

Ateljë Hanna Gasanova

Project: **To Understand the World you must first Understand Yourself'**

It consists of three main concepts, including 10 acrylic paintings.

### **I. Purpose of the Project: What do I Want to Achieve?**

When I arrived in Sweden in January 2002, the natural environment and its vividly colored Nordic landscapes inspired my pointilistic and decorative artwork. The motifs of my paintings tell important stories of places, people and events.

*"I am an artist who is inspired by the colors of the seasons. Colors are an important part of my art".*

I began my career as a full-time visual artist in 2005. Living with artworks has a special meaning for me. A painting becomes a kind of accompaniment to my own life.

But after a few years of being an active artist in Sweden, I felt that I miss architecture. Initially being trained in Architecture major, I studied at the University of Azerbaijan in the department of Architecture and Constructions in my home town of Baku, Azerbaijan.

I really missed working as an architect. I missed the process of developing and visualization of ideas, playing with shapes, making sketches and drawings. After some pondering, the idea of working on a Project which could bring the two beautiful realms of Architecture and Decorative Art together, came to my mind. There are many architects who paint architecture but unlike them I did not want to paint buildings and constructions. I want to do something else with this mixture. I want to create the perfect balance where the related forms express emotions. By putting together shapes, rhythm, light and colors, I tried to create the stories that radiate energy and power. Beauty, inspiration, magic, originality, charm and mystery are all the things that I have tried to create in my Project in which Architecture meets Decorative Art.

### **II. Architecture is a Form of Visual Art**

*"...You employ stone, wood and concrete, and with these materials you build houses and palaces. That is construction. Ingenuity is at work. But suddenly you touch my heart, you do me good, I am happy and I say: 'This is beautiful.' That is Architecture. Art enters in."*

(Le Corbusier, Vers Une Architecture, 1923)

Art is the consciously created visual object or experience.

The Oxford dictionary states that art is the expression or application of human creative skill and imagination, typically in a visual form such as painting or sculpture, producing works to be appreciated primarily for their beauty or emotional power.

Generally speaking, we might think of three forms of Visual Art

- Painting is art to look at
- Sculpture is art you can walk around
- Architecture is art you can walk through

*" Architecture is an Art when one consciously or unconsciously created aesthetic emotion in the atmosphere and when this environment produces well being". - Luis Barragan*

On the one hand, architecture is inspired by Art. It is very easy to find artistic elements in a building. On the other hand, there are artworks which are inspired by Architecture. In the contemporary world, artists and architects are no longer limited by the traditional materials or ways of expressions. Artists, architects and sculptors today use the medium of visual communication as the basic consideration on which art is being practised today. On

### **III. My Narrative Art**

I have tried to open my inner world where the passion for architecture and art is the driving force that has inspired me to bring Architecture and Decorative Art together.

I was born in Republic of Azerbaijan, a beautiful country at Caspian Sea with rich culture and traditions. I was raised by my parents, two teachers who taught me to appreciate everything I found in that country. My education, my job as an architect, the opportunities which happened to me all developed my personality as a passionate architect and all people around me who helped me in my life and made me happy.

But tragic war forced me to come to a new country, Sweden. Everything in this Nordic country is different: the climate, traditions, living principles and way of thinking.

I went through major transformation in my soul, heart and brain. It took a lot of work to understand the new country, learn the new language and get familiar with the new people.

Over time, I learned new things and the most important thing is that I learned to know myself. I found and developed the qualities and abilities which were within me; these driving forces helped me to find my place in the new country. And now I feel completely free to be myself.

To understand the world you must first understand yourself; that is the meaning and purpose of my Project.

The Project gives me the great opportunity to create my Narrative Art. I found a special way to win over emotions which I use to combine architecture with decorative art. I am deeply connected to the artworks that tell spectators the stories of beautiful places, events, experiences and feelings.