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The Emergence of the Goddess

by Fusionartist Rassouli with Poetry in collaboration with 'Naomi'



... AND GOD CREATED THE WOMAN IN HER OWN IMAGE...

The mystery of the woman is hidden in the depths of the heart.

Her innocence is protected in the embrace that surrounds her like the petals of the rose surround the bud. The secrets of her nature are revealed when the light of the spirit of love beholds the fullness of her being, and the full flowering of her beauty opens only in the presence of those friends of the heart, who truly seek to honor her freedom.

The 21st century is the era when humankind will make a quantum leap in the direction of making the earth a more peaceful and united world. To make this shift, we need to face certain challenges. Many of the solutions are harbored within the energy of the feminine nature, not just in the home or work

place, but also everywhere across the planet. The compassionate nature of women is one of the most precious resources available to us. There is an energy, a special light, and a capacity for love that arises out of a deep desire within women who give of themselves and can care for others. The same qualities are found in men, as each gender also possesses the qualities of the opposite gender, but cultural overlays tend to suppress these. I believe this quality would revolutionize our world if we could truly encourage and support women's involvement.

Women are feeling the need for making more of a contribution, and they are willing to participate in larger ways than ever before.

There seems to be an instinctive response in women to be agents of reconciliation and peacemaking and to explore creative solutions to the problems that we now face. The feminine nature is often inclined towards harmonious resolutions, which benefits everyone, instead of turning to war, which can be harmful as the means to resolve conflicts. This is not to suggest that we abandon all of the typically masculine perspectives and behaviors. Competition can inspire us to do better, and love can bring a grace that guides us to live in peace and unity with one another. Love is the agent that not only offers harmony; it also manifests beauty and nourishment in our life.

Carrying the life within, giving birth, and nurturing a child requires incredible patience, physical and emotional endurance, as well as an innate compassion for development of that life. We need to harness this feminine energy and to cultivate and soften our negotiations with each other in all of our relationships, personal and across the globe. We need to call on the qualities of the feminine in order to bring a regenerative and restorative focus to the process of healing the earth, healing our relationships and developing our connection with other cultures, as we appreciate their contributions.



BRINGER OF THE DAWNAs a woman rises in the silence of the night to hold a vigil offering

the light of her compassion and prayer for all creation, the sun rises to meet the glowing countenance of her face, her joy and delight express an eagerness that brings the radiance of the dawn.

We have embarked on a new beginning, but we have to overcome the remaining resistance and restraints of the oppressive ways that our society has treated women in the past. We have seen the rise of women from being denied the right to vote to running for the presidency of the most powerful nation in the free world. This should not be only as the exception, but needs to be the catalyst to open the doors for the full participation of women of every race and nationality from faraway villages to the most modern cities around the world. We need the gifts of women in order to bring peaceful solutions to the complexities that are threatening our very existence. I believe the women of the 21st century carry the key to the transformation of the world.

What I portray as the feminine power in my artwork is not just an outer beauty to enjoy; it is a radiance that glows from within, and which surrounds the heart.

I think the time of women's increased influence is approaching rapidly, and it is gaining momentum. A major shift is taking place, and it is imperative that all women be finally free to use their inner graces to help us all rediscover the civility we need, and in order to achieve a peaceful coexistence with all people. It is no longer an idle threat to the possibility that we may well destroy our planet if we continue to develop weapons and use aggression and violence as means to settle our differences. We need compassion, which is our most precious resource to make this happen!

Being vulnerable and compassionate is not a weakness as many seem to think, but it is that distinct kind of strength we need to cultivate if we are to survive. Compassion can make us more understanding and keep us from rushing to judgment and being critical in a way that causes conflict with others. It is our own vulnerability that helps us to be more perceptive and to develop tolerance for diverse points of view. Loving awareness moves us to work toward solutions that benefit everyone involved instead of only seeking to satisfy our own self-interests in whatever difficulties we face.

I have learned from the Eastern mystics like Rumi and Hafiz that the heart is the matrix and the portal for the power to rejuvenate and renew the earth. We need the power of love to develop us socially, politically, economically, spiritually, and artistically. This is not a dictating power. Sadly, we have learned how ineffective forceful control of others can be. Women need to stand strong and honor their feminine influence.

Women need to find their expression in developing transformative applications by using their feminine qualities to help us discover new ways to work together.

