**A Closer Look at the Artist - Semblanza**

Josefina Membrila began her formal artistic career with interior design studies at the Universidad Autonoma de Ciudad Juarez (UACJ). However, her studies were cut short due to family obligations. For more than twenty years her artistic soul was inhibited, but not without being successful in her work and attentiveness to friends and family.

Josefina transitioned from artisan to artist at the recommendation of Isabella Quattroqui an advisor to the European Union and Italian designer, who had visited Josefina’s shop. Upon returning from a conference/exhibition in Milan, Italy, where she revisited with Isabella, Josefina began a yearlong metamorphosis and emerged with a passion for acrylic painting on all textures. This initiated her transition from artisan to artist. Her artistic foundation allowed her to mix materials resulting in a new technique with a unique and different expression; these elements accurately describe her style.

She is part of a select minority of authorized reproducers of archeological monuments by the Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia (National Institute of Anthropology and History) in Mexico. This adds value to her pieces and her passion in showing the world the story of Mexico from its origins in the Maya, Aztec, Paquime, and other cultures. Her paintings, candles, and resin figurines reflect the splendor and ancestral mysticism of their origins.

Josefina Membrila has traveled internationally to exhibit and participate in various cultural and educational events in other cities and countries such as: Santa Fe NM,actually exhibiting, New York, Chicago, San Antonio, Albuquerque, El Paso, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Panama, and Milan, Italy and San Miguel de Allende, Gto., Josefina widely benefits from the media.

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 Josefina Membrila da comienzo a su carrera formal artística durante sus estudios en la carrera de diseño de interiores en la Universidad Autónoma de Ciudad Juárez (UACJ), que se corta en su fase media por obligaciones familiares.

Josefina se transforma de artesana a una artista en el 2002 por la recomendación de Isabela Quattroqui, una asesora de la Unión Europea y diseñadora italiana, quien había visitado a su taller. Al regresar de un seminario en Milán Italia, donde se había reunido con Isabela, Josefina da comienzo a una metamorfosis por más de un año de donde emerge la pasión por la pintura en acrílico en toda clase de texturas. Su base artesanal le permite mezclar toda clase de materiales dando como resultado una nueva técnica aún no típica. El resultado es la expresión única y diferente cuales dos elementos describen su estilo.

Igual, pertenece a una minoría de reproductores de monumentos arqueológicos autorizados por el Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia (INAH). Esto añade valor a sus piezas y a su pasión por mostrarle al mundo la historia de México desde sus orígenes en las culturas; Maya, Azteca, Paquime y otras. Sus pinturas, velas y figuras reflejan el esplendor y misticismo ancestral.

Josefina Membrila ha exhibido y participado en distintos eventos educativos y culturales viajando a ciudades y países como: Santa Fe, N.M., New York, Chicago, San Antonio, Albuquerque, El Paso, Milán Italia, Costa Rica, Guatemala, y Panamá.

Exhibiting

2018

* Group Exhibit at Ex-Convento Dieguino, Guanajuato, Gto. Marzo 2018

2017

* Solo Show en Hotel Boutique Monte Leon, Leon, Gto Abril-Mayo 2017

Group Exhibit Ex-Convento Dieguino, Guanajuato, Gto. Marzo 2017

2016

Group Exhibit at Ex-Convento Dieguino, Guanajuato, Gto. Marzo 2016

2014

* Recorriendo Territorio Maya, Comitan Chiapas group exhibit May-July 2014

2010

* Exhibiting in Santa Fe, NM., full grant.
* Exhibiting in Sasahara Gallery in El Paso, TX.,
* El Paso Artist’s Tour, El Paso, TX.,

2009

* Solo Show “ Artistic Journey through Time”, cultural exhibition at The National Park Service at Chamizal National
* Residence at Santa Fe Art Institute in Santa Fe, NM, (SFAI)
* Accepted in Art’s International Contes, El Paso, TX.,
* El Paso Artist’s Tour, El Paso, TX.,
* Vive Mexico at El Rancho de las Golondrinas, Santa Fe, NM
* San Elizario collective exhibit, El Paso, TX.,
* Galeria 300 collective exhibit , El Paso, TX.,
* 9900 Gallery Fine Art, collective exhibit, El Paso, TX.,
* Crossing Border collective exhibit at The Rose & Crown Art Gallery, El Paso, TX.,

2008

* “Diversity”, solo show at Crosland Gallery, El Paso, TX.,
* Accepted at Sun Bowl Art competition, El Paso, TX.,
* Juror’s award at Art’s International Contest, El Paso, TX.,
* "Collection of Artists" group exhibit at Lancer’s Restaurant, El Paso, TX.,
* El Paso Artist’s Tour
* Kermezaar Participation at International Museum of Art in El Paso, TX
* "Focal Splendor" Collective Exhibition, El Paso, TX.,
* 2007
* Accepted at Sun Bowl Art competition at International Museum of Art in El Paso, TX
* Accepted at Festival Nueva Paquime Art competition, Nuevo Casas Grandes, Chih.,
* Exhibitor in Milan Italy, at Macef Interior Design Fair, invited by the EU & Nacional Financiera
* Kermezaar Participation at International Museum of Art in El Paso TX

2006

* Exhibitor, New York Gift Fair at Hand Made Section in Mexican Pavilion

2004

* Exhibitor, Ficomer in Guatemala, Guatemala.
* First Place at Ciudad Juarez, Chih., Artisans’ Craft Contestant.
* Bi-National encounter of Foreign trade by the Consulate of Mexico at UTEP, and local Bancomext, El Paso, TX.,
* Delegate of Mexico in the Enterprise Forum Mesoamerican held in Managua, Nicaragua.

2003

* First Place at Ciudad Juarez, Chih., Artisans’ Craft Contestant.
* Participation in the Mexico’s National Prize of Science and Arts, edition, Mexico, City
* 3rd. Edition Bancomext Days for the International Competitiveness, El Paso, TX.,
* Meeting of Businesses, Sanchez to Sanchez to Smith, promoted by the Direction of Financial Promotion of the Municipality (Cd. Juarez, Chihuahua, Mexico) and part of the SBDC’s.
* Seminar and Meeting of Businesses in Odessa, TX. Promoted by the Secretary of Industrial Development of the State of Chihuahua
* Exhibitor, Expocomer 2003 in Panama City, Panama.
* Exhibitor , IX Wheel of Businesses and Investments in Costa Rica,

2002

* Commercial Mission, Sister Cities, Chihuahua-San Antonio TX.,
* Exhibitor, VIII Wheel of Businesses and Investments in Costa Rica
* Exhibitor, Chicago Gift and Home Market, Chicago, Illinois,
* Border Festival 2002 by CONACULTA, Cd. Juarez, Chih,