

meet the artist

# Tina



Tina was born into a family of artists in the culturally ripe city of Tbilisi. Her grandfather had established a firm reputation as a world-class painter, and continuously exhibited in Tbilisi and Moscow. Moreover, Tina's mother was a renowned concerto pianist who brought Tina with her on several of her concert tours across Russia. Indeed, it was on these trips that Tina first began to spend much of her time sketching and painting simple, figural pieces while her mother would be rehearsing and performing. While at home in Tbilisi, Tina would spend most of her after-school hours setting off on painting excursions into the countryside with her grandfather.

Tina began her formal study of art at the Georgian State Academy of the Arts, where she received her Masters Degree in 1995 in Fashion Design – a field that would allow her creative freedom within financial security. Before settling into this profession, however, Tina chose to travel throughout Europe – an experience which greatly influenced her painting career. She was significantly impressed by the Van Gogh Museum and the elaborate waterways in Amsterdam, the terrific synergy of old and modern architecture in Belgium, and the brilliant flowers throughout Germany.

The political breakup of the USSR meant artistic freedom, but also economic difficulty for Tina. After three years of teaching art to younger children, she decided to relocate with her husband and two children to the United States.

Tina's career has quickly flourished here in the U.S. She has spent the last two years successfully building her reputation as an innovative artist of direct and intense emotion, and her style is rapidly evolving as she picks up diverse influences from the various artists who share her studio. She has begun to exhibit in New York and Atlanta to enthusiastic response.

