



LLOYD SHIN GALLERY

The Art of Iszchan Nazarian

Iszchan's studio is filled with such a wide verity of color from the boldest yellows to the most subtle pastels. The canvases also seem to investigate a wide variety of themes, interesting juxtapositions, historical figures, images from Iszchan's childhood in Armenia.... depicting the vision of a world as seen through a child's eyes. Not surprisingly some of these canvases emanate a feeling of nostalgia and a longing for a return to the blissful state of innocence.

Despite varied subject matter, the canvases are expressive and painted with bold (almost hurried) strokes capturing the image with its most immediate freshness as it develops in the mind.

"My ideas come quickly and over a period of days. I am not able to work in the studio for the sake of doing something. I work when inspiration overwhelms me."



Iszchan's work is grounded in reality of his past, in his ideas about creation both spatial and temporal and in his intense spirituality. These are often images of children swimming in a river. A small figure in an overwhelming landscape filled with bright colors. These appear like stills in a movie – *they are moments brought back from the past.*

Iszchan explores the notion of creation and of creativity. On many canvases Iszchan juxtaposes famous artists or famous classical composers (i.e Van Gogh and Rembrandt.) He creates expressionistic figurative paintings of a person in nature. *"It is St. Francis,"* Iszchan explains.

Iszchan's studio leaves a lasting impression on a person who emerges from it as if from another world. One is left with a lightheaded feeling and colors still marked on the retina of the eyes. His paintings, sculptures and tapestries are vivid and unforgettable.

Personal History

Not long after Iszchan was born in Sultanabad, Iran to Armenian parents. Iszchan's childhood was a time of poverty and hunger but also as a time of innocence, beauty and friendship. In grade school, his notebooks were filled with drawings and scribbles rather than homework assignments. Art was consistently the only class where he excelled. After trying his hand in a broad range of jobs including barber and bricklayer in 1968, he enrolled at the Academy of Fine and Theatrical Arts in Erevan.

While still an art student, Iszchan met his wife, Elizabeth, and they settled in Warsaw, Poland. Iszchan continued his studies at the Warsaw Academy of Art, which he completed with a Masters degree in 1974, and began exhibiting in Poland and in other European countries. Quickly his talent was recognized and reviews of his works were favorable.

In 1983 the Nazarian family emigrated to the USA. They first settled and lived in Chicago, Illinois. Then in 2000 they moved to North Port, Florida. The beauty of nature and the warmth of the sun give him energy and joy....and God inspires him. With a subtle smile and assuredness of voice he explains, "God is creation and creativity itself."

Iszchan's work can be seen in his studio in Warm Mineral Springs: 207 Ortiz Blvd. – Please call to make an appointment. Telephone (941) 426-7559 Website: www.nazarianart.com

by Ania Nazarian.

