

**PRESS RELEASE
RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE

Providence, RI

PR: Ellen Goodlin, galleryzprov@aol.com or ellinartworxrep@gmail.com

STUDIO-GALLERY Z

(Located on Historic Federal Hill)

259 Atwells Avenue

Providence, Rhode Island 02903

401-454-8844

At GALLERY Z - *Armenian Artists from Around the World* - through Sunday, May 26th, 2019. Reception Thursday, May 16th, 2019, 5-9PM.

Gallery Z will be showcasing renowned Armenian artists in May, past and current.

Zareh Mutafian (1907-1980), French-Armenian painter, is May's featured artist. Born in a small Armenian village near Mt Ararat, orphan of the Armenian genocide in Turkey in 1915, he lost his entire family to massacre and was resettled first in Greece, then in 1923 in Italy. He studied painting at the Brera Academy in Milan, after which he relocated first to Geneva, Switzerland, then Paris, where he became part of the Armenian intelligentsia community. Impressionistic portraits, landscapes, waterscapes and Armenian village churches set amidst rolling hillsides and mountainscapes are characteristic of a richly colorful style. His paintings have been exhibited internationally and are in collections worldwide.

Aghassi (Boghos Taslakian), born in Lebanon in 1964, began painting and sculpting at eleven, later studying painting at the "Art Academy of Armenia" and at the "Academia di Belle Art di Venezia" in Venice, Italy. Since 2006 Aghassi has been living and creating art in Armenia. Deep-hued portraits and figurative studies, in paintings and flowing sculptures, are characteristic of Aghassi's mastery of the human form.

Additional Armenian artists on exhibit:

Lara B (Baghdassarian) was born and raised in Beirut, Lebanon. Her recognizable figurative style in heavily saturated deep hues and thick brushstrokes, accented with flecks of gold, attempts to capture the human psyche, often depicting women in a highly impressionistic flowing form. Her art continued to garner acclaim after moving to the U.S. in 2002. Lara B. lives in California where she continues to paint.

Martin Barooshian is an internationally renowned American Abstract Biomorphic Surrealist master painter and printmaker, born in 1929 in Chelsea, MA. Prints include woodcuts, lithographs, etchings, engravings and monotypes. He has studied worldwide and trained with prominent painters and printmakers. His works have been in hundreds of exhibitions internationally, including over fifty solo shows, and is in collections of many major museums worldwide.

Three generations of Elibekians - The tradition of painting has been passed down within the Elibekian family through three generations, albeit in highly individualistic styles. The elder **Vagharshag Elibekian**, born in Tbilisi, Georgia, in 1910, directed Tbilisi's Armenian Theatre. Paintings in the naive style commemorate delightful village scenes of traditional Georgian customs, architecture, and celebrations in minute details and sprightly colors. His son, **Robert Elibekian**, born in 1941 in Tbilisi, Georgia, later moved to Yerevan, Armenia, graduating from Yerevan's Institute of Drama & Fine Arts in 1969. He has captured the theatre world of costume and stage design in a distinctive romantic and flowing style. **Areg Elibekian**, son of Robert and Vagharshag's grandson, was born in Yerevan, Armenia, in 1970, graduating from Yerevan's Institute of Drama & Fine Arts in 1992. He moved to Montreal in 1993 and often travels to Paris to paint. Areg's evocative colorful Parisian cityscapes depict the bourgeoisie and café society who frequent the city's bistros, sidewalk cafés, parks and riverfronts. Each of these talented Elibekians has works in permanent collections of prestigious museums worldwide.

An additional Gallery Z website for Armenian Art, armenianartgalleryz@gmail.com, showcases the many renowned Armenian artists' works represented, which may also be purchased online.

Gallery Z represents over 400 fine artists, 50 Rhode Island and regional, 150 national and 200 international. A gift shop connected to the main gallery's fine art, glass, and pottery offers handmade jewelry by local artists, international handicrafts, small woven wool rugs, jewelry, art postcards and RI-themed mementoes. A new online shop also enables viewing and purchasing the art.

Gallery Z hosts a reception for the current exhibit every third Thursday of the month, twelve months a year, on Gallery Night Providence. **ALL RECEPTIONS ARE FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.** Gallery Z is a member of the Federal Hill Commerce Association, Providence/Warwick Convention & Visitors Bureau and Gallery Night Providence.

Gallery Z is a tax-free zone. **Gallery Z Hours: Thurs-Sat 12-8pm, Sun. 12-6pm and by appt. or chance.**

by Ellen Goodlin

Studio-Gallery Z, LLC

Est. January 2001, celebrating 19 years

259 Atwells Ave

Providence, RI

(401) 454-8844

www.galleryzprov.com