

AMiCALE

presents



ART

CONNECTING

Welcome

The European Patent Office (EPO) is delighted to host the “ART connecting” exhibition organised by the Vienna branch of Amicale - the social club of EPO's employees - in cooperation with the Hellenic Industrial Property Organisation (OBI).

The exhibition, taking place from 30 November 2017 to March 2018, shows 34 artworks (paintings) created by officers from patent offices members of the European Patent Organisation.

An original idea of the Amicale Vienna and Ms Eri Manousou, OBI officer and painter herself, has evolved into an initiative to “connect” people and topics.

The quality of the artworks produced by civil servants of patent offices of the EPO member states shows the strong links between the topics of patents (science and technology) and art. Both universal languages linking people regardless its national and cultural background.

I would like to convey my thanks and recognition to Ms Manousou, Head of the Communication Department at OBI, Ms Rania Zacharopoulou, Communication Department at OBI, Mr Carlo Pandolfi, EPO's Director for European Cooperation and Mr Georgios Savorgiannakis, member of Amicale Vienna, since without their decisive engagement and contribution this exhibition wouldn't have been possible.

Enjoy and admire the artworks and creativity of the “patent-artists” compiled in this booklet.

Richard Flammer
Head of the Vienna Sub-office

Just a few , real, hart words...

Everything begins with a dream. Then, there is an idea, an inspiration, hard work and at the end.... the dream becomes reality. That's how creation works. An invention, a design, a piece of art.... an exhibition.

This exhibition began as a dream that could hardly become a reality. From an idea that was accidentally born by two people at a haphazard office meeting, followed by inspiration for how this could be realized and now, after hard work we have the pleasure to present it to you.

The challenge was to change the roles and among us, who are daily involved in our Industrial Property Offices with works of other creators, to find colleagues who wish to propose and present their own work. Now, 9 artists from 4 different Industrial Property Offices in Europe present 34 pieces of art in total, reversing the roles and becoming the creators. One could easily claim that what unites us are patents or designs. But this is only a starting point. The truth is that art is connecting us!


Watercolors, oil paintings, mixed techniques, themes and styles that vary, become our means of expression and communication with you. Through our works we try to express our thoughts, our dreams, our imagination, our feelings, our experience, our emotions, our inner world.

Personally, I am very excited and very proud of the cooperation that my Office, the Hellenic Industrial Property Organisation, had with the AMICALE of the European Patent Office for the realization of this idea. AMICALE deserves a big Thank You for the ideal cooperation we have had. I also thank all the artists who, with their enthusiasm and professionalism, helped in this quality exhibition.

We are very excited to welcome you as part of this exhibition, and invite you as communicants of our effort. Because art is connecting us...

Eri Manousou,
Curator of the exhibition

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 <p>österreichisches patentamt</p>	Hedvig Pongracz
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Hedvig Pongracz

Hedvig Pongracz was born in Tirgu Mures in Transylvania, Romania. Subsequent to a hazardous escape from her native country during the cold war where she had studied at the Academy of Fine Arts in Cluj, she studied at the University of Applied Arts Vienna.

Currently she is living in Mödling, a small town in Lower Austria and since 1993 has been a staff member of the Austrian Patent Office where she works in the PCT and Technic Department as an approved form examiner dealing with and being responsible for applications in the context of PCT procedures as well as PRIO patent applications. In her spare time she is an avid and passionate singer in the Vienna Jewish Choir.

Between 1981 and 1984, she participated in numerous exhibitions that were held in Tirgu Mures, Bukarest, Cluj, Timisoara, Baia Mare and Oradea with the artist group "Atelier 35".

For years she has repeatedly participated in several exhibitions with the group of artists "Der Steg" amongst others in Lower Austria and Vienna.





Das Ganze ist wahrhaftig mehr oder
weniger als die Summe seiner Teile
2008
Acrylic Oil on canvas
215 x 100 cm

Mag. Gudrun Strasser

Mag. Gudrun Strasser was born in Styria in 1979. After having graduated from Karl-Franzens-University in 2003 with a master's degree in law, she started into working life as a trainee at court in Graz.

