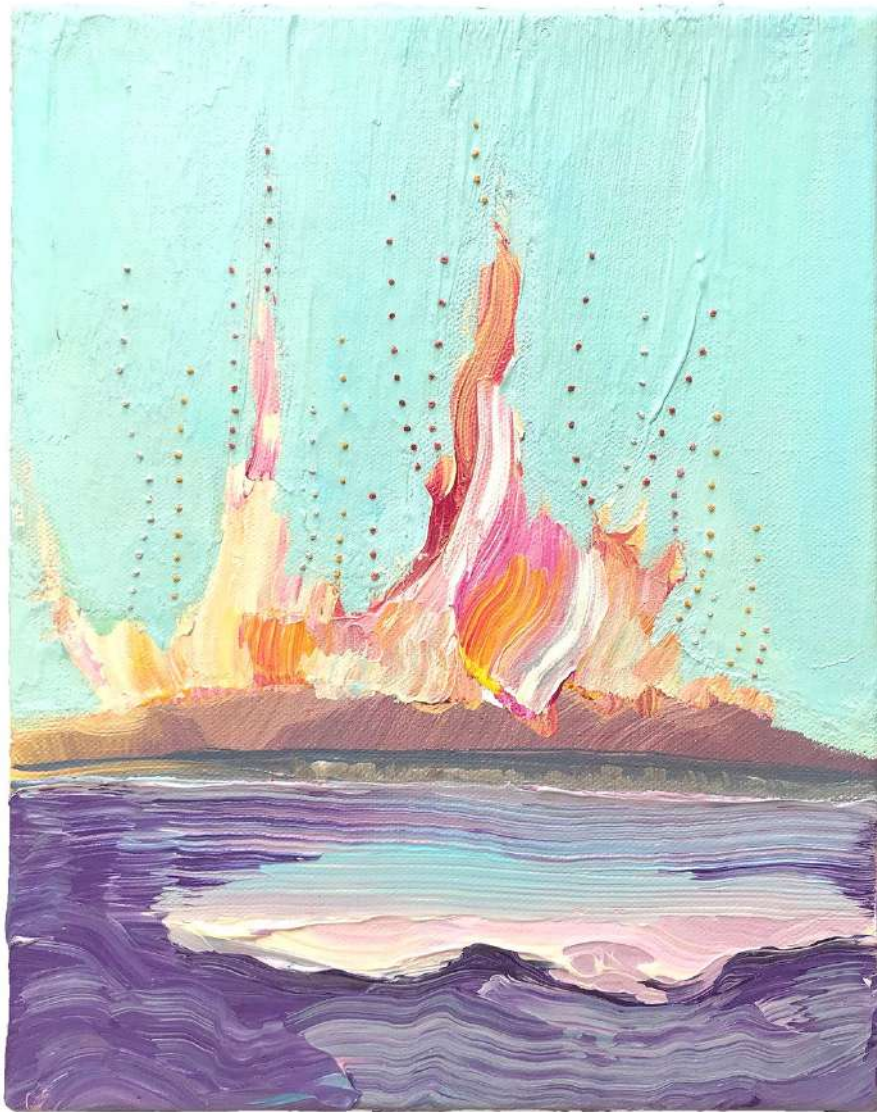


Bel & Vitor Azambuja



Stichting the Horizon

Bel & Vitor Azambuja
Stichting the Horizon
01.04 - 22.04. 2023
DAVIS GALLERY
Contemporary Art
Bredgade 69
DK-1260 Copenhagen K
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April 2023

Bel & Vitor Azambuja, Stichting the Horizon

The imaginary landscapes are titled to evoke precious memories of the past. Perhaps from the last summer vacation and the trip to the beach. The artist duo Azambuja has a particularly playful dialog that gives the works a breath of blessed simplicity. The straightforward yet pastose acrylic landscape with its delicate color combinations is accompanied by embroidered narrative inserts. He paints and she embroiders, a partnership that brings us the joy of nature and existence.

Welcome

Annegrethe Davis
Gallerist
Davis Gallery



Entangled by Paint and Yarn

Bel and I are artists, married for more than twenty years, but it was only last year that we started producing art together. Bel found one of my small landscape paintings, and proposed an embroidery on it. Despite painting flowers for more than two decades, I knew the memories I kept from my travels would one day come to life on my paintings. I guess these memories were just waiting for Bel's idea to start taking shape.

Allow me to go back in time so I can tell you a little bit about this merging of brushstrokes and crochet needles. I learned how to draw and play piano at a very early age; at about the same time I learned how to read and write. My father was a prolific working artist, and I grew up in an environment where creativity was all around my household.

I never thought of painting and music as distinct arts, so much so that I can "see" music and "hear" painting on my canvases. The late Russian painter Wassily Kandinsky once attended a piano concert by Schoenberg in Munich, Germany. When he returned home, Kandinsky painted "Impression 3 (Concert)." In the following year, he published a book in which he described being inspired by musical theory and harmony while creating a painting. It is precisely in this way — thinking about this musical harmony — that I am inspired when I paint. The musical world that I love so much was little by little integrated into the shapes and colors of my paintings.

