

Andrei Protsouk

Love Calling



Tango Kiss

The indifferent iron skies of Donetsk, Ukraine are more likely to produce championship boxers than fine artists, but Andrei Protsouk can take something from the reference.

"They both require intense dedication and great strength. In boxing, a knockout can be a thing of beauty, and so is the feeling of having made a great painting," Andrei says.

A bleak environment encourages the imagination. While attending the dreary public schools of Donetsk, Andrei's teachers noted his precocious talent. Andrei was transferred to the Donetsk Art School, and then to the Lugansk School of Fine Art. Later on, Andrei was recommended to the prestigious Repine Academy of Art in storied St. Petersburg.

St. Petersburg is as far from Donetsk as Peoria is from New York City. Even through the bleak Stalinist epoch, St. Petersburg remained the sentimental capitol in the hearts of most Russians. Fond memories of St. Petersburg account for a certain wistfulness in the Ukrainian emigre. But it was in America that Andrei accomplished his ultimate dream. With his wife and son, he moved to the United States in 1994 where he was able to meld the discipline and training of the great Russian academies with the wild freedom of expression infusing American culture. Andrei found America strange, but welcoming. A question often asked of Russian émigré artists is how their work was changed by moving to their adopted country.

"It was like surfing....like riding the waves of the post-glasnost era. I wasn't prepared for such a friendly welcome from Americans," says Andrei.

Protsouk is still riding that wave, waiting for new ones and creating waves of his own, as gallerist, artist and printmaker, his talents have been recognized worldwide. This year he is at Artexpo and continues to exhibit his works of depth and sophistication at galleries and museums internationally.



Europe

"It was always my dream to have my own studio and gallery. This was suddenly in the realm of the possible in my new country," says Andre Protsouk.



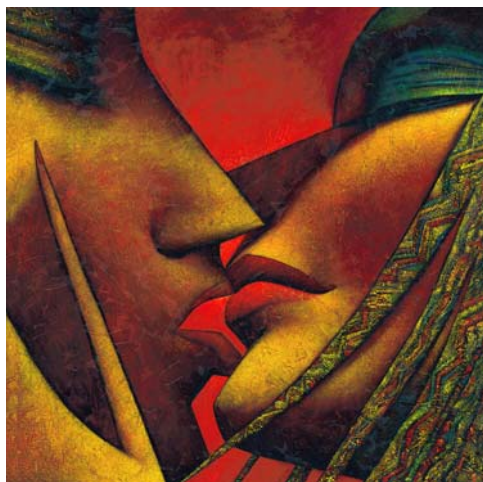
Embrace



Tour de Love



Walking and Talking



Fever



Knockout



Diana Huntress



Amour sur Umbrelle



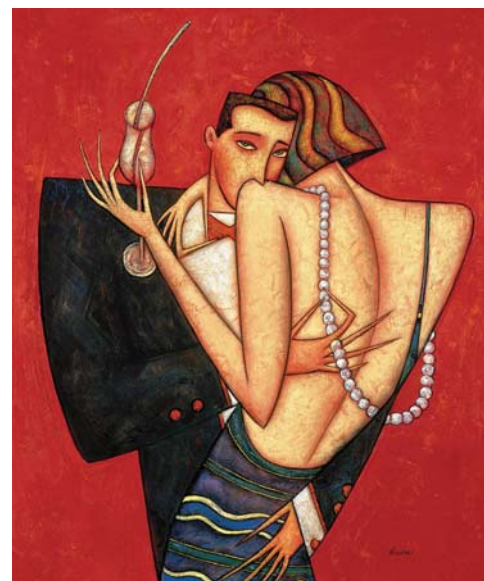
Andrei Protosuk at his gallery/studio

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Pearls of Love



The Golfer