In 2006, she joined the Austrian Patent Office where she works in the legal department for Austrian Trademarks. She is especially concerned with the examination of trademarks as well as deciding in opposition procedures. Since 2014 her work also includes the function of a lay judge at the Higher Regional Court Vienna.



Drawing and painting have always been one of her favourite hobbies. From 2001 until 2005 she regularly attended art classes held by the Styrian artist and caricaturist Peter Schrittwieser. During that time she discovered her affinity to animal-cartoons and -comics and improved her skills in various drawing and painting techniques (especially watercolour).

The birth of her son Bernhard in 2013 was a significant event in her life that quite changed her priorities and enriched her perspectives on life. Her son also inspired her paintings for the "ARTconnecting..." Exhibition with his creative wordplays.



KUGEL(A)KA[T]Z(I)E
Watercolour on mould-made watercolour board
17 x 24 cm



MAM[A]MUT
Watercolour on mould-made watercolour board
17 x 24 cm

Christel Heremans



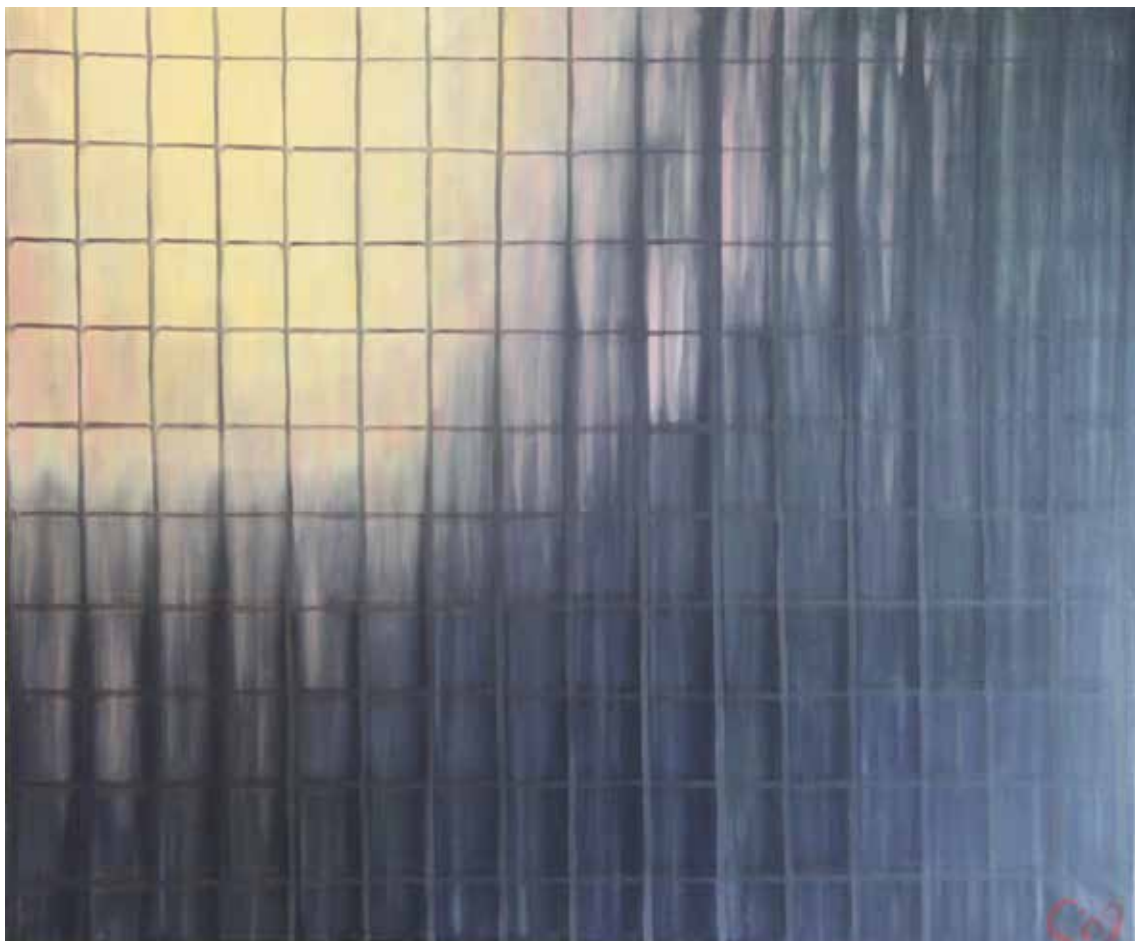
In addition to her work at the Benelux Office for Intellectual Property, Christel Heremans has always been painting. From early on, she draws and paints wherever she can. Her choice to study art history in Louvain stems from the need to learn more about the great world of arts, but at the university her creativity does not come to fruition. After her studies, she starts working at BOIP and in her spare time she picks up painting again.

