

Chitra Ramanathan

Multimedia Art
United States

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Professional Experience and Curriculum Vitae

Chitra Ramanathan's intensely colorful, intricately textured paintings embody happiness as a visual entity with a 'formless form'. They are widely collected by individuals worldwide, and have been site-specific commissioned for public art venues.

Established visual artist, educator and muralist Chitra Ramanathan's widely collected paintings have been acquired by individuals within the United States, Europe and India, and commissioned for different permanent and temporary public art installations in the United States to date. Her unique body of paintings that has produced delight, inspiration and peace to lovers and owners of Ramanathan's artwork, that are inspired by short-lived garden blooms and cyclical seasons both of which she compares with the continually evolving, ephemeral, fleeting happiness' "formless form", a phrase she coined to describe her concept.

The artist's acrylics and mixed media paintings, many of which are large-scale, are uniquely characteristic of intense colors and multiple layers of varied textural materials that interact with light. They have been described as "tactile works that resonate with a quiet harmony" by Manhattan Arts, New York, where several galleries exhibited her work on Broadway, Soho, New York in solo and group exhibitions since 1995 following a solo exhibition in Chicago in 1994.

Painted on diverse surfaces be they canvas, plexiglas, linen, paper or anodized aluminum, viewers experience the illusion of the images extending beyond the confines of their otherwise two-dimensional surfaces under any light situation. Her work explores color, form and line that emerge as "formless forms" as she calls her abstracted images that mysteriously peek out of colorful details, while hints at circles that are also an integral part of her work signify the human life cycle. As a whole, her compositions and assemblages present an ongoing dialogue that offers endless possibilities to the viewer imagination.

Drawing and painting from a very early age, Chitra Ramanathan made her foray into art at a weekend art school for children in Kolkata, India when she was four years old. She entered competitions throughout her growing years through several of which she earned prizes and recognition.

The early successes led to her seeking higher education by earning a Bachelors degree in Fine Arts from Stella Maris College, Chennai India. After moving to the United States she continued her education in art and earned a second Bachelors degree in Painting with honors from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 1993, followed by a M.B.A in Human Resources and Art Museum Administration in 1997 combined with a summer internship at the New Museum of Contemporary Art, Broadway, New York in 1996. During her undergraduate years, she allotted time to study painting and French art history in Paris, France with extended time spent at Claude Monet's garden in Giverny, France and other parts of Europe that influenced her later work.

The artist returned to France in 2010, accepting an invitation from Artistay.org affiliated to the UNESCO, for a self-directed artist residency at Camac Centre D'Art at Marnay-sur Seine near Paris, completing her month long work in April 2010 by returning to Giverny.

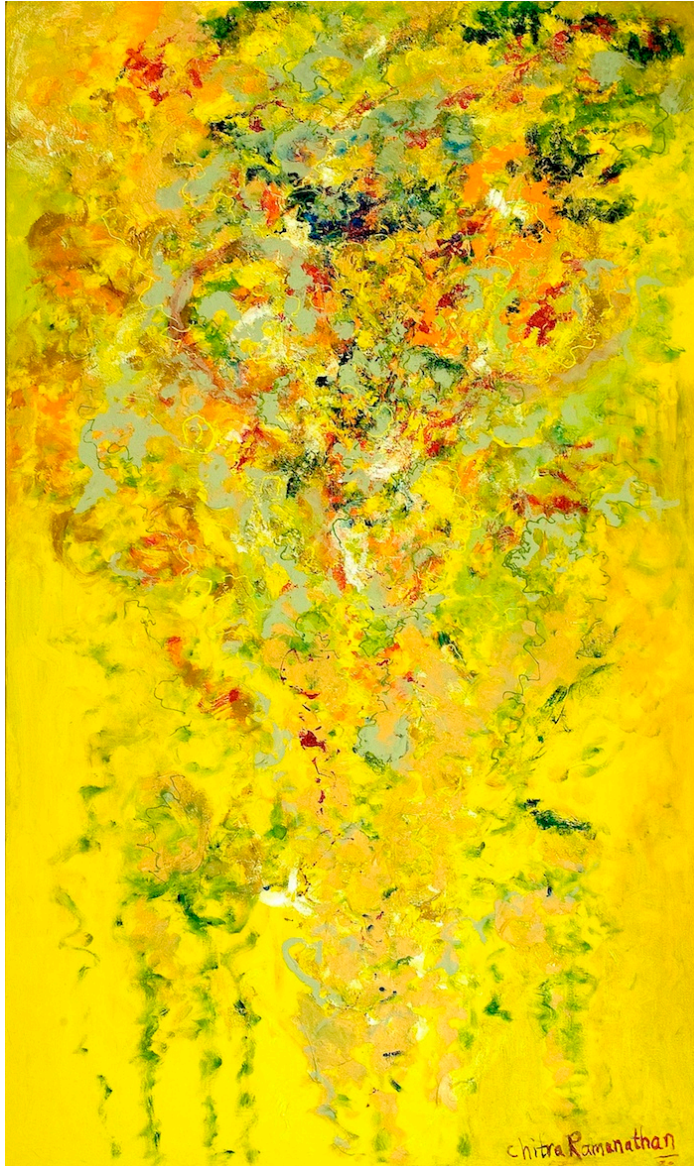
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Indianapolis Arts Garden, downtown Indianapolis, USA in 2006, closely following a Visitor Artist tour to the Royal Academy of Arts, London, England to which institution RA Keeper and Head Maurice Cockrill invited the artist for a presentation and talk on her

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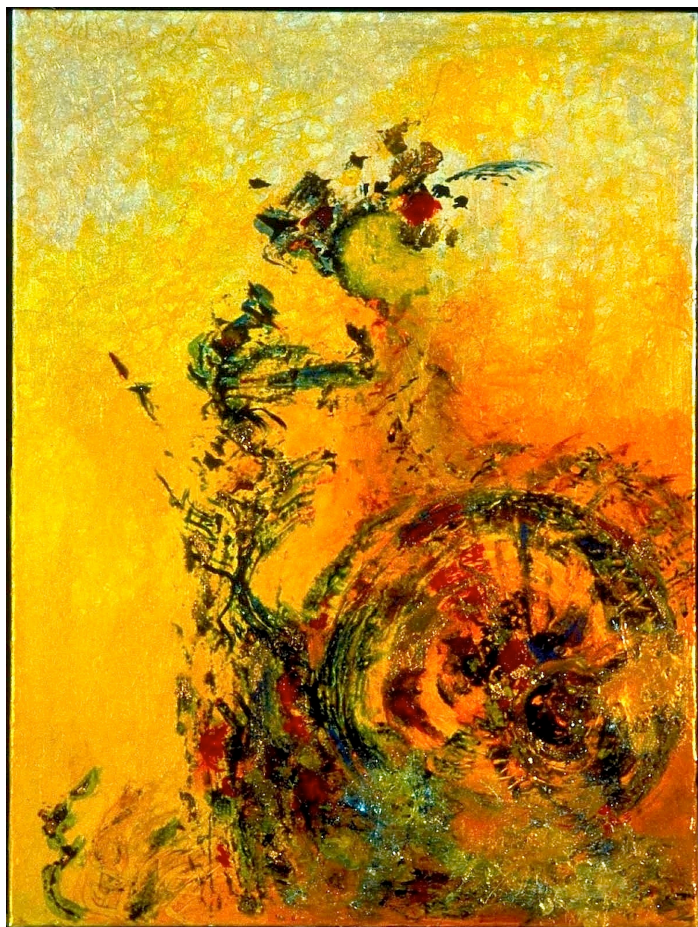
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