

## MUNICH MINERALIENTAGE, A WORLD CLASS EVENT

Text and photo 1–18:  
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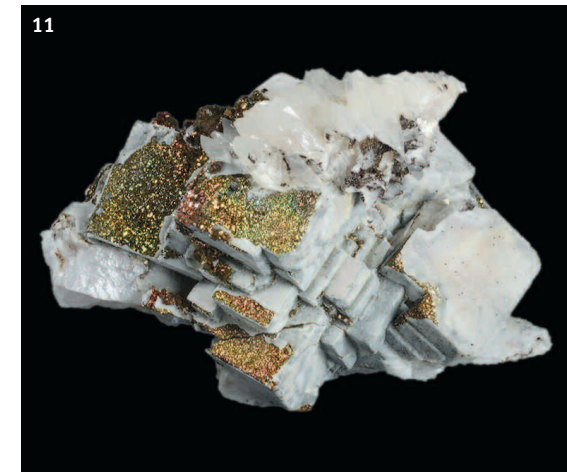
1. At the lecture hall.
2. Andreas Massanek, curator of Mineral collections of the TU Bergakademie Freiberg.
3. The "main" exposition attracts the attention of most show visitors and participants.
4. Stefan Weiß with Joaquim and Emily Callen.
5. Dona Leicht (*Kristalle*) very cordially congratulates Ludmila Cheshko on her birthday.
6. Ksenia Levterova, Nicolas Stolowitz and Becky Johnston.
7. Alan Hart at the *Lapis* booth.
8. Albert Russ at the shooting of minerals.
9. "Gold panning" in the educational "corner" for children.

Whatever winds may blow in the world, *Munich Mineralientage* still stands the blows of political and economic storms, remaining one of the main attractions for 'people of stone' from all over the world.

Regardless of everything, the Munich Show is a world class event. As always, it is an indispensable location to meet friends and colleagues from all over the world. It is a place where lovers and professionals exchange the latest news and find new specimens for their own and museum collections.

It is important that here they have a chance to learn about new mineralogical literature, to see and to acquire fresh issues of specialized magazines such as *Lapis* (Germany), *Mineralogical Record* and *Rocks & Minerals* (USA), *Mineralogical Almanac* (Russia), *Le Regne Mineraux* (France), *Rivista Mineralogica Italiana* (Italy) and others.

In recent years, the show had serious losses. Due to the coronavirus pandemic, dealers and suppliers of beautiful specimens and new stones have notably been reduced in







19. Ksenia Levterova.

Paintings 20–29 by Ksenia Levterova

20. **Calcite** on **clinocllore**. 6 x 7 cm. Korshunovskoe iron deposit, Irkutsk region, Russia. Watercolor on paper, 30 x 36 cm, 2018.



### The mineral paintings by Ksenia Levterova

The paintings of minerals by Ksenia Levterova were pearls of the show this year. Each of her works shows a master behind them and a love for stone, her careful and different attitude toward minerals.

At our request, Ksenia told us about her work: *“I do not have a ‘favourite specimen’ or even a mineral species. It is impossible to choose such for an artist... This is the same as choosing a favourite book from a mass of literature heritage. Each mineral is unique in its (im)perfection of crystals and therefore a beauty of its shape.*

*I select specimens for my collection of miniatures mainly on their aesthetic qualities and beauty of composition.*

*Of course, each artist needs inspiration. I am lucky to have it. The diversity of color combinations, luster, jointing, transparency and texture easily resolve the problem of inspiration. In addition, each new texture or a spectrum of colors microchallenge me whether I can reflect it in maximum reality.*

*Boris Z. Kantor, an outstanding promoter of mineralogical science, used to say that an experienced photographer can always find a view to reflect the beauty of any, even a very ordinary specimen. My photo camera is a brush and watercolor paints.*

*So, I look for a highlight in each mineral. Receiving an order, I first make some preparations studying the object, its deposit, typical specimens, shape of crystals, tints, inclusions,*

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21. **Gold** split crystals on **quartz**. 3.5 cm. Antioquia Department, Colombia. De la Bouglise Collection, Mineralogical Museum, Harvard University, USA. Watercolor on paper, 30 x 30 cm. 2022.