After many courses, she ends up with the Dutch painter Richard van der Spek, where she continues to paint until his death in 2014. He inspires her to search for light and to observe reality.

Subjects for her paintings Christel finds during her many travels around the world. Not only the remains of ancient cultures and architecture, but also colors and things from everyday life find their way to her canvas. Her earlier work was more realistic. In her current work, Christel's impressions are translated into an abstract expressionist color palette.



De Coloribus I
2017
Oil on canvas
100 x 150 cm



Malfunctioning in Vienna
2009
Oil on Canvas
100 x 120 cm



Norns
2017
Oil on canvas
50 x 70 cm

Eri Manousou



Eri Manousou was born in Athens. She is a lawyer, and she has also been trained in Public Relations and Communication, as well as in Art History. She is Head of the Communication Department in the Hellenic Industrial Property Organisation (OBI). She speaks English, French and Italian. She has been involved in painting (since her childhood) as a self-taught painter and has participated up to now in 12 exhibitions in Greece (Athens, Crete, Peloponnesus, and Mykonos), Istanbul and New York. She is involved in “art and culture” activities: She is a full member of the Board of Directors of the Cultural Foundation of Petros and Marika Kydoniefs, in Andros (island of Greece). She is a founding member of the Association «Maria Callas Greek Society» and a member of its Board of Directors (aiming in creating a Maria Callas Museum in Athens). She is the mother of two children, and her hobbies are the Argentinean tango, opera and classical music, gymnastics, traveling and reading.

Description of the artwork

I passionately believe that “God gave the Art to humans as a consolation for their mortality“!!!

Art is creation, expression, a way of giving to the others, mystagogy, liberation, a spiritual and mental awakening, a path to the human immortality....

With all this in mind and soul, I always have been trying to express myself and offer to the others through painting feelings of joy, love, passion, hopelessness, fears, life

Pop art always attracted me. Completely naturally, it turned out to be the best way to express myself. Although I started using many colors which helped me to signify what I want to give through an artwork, I passed to a phase of using only two monochromatic colors, black and white or black and red. This intense dichromate helped me to show the contradiction and the passion in life, combining also a particular aesthetic perception. This way of expression led me to the comics

