

ARTIST'S STATEMENT

I hope that my paintings and monoprints inspire thoughts or memories for you. It could be: "that composition reminds me of my childhood," or... "I've been there; I'd forgotten how beautiful those buildings were." Or "I can't tell you why, but that image draws me in, those colors speak to me, they make me happy." The connections happen at many levels.

So this is why I make art. It is my way of seeing and then hoping to share that vision with you.

In this show there are both paintings on canvas and works on paper - singular prints, or monotypes, and hand-colored etchings.

The paintings were inspired by living in Italy. I was born in Budapest but at the age of six or seven I went to live in Italy, in Venice, Rome, Milan and then on Lake Como. The images you see were left in my mind and touched my soul with their personalities, their shapes, their colors, the material used to build them.

The towers in San Gimignano in Italy are unique and unforgettable in their shapes. These buildings make themselves noticed. Some whisper their presence, as if trying to explain their history. Who lived there one hundred years ago, what happened in those rooms, why are they empty or who lives there now? Others still proudly exhibit their presence: "Look how beautiful, elegant and mysterious I am. I have seen centuries of happenings. Come inside and I will tell you a tale or two."

Some of the etchings in this show were inspired by Native American art and design, as you might guess from titles like 'Mimbres,' 'Acoma,' and 'Walpi.' But as I work with them they develop in different directions: the etchings provide just a base, a beginning; they evoke variations and offer possibilities. Some of the newer works are influenced by Japanese Sangaku, paintings based on geometrical problems or theorems, and offered to the spirits for protection in Japanese temples and places of business. They are sometimes vivacious and playful, sometimes unfathomable and complicated.

In all these hand-colored works on paper I go from one to another as I listen to the suggestions they give me until they tell me to move on. It is a conversation with color, composition, perspective, mystery, until an image develops and tells me: "Leave me alone. I am done."

If you have read thus far I hope to have engaged you in a conversation with my shapes, my choice of colors, the way I form images with different media and how I mirror some of the ways I see the world around me.

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June 2022