

## TreasurePostcards: An International Arts Project and Artists Talk May 23<sup>rd</sup> 2008 - Artomatic, Washington DC

### *Panelists*

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#### **Holly Stone**

Holly Stone is interested in making statements using symbolism. She aspires to create images that express something timeless about the human condition, particularly as related to women. Rather than depicting the human form, she hopes to portray the soul. Stone feels that the oppression of women is a universally compelling injustice which deserves expression in art.

#### **Patricia Correa**

Patricia Correa (artist's name: PATCo) is a Colombian artist, born in 1960, currently residing in Washington, D.C. She holds an M.Phil and Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Cambridge (UK) and an Associates Fine Arts Degree from the Corcoran College of Art + Design. In 2007 she began her third year of the BFA program at the Corcoran. Her work draws on a pre-Columbian view of the world as a tapestry in a continuous process of weaving and transformation, where patterns repeat themselves, albeit differently, and the concept of time is not necessarily linear: past and present intermingle as memory and perception work simultaneously. She combines different media and uses both figurative and abstract elements. With photography, she is particularly interested in capturing the processes involved in human labor and aging, particularly for women. [www.patcoart.com ]

#### **Patricia Ortman**

Patricia Ortman is an artist, the Executive Director of the Girls Gotta Run Foundation, Inc., and a retired women's studies professor.  
[ <http://www.girlsgottarun.org> - <http://members.purespeed.com/~peo/> ]

#### **Sally Tsou**

Sally Tsou was born in China and grew up in Taiwan and the U.S. She got her BA in studio art from American University and her MA in art education from George Washington University. She has been an art educator at Montgomery County Public School for many years. For Tsou, art is personal and honest and necessitates the courage to touch the heart and create that raw honesty.

#### **Helina Mataferia**

Born in Washington, D.C. to Ethiopian parents, Helina Mataferia has always demonstrated an interest in the arts. She attended Temple University's Tyler School of Art, later transferring to Morgan State University and obtaining her BA in Fine Arts in 2005. She has shown her art in galleries, museums and festivals, including the Eubie Blake Cultural Center, the World Space Center, and the James E. Lewis Museum. Mataferia has been an art instructor for community arts programs with the Creative Alliance and the YMCA. She also works as a freelance graphic design artist. She now lives and works in New York City.  
[ [www.metaartist.com](http://www.metaartist.com) ]

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*Moderator: Nil Sismanyazici-Navaie is a communications strategist, development consultant, the founding director of Arts for Global Development, Inc. (Art4Development.Net) and the creator/editor of internationally known 'art'ishake' e-magazine. After attending Mimar Sinan Fine Arts Academy in Turkey, Nil continued her studies in International Relations at the University of Maryland and received her master's degree in Development Management from the London School of Economics in the UK. Nil has given numerous presentations, led workshops, curated exhibitions and organized events primarily on the involvement of the arts in social sphere. She has written articles on social responsibility, technology, creativity as well as human and societal capacity building. In addition to her development related efforts she works on creating mixed media/visual art. She has participated in solo and group exhibitions in Europe and the U.S.*



**TreasurePostcards Project** by Arts for Global Development, Inc. is an opportunity for emerging and professional visual artists from across the globe to together express social and economic issues with postcard-sized artworks. It is an educational - informative medium that not only helps artists gain visibility through their individual works, and shares their creative ambitions, but also, primarily creates awareness on vital developmental issues, provokes thoughts, inspires, and helps raise funds for charitable causes.

TreasurePostcards was first launched in 2006 in collaboration with the *Crafts Center at CHF International* as an arts contest and an educational exhibit, aiming to emphasize the role of arts in the economic development field and highlight the significance of protecting humankind's major cultural heritage sites and artistic creations. Over 100 artwork images of 45 artists from 26 countries were received and select works were exhibited in Washington DC. The submitted artworks were all in different media and styles. Some artists had focused on using traditional methods, such as 'thread paintings' from India and 'miniatures' from Turkey to underline the importance of maintaining historical treasures; whereas others utilized 21st century technologies in their artistic creations to depict their understanding of the TreasurePostcards project purpose. Quite a number of digital and abstract artworks with vibrant colors were submitted. The artworks revealed the artists' unique approach and personal touches in the project with a focus on issues such as artistic individuality, education, poverty, gender, HIV/AIDS, environment, peace, or humanity in conjunction with the importance of cultural identity and preservation.

In 2008 a similar methodology was implemented to garner this time donated works of female artists emphasizing girls and women's issues including health concerns, socio-economic challenges, civil rights, and more. The postcard-sized artworks were likewise in numerous arts styles, and represented varied techniques of prints, textiles, photographs, acrylics, oil paints, graphite, collage, mixed-media, and more. Over 80 artists from around the world donated works that raised funds for two charity organizations thus far: *Cahary Women's Services* located in the Washington DC, USA and the other one, *Mor Cati Women's Shelter* in Istanbul Turkey that aims to address issues around domestic violence and help women who have become victims of such cruelty. Another beneficiary of this year's TreasurePostcards project is the *Brighter Tomorrow for Africa Foundation* that works to help women, girls, and children in Sierra Leone.

To learn more about TreasurePostcards and related activities:

<http://www.art4development.net/tpp.html>

Arts for Global Development (Art4Development.Net) is an international, educational, volunteer based non-profit (501c3) initiative with a purpose of furthering interdisciplinary, multisectoral, cross-cultural and creative approach in social change, and facilitating creative sector and stakeholders of development together empower socially and economically disadvantaged individuals and communities worldwide, particularly children, youth, and women.

With the collaboration of numerous project partners, supporters, and artists, Art4Development.Net promotes the awareness of interdisciplinary approach in development; forms a worldwide network of 'arts and development advocates; provides information and knowledge on creative sector and its effective role in the development field; and co-develops arts-infused projects and helps to increase the practice of 'arts' in third-sector-support and corporate social/societal responsibility programs.

For further information please visit [www.art4development.net](http://www.art4development.net) or contact [info@art4development.net](mailto:info@art4development.net).