



## Sweet Samson's Acclaim of Novelty

by Yana Alexandrova

She is regarded as a novelty in fine arts, a kind of visitor from another dimension who weaves her own universe. Commended artists, critics, gallery directors and art historians, such as Leonid Feodor, Marianna Kornilova and others highly rated a talent of the young artist and classified her avant-garde work at a forefront of new directions in modern art.

These days Muscovites and guests of our capital have a chance to see works of Sweet Samson, a Californian artist of Russian origin. An exhibition "Landscapes of Abstraction" is on view until 8th January 2016. Unique works made from carbon fiber are on display.



Carbon fiber composite or CFRP is a polymer compounding material.

Sweet Samson creates her pieces predominantly using her own technique called Dynamic Carbon, which comprises application of carbon weaves and fabrics, often deconstructed into individual filaments, then shaped into artistic forms, mixed with resins, pigments or other substances.

This time, at the spacious pavilions of the Central House of Artist (CHA) where the exhibition takes place, the artist bravely interprets the theme of underwater world, earthy and imaginary.

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She continues searches on the borderline of abstraction and representation, endeavors to express a sensation of being in deep water, through fluidity and transparency, as well as, brittleness of formations occurring in nature. Forms are imaginary and abstract, but resembling shells, waves, weeds and corals, beauty of which is intertwined with their fragility. Even though central objects are made from carbon fiber composites, materials associated with strength and durability, a structure of the pieces is transformed in restrained way that emphasizes vulnerability and delicacy.

Interestingly that the technique was so intricately applied for the first time and without doubt Sweet Samson pioneers the direction, pursuing invention of Dynamic Carbon, which, as other art movements, has its devotees. According to the artist, it was a long path of research and experiments with various materials before she started working with carbon composites in current fashion. For Samson, it is merely working material, likewise canvas, paints or plasters are used in arts.

“...Dynamic Carbon is a technique, in other words, a creative application where idiosyncratic properties of the material are used for the art sake, it opens up distinguished visual expressions...” says the artist.

Before Dynamic Carbon and in many ways in parallel, Sweet works contained more traditional abstract traits. For example, displayed currently in the Central House of Artist (‘Landscapes of Abstraction’), the work “In Depth” is based on an authentic pattern created by the artist in a graphic technique, in particular, graphite on canvas with layered gesso. At the first look, a transfer of digital image to printed panel partially removes traces of artist’s handmade graphic, but closer look reveals original

drawing lines. There are monochromatic and polychromatic works in progress. They will become a part of the multimedia projects based upon research of the psychodynamic and chromatics of colors, coalesced under name Dynachromatic. Pieces from this series will be exhibited from the end of 2016.



Sweet Samson lives and works in California for quite a while. When asked about the choice of location, Sweet replies: ‘...It happened that California has somehow chosen me. While studying at the Central Saint Martins College of Art and Design in London, I was invited by the OTIS College, as a scholarship beneficiary’...

Samson is invited to participate in the “Black and Red” exhibition at the CHA around April 2016, as well as, to join exhibition “Insight” scheduled for summer 2016, hosted by Moscow State Gallery “Na Kashirke”. The artist has exhibited internationally. “Countless Gray”, a show at the Proxy Gallery in Los Angeles and a piece “One, Two, Three” shown at the international project “East-West” touched questions about interrelationships between Russia and the West. The artist is also involved in a project organized by the Russian Union of Abstractionists.

With compelling drive to tackle new horizons and move forward Sweet Samson inspiration is fostered through ingenious individuals and not only artists, writers and musicians, but pioneers in their fields, for example Georgy Gurdjieff and Nikola Tesla. Artists as Hilma Af Klint, Andy Warhol and Kazimir Malevich are among her favorites.

It is worth to mention that another Samson’s solo show “On the Edge” just recently ended at the S.T.Art-Gallery in Moscow.