

## Avi Ben-Simhon

Avi Ben Simhon s works are unique in their bright and effervescent gripping colors and dynamic textures. His compelling, intricate compositions intrigue the eye of the viewer. Avi was influenced by the fauvist and cubist painters of the 19th century, particularly Picasso, and the surrealist painters, Dali and Magritte. The dramatic, powerful images and forceful colors are dominant in his oeuvre and express a joy of life.

His work is the culmination of artistic excellence and a background in graphic printing and is exciting, unique and has become a favorite among collectors for its beauty and mood.

The inspiration for my work comes from within me, he explained. I am not trying to copy nature - I am copying my imagination.

Ben-Simhon was born in Fezze, Morrocco in 1947, but he spent his formative years in Israel. His family immigrated to the country in 1948 upon the establishment of the Israeli state. The artist grew up in the historic city of Jerusalem and also served in the Israeli army before joining a group of friends to establish Kibbutz Eyal.

Along with its religious significance in his life, Israel was also the location of Ben-Simhon s extensive art education. In 1986, he studied at the acclaimed Avni Art Institute, which was followed by three years of immersion into the world of contemporary art at the acclaimed Kallisher Institute. Ben-Simhon soon became fascinated by the Fauvist and Cubist painters of the 19th Century, and the influence of this style is readily apparent in his paintings. He says his work is marriage of beauty and complication, and he finds that his collectors adore the round lines, colorful images and the feeling of happiness they evoke.

Today, Avi Ben-Simhon has become a highly collectible painter whose works can be found in private and corporate collections around the world. His dramatic, brilliantly colored images have also been the subject of myriad images throughout Israel, France, Canada and the United States.

### His exhibitions include:

- 1990 Goldman Rockville Gallery, Washington D.C.
- 1992 Kallisher 5 Gallery, Tel Aviv
- 1994 Zionist Organization of America, Tel Aviv
- 2001 The Gallery of Kibbutz Naan
- 2002 Art Miami, Florida
- 2002 International Artexpo New York
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