I like to spend hours contemplating the changing colors of the sky where I live, the waves on the beaches of Rio de Janeiro, where I was born, and the movement of the foliage that dances along the wind in treetops. In the act of painting, I allow these memories to guide all my gestures. Bel also started in the arts very early. Her grandmothers encouraged her to embroider, while her mother introduced her to photography. As a teenager, driven by her curiosity to discover and break new ground, Bel left to Europe to study photography and art history. She was a professional photographer when we got married in 2001. When the COVID-19 pandemic hit in early 2020, embroidery returned intensely to her life as an instinct for survival and mental sanity. At that time, to get closer to her mother, who lived far away, Bel sent her an embroidered family tree as a gift. The need to stay at home during the pandemic created an immense creativity laboratory, and the result was the daily discoveries of new embroideries and new possibilities.

“Embroidery was my great companion, a gift in this very difficult period of seclusion. I can’t quite describe exactly the intensity of this feeling, I just know it was magical. Life forced me to stop, stay quiet and centered, and not to freak out in this turbulence of emotions, I was reborn embroidering. Ideas do not stop sprouting, and the pleasure of discovery is daily,” she said.

Marriage in itself is already a challenge. So why not extend this challenge to the arts, bringing together different skills? One art entangled into the other. All together and mixed up.

Courage was the word embroidered on a small canvas. Courage defines our life. Embroidery with abstract shapes emerged from it, giving strength and intensity to paintings. Courage was the trigger for this boldness, this impetus that did not stop us.

Our creative process takes place as follows: I start by painting almost abstract shapes, but with the aim of creating environments, landscapes. When I finish painting, Bel and I start a new process together, which is to discuss how and where the embroidery comes in. I trace with a special pen the indication where Bel will embroider. We choose the colors and types of lines. Bel then begins the embroidery process. The magic happens.

We divide, add, multiply, create, accomplish, discover, get lost and find ourselves. For us, living in Brazil, surrounded by exuberant nature and a multitude of bright colors enhanced by an intense sun, nothing is more natural than to transport it to our works of art. In fact, this is our very existence as beings and artists.

Vitor Azambuja



Bel & Vitor Azambuja , Honey 2023
Acrylic & yarn on canvas, 60x40 cm



Bel & Vitor Azambuja , Kronborg 2023
Acrylic & yarn on canvas, 60x40 cm



Bel & Vitor Azambuja , Nyhavn 2023
Acrylic & yarn on canvas, 40x60 cm



Bel & Vitor Azambuja , Freedom is Multicolored 2023
Acrylic & yarn on canvas, 40x60 cm



Bel & Vitor Azambuja , Monet 2023
Acrylic & yarn on canvas, 30x30 cm



Bel & Vitor Azambuja , Strawberry Clouds 2023
Acrylic & yarn on canvas, 30x30 cm



Bel & Vitor Azambuja , Colored Rain 2022
Acrylic & yarn on canvas, 30x30 cm



Bel Azambuja

From: São Paulo -1973

Lives and Works in Indaiatuba/SP - Brazil.

Graduated in social communication, started to photograph professionally after her first photography course in Montreux, Switzerland. She has lived in several countries (Switzerland, England, Italy and USA) always looking for inspiration for her art. In March 2020, in the pandemic of covid 19, Isabel resumed her childhood practice with the threads and needles inherited from her grandmothers. Since then she works with free embroidery and embroiders every day. Her works are already in some countries like Portugal, Belgium, and Canada.

Vitor Azambuja

From: Rio de Janeiro - 1966

Lives and Works in Indaiatuba/SP - Brazil.

Graduated in social communication (publicity - art director) and piano by the Brazilian Music Conservatory.

Self-taught painter. He began to draw very early observing his father, also art director and artist.

He has works in important collections in New York, California, Portugal, Miami, London, Copenhagen, Turkey, Colombia and Brazil.

Exhibitions:

