

HOLLY HUNT ART

ABOUT

Janet Maya

Born and raised on Long Island, the natural ecosystem, chroma, and luminosity, became embedded as eventual influencers on my work. A diverse group of people from other parts of the globe (through my father's textile design and import business), brought contrasts and politics to my doorstep at an early age.

I embarked on my art studies as a painter at the School of Visual Arts, and joined the world of photography and film after several years. This switch of medium was heavily influenced by my older brother, the performing artist Frank Maya. His performances, his projects and the places he performed, exposed me to video, television and other documentary methods. I loved creating in the alternate media, but my attachment to painting always remained.

I returned to paint as my primary means of artistic expression in the last few years. A viewer might first see bold simplicity in my work

based on forms and selected coloration. However, as I paint my figures, my message is focused on empowerment, bold strengths, a certain level of vulnerability, and expression of inner beauty.

Distinctive use of color in my work predominantly equates with particular sentiments. I see backgrounds which can be likened to an emotional tapestry. Texture and paint quality are a conscious part of my expression. With multiple figural portrayals within one work, the relationship between each, and to the particular depicted environment, speaks to the same concerns.

Despite what could be categorized on inspection, as a placid calm in my oeuvre, there is always a layered complexity. There are elaborate, split and divergent paths that denote the human experience.