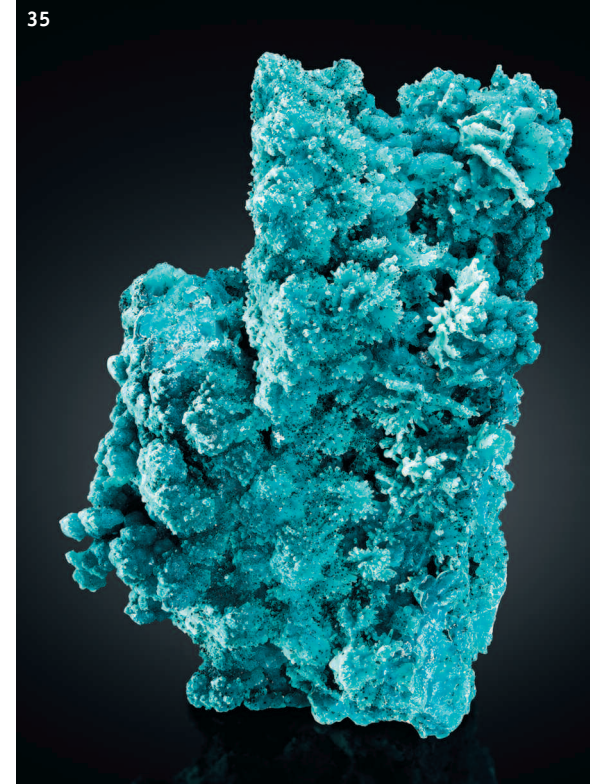
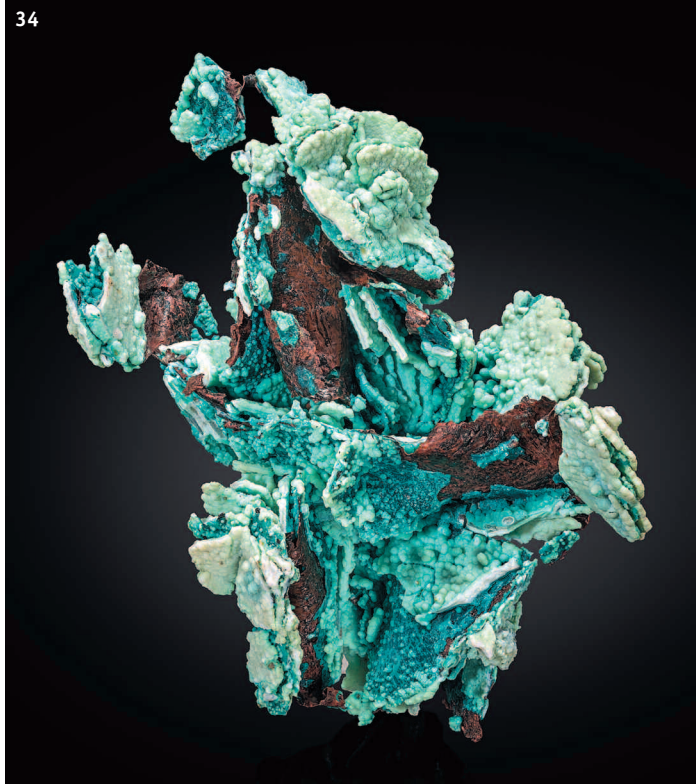


22. **Gold** nugget. 25 x 23.2 x 14 cm, 23.26 kg. Kalgoorlie, West Australia. Watercolor on paper, 46 x 43 cm. 2022.

23. **Gold**. 7 cm. Round Mountain, Nye County, Nevada, USA. Scott Werschky collection. Watercolor on paper, 26 x 36 cm, 2022.







36. **Dolomite**. 4.2 cm tall.  
Alto Chaparé rainforest, Cochabamba, Bolivia.  
Specimen: Alfredo Petrov.

*Photo 33–35 on page 52:*

33. „Mushroom“ **tourmaline**. 7.5 cm across.  
Beni Bouzra, Morocco.  
Specimen: Jordi Fabre.

34. Group of native **copper** plates  
with crusts of **chrysocolla**. 13.5 cm tall.  
Bacan Island, Maluku Prov., Indonesia.  
Specimen: *Merveilles de la Terre*.

35. **Chrysocolla**. 8 cm tall.  
Cunyarí mine, Peru.  
Specimen: *Mine Art Peru*.

37. Cluster of **diophtase** crystals. 5.8 cm tall.  
Renéville (Djoué) mine, Congo Republic.  
Specimen: Tom Praszkie, *Spirifer Minerals*.

38. **Hemimorphite**. 3.8 cm tall.  
Mfouati mine, Congo Republic.  
Specimen: Tom Praszkie, *Spirifer Minerals*.

