



Petronilla Hohenwarter I AM

born in 1965 in Waldkirchen, a small rural town in the Bavarian forest in Bavaria, Germany. I grew up surrounded by mountains and nature, far removed from the hustle and bustle of city life. An unassuming forgotten provincial town where life has a different rhythm; An inconspicuous province, bordering the Czech Republic and Austria. Surveying bounding experiences was certainly something I had often faced since childhood, as well as traveling. I was the eldest of three children. My brother Markus died at the young age of 20 and with my sister I traveled later the continents. My parents were self-employed entrepreneurs, and my childhood was traumatized considering the early circumstances. This resulted in a life which controlled myself and i did not had the capacity to influence it consciously until the first half of my life. For several years I worked in my early twenties as social worker in this same rural town but soon i started to ask myself is this really everything i expect and want for myself as for my Life ? I knew it had more to offer. 1993, I bid farewell to my hitherto „safe“ life and embarked on a journey internally and externally discovering the world in search of something yet unknown. I needed to learn to be and to feel alive again, to be independent and liberating myself while facing the consequences from this new encouraging step i took.

I was unafraid, ready to take risks as i followed my intuition. With a healthy dose of blind optimism to boot, I took on extraordinary challenges. I travelled to the USA, Southeast Asia and Europe, furthering my education and gathering experiences in different areas of life. This enabled me to explore and embrace other perspectives and communities and in so doing, to discover the truth within me and to find a spiritual home in the new life I had chosen for myself.

I have had many mentors coming along the way. In nearly all cases, our paths crossed by chance, yet they all shaped myself significantly. Even though some experiences were emotionally physically as soulwise very painful. Looking back, these experiences are essentially milestones and strengthens my ethical values of compassion and humanity, as well as providing me with a healthy dose of resilience. This years of Independency were infused with an energy that gave me the inner strength and confidence to pursue my path.

The art found me on quiet paths in Southeast Asia. "As an artist, you are not born, art finds you. You can accept or reject your Call. I advise you, do not resist, flow within. "Wise words that one of my mentors kept telling me in earlier years. To get involved and to follow the "calling" - it was one of my biggest challenges. I refer to these moments as unruly taming. The more I turned to art and let go of the old, the more my vocation became apparent in my creation. However this moment while giving myself into this process is a self-committed and conscious devotion and I can't escape from this call. It is my way to make the invisible visible, to hold this space and to form a visual voice for this hidden truth.

It is the dialogue that enriches life and inspires me. It is irrelevant to me which religion and philosophy I call my spiritual home and where I live, as long as where ethical values as compassion, love, respect and appreciation play a major role in my life as so in communication with each other.

What do I want the destination of my journey to be? That's a sort of question I purely rely to the authenticity of my work - it speaks straight to the Collector as a visual doorway to a reality hidden within themselves. In contemporary terms speaking, my art is an adventure into a colourful, bold, expressive yet sensitive world. A spiritual quest to become aware of one's SELF, to empower and to reveal the hidden parts, to liberate that treasure and to feel at home with.

ATELIER

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