

Interview Mary Lipian

1. What does it mean to paint for you? What do you like most?

I love working with color and using paint to express my feelings. I like to communicate through my own visual language. Painting for me is communicating emotions through the visual language that is my own. I like to think of it as visual poetry.

As my paintings are created, what I like best are the unexpected surprises that come to life as the paintings are made.

2. What is the common thread that connects your paintings to each other?

I believe my paintings have a sense of rhythm through the paint strokes and the bold colors. At one level, the common thread is that the paintings are about mark making, but also the paintings are tied together through movement of the colors and strokes, allowing the viewer only a hint of representation combined with abstraction, It is my hope the viewer will consider what the paintings means to him or her at a personal level and trigger meaning or emotions in the viewer, too.

3. In your opinion which are the artists who have most marked their eras?

I am drawn by the work of Tracey Emin, who is so fearless and raw in the way she communicates her feelings through her art. I also love the paintings of Joan Mitchell for their movement and rhythm. The colors come to life on the canvas through the dancing paint strokes. Allison Miller is a third female painter who has influenced me. Her paintings have a wonderful clarity and femininity and embrace the unexpected.