

## **INTART**

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### **Natalya NESTEROVA**

Born in 1944 and residing in Moscow, Natalya Nesterova is considered the leading female artist of contemporary Russia and one of the leading artists of the Twentieth Century. She is the only contemporary Russian artist whose work is reproduced in the *History of XX Century Art and Architecture* (Chene-Hachete, Paris). Nesterova's works may be found in the collection of world's major museums including such museums as The Guggenheim Museum (New York), National Tretyakov Gallery (Moscow), National Russian Museum (St. Petersburg), Ludwig Museum of Modern Art (Cologne), and The Montreal Museum of Fine Art.

Nesterova is an Academician, a Professor of National Russian Arts Academy in Moscow, and a winner of the National Arts Award as a Best Artist of Russia of 1999 and Life Time Achievement in the Arts in 1998.

Pierre Theberge, Director of the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts, wrote in the *Exhibition catalogue* of Nesterova's one-woman Show: "The works of Natalya Nesterova are highly personal evocation of the spirit of her time. Through her subtle and poetic use of the pictorial medium, the artist has granted us the great privilege of sharing her observations of a culture and lifestyle that are disappearing before our very eyes."

After the opening of the Montreal Show, the leading French-Canadian newspaper *Le Devoir* called Nesterova a "Russian princess". Her talent was highly appreciated in articles in *Time* magazine, *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *Washington Times*, *The Baltimore Sun*, *Chicago Tribune*, *Art in America*, *Flash Art*, and *Art and Antique*, among other newspapers and magazines in more than twenty countries where Nesterova has been exhibited.

Nesterova was "in the vanguard of the change of direction of official Russian art" (Matthew Cullerne Bown, *Contemporary Russian Art*). She is "one of the best-known artists of the seventies generation; she has been exhibited in more than twenty countries" (John Bowlit, *The Quest for Self-Expression*). "Humans and artifacts are given a weird equivalency in Nesterova's works. Nesterova's women often exude a notable sense of awareness, an observant aura that implies an uncomfortable distance from their surroundings (Eileen Myles, *Natalya Nesterova, Art in America*). "Nesterova's mystery is purely Surrealist" (Vivien Raynor, *Iconoclasts Alive, The New York Times*). "The works by Natalya Nesterova are a highly personal evocation of the spirit of her time. Through her subtle and poetic use of the pictorial medium, the artist has