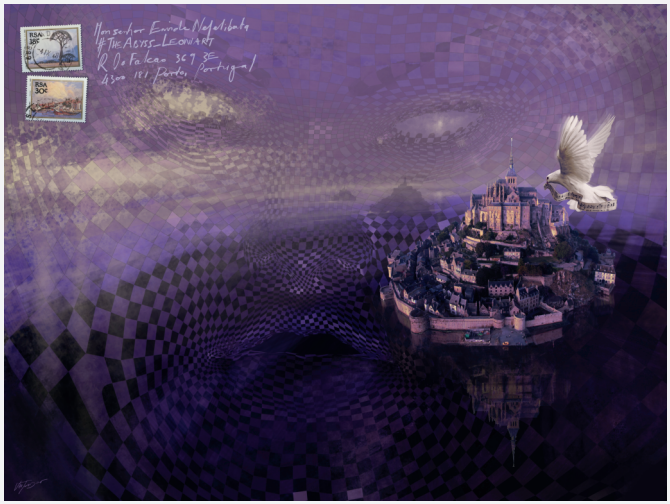


Pedro Bericat was born in 1953 and was largely inspired creatively by the 1970s. Conceptualism is often perceived as a reaction to Minimalism, and the leading art movement of the 1970s, challenging the boundaries of art with its revolutionary features. The movements that succeeded were all representative of a strong desire to progress and strengthen the art world, in response to the tensions of the previous 1960s. Process art branched out from Conceptualism, featuring some of its most crucial aspects, but going further in creating mysterious and experimental artistic journeys, while Land Art brought creation to the outdoors, initiating early ideas of environmentalism.

PIETER VAN TONDER

SOUTH AFRICA

“Immortalis”
digital art, 2020



I started painting, not with a very clear understanding of why, but rather driven by a firm belief that I should. It was clear from day one: I will have to create something of value; my own sustenance. I am an autodidact, worked as full time artist for 15 years and established a niche for my work; a unique nuance of surrealism. I specialize in oils. The subject material for my paintings I draw partly from revelation, or lucid dreaming, but mostly from conscious ideas resulting from a sensitive interaction with the world and a strong awareness of the undercurrents and trends that shape society.

PLOIX STÉPHANE
FRANCE

“untitled”
digital print mailart, 2020



R. J. POOLE
AUSTRALIA

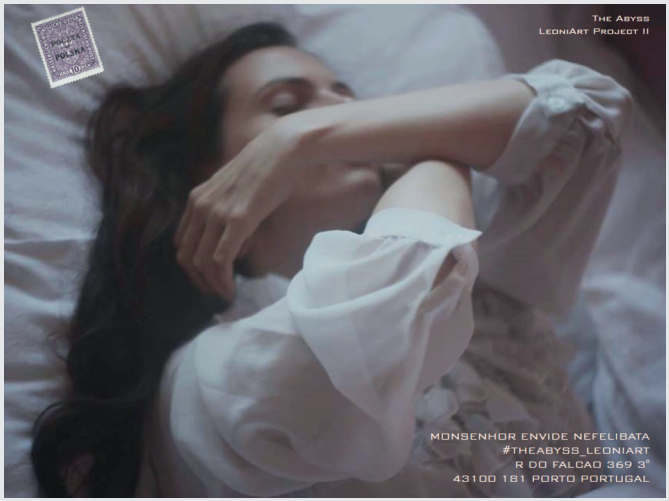
“We are all drowning together”
photo, 2020



Poole was born in Sydney NSW Australia in 1960. An autodidact by heart, RJ’s range of skills include digital photography, Photoshop, poetry, creative writing and teaching. His highly independent approach to art centers on his collaboration with various people who act as alter egos and through whom he projects the feminine parts of his psyche – the anima – creating an emotional balance to his earlier life as a soldier. This moving collection of images, the Anima Series, is RJ’s signature body of work. RJ lives, works and teaches in Lismore among the breathtaking countryside of Far Northern New South Wales.

ROKSANA KIAS
POLAND

“Laudanum”
digital art, 2016



Roksana Kias (other artistic name: Klara Mitfoch; real name: Katarzyna Kornas) - polish photographer and writer. Born in Wroclaw, currently she lives in Oława. She studied philosophy at the Pontifical Faculty of Theology in Wroclaw and pharmacy. Her artworks are strongly connected with her mental experiences, the childhood memories, an old fascinations - all of that left its deep mark on her perception and it is the most important and relevant lens used in the creation of her photography or novels. Her first photos were - mainly - self-portraits with knives and cold gaze. She wanted to show her darkest side and beautiful dresses, which she used to wear (afterwards, she had a very long periods of completely stagnation. Actually, she just came back into photography). It turns out her darkest side has not been discovered. When she understood this phenomena, she decided to take a look at herself deeper and deeper than ever before.

