
At the crossroad of impressionism and hyper-realism, there is an opportunity with art to provide uniquely positive experiences for the viewer. Painting oceans and seascapes, adding multidimensionality with texture and detail, I have adapted my technique in this way which I call hyper-impressionism.

Akin to sculpture, the multidimensional aspects of my pieces are deliberately applied to achieve a recreation of the iridescence and particular glimmer of each scene's natural counterpart.

Watercolor, acrylics, and other metallic pigments on canvas, my artwork always infused with large amounts of water. By diluting pigments and applying incredibly fine layers of paint, the emotional value behind sunlight shining through water or reflecting on sand can be emulated.

A single piece can have upwards of fifteen very thin layers within a single area. Having almost no opacity, each of these layers remains incredibly vibrant through the use of bronze pigments and sub layers. Combined with varying textures and depths the final compositions are tangible representations of the memories I've kept from my Caribbean home.

Sharing these scenes with others, as a way to escape the concrete jungle and urban lifestyles, is what motivates me to create. The process is cathartic, and allows viewers a respite from life's chaos.

Christel Astakoff

Artist, Luxembourg

Demoiselle Bleue

For thousands of years, the waters of churned countless passed by overhead. Hearing but never listening. The unison of mystical voices, made up of endlessly unique strands. The iridescent voices call in search of their Lady for guidance. Endless vessels chose to ignore Her. One after another, wreaking turmoil and imbalance in their selfish wake.

Without sacrifice or honor through ritual, no help would come to these travelers should the waves swallow them whole. The glare of the horizon blinded them, and thus the song of the sea remained cryptic. Only the Lady who thought of the depths, understood their gallant call.
