



Ludmila Gnilitskaya



I am an artist living and working in St. Petersburg.  
I live near the Gulf of Finland with my husband and  
dog.



I grew up in the Ukraine, where I went to art school. My father was a surgeon, and was involved in setting up hospitals for the rehabilitation of soldiers after WWII. I used to perform for the soldiers when I was a child. During the war, my father was involved in underground activities. He told me a story about his interactions with the German soldiers, some of whom were nice to the Russians, and some of whom were very cruel. One day, while he was in occupied territory, he suffered a concussion. When he recovered, he was in a small house with some German soldiers. One of them, aware of my father's underground activities, warned him that there would be some officials making a document check. My father was able to hide some of his papers that would have tipped them off to his activities, and was able to avoid major problems that this would have caused. This German soldier and my father never said any words about this afterwards.

First vague memories, maybe not even memories, rather sensations - it is some kind of the childhood feeling of discovery - a green, or a blue, with some golden-warm semitones. These sensations surrounded me and brought out happiness and delight.

Those are the first independent steps of my life. These memories are from my childhood. This is what I felt when I opened a door. I was on a terrace of my house and saw the World for the first time in my life. The World is so vivid and colorful - a green glade, the blue sky and a warm golden sun.

The feeling of World's beauty and happiness, engulfing me completely through the magic colored spots, stayed with me forever...

That is why if someone would ask me already at the age of three who do I want to be when I grow up - I answered: " A painter!" In our family all adults were doctors and my decision to become a painter was unexpected and very strange one.

From early childhood I started going to the Children Painting Studio. Soon I transferred to the Studio of People's Creativity. Shortly after studying there I went to Federal Industrial - Fine Arts Academy named after V. I. Mukhina( The Last Name of "Mukhina" translates from Russian to English as "a fly"). It was fascinating and simply fun to study there. That was time of Post-Hippie. All students liked the "FLY", that is how we, the students, called our Academy. We also loved our talented and famous professors and teachers, who "lived" in the walls of Academy 24/7. Now our school is called Academy of Fine Arts but earlier it was called the Highest School of Technical Drawing of Baron Shtiglits.

I regret the years of schooling are over, but the atmosphere of "brotherhood and sisterhood of Hippies" - those years are still with me, in my heart.

I am a member of the Painters' Union of Saint Petersburg. I meet with many of my ex-school mates there. I and my friends organize exhibitions and different projects. I hope for the new opportunities and art related encounters or planned meetings in the future.





My home



My work has been exhibited in Russian and abroad: Germany, USA, France, Switzerland, Italy, Greece....



Beach Motifs

Here you see themes of the beach: the sea, shells, sand



Blending of Epochs

All of the epochs and people somehow exist simultaneously, so it doesn't matter what time you live in: all values are the same.



Journey to Crete

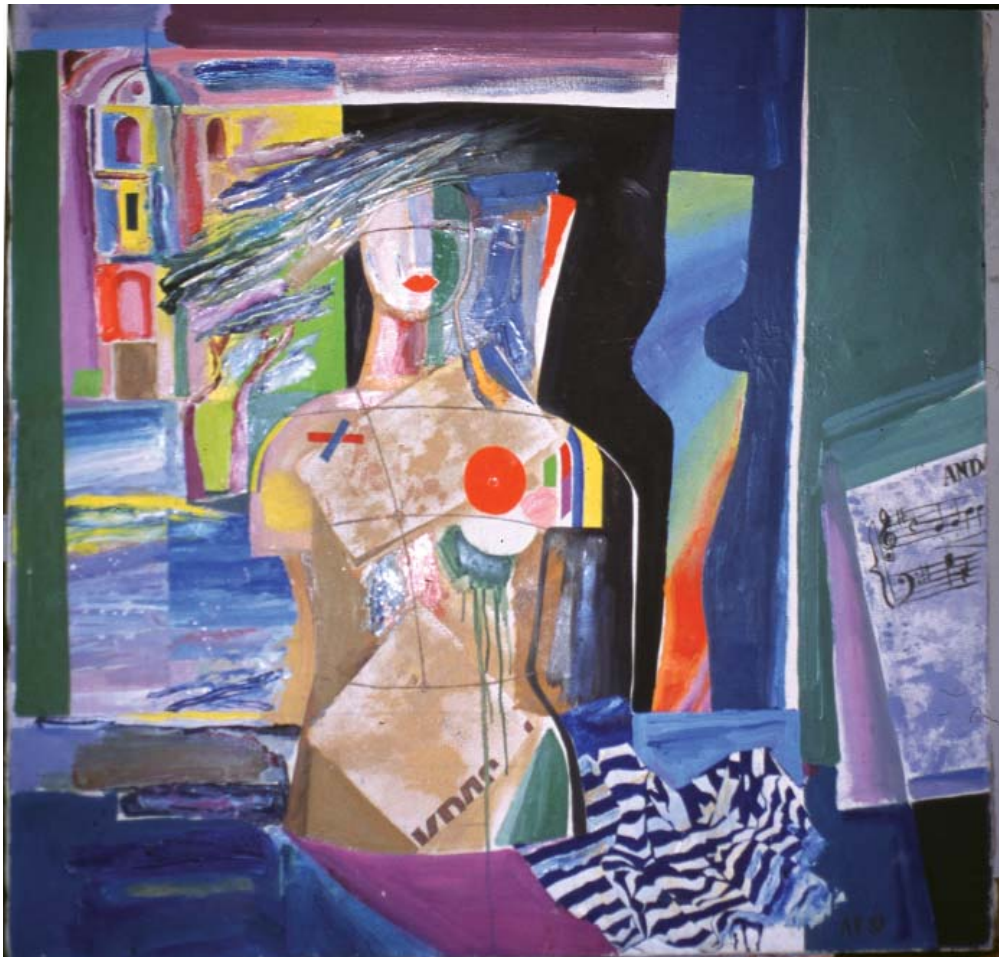
Here we are on the beach on the Aegean shore. Crete is a place full of legends - one can see the white horse with a cart, which is a fragment from a famous painting by Pierrot de la Francesca.



Floral Sands According to Velasquez



Mid-day



Reflections Created During Perestroika Times

People were expecting changes, but at the same time there was a danger that their hopes could be crushed. The music at the side symbolizes hope.



The Dream of the Earth

The breasts are hills, symbolizing energy and warmth. The legs are mountains. The horseman symbolizes violence, which also exists on this earth.



Through the White Nights

The subject of this painting is communication.



My mask, created in October 2002