



ABOUT THE ARTIST

Born in the Dominican Republic, Betsy Arvelo has been painting since the age of 4. After attending art school in the Dominican Republic, she completed her art education at Tyler School of Art of Temple University in Philadelphia.

She exhibited in the Bienal of Santo Domingo in 1977 and 1979. She had a joint exhibit with ex-husband Tom Buzbee at the Casa de Teatro Gallery in Santo Domingo in 1979, and in Easton Maryland in 1979. In 1981 she moved to Altos de Chavon to manage the art galleries and the Artist-In-Residence Program—an exchange program between Dominican and International Artists. She also maintained a painting studio there. In 1983 she held a very successful solo exhibit “Details” at Casa de Teatro, a prestigious art gallery in Downtown Santo Domingo, which received great reviews from all the local art critics and artist. In 1985 She co-founded the Mount Dora Center for the Arts in Mount Dora, FL.

Betsy will be part of the Masters of Watercolor Expose Exhibit at the Mount Dora Center for the Arts on May 1, 2009.

BETSY ARVELO
www.betsyarvelo.com



Betsy Arvelo

THE MAGNOLIA SERIES



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All paintings © 2008 Betsy Arvelo. Watercolor on paper.

Betsy Arvelo

THE PAINTINGS

In the Summer of 2008, the Southern Magnolias around my house were in full bloom. I had been attracted to the flowers for years, but had never really studied them. I became both mesmerized and obsessed by the majestic beauty and citrus smell, as well as, the various “metamorphic” stages of the flower—from bud to full bloom, to the decay of the flower, the formation of the pineapple looking pod with bright red seeds that finally falls to the ground and hardens like pine cones. Oh... and the leaves...which, on one side are as deep green and shiny as nature can produce, while on the other a deep shade of rust velvet.

I took countless photos of the flowers, the seed pods, the trees. I could not get enough of this beauty. After the season was over, I realized that I was so inspired by these plants that I would like to paint them. I am now totally absorbed in this series and will be exploring the Magnolias to see how far they take me.

I work in watercolors because of the organic quality of the medium and the mobility it allows me. The paper is handmade of 100% cotton and the colors are organic. In order to achieve the radiance, I don't mix colors. They are layered one-at-a-time to achieve a pure, unadulterated color.

EDUCATION

1975-1978 Tyler School of Art, Temple University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
1970-1973 Escuela de Artes de IES, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic
Other Studies:
1992 Computers and Publications, Precision Graphics, Huntsville, Alabama
1991 Multimedia Presentation, Marshall Space Flight Center, Alabama
1987 Basic Computer Graphics, Ringling School of Art, Sarasota, Florida
1987 Computer Workshop, Ringling School of Art, Sarasota, Florida
2007 Silent Meditation Certification: Sivananda Yoga Center in Paradise Island, Bahamas

1983 Instituto de Investigación Visual, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic
1983 Altos de Chavón, studio exhibit
1983 “Detalles”, Solo Exhibition, Casa de Teatro, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic
1981 Maitland Art Festival, Maitland, Florida
1981 Mount Dora Art Festival, Mount Dora, Florida
1980 “Works on Paper”, Academy of the Arts, Easton, Maryland
1979 Bienal de Santo Domingo, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic
1979 Solo Exhibit, Casa de Teatro, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic

EXHIBITIONS

1992 Bodegones y Mercados, El Super Marchante, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic
1990 Small Works Exhibition, Valencia Community College, Orlando, Florida
1989 Studio Exhibit, Mount Dora, Florida
1989 Solo Exhibit, Graficas Art & Design, Mount Dora, Florida

JURYING/JUDGING

Mount Dora Art Festival, Mount Dora, Florida 1984-86, 2004 (Art consultant for the Lake Mary/Heathrow Art Festival)
Eustis State Fair, Eustis, Florida 1988
Lake Mary/Heathrow Art Festival, Lake Mary, Florida 1986 (Art consultant for the Lake Mary/Heathrow Art Festival)