



HEITCH

Why is your art a ‘‘complicated art’’?

I don’t think it is complicated; however my opinion is that our planet is full of things that have to be perceived and understood.

What is represented in your art?

What I see more and that is represented in my art are the souls, gods in connection with humanity, nature, spirits, so the vision is that you are not obliged to see things in the same way as others.

What painting really gives to its admirers?

It is individual; it is about what the person feels. Each one will identify paintings or canvas according to his / her assets, emotions, feelings or sensitivity. It is like live colors that for many people represent a hot moment and all this artificial side while for others they represent something sad...As you are going to see in the near future, I decide to paint with black color and it is not representing funerals like in many cultures. I give a freedom of choice to anyone.

Have all colors a particular message in your art?

I would say that colors in my art represent moments. It might be a moment of joy. There is a canvas that I will do soon ‘‘Samba...’’ painted in black but a different black crossed by a fire of silver. It then depends on the way Samba is perceived; for others it is music, popular dance, history, Brazilian society, carnivals...That is why I am not going to say if colors represent such or such thing...

How do you see black color?

Like a moment of transition ...it’s like before the birth, before the coming of the baby to the light...the moment the baby spends in darkness in her mother’s womb is not a moment of joy; that’s why the mother’s environment counts and she needs to be careful because the baby feels what she feels...If we are happy, the person

inside us will feel the same despite living in the darkness. So the black color can be also a happy thing....

What does your art bring to people?

My art is a real liberation, It is a way of saying the things we can’t say-because we are living in a conventional society-even if it’s difficult to explain, to transmit the intention...No, I don’t have the same relation as did some writers of last century who were inspired by sadness because that helped them to ‘‘find’’ themselves...I am a very happy person, full of joy...my art is my way of showing things, enriching the exchange...It is very interesting to get people’s feedback during exhibitions...there are people who think that artists are sad people. No, a sad person does not reflect the person I am.

Why your pseudo ‘‘Heitch’’...

I think that this mystery in me reveals more itself. I don’t want to put myself in front because the important thing here is not the artist but his / her art. I traveled a lot and that makes my origins. Remember that I have an African side; I love Gabon because I lived there when I was a kid. I lived also in all central African countries except Chad. I have a relative who lives in western Africa. My father was from Benin and my mother is British. Since 1993, I live in Paris and spend my vacations in Miami, Florida...My pseudo is encrypted from the pronunciation of the sound ‘‘H’’: ‘‘hetch’’ in English, ‘‘Hitch’’ in German. It’s easy on tone’s and pronunciation’s levels...and the mystery of this name is seen in my art.

Where do you get your inspiration from?

The pleasure to do it and also the moment of silence, a quiet place where there is no noise, no person in the house, I would say like those who believe in angels that there is a superior entity.

Where are you going to take us with your art?

To get people stirred with my art and mostly make them share.