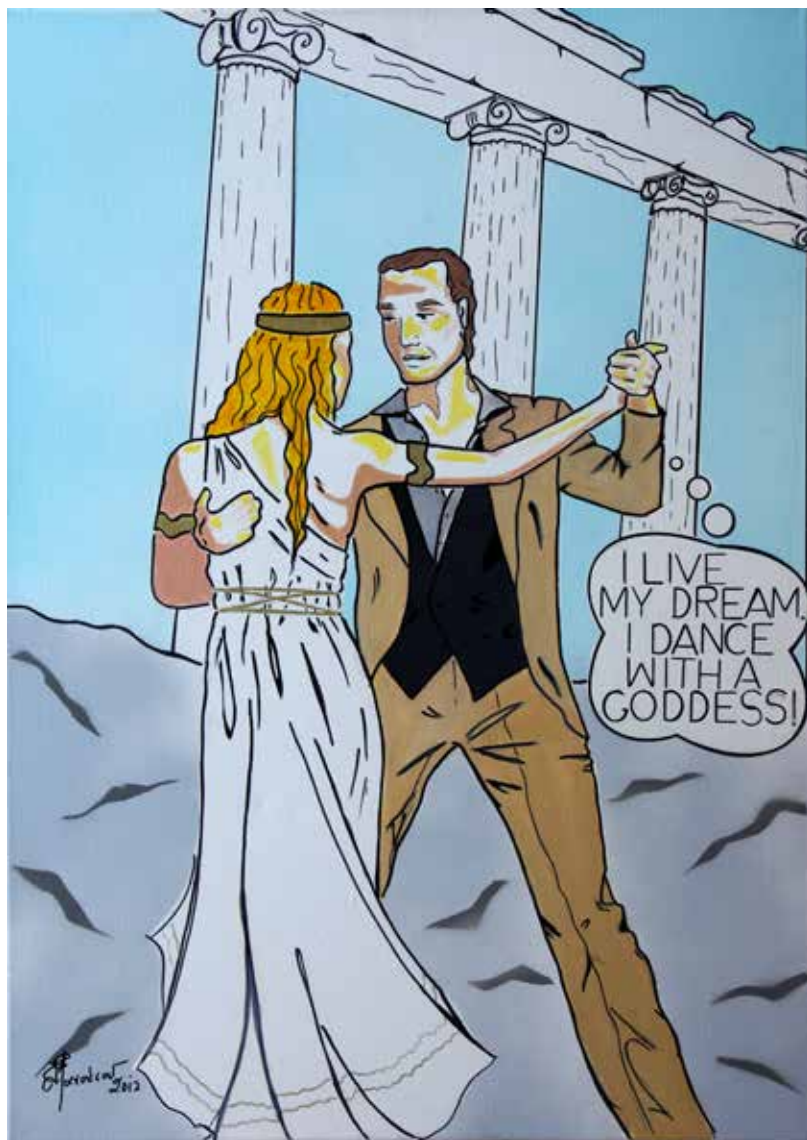
and back to the colors again. In the world of comics I find an endless liberty of such an alive expression!! Furthermore, through the comics there is an incredible possibility of communication, imagination and an alive representation of life.

Although oil on canvas was my first material choice (which I always admire, respect and appreciate and still use), I needed to explore more powerful materials. So, I used acrylic but this was not enough, and then I added spray, markers, pencils, whatever could help me to show power, life, vividness, immediacy. Now, in most of my pictures I use mixed techniques.

