

“Kathryn Macnaughton: I’m Pretty Addicted To Painting”
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Fragile, 60 x 48 inches, Acrylic on Canvas, 2018

Architerior talked to Toronto based artist Kathryn Macnaughton about staying true to yourself and always being open to discovering new ideas.

Kathryn, how did your art career start?

I went to Ontario College of Art and Design for illustration. I was an illustrator for 8 years and painted on the side which eventually lead to getting representation with a gallery. Slowly I moved to painting full time.

Can you describe your art style, what are your preferences?

Abstract. Bold graphic shapes with blocks of colour. Acrylic paint and occasionally oil as well.

What’s the hardest part of being an artist according to you?

Knowing when to stop. Being patient and to not overwork.

What’s the best thing about being an artist?

Working for yourself. To have complete creative control over something that is yours and that’s truly honest.

Can you mention a few exhibitions or moments in your art career that have been extra important to you?

I just had my first show in New York at Joshua Liner Gallery with Heather Day. I was also showing work last month at Zona Maco in Mexico City with Beers London gallery.

What are you working on right now?

The last few months have been pretty crazy so I'm trying to take a breather right now to reflect and do some experimentation. I have to start working on my next show which is this summer at Bau-xi Gallery in Toronto. I also have a show at Magma gallery in September in Italy.

What does "good art" mean to you?

Honesty and taking risks. Something that hits me emotionally in a way I've never felt before.

What inspires you to create? Where do you get ideas and energy?

This is always a hard question for me because I really find that I'm always inspired to create. I'm pretty addicted to painting. I guess experimentation inspires me. I love to change my process and discover new ways of approaching my work. That always keeps me going.

If you could exhibit your art anywhere/with anyone, where/who would it be?

Oh I don't think I can answer this one, but I guess I can say where.... I would really love to show in Brussels and Berlin.

Do you have your own or others art on your walls?

I do. I have a Brian Rideout painting. He's an incredible oil painter. I also have a Rajni Perera print, but I hope to own an original soon! Both Toronto artists.

How does one stay unique in the art world, and is that important?

Again, honesty. Staying true to yourself and always be open to discovering new ideas.