Through my artistic expressions, I hold up a mirror that reflects the inner beauty of women, while it shows their willingness to be vulnerable, knowing that surrender holds the secret to their strength. The energy of love is the key to the feminine power of compassion. My hope is that the images I create will help empower women who see themselves in a new light and will invite their involvement and participation in the development of our collective growth in all aspects of life.

As a man from the Middle East, I grew up in a culture that was most oppressive to women. Since many of them were veiled, I began to imagine and connect with their inner beauty. This ultimately became a guide in both my life and my art. It was the mystery of what was unseen that attracted me, and I began to express something deeper than the outer appearance. I was venturing into an unknown, and the process guided me on an inward journey that stirred my heart and awakened my soul. I began to paint the revelations of the heart. I was reaching to paint the mysterious glow of a

radiant energy that became a metaphor for love, for truth, for light, and for life itself. It is a vision that connects me with the longings of those who view and respond to my art.



VEILING OF THE SOUL

When women support and nurture the growth and uniqueness of all women, all men, and all children, they discover the full strength of their feminine power.

When they join together in the unity and expanding energy of love, they awaken the light of the soul.

The women in my paintings express the breath and essence of womanhood as I perceive and experience it in women I know. Many tell me that they recognize something of themselves in my female figures. I have come to feel that what is reflected on my canvas is the feminine nature of the soul that exists in both men and women.

With each new image I create, I am not just painting one more beautiful woman. My images are meant to be a tribute to the potential of all women, and it is my intention to show appreciation for the great capacity they hold in being guided by their inner wisdom and their compassionate love. This kind of energy is our most precious resource, for it is what we need to help awaken, enlighten, and transform all hearts across the world.

RASSOULI is known in the art community as an artist who reflects mysticism and Near-Eastern spirituality in his paintings and murals through the use of European painting technology. What appears on canvas is a timeless perspective that illuminates the divine creative light through the form of feminine power and beauty. The feminine images that he paints are not created from models, but arise from his own soulful vision of beauty that has evolved from the strength and compassion of women, who have influenced his life. This awareness moved him to recognize their contribution, and to encourage and empower women to utilize their creative abilities and focus their influence to help us develop as a global family.

Known as an artist, a visionary, a speaker, and as a gifted teacher and guide in raising consciousness and developing creativity, Rassouli has created a worldwide following with his unique style and philosophy. What makes his art so unique is the way he translates spiritual experience from his subconscious onto canvas through meditation at sunrise. His vibrant hues and joyful color blends coupled with swirling circular brushwork create a unique style of painting that he calls **Fusionart**, a style that Rassouli has created and registered and is presently teaching to many artists globally.

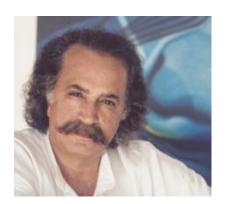
Born in Isfahan, Rassouli was recognized as the Best Student Artist in Iran when he was fifteen and was awarded a government grant to study painting in Europe. He emigrated to the United States in 1963, where he studied painting and architecture at the University of New Mexico, and was honored with the Leadership Award from the Institute of International Education.

A conceptual vision of expanding light combined with his own creative visualization of divine feminine beauty has evolved in Rassouli since early childhood, and is expressed in his inspirational paintings, reliefs and sculptures, book illuminations and murals. He was raised in a historical home decorated with murals and intricate floral designs. Inspired and encouraged by his mystic uncle, Rassouli developed an early appreciation for painting and mystical poetry, and he spent endless hours taking lessons from classical and impressionist artists, and studying mysticism. He discovered new ways to transform his subconscious images into forms and images that he could express and share with others.

Although he began his professional career as an architect, creating three-dimensional structures to satisfy his artistic drive, Rassouli's passion for painting persisted and became his primary focus – moving him to create hundreds of artworks that have received global recognition for his unique Fusionart style.

Rassouli's worldwide exhibits include numerous solo and collective shows as well as international art expositions. Selective paintings by Rassouli appear in many publications, including: <u>Jung, Journey of Transformation</u> and <u>Language of Souls</u>, and on the covers of numerous magazines and books. He is also the co-author with Dr. Michael Beckwith in a book entitled, <u>Inspirations of the Heart.</u> (Dr. Beckwith is one of the primary contributors of those interviewed in the acclaimed DVD and book, *The Secret*)

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