

## New York Artist Anna Tork — Abstract Art

New York artist Anna Tork lives by the water in Williamsburg, which she turns to for daily inspiration in her abstract art practice. Originally from Russia, the artist moved to New York as a five-year-old and has lived here ever since.

As abstract art, the composition lends itself to themes of memory and emotion. Tork turns to her surroundings in New York City for vivid tones and form in the changing seasons and street art — a natural relationship with color found from all around.

Physical places, seasons, and the passage of time influence the expressive paintings as the New York artist captures the essence of places and time. Memories evocative of the warming Cape Cod early-summer afternoons, catching light waves in Williamsburg at the end of the summer, and late winter on 49 Palms Oasis Trail in Joshua Tree.

Though much of the inspiration is subconscious, colors and ideas dreamed up at night and quickly jotted down in bed, water and light are sources of deep calm for the artist. As such, Tork recreates the feeling of relaxation inspired by large bodies of water and the rippling light that moves through water, windows, and sunsets. Angles, light rays, prisms seep into the abstract art.

Loving art as a child, Tork later discovered modern art with its freedom and unrestricted feelings. Today, she embraces this, setting out to create visually interesting compositions with shapes, lines, and marks.

Key to the artist's practice is taking two months between series to explore and experiment — a time for the messy and imperfect. From there, Tork works on multiple pieces at once, allowing the artworks time to dry between layers of paint poured directly onto the canvas. This process invokes a sense of unpredictability; the work is a collaboration with the paint itself.

*"The pours can also collect or move unexpectedly, and I've learned to accept their randomness and work with it. This has produced some of my best work, leaving up to chance, but then weaving it into something beautiful."*

Tork's artworks feature a blend of acrylic, pastels (oil and soft) and spray paint on linen and cotton canvas. Charcoal, graphite, and colored pencils also feature from time to time. Working outdoors and indoors allows the New York artist to take in her surroundings and interact with people, the latter bursting into every room of domesticity.

Fundamentally, moving beyond the aesthetics, Tork's practice is centered on finding herself and capturing emotions through sharing art. *"I love that art brings people together."*