

The Corner of the Arts | June 2017 English

Elisa Pritzker presents Julia Santos Solomon

The power of art to correct and tell the story

Julia Santos Solomon, visionary artist, successful American, born in the Dominican Republic.

1. Julia, how and when did you start your career in the visual arts?

The impulse to express my emotions through art is powerful. My commitment to being an artist occurred during my adolescence at the Art & Design High School. It was a call, not an option. Art resonates deep within me.

2. How does your root influence your art?

My roots are a powerful source of energy, emotion and motivation. For years, I've been telling a family story. Four generations of Dominican women who transcend survival. The displacement caused by immigration has been replaced by the ascension, expressed by the divine, a feeling of being raised to new ground. My current work is committed to colonial history and the impact it had on our country.

3. Your works are mostly of a figurative nature and you use different materials. How do you decide what to use when you create your works?

My training was classical and figurative. Currently my work is abstract and more inclusive. Being an interdisciplinary artist, I use the medium that best expresses my message. I recently fused sculpture and painting in digital engraving on metal. I am currently working with layers of gold, the indigenous metal taken from my birthplace by the European conquerors. The process allows me to re-appropriate the gold to its place of origin. Art allows me to cure and fix the story.

4. How is your pace and way of working in your studio?

My study is my church where I can interact with the divine. In the studio I have many surfaces that allow me to work on multiple pieces simultaneously, up to 10 pieces at a time. I need order in the studio, because my mind is full of images.

5. Where can you find more about your work?

www.juliasantossolomon.com

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Elisa Pritzker, is an artist and independent curator. His column "The Corner of the Arts" is currently published in La Voz and ABClatino Magazine / www.elisapritzker.com