

Santos-Solomon's storytelling



Painting by Julia Santos-Solomon.

Julia Santos-Solomon, the vivacious artist and designer who's been a major creative force in the Woodstock area ever since her husband joined Maverick Family Health as a partner nearly two decades ago, has long had a singular way of combining the instinctual memories of her Dominican heritage with years of top shelf arts training at the Rhode Island School of Design, Brown University, and in Rome, Italy. She's known as a teacher, at Parsons and in the Caribbean, yet pulls her inspiration from both travels and dreams; the real and/or remembered world and something deeper, more primal.

On Sunday, December 8, Santos-Solomon inaugurates a new Dream series of works inspired by travels she made to Namibia this past year in the project space at the Julio Valdez Studio in New York City where she's been an associate.

"Making art is a calling and a choice for me. The creative process engages my mind, intellect, my heart, and my hand. The practice of making art is the most demanding and engaging task I undertake," this ceramicist, painter, designer and all around creator says of what drives her. "My objective is to be honest with my work, to create something that is true for me. In order for this to happen, the images must be fueled with emotion, and driven by personal experience. Storytelling is a priority, so I am flexible with my mediums, choosing whatever narrates my particular story best, therefore some bodies of work are on paper, others in paintings, or sculpture."

Valdez is a Dominican artist who studied with noted printmaker Robert Blackburn and runs a studio in his honor; this coming month's Project Space exhibition also includes work by Ulster County artists Mary Anne Erickson, Basha Ruth Nelson, and Polly Law.

The opening is 3 p.m.-6 p.m. Sunday, December 8 at 176 E. 106th Street, 4th floor. Visit www.juliasantossolomon.com for further information ++