

On Exhibit

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Lyse Marsan

A Tribute to Life and to Peace



Rouge passion sur l'île noire de Neruda. 48 x 48 in.

"If everyone laid a flower on the path of life, it would certainly embellish the human experience." – Michel Bois

Viewing Lyse Marsan's works is an experience that permeates not only one's memory but one's whole being as she dispenses so much energy via the voluptuousness of her colours and the sensuality and subtlety of her narrative. The artist is passionate, sharply and intensely so. She is constantly exploring new possibilities that painting offers; this is how, after a career that spans more than forty years, she has created an extensive personal, sustained and reenergizing pictorial body of work. To that end, she first studied with teachers in private workshops then in recognized schools in many European countries. Which won her a gold medal awarded by France in 2000 for the quality of her creation and her commitment to the promotion of visual arts. Needless to say, her perseverance, her abilities and her knowledge have widely opened doors for her, here in this country, with provincial and national agencies, and internationally.

Lyse Marsan is a multidisciplinary bombshell of creativity, adept in writing, theatre, singing and painting. Her latest book was written at a poolside in Florida and, she claims, must be read at poolside. This book derives from her joy of being alive and able to communicate and share her love of life, in her fashion. Florida, of course, is optional. The artist has, for the last fifteen years, been living in a rectory in Saint-Séverin, Beauce, which she regards as a location where everything is possible and in sync with nature that she knows to be energizing.

The painter mixes her own colours from pure pigments. The use of gold leaf is a fantasy of hers. Glazes, lead, inks are seismographs used to detect the creative waves she deploys on paper, cotton or linen canvases or on wood.

Carpe diem

"Seize the day without thinking of tomorrow."

Exploding bouquets of colour and energy on heady backgrounds that can be inebriating. Transparent vases of sometimes incongruous shapes. Her mind is brimming with childhood memories, countries she travelled to and countries where she lived. Add to this the books she has read and her conversations and exchanges with people on essential questions such as life itself, the deterioration of the environment and even the future of the planet. This being said, after having read the following remarks, you will never look at Lyse Marsan's works in the same way again.

Lyse Marsan's husband pursued a career with Québec's delegations in Europe. An avid collector of antique copper objects, he loved spending time in flea markets, antique shops and art galleries. He once brought back home a bomb shell purchased in France. "Considering the horrors this object represented," says Lyse Marsan, "I quickly filled it with a bouquet of flowers. This triggered a deep reflection on my part. I locked myself in my studio to create works the purpose of which would be to tell and constantly retell that the Earth exists to engender life, not death, nor destruction. Since then, my works are meant as tributes to life and to peace." The idea, in fact, is to detract from this object of terrifying destruction and rather depict it on canvas as a vase so it conveys a message of life and peace. For the artist, this represents the transformation of a comforting flower bouquet apt for joyful and serene contemplation into a tree of life. As to the series that features images of fish on a gargantuan menu to be shared at the table, it derives from the pleasure of fishing, an activity whereby she celebrates life's ever increasing abundance. The bursts of colours in her paintings come from this generous and altruistic temperament without an ounce of bitterness. The intention being to appreciate and draw energy from the nursery of life.

A woman of her word, Lyse Marsan paints as she sees, speaks and thinks. All her paintings are, without a doubt, works of art because they not only translate the subject itself, but more importantly are the sublime expression of her emotions and sensations. Her creation is an inescapable invitation to delight!

Michel Bois





Toutes les étoiles sont fleuries, 30 x 30 in