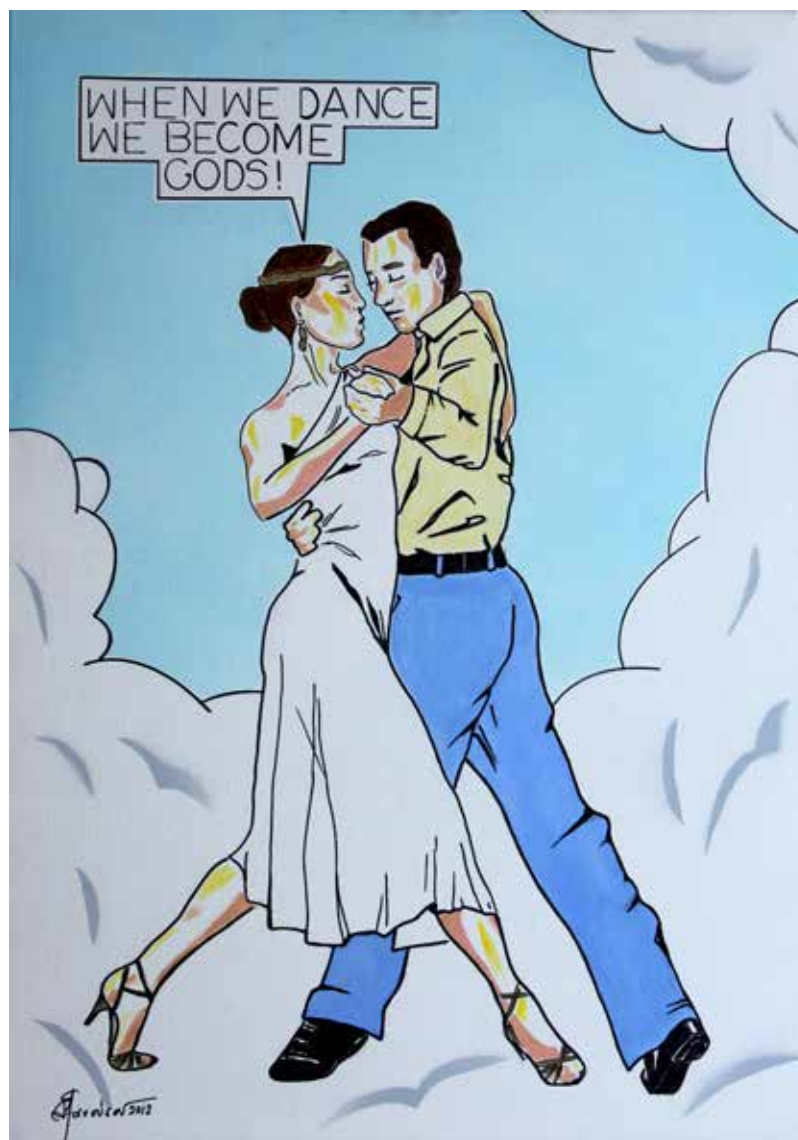
No matter the colors, the themes or the techniques, I would like to underline that the only focus in my work is the human being, the human life.



Life explosion
2012
Mixed technique on canvas
70 x 50 cm



Dance Dreaming
2012
Mixed technique on canvas
50 x 70 cm



When we dance we become Gods
2012
Mixed technique on canvas
50 x 70 cm



Springtime I
2012
Mixed technique on canvas
50 x 70 cm

Springtime II
2012
Mixed technique on canvas
50 x 70 cm



Dotina Theodora Simitsi

Dotina (Theodora) Simitsi was born in Athens. Graduate of Athens Law School, she has a D.E.A. and a D.E.S.E. in European Community Law at the CEU (Centre Europeen Universitaire, Nancy II University, France). She is a lawyer, working for the Hellenic Industrial Property Organisation (OBI), as Director of Legal Services and speaks English, French, German and Italian.



She has always been interested in art, and especially in painting. She has had private lessons and has worked in art classes, under the guidance of different artists, among which Giorgos Rorris , Evi Grammenou and Barbara Liakounakou, taking part in the art classes' group exhibitions.

Her paintings have usually warm and bright colors and seek to give her view of objects and moments of everyday life. The paintings that are presented in this exhibition prove it: Her favorite sandals, her two nieces on the beach, a friend posing.....



Summertime
2012
Acrylic on Canvas
40 x 60 cm



Havana
2015
Oil on Canvas
65 x 55 cm

Raincoat hanging
2015
Oil on Canvas
70 x 90 cm





Sandals
2014
Oil on Canvas
50 x 35 cm



Girl Sitting
2015
Oil on Canvas
70 x 90 cm



Portrait of a woman
2013
Oil on Canvas
40 x 50 cm

Mónica Castilla Baylos

Mónica Castilla Baylos was born in Spain. She is an Architect by Superior Architecture School of Politecnical University in Madrid (ETSAM). She has also studied at the “L'Ecole D'Architecture in Paris-La Villette”, France.

She is a civil servant, of the Superior Titles of autonomous organizations of the Ministry of Industry, Energy and Tourism with a specialty in Industrial Property.

In 2004, she joined the Spanish Patent and Trademark Office (SPTO) as a Senior Technician Examiner of the Department of Patents and Information Technology.

