

# VIRGINIE BOCAERT

## BIOGRAPHY

Virginie Bocaert was born in France. She has been living and working in Montreal since 2002. "It was around the age of 10 that I discovered oil painting and began exploring with the medium. As my parents were big fans of painting, they took me to Paris several times to visit artist workshops and studios. It was the experience of visiting artist spaces, art galleries, and museums throughout my childhood that enriched my cultural perspective"...

In 1997 she obtained a diploma from the Graduate School of Paris fashion with honors. After a career as a designer for women, the artist decided to turn back to painting full time. Following several workshops with artists like Anne Van Mierlo, Jennifer Hornyak and Marilyn Rubenstein, she decided to take a studio to work his own style.

The achievement of several abstract works by means of textiles, clothing and collages today leads to a more figurative work, which represents the accumulation of his life experiences.

## ARTIST'S STATEMENT

"My painting is like a setting image, a representation of what I felt or lived at a time past or present of my life. It takes its strength from the memory.

Through my history, my experience and my origins atmospheres immerse my work. I jump on the canvas without a clear idea of the final result. I apply colors and shapes until it start to show a sense, an atmosphere that I recognize that I can decode and I can understand the source. It's like an open book on a lifetime. They are often feelings that arise. It is through the construction, destruction and reconstruction that show any characters and/or places.

The work takes it's meaning when 'the history' appears to me quickly. If I have trouble with the direction of my canvas so I reworked it and sometime when I can't find a sens to it, I take a distance (few days or weeks, even months!) and then take it back to find a new direction that speak more to me.

The human being is also very strong and very present in my work. Indeed by its complexity and diversity, human puts us in situations or statements that can be constructive or destructive. As said Jean-Paul Sartre 'Hell is other people'. And Thomas Hobbes 'Human being is a wolf to human being'. We must live and fight with and against some statements imposed by others. The influence, prejudice, the critics of others has often been a battle for me in instance to build myself a personality, to know me better and gain confidence in me."

