

# off the wall gallery

paintings · sculpture · original prints



## YUROZ - *Painting*

A powerful painting has the ability to invoke emotions, stimulate the senses, and a great staying power in one's memory. Yuroz, an Armenian born neo-cubist, is the painter of the people for the people. The voice he represents in his work expresses the innermost reflections of the human condition: pain and suffering, joy and love, beauty, and natural grace. Lovers, musicians, poets, athletes, homeless, and refugees fill his canvas, drawing forth the spectrum of emotions that reside deep in the human soul. Fittingly, he was chosen by the United Nations to be the official artist for the 50th-anniversary stamp honoring refugees worldwide and he is the only living American artist who has his work hung in the Vatican's permanent collection.

Yuroz's impressive ability to bring a soulful human quality to fruition through his art stems from his own life experiences. Symbolism forms the backbone of Yuroz's classical romantic paintings and the themes of the stories he tells through his paintbrushes. Blue is the color of healing and rose is the symbol of love. A blue rose symbolizes healing through love. Pomegranate symbolizes fertility, creativity, prosperity and power. For Yuroz, the pomegranate is a symbol of survival as it manages to grow in the most arid landscapes.

As a young man in Soviet Armenia, he was steadfast in creating innovative and impressive art. He was admitted into the esteemed Akop Kodjoyan School of Art in Armenia at the age of ten, making him the youngest student ever to be accepted. Later on, he attended the Yerevan University of Art and Architecture. Due to self-expression not being a popular subject for the Soviets, his artistic creativity, originality, and individuality began to suffer, leading him to immigrate to the United States of America. Now in America, Yuroz encountered a journey of poverty and loneliness. As a homeless man in America, hope was his only companion, and he continued to create art with the supplies of the streets.

Napkins and cardboard were combined to create a sort of canvas, and discarded pens were transformed into paintbrushes. For Yuroz, "Art is not a luxury; it is a necessity." This basic survival instinct that implanted itself into the artist's mind would provoke the touching experiences and zeal for life to be turned into expressive portraits filled with color. Over the years, he has been able to create studies of different mythologies and cultures with an open-minded attitude towards

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what is new and different. Yuroz created a unique stylistic dimension that would strengthen his creativity and in turn, would ignite the interest of his legion of collectors. His neo-cubist style of painting sets off from the greats, Picasso and Braque, a unique style that vibrates with the spirit of movement, grace, and story in his compositions. It is the combination of his personal experiences, the human subconscious, and his academic training that shine a light on his passion: presenting a narrative through an image that is compelling, beautiful, and inspiring.

A Painter, Architect and a devoted Philanthropist, through his art and the Yuroz Foundation, Yuroz has raised millions for many more international and national charity events and foundations, donating to causes he embraces.

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## YUROZ

### SELECT COLLECTIONS, COMMISSIONS AND AWARDS

VATICAN “The Light of Compassion” honors the sainthood of Arcangelo Tadini, the Saint of the Working Woman, a masterpiece specially commissioned by Pope Benedict XVI’s Vatican office and unveiled at a ceremony where Pope Benedict XVI blessed the painting in Botticino Sera, Italy.

UNITED NATIONS “Respect for Refugees” honoring the 50th anniversary in 2000, and “Human Rights” dedicated to Human Rights Education from 2004 were reproduced as stamps and released around the world.

GRAMMY AWARDS in 2017, Yuroz was the official artist for the 35th Annual Grammy Awards for National Academy of Recording Arts and Science.

Gansu, China - Monumental art installation for the Minqin Desert Sculpture Symposium, in response to climate change.

The Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego

Museo Nacional de Arte Moderno Carlos Merida, Guatemala, Guatemala City, Guatemala

Palacio Nacional de La Cultura (National Palace Museum of Culture) Guatemala City, Guatemala

Coral Springs Museum of Art, Retrospective 1986-2008, Coral Springs, Florida

General Assembly, United Nations, New York

Museum of Contemporary Art, Hot Springs, Arizona

United Nations, General Assembly, Human Rights Mural

Coral Springs Museum of Art, The Art of Yuroz—Narrative Culture of Cubism & the UN Human Rights Mural, Coral Springs, Florida

International Stamp Fair (UN human rights mural—collector’s edition stamps)

F. Donald Kenney Museum, St. Bonaventure, New York

Fine Arts Museum of Long Island, Hempstead, New York

Fuller Art Museum, Brockton, Massachusetts

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## BOOKS

Yuroz Symbiosis Collection, Coral Springs Museum of Art, Coral Springs, Florida, 2016. Cover, Proteccion Internacional de Refugiados en el Sur de Sudamerica United Nations High Commission for Refugees. Image: United Nations Fiftieth Anniversary Respect for Refugee Mural (2001) 2013.

Yuroz Collection, Cuadro Fine Art Gallery, Dubai UAE.

Helander, Bruce. Learning to See—An Artist's View on Contemporary Art from Artschwager to Zakanitch, West Palm Beach, Florida (book), 2008.

Yuroz, Museum of Contemporary Art, Hot Springs, Arizona (catalog), 2005.

Yuroz—Narrative Culture of Cubism, Coral Springs Museum of Art, Florida (exhibition catalog), 2004

## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Chairman, Yuroz Foundation, Los Angeles, CA 2012 to present U.S. 501c3 Non Profit Organization to promote worldwide peace and tolerance through visual arts.

Adjunct Professor, UCLA, Los Angeles, California, 1991 "The responsibility of an artist and the impact on the world we live in"