SILVANO PERTONE
ITALY

“untitled”
mix media mailart, 2020



Silvano Pertone, a well-known mail artist from Italy, who’s taking part in numerous mail art projects around the world.

SVEIN IVAR ASK
NORWAY

“Stone”
digital art, 2020



Svein Ivar Ask is a Norwegian PhotoArtist, living in a small town on Norway's southern coast. He started with oilpainting and watercolors. The last 6 years it has been less and less brushes and paint, and more and more photography. He works with PhotoArt, defined as « giving photos an extra artistic treatment, to make something entirely new”.

SUSANNE SCHUMACHER
GERMANY

“untitled”
digital print mailart, 2020



In my work I deal with questions of identity in a changing world. Contemporary photographs have been produced since 1980, films from 1996 and new media since 2004.
Studied at Leibniz Universitat Hannover.

TAKAGI YUKIMASA

JAPAN

“Cryptic night”
photo manipulation, 2018

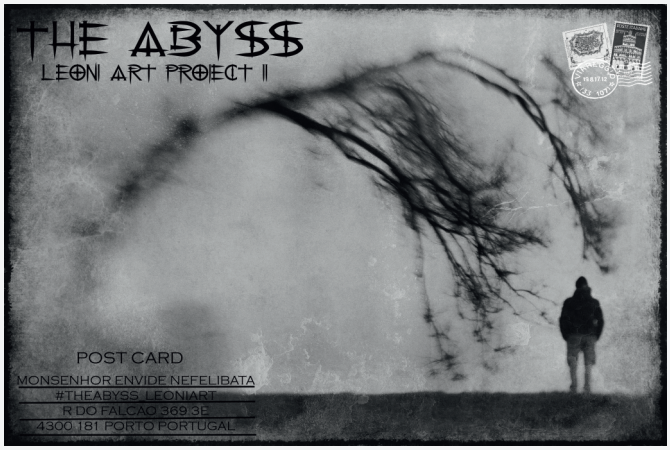


Site worker. Based in Tokyo.

VALENTINA BARONI

ITALY

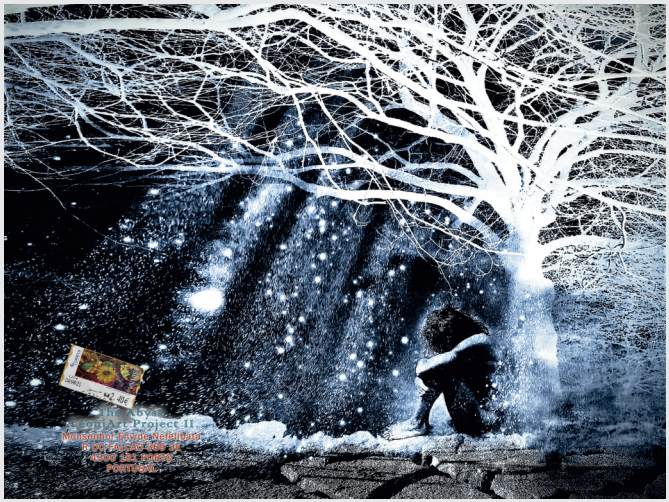
“The monster in me”
photography, 2020



I am a self-taught photographer from Italy.
What I love about photography is the opportunity to create a dreamlike picture of reality, the chance that I have to convey feelings through an image. I like to create my pictures mostly in-camera, that’s why I use Lens-baby tilt lenses or experimental techniques like out-of-focus and intentional camera movement.
I love old decaying places, moss covered cemetery statues, dark and gloomy dungeons, wild forests at dusk. All places where my imagination is tickled to create and see reality in a different way.

