



LAURENCE



SAUVIONIS

The main motif of your art is the animal, what is the deep connection you feel with its world?

When I first started painting, before I got into animal subjects, I was a generalist. One day I entered an animal painting exhibition and I said to myself that this is what I wanted to do. I have always loved animals, since my early childhood. That was obvious. I lived and still live in the country in the family home. I was surrounded by animals: Birds, butterflies, all kinds of mammals, insects... I feel connected to nature. It offers so many artistic possibilities to the one who knows how to look at it and understand it.



## Biography

Laurence Sainois, born September 23, 1966 in the Paris region, is a painter, sculptor, author and photographer.

Her love for art and her passion for discovery made her become what she is today: an artist. An artist who, like the world around her, constantly wants to evolve and simply capture the most beautiful and just in her creations. Her career has often been marked by doubts, hopes, failures or successes. Creating brings a moment of joy, but this is nothing compared to the pleasure of offering happiness and emotion. Because art is above all one thing: to arouse emotions.

Specializing in animal art, her favorite subjects are vast and range from pets to tigers to birds. And sometimes, depending on her mood, she works on other subjects such as flowers or still life.

Since childhood, she has loved to draw. At the age of 17, her mother decided to introduce her in the entrance exam for Paris School of Fine Arts. Her artistic file is retained, but since she is not yet 18, her administrative file is rejected. At this point she decides that she will never touch a pencil again! And so she did, for more than 10 years. At Christmas Eve a friend offered her a box of oil paints, some brushes and a canvas. It was a revelation. She discovered paint! She is 27 years old. She continues to work in different companies in Paris and paints for fun,



LEFT I love you. 100 x 150 cm. Oil on canvas

*As a self-taught artist, my love of art and passion for discovery has led me to what I am today: an artist.*

gradually discovering what makes her vibrate, hyperrealistic painting.

In 1997, she decides to leave her Parisian life and move to her grandfather's house in South West. She restores the 19th century house, develops a landscaped garden, which is later awarded by the Ministry of Environment for its good ecological practices. She wants a living garden, not a show garden. She paints more and more, closer and closer to nature. Her studio is an open door to her garden.

In 2007, she decides to become a professional artist. That same year she becomes a member of the prestigious Society of Animal Artists in the USA.

Three years later, in 2010, she is named International Artist of the Year in the BBC International Wildlife Artist of the Year competition. She is also a member of International Guild of Realism in the USA and Taylor Foundation in France. Her work is regularly exhibited and awarded in many countries. In 2019, she will be honored as Associate Living Master by Art Renewal Center Foundation. "These true masters of the visual arts are training and inspiring the next generation of artists, researchers, and teachers to protect, preserve, and perpetuate traditional techniques with 21st century themes."





1

1. Les poules fleurs de Monet. 70 x 120 cm.  
2. Le secret. 70 x 120 cm.  
3. The lords of the time. 70 x 120 cm. I Oil on canvas

**You said it on your website: "Through each painting you make, there is a story, one or more people you meet. There is also a photographic work since I work mainly according to my images". Can you share with us one of the most enjoyable stories related to one of your paintings?**

Let me tell you the story of my painting, "The Bath," which depicts a white pelican grooming itself. In 2010, the Society of Animal Artists celebrated its 50th anniversary in San Diego, USA. My companion and I decided to join the celebrations. Also, one of my paintings had been selected to participate in the annual exhibition at the museum. So we set off for a few days of exchanges between artists from all over the world. Those few days were absolutely wonderful! I met artists like Robert Bateman and many other talented

artists. We made some new friends. The Society of Animal Artists is one big family.

Of course I had my camera with me. It never leaves me when I travel because I am always looking for new ideas, new subjects. During a visit to San Diego Zoo a pelican had landed on the surface of the water and started preening. I took a few pictures of this intimate moment and felt like I was sharing a special moment with him. Back in France, I decided to make a painting of this scene, with a beautiful play of light, movement, reflection and especially a black background. This painting was the beginning of something, of a new approach to my painting. This journey, this exchange between artists has profoundly changed my approach to my subjects. Moreover, I have made great friends.



