

Rina Ronis Thau

Frequently I am asked why I decided to become an artist. This question was a rather difficult one for me to answer because the truth is, I did not choose art -- but rather, I feel art choose me. From childhood influences to my current work, artistic forms were always a means I used to help me with the world.

From as far back as my earliest childhood memories, I can remember myself always holding a brush or a pencil to paint or to draw. When childhood friends would go outside to play, I would remain inside experimenting with various paints such as oils and water colors. As a teenager, when other girls would read romantic novels, I spent my time reading the biographies of famous artists. A blank canvas soon thereafter became my adversary; it made me apprehensive yet challenged me to express myself through it.

Even today I find it easier to express myself through art simply due to the fact that I am dyslexic. Painting is now my "sight-picture" to the world. It allows me to communicate with images and colorful displays of thought that would have otherwise remained trapped inside me. For instance, my self-awareness of the female shape encourages me to introduce fruit, specifically pears, into many of my works. In addition, the subject of the painting is merely an instrument which allows me to work with color. This can be attributed to my upbringing in Israel, where both sun and light are so abundant that I tend to apply these colorful influences to canvas today as an integral part of my creations.

As you can see, there are a myriad of influences and paths that have guided me to find peace and passion. Today, I can not ascertain where I actually end and where art beings--there is no separation.