

Samir Rakhmanov

Artist Statement

Inspired by Vladimir Weisberg's notion, "Don't try to see the harmony in nature, reveal it on your canvas," I've shaped my artistic practice around the exploration of harmony through abstraction, even within the realms of realism. Over the years, I've come to understand that any subject can be transformed into art, provided it achieves a formalistic balance on canvas. This belief guides my work across various two-dimensional mediums.

At the core of each piece, whether it portrays a serene landscape, a vibrant still life, or an intricate portrait, lies abstraction—each image a constellation of abstract symbols. My art straddles the line between traditional realism and innovative abstraction, challenging the conventions of each style. I eschew a formulaic approach, allowing the subject's nature to influence the starting point of each painting. This may result in a spontaneous, abstract beginning or a structured, detailed drawing.

The process is as vital as the outcome, with the ultimate goal being the creation of a piece that stands as a testament to aesthetic harmony and storytelling. This dialogue between the artist, the canvas, the subject, and the viewer is crucial. Each painting is a journey through varying emotions and strategies, often culminating after hours, days, or even months of dedicated effort. Yet, occasionally, a piece reaches completion within a mere hour. Every work represents a battle, its resolution a thrilling victory that fuels my continued passion for art.

My work is a continuous quest to unearth the essence of visual experience, taking inspiration from "The Nabis" with their dedication to a decorative form, and Richard Diebenkorn's idea of figurative abstraction. This pursuit is fueled by the world around me and enriched by the legacy of the old masters, whose insights form the backbone of my practice. Through my art, I strive not only to convey beauty and harmony but also to engage in the timeless tradition of passing knowledge from one generation to the next. This cycle of learning and teaching is essential for the evolution and advancement of art, ensuring that each new generation knows its foundations and can envision its future.