



"The Enigmatic Traveler" Acrylic on hardboard 17 x 17 inches

JEROME MAGGIORE

I'm not very good at talking about myself. But I am very good at expressing myself through my art. Art is what I do. It's what I think, breathe and feel.

To me my work is an extension of my personal quest for my life's purpose. I don't mean to get philosophical, but for years now I have been trying to find truth and meaning to my existence though. My art helps me fulfill my reason for being. My work reflects the ideas I struggle with on a daily basis. Not all my artwork is based on such serious subjects. I do explore other aspects of my daily experience and this is evident in some of my paintings.

Many of my pieces dig deep into my subconscious. The result is a combination of thoughts and emotions which manifest themselves in a drama of images. Other works are lighter in subject and often suggest a gentler side of my psyche.

One thing is certain: every piece grips the observer by drawing him into the artwork and then engages his mind so that he is forced to interpret what he sees.

Although my intention is usually to represent ideas I have created in my mind, I often start a piece only to find myself diverted from the original objective. When this happens I just go with the flow. I am still in control of my technique, but the final compositions may differ dramatically from its original intent. I have learned not to fight this phenomenon but embrace it instead. The results have been rewarding. The piece seems to take on a life of its own and I become merely a conduit to its will.

Many of my multimedia constructions incorporate human faces. I do this in order to create a stronger presence for the piece. People more readily connect to a human face than to any other image. Once the viewer is attracted to the artwork their mind then becomes engaged with the symbolism throughout the layout and the imagery.

Most viewers find it necessary to decipher the meaning of each piece. “What does it mean?” “Why did you paint it this way?” They try to figure out what I had in mind when I created the work. It is important that they exercise their own interpretation. Each piece will have a different meaning for each person based on that individual's experiences, prejudices and fears. Only by processing the artwork through their own mind will the observer truly appreciate the full impact each piece is meant to produce.

This is the way I want people to enjoy my art, on their own. I believe that all art should be experienced in this manner. Just like we create pictures in our heads based on the words we are reading in a book, so should we allow the imagery in a painting give rise to the emotions that are triggered by our unique experience of viewing that picture.

Experience, interpret and enjoy.

Jerome

Biography

Art has always taken a prominent place in Jerome's life. He considers himself mostly self taught even though he has successfully completed a specialized art program in high school and has pursued other artistic training to refine his skills.

He began exhibiting and selling his work in galleries and through commissions in 1982. He has also participated in several group shows and gallery exhibits. During this period he painted in oils and watercolours. He also did pen and ink and graphite drawings. Many of his works now hang in private collections in Canada, the United States and Italy.

In 1993 Jerome received his diploma in creative advertising from Algonquin College. He spent the rest of the next period in his life pursuing a career in creative advertising and graphic design. He has worked for a number of publications as an advertising consultant and has provided graphic design services as a freelancer to several marketing firms.

From 1996 to 2000 Jerome worked for Corel Corporation as a Lead Graphic Designer. Upon leaving the company he co-founded ImageBender Communications, holding the title of Art Director. In 2003 he left the partnership to start his own graphic design company “Visual One Design”. He is currently Creative Director of this successful company and provides services to a growing number of clients. This year the business has grown to include clients in the United States.

Jerome has never given up his passion for painting. In 2006 he returned to his natural talent and resumed his artwork. His career in creative advertising and graphic design has provided Jerome the opportunity to enhance his visual communications and layout skills. He continues to use these skills in his paintings.

Jerome has expanded his techniques to include acrylic painting, photo collages and mixed media. The persistent manner in which he experiments with presentation has allowed him to jump from a two-dimensional surface to a three-dimensional stage that allows him to create art that is part painting, part sculpture.

His art exhibits a provocative quality that captures the viewer's attention and engages intellectual senses. The use of colour, images and composition are designed to make the observer think and interpret the symbolism through his own experiences. He encourages the observer to delve into his consciousness to find a personal interpretation to each piece. This is definitely the best way to experience this artwork.

GALLERIES AND REPRESENTATION

2009	IPO Gallery, Ottawa, Canada
2007-09	Cube Gallery, Ottawa, Canada
2007-09	La Petite Mort Gallery, Ottawa, Canada
1994	Gallery Jacar, Ottawa, Canada
1993	Lucie Seguin, South Carolina, United States
1990	Hyperion Gallery, Ottawa, Canada
1990	Decorleans, Orleans, Ontario, Canada
1989	Koyman Galleries, Ottawa, Canada
1986	McPherson Gallery, Almonte, Ontario, Canada
1986	Ottawa Art Gallery, Ottawa, Canada
1986	Point Rouge Gallery, Montreal, Canada
1985	Jacques Dupuis, Art Agent, Montreal, Canada

SOLO SHOWS

2009	IPO Gallery, Ottawa, Canada
2008	La Petite Mort Gallery, Ottawa, Canada

GROUP SHOWS

2007	Cube Gallery, "Green", Ottawa, Canada
1989	Ottawa Art Gallery, Ottawa, Canada
1987	Charity Art Show for the University of Ottawa Heart Institute, Ottawa, Canada
1982	Limone D'Oro Provincial Art Show, Bagheria, Sicily