VERLEY
SPAIN

“Under the tree of good and evil”
photo manipulation, 2020

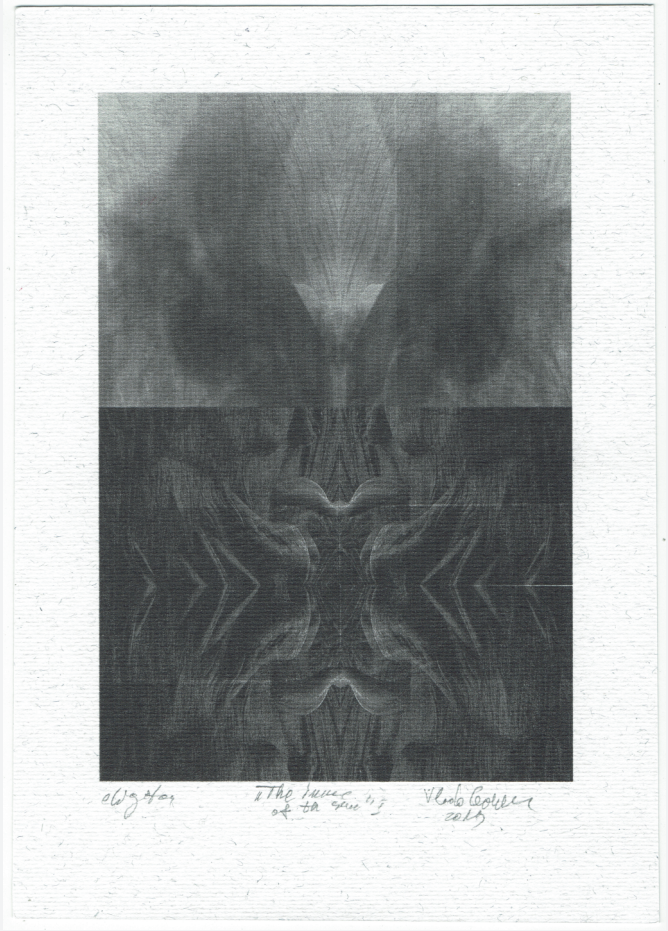


Esperanza Manzanera & Enrique Morey Moreno.

Born in Valencia (Spain), nowadays I live in Granada working as a Secondary Philosophy Teacher. A cinema lover and screenplay writer, I have directed some short films and I have been jury at a Documentary Film Festival. But lately, I am fully dedicated to visual art with the nickname of Velmock. I could describe my style as digital post production and collage.

VLADO GORESKI
NORTH MACEDONIA

“The Infinity of the Soul”
mailart, 2019



Macedonian and Slovenian graphic artist, artist, scenographer. He finished secondary school in Bitola, and he graduated at the Faculty of Philosophy - Skopje, Department History of Art at 1981. He has studied at the International Center of Graphic Arts in Ljubljana, Slovenia.

LEONIART PROJECT II

PORTUGAL AND ITALY COLLABORATION



Corrado Leoni's first contact happened during 2015 with the submission of a digital print of one of his oil paintings, entitled "Amore Perduto", to the second iteration of my very own first mailart open call, "desAmores" [www.desamores.yzonk.com]. Years have passed and he sent another piece for another mailart open call of mine, "Scriptum", regarding artist's books, visual poetry, assemic writing, and respective derivatives [www.scriptum.yzonk.com].

We kept exchanging emails and soon enough Leoni approached me with the idea of having his LeoniArt Project's second iteration happening in Portugal. It took us a few years to settle up the entire thing with a bunch of emails going both ways, as we were strict and rigorous with the tiniest detail. We also had to postpone it a full year 'cause of 2020's corona issue, so we kept refining this iteration.

I do still remember the first video call we had during 2021 and the weird feeling I had when the voice that I've imagined to his persona was exactly on point. Let us then say that in some sort of way we got to know each other through our art and projects.

Here we are in 2021 finally premiering our collaboration.

Corrado Leoni's professional background gives us a tremendous richness and oddity in his landscape scenarios, and my professional background brings a theatricality and performative interaction. And that's on those accents, that we also share, that we came to bring this iteration raging and commuting similar principles and points of view on the deepness of the human soul and mind that we so call the Abyss.

Upon request, a huge group of artists sent us their own view on the subject and after a selection, we came to have the exhibition that we present to you.

Enjoy as you will, and at the end of the day, it's just a matter of acknowledging what do you take into the abyss and what you carry back with you.

CURATORS	Corrado Leoni Monsenhor enVide neFelibata
PRODUCTION	LEONIART YZONK.com
CO-PRODUCTION	Teatro e Marionetas de Mandrágora Escola da Marioneta
EXECUTIVE PRODUCTION	Clara Ribeiro Filipa Mesquita
EDUCATIONAL SERVICE	Serviço Educativo da Divisão de Cultura e Museologia da Câmara Municipal de Espinho
MUSIC CONTRIBUTION	Gizem Buldan Can Ilter
PROMOTIONAL VIDEOS SUPPORT	Daniele Nicoli
EXHIBITION TECHNICIAN	Hélder Silva Migvel Tepes
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