

## BIOGRAPHY: MARIE de VALON

Marie de Valon was born under the bleak skies of Northern France, deep in mining country where coal dust pervades the air in all seasons.

This chaos is tempered by literature, poetry and a disposition for world of art in all its forms transmitted by a kindly though rigorous father.

*One must still have chaos in one, to give birth to a dancing star.*

Nietzsche

As a young woman she discovers Italy, the Quattrocento...It is light in broad daylight, perspectives of rolling hills, olive trees, cypresses, the *case coloniche*, which, with talent and sensitivity, she captures in her water colors and paintings.

*From the darkest of labyrinths she emerges alive, in an environment where her priority is no longer her own life, but Life itself*, wrote Christiane Singer. This love for Nature, for Life will never leave her. The thrust of her true nature leads her to capture everything. To write Life through colors in her paintings or through clay in her sculptures will henceforth be her way.

And this way will be highlighted with beautiful encounters: such as the Living Treasure in a Japanese temple, such as the curator of the Gauguin Museum in Tahiti, such as Aragon who at the twilight of his life called her *my Elsa*, such as Hervé Bazin who honored her with this sentence: *Let there be Light, said the Creator, some people, like Marie de Valon, exist to reap specially its effects*, such as again, George Brassens' bass musician, or Serge Gainsbourg whom she inspired for the illustration of Melody Nelson, or the famous sculptor Volti who represented her in his later sculptures, or Dany Saval who offered many of her works to her husband Michel Drucker, .....

Let us add to her passion for poetry reading, writing, philosophy through her encounters with Luc Ferry, André Comte-Sponville, Etienne Klein, Hubert Reeves and the teaching dispensed by her master's : Yvan Amar, Christiane Singer, ...

Capturing the Reality of a site, expressing with sensitivity what she receives becomes naturally her main quest. From the melting pot of multifarious experiences and ever-renewed searches surges the alchemy which, over the years, will produce a freer, more subtle form of expression that reveals the infinite treasures proposed by Nature.

In her sculptures Earth speaks, it is the Subject, deep in her inner self, which becomes reality, each time

with its own history, a history of Humanity of all times, universal and nurturing. Her work is poetry, generosity, an offering in which everyone is mirrored with his own light and own sensitivity.

MARIE de VALON:

Shows since the 1980's: in France, Paris and Regions, in Switzerland, Belgium, Italy, Germany, USA (New York) and Japan (Tokyo, Kyoto, Osaka).

She has received many awards in major exhibitions in Paris: Salon des Artistes Français, Salon des Indépendants, etc.

She has been living in Provence since 2003 and keeps her studio open round the year.

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