

I got your letters
by Greg Gelburd

Dear Valencia

I got your letters today on the walls of the gallery. As you know I've been waiting for your reply for several years since our last visit in Barcelona . We spent a few hours at that bar together, I hope you remember. I've been thinking about you ever since , me being the art appreciator, not the artist. What you said about colors and how to mix them and how to make them more cacophonous so that it would be harder for me to understand you. And so when I read your letters today I responded with a gut feeling and this is what I have thought about.

How do we put colors together so we can explain ourselves? This is what I believe you have asked. Today I walked slowly and read each painting with my eyes and my heart. Your paintings I would say tell me that you are a compassionate woman who is bright, loves extravagance and projects a willingness to surprise and challenge the viewer. I recognize that your heart is healing and that you have been able to explain yourself very well with your brush and your canvases. And in fact, the lines, the shapes, speak to what I first named you at that bar on La Rombla, *les Fauves*.

So what I see also is that you have been somewhat divided in your life over the years, you might not think of this in a good way but I think you have lived several lives in your short time here and each one is now connected. The squares and circles on your canvas, the colors all working together tell me who you really are. You're not only a gifted artist who can express herself so very well, you're a deep thinking, loving individual whose life reflects what beauty is here. So Valencia perhaps we can again share an *Esqueixada de bacallà* and chat about all the past times, the present and perhaps even your future.

Greg Gelburd