

Natalia Nik – illustrator

SUMMARY

Natalia Nik is a digital and traditional artist and illustrator specializing in children's books, editorial illustration, and illustration projects. Her style is gentle, whimsical, and light-hearted, characterized by playful stylization and expressive storytelling. She works on picture books, projects for young readers and young adults, as well as a wider range of illustration and publishing work. Natalia is skilled in a wide variety of artistic media and brings a strong graphic design background to her work. Friendly and highly communicative, she values collaboration and creative exchange.

EDUCATION

- MFA Illustration, Cum Laude | 2020
Academy of Art University – San Francisco, CA
- MA Artist-stylist, with honors | 2000
A.N. Kosygin Moscow State Textile University – Moscow, Russia

EXPERIENCE

Freelance artist | 2004 - present
• Illustrations, children's book illustrations, cover design, design of printing production, graphic art.

Art Director | 2008-2019 | NUANCE – Moscow
• Developed initial sketches, designs and concept art according to topic
• Worked closely with clients to provide concepts

Illustrator | 2016 - present | Publishing house «Port Skazok»
• Illustrations, book illustration
• Illustrations for app and cover designs.
• Interactions with illustrators, curation of the projects

Volunteer designer | 2015 - present | REY Found (Foundation for homeless animals)
• Company style, illustrations, promo designs, advertising designs.

Volunteer illustrator | 2015 – 2016 | International on-line magazine «Arbookmania.»
• Editorial illustrations

LATEST PROJECTS /more than 20 book projects illustrated/

- «Pirate Stories. Winter». Tatyana Koval. Port Skazok Publishing House | 2025
- Cover design for education books. | Amazon, self publishing customer | 2025
- «The Barbara Johns Story». An interactive documentary and Inquiry Design Model curriculum | illustration for Website | Richard Wormser, and the Robert Russa Moton Museum | 2025
- «Contagious Habits.» Tatyana Koval. Strekoza Publishing House | 2025
- «Five Plus Thirteen». Valentina Partina. Published by Strekoza | 2023. *Winner of the K. Chukovsky Prize.*
- «Auntie Shine». Euginia Rusinova | Publishing House «NIGMA» | 2023
- «Skeleton in the closet». Valentina Partina | Publishing House «Port Skazok» | 2023 *Long list of the K. Chukovsky Prize.*

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

2021 - AOI (UK) membership
2021 - SCBWI membership
2020 - Long list, 2020 Spring Show | Academy of Art University
2016 - «Russian Art Week» | Moscow | Nominated for 1-st place in Book illustration
2016 - Member of the International Federation of Artists (Graphic section)
2000 - Member of the International Artists Fund. Moscow Association of Artists (Graphic section)

CONTACT

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PORTFOLIO

www.natalianikulina.com

SKILLS

Children's book illustration
Book Cover design
Sketching
Digital Painting

SOFTWARE

Photoshop
Illustrator
Procreate
InDesign

TRADITIONAL MEDIUMS

Graphite
Ink
Watercolors
Mixed media

SOFT SKILLS

Communication
Flexibility
Adaptability

LANGUAGES

English & Russian