

Biography of Pika Terpin

Pika Terpin is a 23 year-old university student, currently attending her second year of master's studies in illustration at the *Academy of Fine Arts and Design (ALUO)* in Ljubljana, Slovenia.

She grew up in Idrija, where she visited the *Idrija Elementary School* from 2003 to 2013. She loved creating art since she was a child and she took inspiration from album covers, tattoo designs, graffiti art and animated media she watched.

She graduated at *Jurij Vega Grammar School Idrija* in 2017. That same year she had her first solo exhibitions at the grammar school and in *Mestna kavarna Idrija*.

In 2017 she also started her bachelor's in illustration at *ALUO*. Throughout her studies, she developed her skill in several art media, among others acrylic painting, digital art, vector art, animation, charcoal, ink and pastel drawing, comics, watercolor, collage, photography and also etching techniques like colagraphy, linocut and zinc etching. Terpin doesn't have a media preference, she rather experiments and adapts the media to the content she's illustrating. She also gained experience in various fields of visual communication design, from fictional to scientific illustration, animation, comics, interactive design, art theory and history, graphic design, typography and calligraphy.

When it comes to motifs, Terpin enjoys monsters, creatures and darker, even grotesque themes most. However, she doesn't limit herself to them and enjoys creating lighter themed art as well. She finds it important to express her own experiences through art and creating discourse about topics like mental health, gender expression, sexual orientation and sexuality. She's interested in different fields of illustration, be it fictional or scientific, but she's most attracted to illustration in the field of music. Her diploma was titled *Album covers in the subgenres of metal music*, for which she received a recognition award from *ALUO*.

In her time of studies she participated in twelve exhibitions: a collective exhibition of portraits and caricatures with Marijan Beričič in *Home for the Elderly Idrija*, an exhibition of *ALUO* students in collaboration with the *Academy of Arts and Culture* in Osijek, an exhibition of *ALUO* students' posters in the *Mergenthaler Street Gallery of Layer House*, a solo exhibition for the patients in *Idrija Psychiatric Hospital*, an exhibition of *ALUO* students in *SNG Drama Ljubljana*, the *9th biennale of the artists of Idrija*, an exhibition of snowdrop illustrations of *ALUO* students in the *Ljubljana Botanical*

Garden, an exhibition of ALUO students' illustrations of *The Divine Comedy* in the *Main square* of Novo mesto and also at the *Italian Cultural Institute* in Ljubljana, Lastly, an exhibition of past students and professors of the *Jurij Vega Grammar School Idrija* in *Razstavišče Nikolaja Pirnata* in Idrija, a solo exhibition of comics as part of the *Deuje babe festival* at *Večnamenski center* in Cerklje ob Krki and lastly, an exhibition of ALUO students' dioramas at *Vodnikova homestead* in Ljubljana.

She also had her animation entitled *Friend* screened at the international animation festivals *Animateka* (based in Slovenia) and *Anča* (based in Slovakia).

From 2017 to 2020, she independently illustrated a children's music book entitled *Prekmurje Fairytle*, made a poem illustration for a literary event of the *Faculty of Arts*, lead a figure drawing workshop through *Mladinski center Idrija*, illustrated snowdrops at *Ljubljana Botanical Garden* and her artworks published in *Uporniški femini-zine* and *Non-binary zine* of the *TransAkcija* institution.

(Idrija, the 1st of August, 2022)