

INTERVIEW Romaine Kuonen – Hadi Mohammadkhani Bajgiran

1)What was the incipit of your artistic career?

Romaine: I was already taught as a child by my artistically active father in classical painting and technique. Many naturalistic and figurative exact paintings were created. Later I wanted to break away from this and started with watercolor in modern painting and began the path as a Contemporary artist. I consciously decided against academic training in painting. I had the great need and urge, and to face my self, my intuition and my feelings in painting. Techniques can be learned, but the inner world needs its own outlet and space to unfold and express itself.

2)How does the inspiration of Hadi in his profession come about and how does he manage to find it?

Hadi: We do not choose subjects, they come to us by themselves. When we find a suitable spiritual ground for this flow and have actually refined ourselves over many years and become a conduit through which feelings flow freely, paintings are formed. This is exactly what children do instinctively and unconsciously, and the result of this pure encounter with emotions is unparalleled artistic masterpieces.

3)Tell us about your artistic collaboration with Hadi Mohammed Khani

Romaine: The versatility of artistic activity and the human component excited me from the beginning and an exchange about art, culture, poetry and stage work arose, which is particularly present in Hadi. Since Hadi is also a painter, the idea and a first attempt at a joint work was soon born. The basis of our joint works are now mystical stories, surreal figures and a generous mixing of different cultures, fabrics and social events across borders. The expression of these images is energetic, delicate and at times ethereally dynamic.

Thus it is that between East and West, across revolutions, art has been reborn for us in the sign of the times in its particularity. Our works are the breaking point, the moment of decision between being and not being, between nothing and something. We are both also individually present at exhibitions. But the joint works bring us inspiration and exciting developments that spur each other on experimentally.

4)What are the artistic currents that Hadi prefers?

Hadi: If the question here is related to artistic styles, I must say that they often do not separate artworks based on the artists' own styles, and perhaps this flow may be of little importance to them. From the point of view of great artists, there is only one style, and that is the personal style of the artist who has achieved independence of expression in his art.

Considering that in addition to painting, I am also active in the field of directing and acting in physical and musical theater, I have realized that the new world needs new and very modern artistic trends. Man today needs a platform to reach self-knowledge, and art and painting, which we are talking about here, are quite helpful.

5)In your opinion, is Europe doing enough to promote art and cultural disciplines?

Hadi: Considering that we are artists from Iran and Switzerland who are active internationally, we have found that the platform for artistic activities in Europe is very good, but not enough. Because art is constantly growing and the foundations of this growth must be provided in harmony with it. Interaction between all branches of art is what we need today and with this aim I have founded "Body Magic Group" to open new doors in art for us.

Romaine: The times we live in are characterized by uncertainty and upheaval. In such times, art has always had great significance. Art inevitably deals with people's emotions, can bring healing or depict and process hardship. More and more new ways have to be found so that art in all its facets finds its place and above all strengthens each other. The promotion of different arts in their commonalities, there is still much potential for development.

6)Can you tell us about the techniques you use?

Hadi: Often we try to use techniques that no one has entered before. Individual and group creations are among the most important parts of presenting our works, and we believe that each person's art should be close to his inner self in such a way that we can know his inner self from his artwork and talk about it. For this reason, we have invented our own unique technique and style and named it "photopin".

Romaine: We deliberately do not use commercially available technical tools. It is a craft specially developed by Hadi that comes into play in our joint art.

7)What are the fundamental human messages at the basis of her artistic production?

Romaine: Our common interests in mysticism, the mysterious in cultures and religions, has shaped our work so far. We both come from different regions and have different cultural backgrounds. But we keep discovering the great commonalities of human existence, the emotions, the longings and the suffering, the happiness and the visions for a better life, no matter where people live.

Hadi: We pay more attention to the figures and human bodies that radiate mysticism inside them, and in the future we will make this issue more prominent in our works.

We refer to the human encounter with existence, life, eternity, and mysticism, something that is required in the art of presence. Thinking about the illuminating light of existence is the foundation of our works.

We narrate these issues in a surrealistic atmosphere.

8)Let's talk about her favorite subjects of hers.

Hadi:Are there any interesting subjects in art?

If so, my answer is:

My favorite subjects are music, physical and musical theater, writing and painting, and I prefer to create a space that serves my feelings by interacting with all these arts.

That is, in the end, it is this feeling that takes all these into its service and creates a work of art.

So, as a result, my favorite subjects are completely rooted in my art and inner feelings.

