

## **Sophie Chir : What Happens When I Create**

**Sophie Chir is a French artist whose works have unbelievably amazing and beautiful colors. She is a synesthesia artist that can see sound. Her works are mainly exposed at galleries bellow, mainly in Paris.**

**Galerie Menouar - 16, rue du Parc Royal 75003 Paris**

**Galerie Perahia - 24, rue Dauphine 75006 Paris**

### **Interview**

***-----For those who are not familiar with you, allow us to know more about you. How did you get interested in art and how did you become an artist?***

I was born in Paris in the district of Montmartre which is famous for Place du Tertre and painters who, from my earliest childhood, I enjoyed watching them paint. I adored drawing, painting and creating, but I didn't go deeper into my passions. I worked in event communication and enjoyed painting as a leisure activity. In less than 3 years, I became a professional artist.

***-----For you, what is art?***

For me, art is a source of feelings and intense sensations, whether it's when I look at the artworks of the other artists who touch me, or when I create. Art is essential to me, it feeds my soul and my intellect.

***-----When your feeling creative, what happens in your mind?***

I see colors ☺ I am synesthete to quote Wassily Kandinsky or Arthur Rimbaud. Recently, I was finally able to put words on this neurological peculiarity which associates, in my case, a sound with a color. I paint in music because it creates in me a color palette which I then place on the canvas. No matter the events which took place in my life, I want to paint only the beautiful feelings. For that, I immerse myself in rhythmical and positive music which make me happy and light. As a result, my colors are bright and cheerful. One of my small whims is to work by listening to the same music for whole days to keep the same color palette. For example, a few months ago, I listened to ceaselessly 'Happy' by Pharrell Williams or 'Get lucky' by Daft Punk.

***-----Do you know what would you like to draw from the beginning or do you follow your feelings?***

I never know what I'm going to paint or which colors I'm going to use. The abstraction is at the heart of my art because it leaves all its freedom to the unexpected collisions between colors. As it was said by a French art critic, I am synesthete and choreographer of the color. According to the music, essential in my process of creation, I collide colors, hence the name "Colliding" that I have given to my canvases: Colliding N°1, N°2, N°3, etc. And contrary to the drippings of Pollock, my gesture doesn't consist in letting the painting drip; it's much more whipped, struck, thrown in the knife, as a way to organize color meetings. Such a thrown ball, the color flutters, bounces, juxtaposes, or overlaps, creating an infinity of details, but also relieves and contrasts fitting out plans and depths. Colliding, the name of my paintings, is also a wink to Jackson Pollock. Often people evoke the drippings of Jackson when they see my artwork. Even if I'm honored by that, I clearly wanted to mean that my technique wasn't the same.

***-----What is the most exciting experience you have ever had in your life?***

My life is filled with exciting experiences, but my most exciting artistic experiences were:

- My first exhibition
- My first sale
- The history course of the art on Vassily Kandinsky which taught me that he was synesthete and which has me allowed to put a name to my own synaesthesia
- My first hanging in gallery in September 2014 at the Gallery Mickael Marciano Rivoli.

My first participation in a charitable sale of contemporary art for 'Child Care for All. Adoring children, the project terribly meets a lot to me, because the profits of this sale were for the construction of a nursery in India by the Association France Inde Karnataka.

***-----Who do you admire most and why?***

I admire Janet Sobel (1894-1968 ), an American-Ukrainian artist, whom I call the Mother of the dripping and who I wish to highlight as soon as the opportunity is given to me. This incredible artist is almost unknown, even if she has invented the technique of the dripping. The Dripping who marked the painting of the 20th century, but only very recently have we attributed the paternity of this technique to Jackson Pollock.

From 1943 till 1945, she exhibited at the Museum of Brooklyn. In 1944, her works were included in a large-scale itinerant exhibition Abstract and Surrealist Painting in America which crossed the country.

The same year, Janet Sobel realized her first personal exhibition in the Peggy Guggenheim's gallery Art of this Century and it's there that Jackson Pollock saw her artwork and was inspired by it to create his drippings. In 1946, Janet Sobel and her family moved of New York towards the suburbs and this estrangement contributed to making her pass in the second rank after Pollock. After developing an allergy to paint, Sobel worked in crayon and pencil after 1948, and at her death in 1968 she was little more than a rumor - the woman who had dripped paint before Pollock. She resurfaced in an article on Pollock by William S. Rubin that appeared in Artforum in 1967; the Museum of Modern Art acquired a painting of hers just after she died, and occasionally exhibits it next to its Pollocks. As the french historian of art Béatrice, Joyeux-Prunel said, "an immigrated Jew, a mother of four children, did not correspond just like a pictorial revolution: only a man could embody the myth of the American avant-garde. »

**-----If you could create one thing without any restrictions or limitations, what would you like to create and why?**

The children occupy an important place in my life. My dream would be to build a museum where the children would have the right to touch the artworks. Moreover, I already invite them to touch mine during my exhibitions. Why not imagine it on the scale of a museum?

**-----What is the most important belief you have in your life?**

Love, Humanity, Hope...

**-----If you could make a call to 20-year-old Sophie Chir, what kind of advice would you give to her?**

Believe in yourself and do it!

**-----If you could leave one message to make the world a better place, what would be your message?**

Stop killing yourself