

ANTONIO CARREÑO

Melody from the Silence of the Soul:

The legacy of surrealism in Latin American art is redefined in the energetic lines and the vibrant concepts of Antonio Carreño, an artist born in the Dominican Republic. The images in his mixed media paintings and pastels are inspired by cherished memories of his early life in the islands, where he experienced the simplicity and joy of the natural world.

Although the spontaneous gesture in Carreño's work recalls the whimsical symbols of Miro or the floating figures of Chagall, Carreno structures his paintings meticulous with emphasis in detail and symmetry. With a graceful ease fragments of objects impressions assemble and maneuver across the surface of each, fluctuating from fantasy to illusion.

The impasto ground is an arena for the action of diagrammatic lines, which whirl and twist playfully across the canvas, delineating and organizing the interactive images. Carreño shapes the pliant surface with an assortment of tools in order to capture a delicate sweep of light and shadow. Then he brushes layers of paint in thick strokes and thin washes, building an accessible dimensional surface primed to integrate his imagery.

The artist is lured by the inherent harmony of the organic colors of the earth and enriches the subtlety of his mute palette with calligraphy of transparent veils of color. Carreño captures both the nuance and the vitality of life in his work, allowing viewers to contemplate a powerful aesthetic vision, which lingers subconsciously beyond each elusive moment.

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