



Art Achievement

Anne Berthet

What do you do?

I'm an art painter. After the birth of my kids, I specialized in painting for children.

Who do you normally deal with?

I'm in touch with The Women Charity Association located in Jubail Industrial City. They help me to get in touch with Saudi schools. In schools, I deal with the Principal, the teaching team and of course with the children.

What is the toughest challenge in your role?

The toughest challenge I encounter is always to see the world with children's point of view. It's very important when you make some drawings for kids to create a world towards which they will be sensitive, which will touch them. Unfortunately when we grow up we lose a little of ingeniousness and childhood innocence. The good thing about this challenge is that it helps me to keep a young spirit.

What new tactics or methods have you applied to improve your work?

My first wall painting was in a Korean school in Seoul. I asked the principal to let me paint when the children were gone. I was very worried not to disturb them. Since it was impossible to work outside of school hours, the children surrounded me; and that was incredible. They became part of my work. It was very rewarding. They made comments and asked me a lot of questions. Now I can't imagine painting without kids around me. Their presence really improved my work. They are my daily assistants.

What was the biggest mistake you made and what did it teach you?

The artist's life is full of mistakes. They help me to grow up in my art. I always try to bounce back from them.

What has been your greatest accomplishment?

Every wall painting dedicated to kids is a great accomplishment. The greatest is probably when I saw children looking at my work with a smile on the face and a dreamy look.

Have you any testimonials you'd like to share?

It's not so easy to give testimonials. Mine will be to proceed



Anne Berthet wearing the Saudi Customs (Thob Nashel) during her recognition lunch made by SATORP for her positive contribution to Jubail Community

when you have a passion even if sometimes it looks like you could never succeed in it. Always fight for it, and then you will never be disappointed.

How do you motivate and influence others?

Through my art, I always try to give a positive or funny point of view of the world. I hope that viewers can feel it when they look at my works.

How has your role influenced your life?

Painting is a full time job. I never stop thinking about art. Even when I peel some vegetables it gives me some ideas for a new plan or a new drawing. I'm as much an artist as I am a mother or a wife.

How your day is typically spent after work?

Like many working mothers, after work, the rest of my day is dedicated to my two children, Jade and Aurelien. I have to say that they are a great source of inspiration for my painting. I spend also a lot of time with my husband, Arnaud, who's my first fan and also my first art critic.

Who is your role model?

My mom. She's of a very strong character. She has dedicated her working life to help people in need. She has always been a great mom to her 3 children. If I am a confident woman today, it's thanks to her.

What is your favorite quote and by whom?

"Every child is an artist. The problem is how to remain an artist once we grow up" Pablo Picasso (Spanish artist and painter 1881-1973).



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How do you find living in Jubail community?

Living in Saudi Arabia was quite a big challenge for me in the beginning. The way of living here is very different than in the other countries I lived previously. I used to be independent. So I had to adapt myself to this new environment. The fact that I can work as a painter helped me a lot, all the more so it allowed me to meet wonderful Saudi Ladies.

How long have you been in KSA?

I arrived in Jubail in April 2011.

What are the new things you gained/ learned from living in Saudi Arabia?

I had lots of wrong ideas about Saudi Women. But after I have had the great opportunity to spend time with them, I realized that we are not so different. We are women who need to deal every day with our work and our family life.

What are the interesting places you have visited in KSA? And what do you think about it?

Except Jubail and Al Khobar, I don't know too much about other places. But each time I worked in the schools with Saudi ladies and kids I learned a lot about the culture and I saw the country's beauty through their eyes.

Did you know how to Cook Saudi food, like Kabsah, for example?

Kabsah??? I'm sorry I don't know how to cook it ... but if you give me the recipe, I will try it with pleasure.