In 2010, she became a Senior Technician at Dissemination, Communication and Company Relation Division in Supporting Unit of DG (SPTO).

Since 2011, she is Head of Dissemination, Communication and Company Relation Division in Supporting Unit of DG (SPTO).

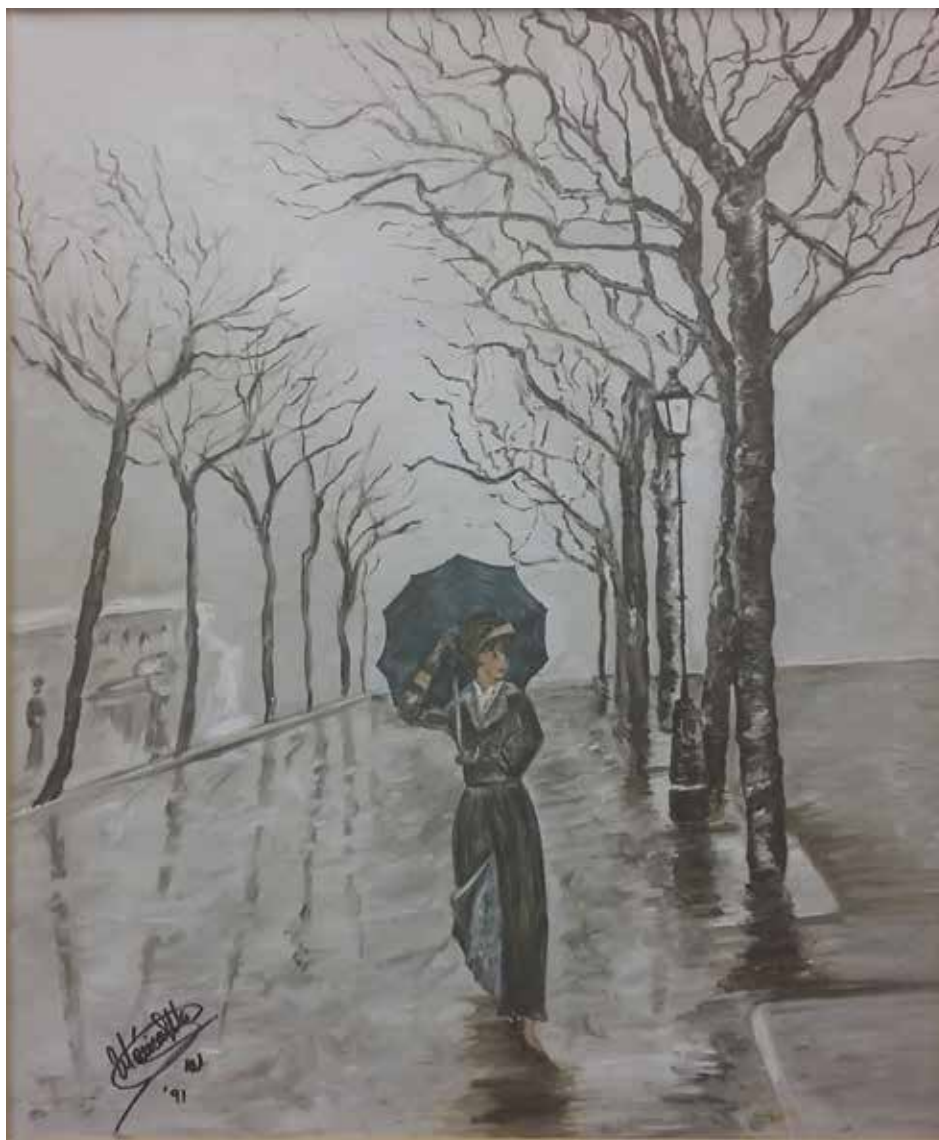
She speaks English and French.

Her artworks are a materialization of her early years' concerns to see nature with innocent eyes and the sweetness of that age. She misses having time to paint and to see the world as she saw it then.





