

Artist of The Month, Luisa Padro, Dares to Bring the Child out in All of Us

By Isaac Morano

When we were children, the notion that anything can be accomplished seemed all too real. We were consistently asked the common question "What do you want to be when you grow up?" and our responses were endless. Somewhere along the way, we grew up and we came to the realization that things aren't so easily achieved. While this is true, why did we ever give up?

Luisa Padro is an emerging artist in Tampa who is hoping to attain the very dream she had as a child. She graduated from Middle Tennessee State University with a Bachelor of Science in Mass Communications. Afterwards, Luisa relocated to Tampa Bay and worked a series of customer service jobs. "I wasn't satisfied. I would literally draw and color at my desk just to pass the time" says Luisa. For many years she would paint as a hobby and found that her hobby was also a great way to make unique gifts for those she loved. After a few years of nine to five monotony and some encouragement from her

friends, Luisa quit her job to become a full time artist. She states, "One day it hit me that while becoming an artist at this point in my life seemed impractical, I simply could not live the rest of my life never having tried."

So she quit her job, and not knowing how, she became an artist. Her plan was to get appropriate professional training at the University of South Florida, but her funds for additional schooling only allowed her one semester. She had no other choice than to teach herself. Her style of painting is very cartoon like, depicting what she calls "characters representing us as people, fascinated with the way life works." They express the wonder and excitement we had as children about life.

Today, she is an expressionist painter touching on the very subject of following your dreams. In a recent interview she said, "I want to be able to inspire someone; for [them] to look at one of my works and to be changed in some way, even just minutely." Luisa is a firm believer that art brings out the innocence that we all

possess as children along with the mindset that nothing is impossible and the sky is the limit. She says, "I'm hoping that when people see my work it reminds them that the possibilities are [still] endless."

As with any rising artist, Luisa has begun her share of uphill climbs while reaching for success. However, she refuses to give up or give in to the idea that only certain people can be successful. "Success is attainable for anyone if you want it badly enough and you decide that no matter what it is yours" she quotes. Her success isn't what most people think of, fancy cars or luxurious lifestyles, but to share a message and change lives.

She has recently signed a contract with Fusion Galleries in Miami, Florida, and will be showcasing her work in their January show. Her art is currently for sale through her website www.ArtystaLuLu.com



Adoration 48"x36"



At First Sight



Birth of Venus 24"x24"

