



Departure, 2014, Oil on Canvas, 32 x 42"



Onloaded: Maral Tabrizi

April 18 – May 11, 2014

Maral Tabrizi earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree at University of Tehran, Iran as well as a Master of Fine Arts in Industrial Design from the University of Illinois at Chicago. In 2010, she earned a Master of Science degree in Product Design from Arizona State University. She currently lives and works in Tempe.

Artist Statement: I have recurring strange and violent dreams, which makes me interested in exploring the subconscious mind and its many complexities. Painting my dreamscapes has helped me to manifest them in a more tangible way. According to Freud dreams are collages of images and memories that our subconscious has collected throughout the years. Painting my dreams to me is a journey of self-realization, which involves better articulation of my psyche. My paintings are reflections of an inner world – a world impossible to photograph or describe using words. I believe that my dream images reveal something about myself, my relationships with others, and situations from my waking life. Painting is a sanctuary in which I can indulge in my dreams and the inner psyche that projects them.

My work is neither of this world nor out of this world, yet it takes inspiration from both. I strive for a balance between what is familiar, and what provokes thought and challenges dogma. I am trying to examine different compositional possibilities and vivid colors in order to create a dream-like theatrical scene in which my inner creature lives freely. I am interested in the juxtaposition of horror and ugliness of my nightmares with the beauty of human body. My work can be best described as magic realism.

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P.O. Box 45224
Phoenix, AZ 85064-5224
www.phica.org

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