

THE 
GRIFFIS ART CENTER

INTERNATIONAL ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE PROGRAM – MAISON des ARTISTES
NEW LONDON, CONNECTICUT USA

MADKHIDDIN UMAROVICH RAFIKOVICH

2001 Artist-in-Residence
Tashkent City, Republic of Uzbekistan
(1949 – 2005)



"Sapphire Garden"

Date Acquired: 04/12/01 , Date Created: 2001

Framed Dimensions: Picture Dimensions: 23.75 x 26.5"

Medium: Oil on Canvas

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Blowing on his fingers and paintbrush in an effort to prevent everything from freezing, impressionist painter Madkhiddin Umarovich RAFIKOVICH, was a common sight on the streets of the Post Hill historic district of New London the winter of 2001. With the fierce determination to utilize every moment in the United States, “Madi” spends as much time as possible outside painting everything he sees. Born in Tashkent city in the Republic of Uzbekistan, he likened his work environment in New England closer “to the Arctic than a mild New England winter.”

As both an art teacher and an artist Rafikovich has dedicated his life to painting. He has twice received commendations from the Uzbekistan Ministry of Culture for his teaching accomplishments. At present he has paintings in: The National Gallery in London, England, The Museum of Indira Gandy in Delhi, India, the Uzbekistan Embassy in the United States, most Uzbekistan Museums have at least 1 painting, as well as pieces in private collections in Holland, Belgium, Switzerland, Austria, Hungary, Poland, Israel, Germany, Turkey, Japan, Malaysia, Sweden, France, Italy, Australia and the United States. He is also a member of the Union of Artists of the former USSR since 1984, a Member of the Union of Artists of Uzbekistan since 1990 and a member of the Academy of Uzbekistan Artists.

Introduced to the Griffis Art Center by Gideon and Melanie Lowenstein, who once hosted a friend of Madi’s, Ramil Rashitovich Hasanshin who was also in residence at the GAC, the Lowenstein’s spent time in Uzbekistan and often assist Madi in acclimating to living in the United States. This includes taking him to museums, sightseeing and to other places of cultural and artistic interest. As an impressionist painter these are important subject matter for his paintings.

With a preference for listening to rock and roll music as he works, Rafikovich will often finish one of his oil paintings in one or two days and has been prolific in his work since arriving in mid January. His palette will vary from passionate and bold primary colors to soft and gentle shades depending on the mood of the painting and the season he is painting in. All exhibit a strong, sure brush stroke and a sureness of composition that invites the viewer to enter the painting.