

Getting Into Blue

As **Marianne Pasmans** opens her home for an exhibition of her works this month, BC stole a moment with the artist.



Marianne Pasmans



FUSION STONE

The bold statements of colour simmering, swirling and sometimes simply pausing across the walls of Marianne Pasmans' elegantly minimalist home are very like windows onto various perfect storms glinting in best china teacups. In her spacious Hamala home, there is everything that is comfortable and nothing that is florid, so that the vitality of her own artworks and her preferences for the likes of such powerful but raw artists as Wilhelm De Kooning, Francis Bacon and even Anselm Kiefer, are particularly striking.

"I love art and not simply because I am an artist - I really enjoy it" says Marianne who as a student, would even travel across Europe to catch an exhibition by a favourite painter. Trained at the Academy of Fine Arts, Marianne is returning to painting after nearly two decades, in which time she has worked as a designer for various industries and even spent thirteen years in the banking and finance industry. "I have developed tremendously as a person through all my experiences but my hand was a little rusty at first!"

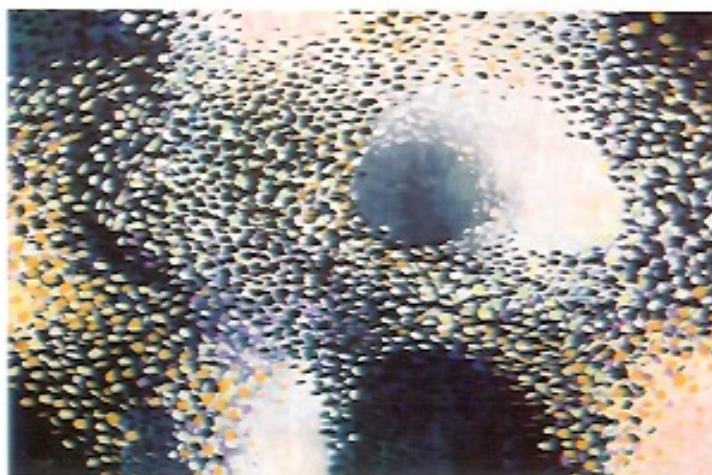
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Despite the world's love for ingénue, the years in-between have brought a maturity of vision that allows Netherlands born Marianne to distinguish between the artists she admires and her own creative style. "None of my work is shocking or offensive" admits Marianne who nevertheless refuses to allow good taste to determine good art even as she says "art should elicit a reaction and it should do so without having to resort to shock tactics. If the art piece moves you and is based on solid technique, then it is real and not a cheat." Her own works are not so much representations of life as they are vivid celebrations of emotive connections between an art piece and a viewer.

And perhaps the boldness of her works are a celebration of the freedom she has found as an artist, something which was not possible as a designer when she worked according to specific briefs. Her decision to host her first exhibition in Bahrain at her own home was a fortuitous accident. For three days starting on November 14th, her paintings will be seen as they were intended - to enrich living space.

There is also a personal agenda. "It's a good opportunity to introduce myself without being too aggressive" she laughs, saying that for all its freedom, painting can also be solitary ■

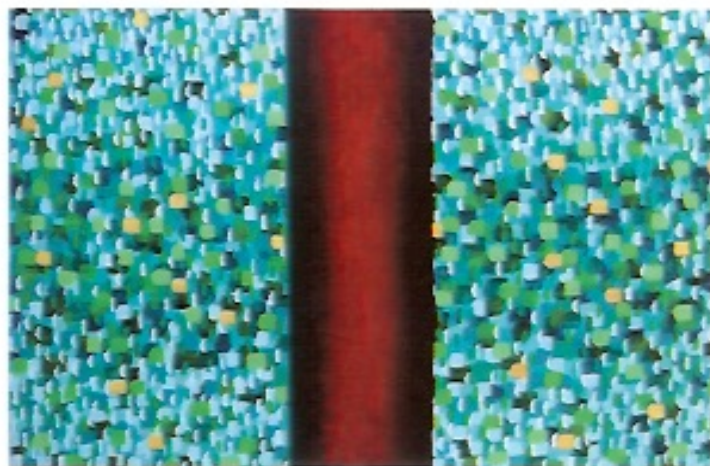
Blue, an exhibition of works in acrylic by Marianne Pasmans will be on display at the artist's home from 6.30pm on the opening night and from 10am-9pm on subsequent days. For further details, contact Marianne on Tel. +973 3992 2642 or email, marianne@pasmansdesigns.com.



UNTITLED
Acrylic on Canvas



BLUE II
Acrylic on Canvas (Textured paste with pallet knife)



GREEN
Acrylic on Canvas