

Molnar in his studio with self portrait

# THE ARTISTIC VOICE OF ANTON MOLNAR

BY KATIA BLANCHARD



Late Breakfast In The Palace, 1998  
(100 cm x 100 cm)

A vital piece of art does much more than caresses our eyes; it moves us and creates in us countless forms of emotions, new as well as familiar. Not only does it call attention to what we know which validates or confirms our reality, but in many cases brings us novel sensations and fresh imagination. The complexity of our feelings as a result of seeing a piece of art reflects the mind of the artist; and an artist who succeeds in transporting us—such as we are—through ourselves and to unexplored territories, is a genius. So when we gaze at the work of Anton Molnar, even for the very first time, we will realize that it speaks to us in a new voice, although it is by no means entirely unfamiliar. “In our complex world, it is important for me to find an artistic language that can translate my vision of the mélange of cultures and emotions,” says the Hungarian artist. At the same time

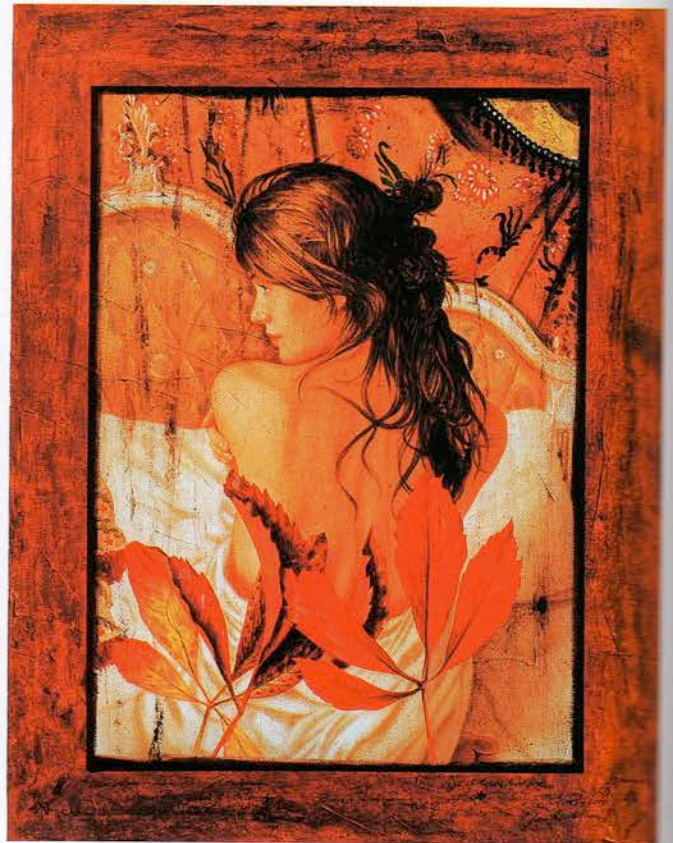
subtle and dynamic, classic yet modern, Molnar's art presents wonderful delights and brilliant surprises, all with astounding originality. He considers himself belonging to a generation of New Realism, whose styles include mixing different periods and moods to fashion what he refers to as "ambiances". The technique of Molnar's painting is an instrument for a more symbolic and profound message.

Born in Budapest in 1957, Molnar spent most of his childhood and adult life studying painting. After matriculation in art from Budapest Secondary Art School, he began working for the Museum of Fine Arts of Hungary, managing and organizing exhibitions. This post exposed him to a vast variety of important masterpieces across the world and the centuries. Hence, we see in his art Flemish and Renaissance influences, as well as hints of Italian and even Pop Art. This unusual combination often gives us a sense of nostalgia. Molnar also attended the prestigious Academy of Fine Arts of Hungary with diplomas in painting, drawing, art history, and anatomy. He earned a Master's degree in mural works and frescos. In 1988, he and his family moved to France and settled in Paris.

Viewing the collection of Anton Molnar is to be taken on many extensive voyages. Be it still life works of subjects depicting the pleasures in life such as an elaborately prepared breakfast on a palace balcony; or portraits of unknown peasants to luminous personalities; or beautiful landscapes, Molnar's



**Black Shoes, 1994**  
(80 cm x 80 cm)



**Anne-Flore, 2002**  
(92 cm x 72 cm)

technical competence prevails in the unconditional, almost manic details of his description. "I'd like to think that my paintings are diaries, recording various cultures, places, people and times," Anton reflects. His ability to convey the precise colors of reality speaks to us directly and truthfully. Another aspect of his originality is a painted frame surrounding each work of art. This abstract area is often accented with writings and sketches complementing the "ambiance" of the painting.

With a strong academic foundation and contemporary vision, it is no wonder that Anton Molnar has achieved quick and international success fairly early in his career. His art is displayed in galleries, public and private collections throughout the world. Presently, he is represented by Opera Gallery (New York, Miami, Paris and Singapore), Prova Gallery (Tokyo) and various galleries and collections in Switzerland. Molnar anticipates an exhibition hosted by *Les Avenues* in Palm Beach, Florida in Spring 2004. ■

**For more information on Anton Molnar's activities and exhibitions, contact *Les Avenues* or visit online. [www.antonmolnar.com](http://www.antonmolnar.com).**