

**Bernd Baldus**



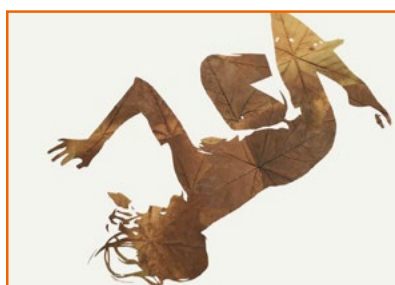
**Veronika Zyzik**



**Alexander Zyzik**



**Michael Schuster**



# MOMENTS

28/09 - 04/11/2024  
ARLES GALLERY



## Bernd Baldus

Everyone has blue moments in their life. From the onset, life is both sweet and sour at the same time — something that the emotional world of the blues mirrors. Bernd Baldus, as a painter and graphic artist and musician, has dedicated himself to the blues and has evolved a unique visual vocabulary that has become his trademark.

His subjects usually emerge from a blue, blue-black or black background: musicians, dancers, well-known and unknown people in their everyday lives, and even animals. The absence of spatial illusion focuses the gaze on those pictured, and their mental states: their small pleasures, idiosyncrasies that raise smiles, and dedication to music — as well as resentments, violence, and grief.

In addition, he produces captivating, momentary impressions of sunny spots in nature or urban environments.

*Bernd Baldus was born in 1954 in Bad Marienberg (Westerwald) and studied at the Wiesbaden School of Art. Since 1987 he has maintained a strong bond to Kunststation Kleinsassen, where he heads art courses, especially on etching techniques. He is also active as an art therapist and curator of inclusive exhibitions. Bernd Baldus lives and works in Steinwand, nearby Kleinsassen.*

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## Michael Schuster

To savor carefree moments, to live and dream the sunny day away — who doesn't long to do that? Michael Schuster captures such moments with his camera, or searches for photographs of street scenes, children playing, people in motion. But the photographs are only the departure point for the artist's unique foliage cutouts, which he creates from the autumn leaves of the sycamore trees that he himself gathers. His work reflects the beautiful lightness of being. Nothing disturbing or electrifying happens, and everything lingers within the commonplace, contemplatively condensing the moments of the present that have passed. The material is appropriate: foliage that has been divested of its very mortality and that now engenders a new context. The structure of the leaves pervade the inner details of the motifs, which the artist assembles in a fragmentary manner on white paper, as if his tableaux were superimposed upon the brightest of sunshine.

*Michael Schuster was born in 1963 in Mannheim. He studied visual communication at the Mannheim University of Applied Sciences, and then fine arts at the Academy of Fine Arts Mannheim. Michael Schuster exhibited at the Kunststation in 2022, and has maintained cordial relations with it ever since. He lives and works in Berlin.*



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## Alexander Zyzik

Unforgettable moments – for many people, the overwhelming experiences had in nature. Such experiences can deeply moving. The painter Alexander Zyzik is also fascinated by such impressions: the surge of the sea, the sparkle of sunlight on the surface of water, the baroque spectacle of color in an overcast sky, the enigmatic and sometimes mysterious aura of deep forests, the shimmer of light, the grandeur of old trees. The artist may well know the where and when of the given experience, and his inspiration to give it painterly form, but his works are neither created plein air nor are they to be understood as realistic renditions. On the contrary, Alexander Zyzik crafts a distinctive pictorial world into which he introduces that which transcends the visible and tellable: the traces of the intangible inherent to such special moments.

*Alexander Zyzik, born in 1964 in Katowice, Poland, studied fine arts and painting at the Gesamthochschule Kassel (now University of Kassel) from 1987 to 1993. He works freelance at the Kunststation, where he also teaches painting at the Freie Kunstschule [Open School of Art], among other places. Since 1993 he has lived and worked in Ehrenberg-Wüstensachsen, nearby Kleinsassen.*

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## Veronika Zyzik

Savoring the moment – Veronika Zyzik is capable of this, just as she is capable of defying all transitoriness by capturing and sharing the moment on paper with her brush. During the Corona crisis, she had plenty of time for extended walks in the woods. With fascination she observed the birds and their flying abilities, enjoying the animated chirping. Likewise, from her studio window, she intently studied the hustle and bustle of the birds on the nearby trees and roofs. And so the idea of painting birds arose, despite or actually due to the insane pace at which they move, a pace completely different than that of humans. Quick, on-the-spot sketches and watercolors motivated the artist to an ever-deeper engagement. The consequence is an abundance of dynamic, painterly images of feathered creatures and their brisk movement.

*Veronika Zyzik, born in 1965 in Rybnik, Poland, studied at the Gesamthochschule Kassel (now University of Kassel) from 1987 to 1993. A drawing and painting instructor since 1994, she has worked freelance at Kunststation Kleinsassen as of 1997. In 2009, she opened the Freie Kunstschule [Open School of Art] at the Kunststation. She lives and works in Ehrenberg-Wüstensachsen, nearby Kleinsassen.*

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www.kunststation-kleinsassen.de

**Die Kunststation Kleinsassen** is located in the state of Hesse, Germany, not far from the city of Fulda and in the middle of the Rhön Mountains. From 1979 until now, about 2,000 artists from around the world have shown work in the roughly 1,000-square-foot exhibition space. There is a sculpture garden and a large art library. A town partnership has existed between Arles and Fulda for 60 years, and an official circle of friends for 30. The Kunststation is using these anniversaries as an opportunity for cultivating further artistic contacts with Arles and its region. Anne Eliayan and Christian Pic, the directors of the Arles Gallery in Arles, held a fascinating exhibition at Kunststation Kleinsassen in the spring of 2024. And now, four artists of the Kunststation have been cordially invited to exhibit their artwork at the Arles Gallery. We are happy about the ever-expanding circle of art fans!



## ARLES GALLERY

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Ouverture du lundi au samedi de 11h à 18h et sur rendez-vous.

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