



Elmira Shokr Pour (Iran)



(C)Elmira Shokr Pour
"Savior"



(C)Elmira Shokr Pour
"Mortelle"



(C)Elmira Shokr Pour
Shadows know

For as long as I can remember, I've always had a pencil in my hand. Whenever I had some spare time, I was drawing and creating art.

The subject of my paintings relates to my childhood memories, my female identity, and the role of women in Iranian society. When I draw, I try to truly understand not only myself, but also womankind in general. Come to think of it, I've been focusing on women and their daily lives for most of my artistic career. Women are the source of life, and an enigma of nature; I find them to be mysterious, extraordinary, and phenomenal, and it's no wonder why they were so often celebrated in Iranian mythology.

In this series of paintings, I've mostly depicted a woman with a mysterious smile wearing a mask. I've used blue, grey, violet, and black to express my dark feelings, as well as to create a silent, nocturnal ambience. In these works, half-stagnant and half-animated, life seems to have come to a halt, though the characters struggle to survive.

My paintings are somewhat surreal, and are not restricted to time or space; vast, blue plains, deep oceans, and barren forests are the only environs I depict. In these works, colour, shadow, and rhythm combine to present a story about our dualistic and eternal inner world, bringing to the surface the feelings and thoughts behind the 'masks' we wear.

My paintings reflect the places I've lived in my dream-world, replete with the colours I see, and the emotions I feel. Those who view my works will behold a window into my life, my memories, and my feelings. Painting is my refuge, and my way of escaping from everyday life. Though I've worked with a variety of media, I tend to prefer oil-based and acrylic paints, as more than anything else, they allow me to effectively express my feelings and artistic vision.