

The Multifaceted-ness of Love



Chameleon

ARISING STAR IN THE ART-WORLD, RANDI Chaplin-Matushevitz has shown her heartwarming artwork nationally and internationally in places such as New York, Los Angeles, Miami, Buenos Aires, Caracas, Madrid and Xalapa, as well as right here in Las Vegas. She holds a Master of Fine Arts degree in Painting and Printmaking and formerly taught at the University of Miami, Florida

International University and Miami Dade Community College. Yet with a painting career that has barely lasted a decade, her work already appears in numerous prestigious collections worldwide.

"My paintings, works on paper and installations, are all a continuation of my investigation of the multifaceted-ness of love and its cultural implications," says Chaplin-Matushevitz. "Those implications range from the universal to everyday life by depicting the human condition with and without the power of love in its many guises."

She and her family currently reside in Las Vegas, the locale for her most recent showing at the City of the World Gallery, 1229 S. Casino Center, in the downtown arts district. Although her earlier pieces bear the signature of her maiden name only (Randi Chaplin), Chaplin-Matushevitz'



Laugh



Forgive

works mostly address "our splintered, isolated and disintegrated societies,"

she says. "Sometimes I'll create something to illustrate what I think our culture is missing. Other times, I'll create something to illustrate that which is so obvious that it is invisible to us. I use memory, sentimentality and childlike whimsy to create mindscapes that are embellished and decorated to reveal kindness, respect, accountability, etc., yet the thread that interlaces all of this has to do with the power of love, or lack thereof."

When asked how her faith influences her creative expressions, Chaplin-Matushevitz had this to say: "Being raised in a Jewish household was to be surrounded by loving people. This love was often extended beyond our immediate family. Throughout my life, Judaism has meant memorable and sentimental moments lighting *Shabbat* and *Chanukah* candles, *Rosh Hashanah* and *Pesach* dinners, fasting together on *Yom Kippur* and even attending Hebrew school. Moments spent



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with family, friends and other Jews that were full of tradition and life and are forever etched in my memory. I guess you could say that steeped in the tradition of Judaism, I learned important values – values that are reflected in my work. Judaism teaches us to do the right thing, to question and to evolve into being the best we can be."

Following a successful "First Friday" Fourth of July Artist Opening Reception at City of the World Gallery (parking available on Colorado and Third Street), her paintings will remain on exhibition through Saturday, July 26. For more information, please visit the gallery website, www.ZaftigStudio.com or contact Sara Rosenstein at 227-0966 or Roz Knight at the gallery, 523-5306. 