2



3



1. *An angel in Paradise*  
Oil on Aluminium . 40 x 40 cm  
2. *The Good* . 70 x 120 cm  
Oil on canvas

**You are so proud of your beautiful garden which covers more than 5000 m<sup>2</sup> and is home to many species of birds, insects, reptiles and other small animals. You pay special attention to biodiversity and the floral environment. What is the importance of this place for your art?**

My garden is absolutely essential to my creation and my inner balance. It alleviates my tensions and sometimes my stress. The nature that surrounds me amazes me. There is so much beauty to discover, so much to learn from the animal and plant life that surrounds us. It is simply fascinating. I love working in my studio, listening to the birds sing, listening for the sounds

of insects, watching the sun play between the leaves of the trees and flood my flowers with light. I believe that an artist must be nourished by spirituality, and my garden is that food source for me. We must remember that life is fragile and that everything is in harmony. Sometimes it takes very little to destroy that. My garden is calming and allows me to paint in peace, away from the outside world.

**You are a self-taught artist and have been painting for many years. What have been the greatest difficulties and satisfactions on your path?**

The greatest difficulties I have encountered on my way have been due





1. *An angel in Paradise*  
Oil on Aluminium - 40 x 40 cm  
2. *The Good* - 70 x 120 cm  
Oil on canvas

to people who have criticized my way of painting. How often I have heard, "It is useless to paint as if it were a photograph, that is not art. You are not an artist. Many exhibition venues have also rejected me because I don't do contemporary art. But I would say that all these obstacles only reinforced what I wanted to do. Regardless of the criticisms, the rejections, I have moved on and am more determined than ever to defend my way of working. I am what I do, and what I do sets me apart. I have experienced much satisfaction along the way. The most important

thing has been to meet people and especially other artists who do realism or hyperrealism, to find support in international organizations of which I am a member, and above all to exhibit in places that support this kind of painting.

**When and how was your interest in hyperrealism born? Are there artists from the past who influenced you?**

I think hyperrealism has always been a part of me, of my way of seeing



painting. I've always been attracted to it, and I've always aspired to work that way. And the more I work, the more obvious it seems to me. I've always been more drawn to realist artists than contemporary artists, but more than that I've been influenced by artists of the past. I admire artists like Claude Monet and the impressionists. Claude Monet, his garden and his search for light.

**You are able to make excellent use of different mediums, from pencil and charcoal drawing to oil painting. What is your favorite?**

I love working with charcoal because it offers so much contrast, but of all the techniques I practice, oil painting is my favorite.

**In your statement, you state: "Creating brings me a lot of joy but it is nothing compared to the joy of giving happiness and emotions. Because art is above all that: to provoke emotions". What do you want to convey to the viewer through your artwork?**

What I want to transmit through my works is above all pleasure and emotions.





*Le bain - Oil on panel - 60 x 80 cm*

To make the small inner voices of the spectators react. If the spectator stops for a moment to look at one of my paintings and that causes him an emotion, then my work as a painter has reached its goal. Above all, I seek to convey a feeling of calm and serenity. When a person commissions a painting of his pet for example, I want that person to remember all the good times spent with him every time he looks at his painting.

**Tell us something about your next projects.**

At present I am working on several series of pictures connected with the flowers in my garden. The latter brings me an inexhaustible source of inspiration. I like to choose plants for their graphic form and subtlety in their colors. I like white flowers very much.

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# AINE LLYN

[ainellyn.com](http://ainellyn.com)



Her ceaseless inner search and the dynamics characterizing the emotional and ever-changing human universe have influenced and represented her personal and artistic journey. This has led AINE LLYN to follow and simultaneously develop her philosophical, psychological and spiritual pathways. In 2010 she came to the decision to conclude a cycle of her artistic life, which, in reality had never been separated from her inner life, to set out on a new journey, changing her name to «AINE LLYN».

*Ephemeral - Oil on canvas, 90 x 60 cm*