Valencia
Oil on Canvas
32 x 22 cm



Autumn Landscape
Oil on Canvas
40 x 50 cm



Lake Landscape
Oil on Canvas
25 x 35 cm

Cinta Gutiérrez Pla

Cinta Gutiérrez Pla is a Senior Architect by the Technical School of Architecture of Madrid.

She is a career civil servant, Senior Graduates Scale of Autonomous bodies of the Ministry of Industry and Energy, with a specialty in Industrial Property.

In 2001, she joined the Spanish Patent and Trademark Office (SPTO), as a patent examiner (up to 2008). Currently, she is Head of Administrative Coordination and Citizen Attention.

Cinta's Gutiérrez Pla moto in art is "Look at the world through a window, make it prettier or explain to the world how you see it, how you feel. Each painting takes part of your life, not only for what you have painted, also for what you have lived while you painted it".





Cuba
Oil on Canvas
75 x 60 cm



grandmother
Oil on Canvas
80 x 65 cm



Road towards Colmenar
Oil on Canvas
90 x 60 cm



India
Oil on Canvas
70 x 50 cm



Archive
Oil on Canvas
60 x 50 cm

Coro Gutiérrez Pla



Coro Gutiérrez Pla has a Master's Degree in Advanced Studies in Modern History, Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, a Degree in Art History, Universidad Autónoma de Madrid (top of the year 2011) and a Degree in Geological Sciences, Universidad Complutense de Madrid with a specialty in Structural Dynamics Geology.

She is a career civil servant, Senior Graduates Scale of Autonomous bodies of the Ministry of Industry and Energy with a specialty in Industrial Property.

In 1988, she joined the Spanish Patent and Trademark Office (SPTO), as a patent examiner (up to 2013). Currently, she is Head of Company Support Service.

As an art historian, she has always been attracted to the painting genre of still lifes, not as a simple representation of reality but as a way of communicating a message through the represented objects. At the moment, she is specifically interested in representing the passage of time and its consequences.

The window
Oil on Canvas
54 x 47 cm





Grapes
Oil on Canvas
40 x 30 cm



Lemons
Oil on Canvas
40 x 30 cm



Spring
Acrylic
42 x 32 cm



Summer
Acrylic
42 x 32 cm



Autumn
Acrylic
42 x 32 cm



Winter
Acrylic
42 x 32 cm

Gloria Villarroel

Born in Madrid in 1970 she obtained the title of industrial engineer by the U.P.M. She began painting and sculpture at a very early age, participating as a creative artist in a pottery workshop from 1987 to 1991. She combines his studies with self-taught learning. In the year 2000 she participates in the doctoral courses of the Department of Painting of the School of Fine Arts of the Complutense University of Madrid. Her work has been selected in many competitions and exhibited in numerous Spanish communities.

She lives some years in Ponferrada, where the effect of the privileged environment of El Bierzo allows her to print in his works the light that floods his most colourful works.

Traveling around the world she discovers the spectacular strength of the deserts, and since then this will be a recurring theme in her work.

At the moment she combines her professional life at the Spanish Patent Office with her passion for Arts.





Biersagheer Desert
Acrylic- mixed techniques
140 x 100 cm



NVI
Acrylic- mixed techniques
100 x 100 cm

Thank you

Paintings created by officers from patent office's members of the European Patent Organisation bring into play the link between artistic and technology creation, two universal values uniting people regardless their nationality or cultural background.

The Amicale Vienna wish to thank all the contributors who have been engaged in this project to make "ARTconnecting" a reality to enjoy this event with you all, as members of the international community

Giorgos Savorgiannakis
Amicale Vienna

**Amicale Vienna
of the European Patent Office
&
the Hellenic Industrial Property Organisation**

Present the exhibition
ARTconnecting

Opening:
30-11-2017, 17:30 hrs

Art Exhibition by Officers of the National Patent Offices
of Austria, Benelux, Hellas & Spain

December 2017 - March 2018
Catalogue version 1.0 - November 2017

