

**September 20, 2020**

**Announcing the results of the first Russia-based International online exhibition and competition: [#EncausticToday](#)**

Winners were announced today for the first Russia-based International Online Exhibition and competition [#EncausticToday](#), organized by artist Yulia Mamontova.

Encaustic is a rare painting technique, originally appearing in Greece, and expanding into Egypt to become a vital art form 2000 years ago. Encaustic painting techniques waned over the centuries, and were completely lost by the 12<sup>th</sup> Century. The mid-20<sup>th</sup> Century saw a renewed interest in encaustic, which has exploded into a full resurgence during the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. Contemporary encaustic artists are incorporating ancient techniques, and continually expanding and exploring the versatility of the medium in their work. You can enjoy the creative and technical achievements of modern encaustics at the online-exhibition [#EncausticToday](#).

Art works by 86 encaustic artists from all over the world: Russia, Austria, Germany, Ukraine, France, Mexico, Poland, USA, Hungary, Spain, Ireland, Canada, Japan, Great Britain, Honduras, Belarus are presented at online art gallery <https://encaustic.gallery/>. Featured art works include abstract and realistic paintings, icons, sculptures, panels, installations, collages created in wax-based media (hot wax paints, cold wax encaustic, mix-media).

The official judges of the competition awarded 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place winners.

**1<sup>st</sup> place winner:** "Icon St. Nicholas the Wonderworker" (*oak, natural pigments consist of semiprecious stones crushed by hands, cold encaustic, wax medium author composition, precious stones: emerald, ruby, spinel, tourmalines, cordierites, cat's eye, beryl, jade, amethyst, quartzite*) by **Russian artist Alex Dmitriyev** was the winning entry in the online competition [#EncausticToday](#). The prize for the winner of the contest is an interview in the ArtVesti edition.

**The second-place winner** is "Alissa Healer" by the **USA artist JuliAnne Jonker**. This masterpiece is one of her subjects in Healer series. Artist JuliAnne Jonker said: *"My artistic vision was to celebrate and highlight individuals who have dedicated their lives to healing others. This is a true mixed media piece, colored pencil and charcoal, encaustic and cold wax with oil paints."* The prize is an interview in the DEL'ARTE magazine

**The third place winner** is "Fiery Sunset" (*wood panel, wax medium, wax paints, pigment sticks, ink, oil pastels*) created by one of the first Russian teachers of encaustic **Natalia Zhukova**. She receives the book, "How to Earn, Succeed and Stay an Artist" by Alena Alekseeva .

Additional special prizes were established at the online exhibition and competition #EncausticToday.

- ❖ One-year International Encaustic Artists (IEA) free membership was awarded to **Julia Pastuhova** for her artwork "Ripe sunflower" and **Georgina Calzada** for her artwork "Migrants 5".
- ❖ **Aina Paisley** got the invitation for partnership with the online art gallery focused on contemporary and classical art.
- ❖ **Regina Quinn** was especially noted artist by the founder of ASKERY GALLERY, Polina Askeri.
- ❖ **Maria Golovkina** got the special prize – visiting the studio of Dmitry Sandjiev, the jury chairman.
- ❖ **Lora Murphy** was awarded the invitation to broadcast of the author's program on the ArtVesti channel – the special prize from Yulia Mamontova, art curator.
- ❖ The online art magazine ArtVesti will publish articles about **Pamela Letona** and **Ludmila Bolbas**, winners of the online voting «Audience Award».

**Jury Chairman, Dmitry Sandjiev:** *"I would like the younger generation to have a full choice of fine art techniques. I would like to wish you fruitful work so that as many artists as possible from different countries take part in the project, because unification and exchange of experience enrich, give inspiration and interest of representatives of all ages."*

**Yulia Mamontova, art curator of the #EncausticToday:** *"Our goal is to show the relevance of the "encaustic" technique in modern painting, to acquaint the general population with the undeservedly forgotten achievement of art and to popularize encaustic in a professional environment. In Europe and USA wax painting technique is very developed and popular enough. I rely that such unifying exhibitions can give a powerful impulse to the development of encaustic and its spread in Russia. I plane to organize off-line encaustic art exhibition, where all visitors will have on opportunity to look at the the beauty of texture and richness of color in encaustic painting. I thank all participants of the exhibition, for being interested in our project, and we hope our collaboration was successful. Next year, we will be glad to make interesting acquaintances with new encaustic artists, and include new artworks by well-known artists to the project. Join the online exhibition and competition #EncausticToday!"*

The current exhibition #EncausticToday) is available here:

<https://encaustic.gallery/> and <https://artcontract.ru/contest/2195>

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