- 1985 - University Gama Filho (group show) - Rio de Janeiro - Brazil
- 1987 - Brazilian Drawing Association - Silver medal
- 1987 - Exhibition at A.B.D. (winners)
- 1987 - Elisa Godoy Gallery (individual) - Rio de Janeiro - Brazil
- 2003 - Agora Gallery (group show) - New York - USA
- 2005 - Berenice Arvani Gallery (individual) – SP
- 2005 - SP Arte
- 2005 - Chaple Art Show (group show) - SP
- 2005 - Tina Zappoli (group show) – POA
- 2006 - SP Arte
- 2007 - SP Arte
- 2007 - The art of art directors - POP Gallery (group show) - SP
- 2007- Tina Zappoli Gallery. “Terra adentro” (group show) - POA
- 2008 - Contemporary Brazilian Art - 18 proposals
 - Murilo Castro Gallery (group show) - Minas Gerais
- 2013 - Vila Nova Gallery - The Gestural Garden (individual) - SP
- 2014 - Gallery 212 (group show) - Miami - Coletiva
- 2014 - Between flowers and between lines (group show) - Vila Nova - Gallery - SP
- 2015 - A2 Gallery (group show) - Vale das Viteiras, Rio de Janeiro.
- 2015 – Panor’ almas 1 (group show) – Paris
- 2018 - Flower Power (individual) - Brazilian Engraving Gallery
- 2023 - CarnaViews - Triplex Gallery (group show) - Rio de Janeiro
- 2023 -Red Gate Gallery (group show) - Rio de Janeiro
- 2023- Davis Gallery - (individual) - Copenhagen





Bel & Vitor Azambuja, Enjoy the Moment 2023

Acrylic & yarn on canvas, 40x60 cm



Bel & Vitor Azambuja, Hornbaek 2022
Acrylic & yarn on canvas, 40x30 cm



Bel & Vitor Azambuja, Echoes of the Sun 2022
Acrylic & yarn on canvas, 40x30 cm



Bel & Vitor Azambuja, Low Tide 2022
Acrylic & yarn on canvas, 27x22 cm



Bel & Vitor Azambuja, Be Brave 2022
Acrylic & yarn on canvas, 27x22 cm



Bel & Vitor Azambuja, Hygge 2023
Acrylic & yarn on canvas, 40x60 cm



Bel & Vitor Azambuja, Lemon Cheesecake 2023
Acrylic & yarn on canvas, 22x27 cm



Bel & Vitor Azambuja, The Night of the Poets 2023
Acrylic & yarn on canvas, 22x27 cm



Bel & Vitor Azambuja, Vanilla Cake 2023
Acrylic & yarn on canvas, 30x22 cm



Bel & Vitor Azambuja, Ice Cream Soda 2023
Acrylic & yarn on canvas, 24x19 cm



Bel & Vitor Azambuja, Rødgrød med Fløde 2023
Acrylic & yarn on canvas, 27x19 cm



Bel & Vitor Azambuja, Guldmønt 2023
Acrylic & yarn on canvas, 24x19 cm



Bel & Vitor Azambuja, Lava 2023
Acrylic & yarn on canvas, 30x40 cm



Bel & Vitor Azambuja, Breeze 2023
Acrylic & yarn on canvas, 30x40 cm



Bel & Vitor Azambuja, The Little Mermaid 2022
Acrylic & yarn on canvas, 30x40 cm



Bel & Vitor Azambuja, Tivoli 2023
Acrylic & yarn on canvas, 40x60 cm



Bel & Vitor Azambuja, Hope 2023
Acrylic & yarn on canvas, 22x27 cm



Bel & Vitor Azambuja, Banana Split 2023
Acrylic & yarn on canvas, 22x27 cm



Bel & Vitor Azambuja, Blue Berries 2023
Acrylic & yarn on canvas, 16x22 cm



Bel & Vitor Azambuja, The Magic Mountain 2023
Acrylic & yarn on canvas, 16x22 cm



Bel & Vitor Azambuja, Clair de Lune 2022
Acrylic & yarn on canvas, 27x19 cm



Bel & Vitor Azambuja, Northern Light 2023
Acrylic & yarn on canvas, 20x30 cm



Bel & Vitor Azambuja, Golden Light 2023
Acrylic & yarn on canvas, 22x27 cm



Bel & Vitor Azambuja, Mint 2022
Acrylic & yarn on canvas, 22x30 cm



Bel & Vitor Azambuja, Just Fly 2023
Acrylic & yarn on canvas, 22x27 cm



Bel & Vitor Azambuja, Sunset 2023
Acrylic & yarn on canvas, 30x40 cm



Bel & Vitor Azambuja, Banana Wawe 2023
Acrylic & yarn on canvas, 16x22 cm



Bel & Vitor Azambuja, Hot Dreams 2023
Acrylic & yarn on canvas, 30x40 cm



Bel & Vitor Azambuja, Sign of the Times 2023
Acrylic & yarn on canvas, 30x40 cm



Bel & Vitor Azambuja, Hot and Cold 2023
Acrylic & yarn on canvas, 27x19 cm



Bel & Vitor Azambuja, Peaches 2023
Acrylic & yarn on canvas, 30x40 cm



Bel & Vitor Azambuja, Carnival 2023
Acrylic & yarn on canvas, 40x60 cm



Bel & Vitor Azambuja, Burning Lake 2023
Acrylic & yarn on canvas, 27x19 cm

Colophon

Stitching the Horizon

Davis Gallery 1. – 22. April 2023

solo exhibition by Bel & Vitor Azambuja

Text: Anngrethe Davis & Vitor Azambuja

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