

Illustrators Biography

Albertine

Albertine is a well-known illustrator from the French speaking part of Switzerland. Her work has been shown in many exhibitions in Switzerland and France. She was the first Swiss artist to be awarded the prestigious Golden Apple in Bratislava, which she received for her *Marta et la bicyclette*. In 2009 she won the Schweizer Kinder- und Jugendmedienpreis for *La Rumeur de Venise*. Her *Les oiseaux*, a collaboration with the writer Germano Zullo, was awarded the Prix Sorcières and was listed by the New York Times Book Review as one of the Top 10 Books of the Year in 2012. *Mon tout petit* was awarded First Prize at the Bologna Children's Book Fair in 2016.

Barman, Adrienne

Adrienne Barman was born in Lugano in 1979. After studying graphic design in Ticino she moved to Geneva and worked for many years as an illustrator for the daily newspaper *Le Courrier* and as a graphic designer in the collective *so2design.ch*. For the last several years she has worked intensively on illustration and has published several works of young adult fiction and comics. In 2015 she received the Schweizer Kinder- und Jugendmedienpreis for her work *Drôle d'encyclopédie*.

Bhend, Käthi

Käthi Bhend was born in Olten in 1942. After her apprenticeship as a graphic designer she worked in Paris and Lausanne. Today she lives in the eastern part of Switzerland. She has received multiple awards for her picture books, such as the Premio Grafico from the Bologna Children's Book Fair in 1990. The same year she also received the Schweizer Jugendbuchpreis. *Einer, der nichts merkte*, her interpretation of Robert Walser's short stories, has earned outstanding reviews.

Binder, Hannes

Hannes Binder was born in Zurich in 1947. After completing his studies at the Kunstgewerbeschule Zürich he worked as a graphic designer in Milan, then as an illustrator and graphic designer in Hamburg. Today he works as a freelance illustrator and painter in Zurich. His work has been awarded many prizes. He has made decisive contributions to the "visual essay" genre, in particular through his long-term engagement with the work of Friedrich Glauser.

Canonica, Paloma

Paloma Canonica was born in Proto-Leventina in 1989. After completing her studies in visual communication at the SUPSI in Lugano she earned a Master's degree in book illustration and audiovisual animation in Pontevedra (Spain). She currently works as an illustrator of children books and a creator of Stop-Motion animation in Switzerland and in Spain.

Crausaz, Anne

Anne Crausaz studied graphic design at the Ecole Cantonale d'Art de Lausanne. Her work was inspired by the posters of Étienne Delessert, Enso Mari and Bruno Munari. In 1999 she went to Krakow on a grant awarded by the Bundesamt für Kultur. There she studied posters of the Polish school and continued to work on her own techniques for mastering space and line. Still, she wanted to create narratives with her pictures. Her first book, *Raymond rêve* (Editions MeMo, 2007) was an immediate success.

Curchod, Ronald

Ronald Curchod was born in Lausanne in 1954. He is a graphic designer, poster designer and illustrator. He designs costumes and stage sets and pursues his own personal work as a painter. In addition to his picture book publications he works for various media outlets (for example, *Le Monde* and *Télérama*), creates silkscreen prints and exhibits in galleries.

Dreyer, Fanny

Fanny Dreyer was born in Fribourg in 1987. She attended the Collège Saint-Michel in Fribourg and earned her Matura with a concentration in art. She completed several internships as designer for short animated films and studied illustration at the Académie Royale des Beaux Arts in Brussels. Since earning her Master's degree in 2011 she has worked on various projects in the fields of illustration, graphic design and interior design.

Eggermann, Vera

Vera Eggermann studied at the Hochschule Luzern – Design & Kunst. She has been writing and illustrating picture books for the last 25 years. She lives in Luzern and London and commutes between country air and the big city, idyll and contradiction. Her work is similarly eclectic and stylistically varied, and has been nominated for and awarded many prizes. In her books she creates harmonious scenes inhabited by quirky but lovable characters. She combines cunning and worldly observations of everyday life with sumptuous worlds of fantasy.

