

## SPOTLIGHT

Every month, I feature an artist whose work and philosophy deserve to be in the spotlight.

## In Conversation with Miriam Aroeste

**Catherine:** You work with a lot of colour, can you tell me about your colour choices?

**Miriam:** There's no secret about it. I'm from Mexico, I'm from Mexico City. Every time I go to Mexico I take all these absolutely beautiful, colourful photos. I realize ... my work is very universal but the palette and my palette choice has a huge connection to my origin. If you go to Mexico you will see all these impressive, bright colours everywhere, from the market, the colour of the houses - they are painted. And the way people dress. You just see colour everywhere! It's an explosion of colour and emotion. Even if I try to do something muted I just go back to these bright colours. I feel alive!

**Catherine:** It's who you are.

**Miriam:** It's who I am. My husband says that I have the music inside - I have the colours - it's not all on the outside, it's on the inside. I love using bright colours to express how I feel.

### On circles...

**Catherine:** I'm also fascinated by your series called Circle of Life. Can you tell us a little bit about that series?

**Miriam:** Yeah, that's a series that I started doing about 10 years ago or even more. I started playing with new media. And I'm fascinated by the minimal symbol of a circle that is so profound. It means so much to everybody. In different cultures it means different things, but it always has a positive meaning to everybody. So I started drawing very simple circles and afterwards they got a little bit more stylized and they kind of became an emotion-series with more movement. The whole idea behind the circle is what goes around comes around - it's like being back in the womb - it's an intimate feeling and very peaceful for me.

## On the love...

**Catherine:** One of the things that I often do is recommend to couples who are downsizing (they often want to buy gifts for each other and I often suggest) that art is a perfect anniversary gift for a couple to give to each other. Of your artworks is there one that speaks of love most to you?

**Miriam:** I think all of them. That's really interesting that you mention that. If you see the titles of my work a lot of them, a lot of them speak about love. And they have very, very uplifting messages. I know there are a lot of things happening in life at all times. Love is totally around in my work. And you can hear it in every title.

**Catherine:** Can you tell me what a few of those titles are?

**Miriam:** Abrázame Fuerte, hold me tight. Bésame Mucho, kiss me a lot. The Intricate Language of Love. Pink Sensation. So many titles but they all have a meaning.