

APOLO MIRANDA

Apolo was born in the City called Ciudad Hidalgo, which is in the State of Michoacan, located on the pacific coast of Mexico.

At early age, Apolo left home seeking adventure. After traveling throughout Mexico, he decided to backpack across the USA and Europe. He survived doing water-colors and painting Easter eggs (using acrylic). «It was more important to support my self than to create art. «A gallery owner invited him to show his work in Neckargemünd in Germany. He recalls «I was the only one looking at them, but I achieved my purpose which was to see Europe». Upon returning to Mexico Apolo lived on the southeast coast, one of the poorest areas in the country. There he worked as a journalist. «It was a world of poverty, ignorance, corruption, human rights violations and many other social problems, my vision of the real world became a sarcastic issue in my life, there were human beings who were treated worse than animals. This forced me to look deep inside myself, to see what was in there, to criticize and analyze the forgotten part of mankind... his artistic perfection and nature, the basic instruments for humans to survive». Apolo discovered that finding a positive outlet to express these feelings was hard and for many years he volunteered with Amnesty International (AI). Apolo is multi-lingual and his experiences with AI as well as his travels throughout Europe, Asia and America, have enabled him to learn more about other cultures. Apolo never took painting seriously until 1991, when he began studying art after moving to Puebla, Mexico.

It was here that he became actively involved in organizing shows because the «dinosaurs» do nothing to support cultural development, not even the necessary improvement of its primary cultural needs. «Hundreds of artists from Mexico's lower class will never have a chance to show their potential because in my country development is a privilege reserved for society's elite».

Everything was going well for Apolo until November 1993 when he suffered a terrible personal tragedy that turned his entire existence upside down. This life changing event forced him to make drastic changes. He disposed of his most cherished belongings and said farewell, again, to his past, leaving all that he loved behind in Mexico.

He traveled throughout the United States, and then continued on to Europe. Later he returned to the U.S. and established in 1997, in Chicago, his first studio as a painter. He recalls «Painting was always there but the motivation to create was gone». It was then, in 1996 when he began to paint again. It was hard to find a place or Gallery to show any art work, even the called Latino galleries refused his work but not the Polish Museum of America, (he remembers).

His most recent work includes figurative ethnic and modern contemporary art. «For me (he adds), painting has become a passion that needs to be freed every day... creating, searching, developing, finding a message to be given is a goal of that solitude to create; using color is like caressing the skin of a woman, you need to find the most sensitive part of it». Everything an artist does is from the deepest elements of his essence, his feelings, his ideas and gives a reason for viewers to search and to believe in their own essence, their roots, their identity and even their dreams and nightmares. It is «A light in the darkness, because it is the most profound expression, -reflection-, of yourself, forcing you to take a serious look at the inner you».

The seventh of eleven children, Apolo is the only one to ever live outside of Mexico. His philosophy is that «A person's success and accomplishments cannot be measured by material possessions, rather by their ability to learn to live with an understanding of others and a respect for nature. This is the essence of life, a goal and a responsibility».

Apolo has shown and sold his paintings directly to private art collectors in Mexico, Australia, the United States and European countries. Apolo lives and works in Switzerland.

EXHIBITIONS

1996	Ethnic Art Festival	Evanston, IL. USA
1997	Genesis Gallery	Chicago, IL. USA
	EGG Gallery	Chicago, IL. USA
	Collage Gallery	Chicago, IL. USA
	Polish Museum of America	Chicago, IL. USA
1997-98	Creative Artist Gallery	Chicago, IL. USA
1998	Landmark of Andersonville Gallery	Chicago, IL. USA
	Art in the woods	Overland Park, KS. USA
	Polish Museum of America	Chicago, IL. USA
	South & West Gallery	Chicago, IL. USA
	Time & Life Building Gallery	Chicago, IL. USA
1998-99	Chopin Theater Gallery	Chicago, IL. USA
1999	Hi Ricky's Gallery	Chicago, IL. USA
	Las manos Gallery	Chicago, IL. USA
	Polish Museum of America	Chicago, IL. USA
2000	MEX Gallery	Berne, Switzerland
	Art in the woods	Overland Park, KS. USA
	Polish Museum of America	Chicago, IL. USA
	Ñandu Gallery	Chicago, IL. USA
	Kunst-Kafi Galerie	Weisslingen, Switzerland
2001	Toscana Gallery	Berne, Switzerland
	Luna Lena Galerie	Berne, Switzerland
	IMCE, Mexican Culture Centre	Chicago, IL. USA
	Ñandu Gallery	Chicago, IL. USA
	Caribbean Creations Gallery	Chicago, IL. USA
2002	Atelier pe	Berne, Switzerland
	Kunst Kafi Galerie	Weisslingen, Switzerland
	Espacio "arte y cultura"	Berne, Switzerland
	Stufenbau Galerie	Berne, Switzerland
	Galeria Centro Hispanoamericano	Zurich, Switzerland
2003	Libromania	Berne, Switzerland
	Tucano Galerie	Berne, Switzerland
	Espacio "arte y cultura"	Berne, Switzerland
	National, Latino Festival	Berne, Switzerland
2004	Tucano Galerie	Berne, Switzerland
	Hüsler Nest Galerie	Berne, Switzerland
2005	Galerie Atelier Apolo Miranda	Berne, Switzerland
2006	Tucano Galerie	Berne, Switzerland
	Jegenstorf Castle	Jegenstorf, Switzerland
	Bellevue Gallerie	Morschach, Switzerland
2007	Storrer Interieur	Berne, Switzerland
	Galerie 4-8	Berne, Switzerland
2008	Storrer Interieur	Berne, Switzerland
	Schiffhaube Galerie	Berne, Switzerland
	Art Place88	Gumligen, Switzerland