Farkas, Mirjana

Mirjana Farkas was born in Geneva in 1979. After earning a degree in history she studied illustration at the Escola Masana in Barcelona. She illustrates articles in the press, creates posters, and works on personal projects such as children's books, frescoes and silkscreen prints. In 2013 she was awarded a grant to illustrate the book *Carnet de Bal*, a fan-fold of which was published by *La Joie de Lire* in 2014. The actor and dancer Madeleine Raykov created a theatrical dance performance based on the picture book and toured with it in 2017–2018.

Friz, Paolo

Paolo Friz studied illustration at the Hochschule Luzern – Design & Kunst and at the Academy of Arts, Architecture and Design in Prague. After graduating he earned a Master's degree in communication design at Central Saint Martins School of Art in London. He is the illustrator of multiple prize-winning works and works as a designer and as a lecturer at the Hochschule Luzern – Design & Kunst.

Haydé

Haydé was born in Cologne in 1956. She graduated from the graphic design department at the Ecole Cantonale d'Art de Lausanne. She worked for ten years as an illustrator for the magazine *L'Hebdo*. Since 1997 she has been the illustrator of the picture book series *Milton*. The first volume of this collection won the "Most Beautiful Swiss Books" competition. In her studio in Lausanne she designs posters for the *Petit Théâtre* and regularly works on city council projects having to do with children and health. She mainly works in the fields of illustration and painting.

Houdart, Emmanuelle

Emmanuelle Houdart lives and works in Paris. As a writer and illustrator she has created a graphic universe in which the lifeless comes to life, and in which hybrids emerge between animals and people, between the wondrous and the monstrous. She has published over 20 works since 1996, mostly illustrated books for children but also publications for adults and teenagers. She leads workshops in schools and shows her work in various travelling exhibitions.

It's raining Elephants

It's Raining Elephants is an illustrators' studio in Luzern. Since 2008 Evelyne Laube and Nina Wehrle have been developing their own projects as well as doing commissioned work. They create illustrations for picture books, live-visuals and other projects. They also run the ceramic brand hoi and teach narrative drawing at the Hochschule Luzern – Design & Kunst and at other institutions.

Louis, Catherine

Catherine Louis was born in Neuveville in 1963. She attended the Schule für Gestaltung in Biel and the Haute École des Arts in Strassbourg (Atelier Claude Lapointe). Today she lives and works in Canton Neuchâtel. She has illustrated 120 books, some of which have been translated into several languages. She was nominated for the 2005 Biennial of Illustration Bratislava, and has been inducted into the IBBY honour roll. Her *Mon Imagier Chinois* won the Prix Sorcières at the 2006 Paris Book Show. In addition to her work as a children's book illustrator she gives adult education classes and designs sets, theatre props, and posters for cultural events.

Nüssli, Lika

Lika Nüssli was born in Gossau in 1973. She completed a preparatory course in Romanshorn and then, after an apprenticeship in textile design in Herisau, studied illustration at the Hochschule Luzern – Design & Kunst. Since 2003 she has worked as a freelance artist in St. Gallen. Over the course of the last several years she has discovered performative drawing and developed it in various forms. Her large-scale drawings emerge from specific situations and grow into walk-through installations.

Obrist, Jürg

Jürg Obrist was born in Zurich in 1947. After an apprenticeship as a retoucher he studied photography at the Schule für Gestaltung in Zurich. He then travelled to the USA as a photographer. From 1976 to 1985 he worked in New York as an illustrator for children's and young adult magazines. His first children's book, *They Do Things Right* in Albern, was published in 1978. Since 1985 he has lived in Zurich, where he works as an independent writer and illustrator.

