

Fungi and lichens personally collected by Kristina Zimbakova at Gran Canaria or donated to her by the Mycological Society of Gran Canaria were pivotal in creating two new large-scale artworks, which secured her participation in a group show on the Caribbean Islands. The exhibit took place at Art Bar Grenada in St George, Grenada, and it lasted from 1st to 31st March 2025.



„Fortune Written with Charcoal“

Fungi, lichens, soft pastel, kombucha, yarn dyed with lichen on mycelium mycofoam. 44 x 44 x 4.5 cm; 2025. Fungi and lichens: *Battarrea phalloides*, *Ileodyction gracile*, *Laurobasidium lauri*, *Corioloopsis gallica*, *Chondrostereum purpureum*, *Diatrype stigma*, *Lethariella canariensis*, *Myriostoma colliforme*, *Teloschistes sp.* *Usnea sp.* – all from Gran Canaria. *Antrodia juniperina*, *Chlorociboria sp.*, *Fuscoporia sp.*, *Lycoperdon pratense*, *Trichaptum bifforme*, *Trichaptum abietinum*. Yarn dyed with lichen *Rocella tinctoria*, kombucha dyed with insect *Dactylopius coccus*, courtesy of Katja Pereira from La Palma Island.



'Aristocratic Scarecrow'

Acrylic, soft pastel, fungi and lichens (*Astraeus macedonicus*; *Battarrea phalloides* and two lichen species *Usnea* sp. from Gran Canaria), photographs, yarn dyed with *Boletopsis mediterraneensis* at Gran Canaria, on mercerized string knit lace; 138 x 90 cm; 2025.



Being a recent travel grant recipient of the IMDI and her lecture at the Symposium at Gran Canaria, immensely contributed to Zimbakova's being selected as an Artist Ambassador of Macedonia during the 8th edition of the prestigious exhibition Art Connects Women in Dubai, under the patronage of UNESCO. This flagship initiative by ZeeArts Gallery, themed Leave a Legacy this year, is one of the

region's most ambitious exhibitions, and it united 112 female artists from 112 countries. The event was held at Dubai International Financial Centre (DIFC), from 8th to 11th April 2025, coinciding with DIFC Art Nights, and celebrating women's creativity and impact on a global scale.



Zimbakova participated with her sculptural painting *The Fairy and the Wolf*. Media applied: soft pastel, acrylic, fungi (*Antrodia juniperina*, *Chlorociboria aeruginosa*, *Gloeophyllum abietinum*,

Hymenochaete rubiginosa, *Irpex lacteus*, *Junghuhnia nitida*, *Phlebia tremellosa*, *Peniophora incarnata*, *Rhytisma acerinum*, *Sarcoscypha coccinea*, *Terrana caerulea*, *Tulostoma* sp. and 6 unidentified species), and lichen *Ramalina* sp. on handmade paper from wood-inhabiting fungi; natural leather suitcase. Fungus *Antrodia juniperina* is listed as vulnerable on the Macedonian Red List of Fungi. Techniques: mosaic, embossing, collage. 43 x 63 x 16 cm. Year 2023.



