



SYLVIA MARTINS

Born in Bagé, Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil, Sylvia Martins graduated in Visual Communications in Rio de Janeiro. In 1979 she moved to New York to study at the School of Visual Arts and with Richard Pousette-Dart at the Art Students League. He encouraged her to further explore the possibilities of personal and spiritual direction in her creative development.

Her paintings which are typically conceived on a large scale are near abstractions that evoke images from nature and organic forms. Her palette is vivid with strong hues stemming from the natural world. Her work is heavily informed by travel; the influences include ethnic design, anthropology, decorative arts and rituals, among other things. Martins doesn't follow tendencies, the focus is on painting itself. Lately she has been experimenting with digital photography exploring textures and playing with image and color.

Martins had her first solo show in Venice, California in 1987 at Piezo Electric and was included in a group show at Jack Tilton in New York in 1988. These exhibitions were immediately followed by solo presentations in Brazil, Japan, America and the UK. For the last several decades, Martins has split her time between Manhattan and Rio de Janeiro and has exhibited her paintings in galleries consistently in both cities. Her work can be found in numerous public and private collections throughout South America, Europe, Asia and the United States. Martins is the subject of a monograph published by Bandecchi & Vivaldi in 2018.



Gebogan, Oil on linen, 40 x 40 in.



Morning Glory,
Oil and pencil on linen,
50 × 50 in.



Exuberance, Oil and pencil on linen, 40 × 40 in.



White Water, Mixed media on linen, 72 x 40 in.