Pfister, Marcus

Marcus Pfister was born in Bern in 1960. In his 1992 book *The Rainbow Fish* he created one of the most successful picture book characters in the world. His books have received numerous awards and have been translated into more than 50 languages. He lives with his family in Bern. In his studio he continues to create new stories and characters.

Rappo, Petra

Petra Rappo was born in 1969 in Basel, where she currently lives and works as an illustrator, graphic designer and artist. In 2016 her picture book *Baum an Baum* was selected by the Buchkunst foundation for its list of "Most Beautiful German Books" and was nominated for the Biennial of Illustration Bratislava. In addition to her work on book and art projects, for which she receives many commissions, Petra Rappo teaches as an independent lecturer at the Schule für Gestaltung in Basel. At

the moment she is working on two children's books, which will be published by the Atlantis Press and the Hanser Press.

Sanna, Francesca

Francesca Sanna was born in Sardinia in 1991. She studied illustration in Cagliari and earned her Master's degree in illustration and design at the Hochschule Luzern. In the summer of 2014 she attended a course in Illustration and Visual Storytelling at the School of Visual Arts in New York. For her Master's project she was awarded a gold medal by the New York Society of Illustrators in 2016 and was nominated for the Deutscher Jugendliteraturpreis and the Schweizer Kinder- und Jugendmedienpreis in 2017. She currently lives in Zurich.

Schärer, Kathrin

Kathrin Schärer was born in Basel in 1969. She graduated as a drawing and crafts teacher in Basel. She teaches at a logotherapy school and works as an illustrator. She illustrates her own texts as well as those of Lorenz Pauli, with whom she has long collaborated with great success. She was nominated for the Hans Christian Andersen Prize in 2012 and the Astrid Lindgren Award in 2014, both for her complete works. Her books *Johanna im Zug* (Atlantis, 2009) and *Rigo und Rosa* (Atlantis, 2016; text by Lorenz Pauli) won the Schweizer Kinder- und Jugendmedienpreis in 2011 and 2017, respectively.

Steiner, Liliane

Liliane Steiner was born in 1966. She attended the graphic design course at the Schule für Gestaltung in Basel and the illustration course at the Hochschule Luzern – Design & Kunst. There she created her first picture book, for which she also wrote the text. Since then she has illustrated many picture books and instructional materials. She lives in Basel and teaches illustration and colour at the Schule für Gestaltung.

Sommer, Anna

Anna Sommer was born in Staffelbach in 1968. She lives in Zurich and works as a freelance comics artist and illustrator for, among other publications, *NZZ Folio*, *Die Zeit*, *Libération* and *Strapazin*. In 2006 she was awarded a year-long grant to draw comics by the city of Zurich.

Tirabosco, Tom

Born in Rome in 1966, Tom Tirabosco attended the Academy of Fine Arts in Venice, then the Ecole Supérieure des Arts Visuels in Geneva. He worked as an illustrator and cartoonist and published with Casterman, Magnard, Atrabile, Delcourt and the Humanoïdes associés, among others. He owes his particular style to the monotype, a special engraving technique, enhancing each of its pastel prints in order to better reproduce the volumes. Along with the famous cartoonist Zep, Tirabosco is now opening a school of comics in Geneva.

Valär, Pia

Pia Valär was born in the Engadine in 1983. She studied illustration at the Edinburgh College of Art and has worked since then as a freelance illustrator. In her drawings she is interested in possible and impossible stories from daily life and in the characters who have to—or are privileged to—live through them. In 2015 she was awarded the Förderpreis of Canton Graubünden.

de Weck, Claudia

Claudia de Weck was born in Zurich in 1953. She pursued her artistic education in Hamburg, Paris and Zurich. She works as an illustrator and author for French, German and Swiss publishers. Her job combines everything that she finds fun: books, stories, drawing, art, people, children and, again and again, animals. Her "visual readings" for school classes are very popular. They feature not only reading aloud and listening, but also seeing, drawing, and contemplating things both great and small.