

March 2021

## Andjana Pachkova



### Artist Statement

I am a cosmopolitan oddball, born in Ukraine, transported by family circumstance to Russia, blown by the wind of change to America and finally putting some sort of roots here in Sydney, on the gorgeous east coast of Australia.

I painted and drew all my life but circumstances of my upbringing were such that I ended up a Wall Street and then a Silicon Valley corporate lawyer. Fortune has been decidedly mine, however, to be able to devote myself to art full time as of 2013 and here I am now proudly a represented artist with Stanley Street Gallery in Sydney, with my first gallery solo exhibition, another two solo shows coming up within a year and many group shows I took part in.

I did not come to art early or directly or easily but I am here to stay because this path is deeply felt, thought through and wished for. Besides, being an artist is one of those careers where having a life of experiences - good and bad - is a positive thing, experience gives meaning and context.

# Stanley Street gallery

As a visual artist I am captivated by everything I see in the world around me. I am enthralled by the things we hear - music and exploration of sounds really help the development of my visual language and expression of my themes. Music especially is a primary source of inspiration in my work.

I am not doing this to make pretty pictures. I want to make true pictures all the while reflecting the complex aesthetics I have developed over a life span of travelling across the globe. I am now settled in Sydney with my husband and our young family of boys. Life is busy and I am happy when I am in the quiet of my studio, listening to music and painting.

## Biography

Andjana (Andy) Pachkova comes from the traditional Russian art tutoring background. Following Perestroika, in the early 1990s, she took classes at Stroganov Moscow State University of Art and Industry, as well as studied with various private tutors.

In 1997 Pachkova won a prestigious Davis Fellowship and subsequently moved to the United States to pursue a graduate degree in liberal arts at Dartmouth College. While at Dartmouth, Pachkova took a visual arts class to enhance her drawing technique. After that she studied art at the night courses at NYU, and later, continued her studies here in Australia through a two-year study at Northbridge Visual Art School ("NVAS") (earned Diploma of Visual Arts in 2014) and at the Willoughby Art Center ("WAC") and the Wollarha Waverly Art School ("WWAS"). At WAC, NVAS and WWAS Pachkova studied with such notable local artists as Idris Murphy, Jo Bertini, Brandt Lewis, Denis Clarke and Tony Tozer, among others. Recently Pachkova started developing an interest in printmaking and ceramics which further informed her understanding of her artistic practice.

Andjana Pachkova holds a Master of Law from Harvard University (Cambridge, MA), Master of Arts in Liberal Studies from Dartmouth College (Hanover, NH) and a Bachelor of Laws from Moscow International University. Pachkova has lived and studied law and art in many countries and has had a wealth of experiences and imagery that she has been working on integrating in her art.

Having moved to Australia in 2013, Pachkova developed a keen passion for the Australian landscape and has enjoyed the local art scene ever since. The artist has passionately explored the Australian landscape through line and color. Pachkova is interested in understanding the subtle changes in the human psyche that occur when a person moves through a series of places. Her further interest lies in discovering how that mutual interaction of the human being and the landscape shapes both. Pachkova is captivated by the never-ending dance of the nature and the human, passionate and loving to be sure, yet mostly violent, and at times exploitative.

Pachkova lives and works in Willoughby, NSW with her husband and three young sons.

As of April 2017, Pachkova is represented by Stanley Street Gallery in New South Wales and Mercury Gallery in Moscow.