

## ANA MARIA CUATRECASAS FIGUERAS

Born in Barcelona in 1955, it was in her childhood that Anna discovered the pleasure and diversity of colour through drawing, painting and playing with pencils and crayons whilst on an obligatory retreat into nature. The use of these media was a key step in acquiring her strong creative and artistic force which continues unabated to this day.

The playful aspect of colours, so enjoyed as a child, led Anna to investigate and ultimately to become deeply interested in painting, in all its facets, all through her life.

In 1970 Anna moved to Paris for Baccalaureate study, and to further develop her artistic sensibility. There she discovered the Impressionists, as well as Classical and Hellenistic art, which would leave such a deep impression that Anna would go on to study Art History at the Autonomous University of Bellaterra upon her return to Barcelona.

Anna graduated in 1979 and started work as an art writer and critic in the editorial 'Argos Vergara'. There for a few years, her personal quest then takes her to enrol in fine arts at the University

Sant Jordi in Barcelona to enable her to translate the theoretical to practical experience. Anna then comes into contact with artists working with figurative and abstract expressionism, and with whom she studies and subsequently takes her first steps in this style.

She is selected and participates in the V and VI Biennial of Contemporary Young Painting in Barcelona, Caixa Foundation of Barcelona.

Upon finishing her Bachelor's degree, Anna is influenced by Hernández Pijoan and Chancho, using a more austere and minimalist line, and her palette becomes defined and refined, more monochromatic in blue and turquoise with some earthy touches of colour and texture which evoke primitive art as well as that of the Mediterranean. These are the works that started her solo exhibition career at the Dalmau Gallery in Barcelona.

The creative evolution now goes from opaqueness to subtlety with "Transparencies", the title of several exhibitions in the 'Ambit' and 'Consell d'Art' galleries. This stage in the 1990s is a very prolific one for the artist. The result of

these exhibitions and others outside of Spain, is that many of Anna's works are distributed around different entities (La Caixa Testimoni Collection), foundations (Foundation Museum Vila-Casas) and private and public collections (Stoch Art NH).

Today, after intense working towards self-awareness through art, Anna has reached a more pictorial maturity through a light-filled polychromy and the use of various techniques (oil, acrylic, watercolour, mixed media, and more).

Her source of inspiration is found in nature, from which Anna distils all the strength and vitality, and especially in the element of water. This connection breathes in her creations, which emanate a special subtlety and harmony.

Dedicating her life to it, her art has become an existential philosophy. Diving deeply into the artist's own feelings has resulted in the cultivation of beauty, its enjoyment and the sharing of it with the world. It breaks new ground, giving to us all a visualization of the most beautiful aspect of humanity.



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