Romaine: I love to communicate with people through art, on the one hand, by triggering emotions in the viewer, and on the other hand, that especially in contemporary art, a work of art is never finished. In the abstraction and in the emotions that a painting expresses, new thoughts can arise in the viewer every day. That is one of my favorite themes. To surprise myself and the viewer every day anew. The actual process of painting is hard work for me, a suffering and not pleasant. I live for the moment when the work is finished.

9)When do you understand that a work is finished?

Hadi: We come to the conclusion when that painting is successful in relation to us.

This is directly related to human intuition.

As I mentioned before that the subjects choose us, I must say here that it is the painting itself that announces its completion at that moment as it grows.

Romaine: During the process of creating our image, we are in regular intense exchange. The moment when a picture is finished, fits for both of us together. It requires in this kind of cooperation that both can live their freedom in the art implementation and we perceive the product mutually as a gift.

10)Her philosophy of life? Something I didn't ask that she would like you to know.

Romaine: My philosophy is to continue to live my curiosity for knowledge, learning, discovering and being surprised. It is a continuous never ending process to get to know yourself and to develop.

Hadi: My life philosophy is:

Reach more knowledge, to become aware of more ignorance in yourself, this point is a new beginning.

Everything is within you and you just have to discover it.

11)common projects?

The Body Magic Group

International collaborations, artistic works, and performances from 2022 to 2023

Now, by working closely with great European and Swiss artists, new opportunities have arisen for our art, which I can now do next to my homeland in Iran.

The international exchange and transfer of knowledge give me the possibility to promote "The Body Magic Group" in the future with this knowledge of technique and performance in Mashhad.

1 - 2022 Eclipse (musical, physical solo) / performance art video/designer, actor, and director: Hadi MohammadKhani / presented in the exhibition of Mr. Mohammad Honarmand paintings titled My Mental Paintings / Sweden, Ester Gallery, Stockholm / The Body Magic Group

2 - 2022 Digital Exhibition Galleryone962 Rom. Romaine Kuonen with Hadi Mohammadkhani Bajgiran, Iran

3 - 2022 Art Katalog Musa Art Rom, Romaine Kuonen with Hadi Mohammadkhani Bajgiran, Iran

4 - 2022 Art Katalog with 10 Art-Cultural Exchange Romaine Kuonen & Hadi MohammadKhani Bajgiran

5 - 2022 Legendary Stories Switzerland - Iran, art-performance-film cooperation with Digital Art Performance Hadi MohammadKhani Bajgiran, Narrator Luciana Brusa October 22

6 - 2022 Partizipation Luxemburg Festival of Art. Romaine Kuonen & Hadi MohammadKhani Bajgiran

7 - 2022 SGBK exhibition in Härkingen group exhibition November 22; digital Painting Romaine Kuonen & Hadi MohammadKhani Bajgiran

8 - Winner Collective Digital Exhibition Art & Prize „Yellow“ - International Abstract Art December 2022 - Romaine Kuonen & Hadi Mohammadkhani Badjgiran
Prize for creativity, technique, and innovation
3D Galleryone962 Mauro DiFrancesco, José P. Smith , Art Curator Letizia Bocc.

9 - 2023 Romaine Kuonen & Hadi Mohammadkhani Bajgiran. Honored for joint Art 1st international Prize Donatello in Firenze ;Curated by Salvatore Russo & Francesco Saverio Russo, The Effetto Arte Foundation

10 - 2023 Part of the Vol 1; Contemporary Celebrity Masters Catalog; Romaine Kuonen & Hadi Mohammadkhani Bajgiran. Directed by Salvatore Russo. Efectto ARTE Foundation, Palermo

11 - 2023 February "The Hue of innocence". Exhibition Pop ART Predigergasse 22 in Zurich with Miao Li, Romaine Kuonen and joint works with Hadi MohammadKhani Bajgiran, the Body Magic Group, Residence Mashhad

12 - 2023 February Soloexhibition digital Galleryone 962, Rom. Romaine Kuonen with Hadi MohammadKhani Bajgiran, the Body Magic Group, Residence Mashhad
Upcoming Exhibition 2023 Mai – July

13 - 2023 Soloexhibition Mai 6. Mai – 3. June, Galerie Kunstreich, Gerechtigkeitsgasse 76, 3011 Bern, 49 31148 31 41+Bern, Painter Romaine Kuonen/Hadi Mohammadkhani Bajgiran with live Performance Hadi MohammadKhani Bajgiran, the Body Magic Group, Residence Mashhad

14 - 2023 Art & Performance Atelier Dati with live Performance, Zelglistrasse 35, 8330 Pfäffikon, 079 467 13 36 Hadi MohammadKhani Bajgiran, the Body Magic Group Residence Mashhad

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