

ARTIST MARIA BOUQUET

Her Wonderful Journey from Buenos Aires, Argentina, to the United States

By: Martine Dennis

Born and raised in Buenos Aires, Argentina, Maria Bouquet is a remarkable artist. In 2005 she graduated with honors from Pratt Institute in New York with a Masters degree of Fine Arts, and today continues to pursue her passion as a painter, photographer and artist. Maria's work aims to capture the depths of spirituality in relation to the world. Her work has been exhibited in cities across North America, Latin America, Europe, and Asia.

Maria Bouquet has participated in critic and analysis of contemporary Art with Louise Bourgeois in Chelsea, New York and with Carlos Gorriarena in Buenos Aires, Argentina. Her work has been showcased in major fairs, such as: Art Basel; AAF Contemporary Art Fair New York; Centro Cultural Borges, Argentina; Dumbo, New York; World Bank Art Society.

Maria's artistic work caught



our attention when our team attended her Art exhibition opening reception at the Consulate General of Argentina in New York, on November 3, 2016. After a delightful conversation with Maria, we were eager to learn more about her background and experience. We were delighted when Maria agreed to an interview:



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EPN: When did you realize you had artistic talent that you had to cultivate?

MARIA: Well, I think I was born an artist (Smiling). I remember that as a small child I was always very skillful with my hands. I would often win prizes at school for my artwork. I think that being an artist is somehow part of my identity. It is who I am. Art is a form of expression that I have always used to communicate with the world.

EPN: What ignited the spark in you to venture into the world of Art?

MARIA: At a certain point during my life, when I was a lot younger, I learned: "life is short" and there is no time to waste. It was clear to me that I had to follow my dreams. In my late teenage years my father was battling cancer. I learned the toughest lessons from dealing with my father's illness and beautiful ones as well.

EPN: What top three pieces of advice would you give to an aspiring Artist?

MARIA: The top three pieces of advice I would give are very simple:

Be yourself, no matter what.

Follow your dreams, they will take you far.

Be aware that anything is possible. You just need to believe in yourself

EPN: Tell us about some of the obstacles that you've faced. What have you learned from them?

MARIA: What I learned is that obstacles are there to make me stronger. The most important part of dealing with an obstacle is to learn your lesson and move on.

EPN: How many hours do you work per day on average as an Artist?

MARIA: I work every day. When you do what you love there really are no working hours. That's because your work is a source of energy and happiness. But I always make sure life has a certain balance. There is always time to rest, enjoy, share, meditate and breathe.





EPN: Are all your pieces unique?

MARIA: Yes, all my pieces are certainly unique.

EPN: What motivates you?

MARIA: Inspiration has always come from within myself, being inspired is a state of mind. I can reach that state of inspiration through different sources. Practicing Yoga, meditation and breathing techniques have been a continued source of inspiration to me; they take me to that state of mind.

EPN: Are there people who have inspired you? Why?

MARIA: I always found inspiration and motivation from teachers that I was lucky to meet and that guided and supported me during different periods of my life.

French artist Louise Bourgeois (NYC)

Argentinean artist Carlos Gorriarena (Buenos Aires)

Film maker, poet and writer Alejandro Jorodowsky (Paris)

The spiritual Guru Sri Sri Ravishankar (India)

Lastly and always, my family. They have been an inspiration and motivation. My parents, both doctors and intellectuals, have always motivated and inspired me. They gave me the best education they could and made sure I was always surrounded with culture, art, literature, music, and so forth. They have always motivated me to do my best and to give my best.

EPN: Where do you see yourself in 3-5 years?

MARIA: In 3-5 years I see myself taking my last series of paintings a step further, working with larger sizes again, like I used to fifteen years ago. I also see myself developing installations that

I have been thinking about and creating in my mind for a couple of years now.

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