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Ruben Velez's Paintings Against Social Issues



Courtesy of Ruben Dario

For the past 63 years, Ruben Dario Velez Perez has been following his passion as an artist and painting for the greater good of our society.

The 79 year old has been painting and drawing since the age of 18, inspired by the city he loves, Manizales, Colombia.

"It's a passion, I mean I make money and show it to the public, but it's more to me, it's my passion" says Ruben.

Paintings Made That Focus on Social Issues

When painting, Ruben mentioned that all his artworks have a message attached to them. He loves the sense of letting his artwork speak for themselves as most artists will state that art is a powerful way to communicate and self-express. He took advantage, and used his talents to create art that focuses and addresses social issues.



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"I've painted artworks that show how beautiful nature is if we take care of it, I've also painted works that go against wars and violence, and paintings about children hunger and ending it" says Ruben.

All these paintings that fight and addresses social issues are Ruben's greatest achievements. However, he mentioned a specific painting where he felt emotional when it was finished. He was inspired by the events that occurred Iraq in 2006 where two soldiers were killed by the Mujahideen Shura Council (a terrorist group from Iraq).

"I felt emotional when making this, but I was really inspired and that's why I did it" says Ruben.

Ruben was disgusted by the events that occurred in the Middle East. That's why he created the art piece (top image), to bring awareness to the horrific events that those USA soldiers went through in Iraq.

"It was a time were every human being stood still when hearing about what was happening in Iraq. It was horrible, and I know it made everyone in the world sad when hearing about the two soldiers..." says Ruben.

He opened the eyes of many with his art piece, bringing sentimental value to everyone including himself.

Each of Ruben's paintings speak a million words. He composes different kinds of messages in each of his art works, which creates connections between society and his paintings.



On left, Ruben Dario's Wife. Courtesy of Ruben Dario