

## ILLUSTRATOR INTERVIEW

*Marina*  
Reshetnikova

Kherson - Ukraine

GIVING WORLD  
ILLUSTRATOR



What is your technique and medium of drawing and painting?

For many years I've been practicing my unique technique of pastel and gouache.

2.. How do you get inspired to produce a piece of artwork?

My flowers, I have my own garden, I take care of it, I have a great variety of flowers. The garden is designed so that plants bloom almost all year round. It's where my pets walk with me - cat and dog. There are rare insects and birds, even though I live downtown.

3. What artist inspires you?

I grew up in a creative family ( my grandmother studied with a famous Ukrainian artist from Kherson O.Shovkunenko). Ever since I was a kid, I was interested in classical painting, and I used to paint realistic portraits, landscapes and stilllives. Speaking of children's illustrators, I'm interested in Robert Ingpen and Carl Larson.

4. What do you do to overcome a creative block?

I take a break from my work, take care of flowers and walk my dog. I'm interested in the techniques of great artists, make smaller copies.

5. When did you start illustrating?

-In 2014

6. What does art mean to you?

-A way to understand the world around us. Book illustrations visualize the author's fantasies and retell the story in a way that children can understand.

7. Tell us an unexpected fun fact about you, that might come as a surprise to others.

Becoming a professional illustrator is one of the biggest surprise of my life. Before that, 30 years ago, I worked as a design engineer at an agricultural machinery factory. Being able to do illustration as a main activity was just a dream for me.

8. Where are you from and what places would you love to visit one day?

-From the sunny south of Ukraine, the city of Kherson. I like to rest on our sea coast near Kherson. I love the marine nature of scythes, islands and estuary.

