

PANORAMA

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BETTER TOGETHER

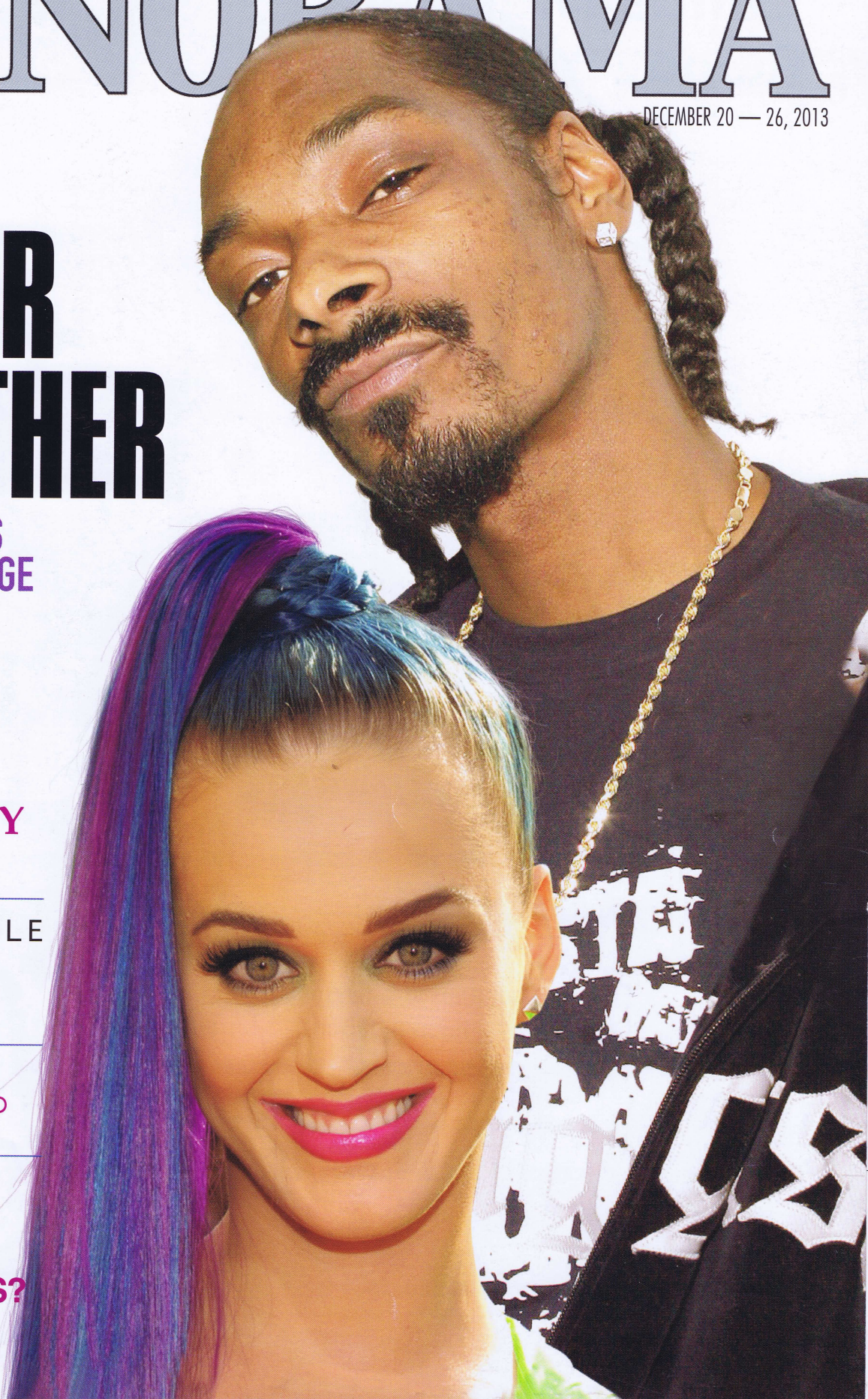
UNUSUAL DUETS ARE ALL THE RAGE

HOME CHOCOLATY AFFAIR

PETER O'TOOLE THE GIANT OF FILM

FASHION ALL IN A FLAP

SPORT WHERE ARE THE SUPERHUMANS?



SWISS ARTISTS
**DANIELA VINCENZ AND
SUZANNE LEDERGERBER**
ARE CURRENTLY DISPLAYING
THEIR ARTWORK IN ABU DHABI.
THE PAIR SHARES WITH US
THEIR INSPIRATIONS,
FAVOURITE ART STYLES AND
WHAT REALLY GETS THEIR
CREATIVE JUICES FLOWING

by Manjula Ramakrishnan

Daniela Vincenz and Suzanne Ledergerber are Swiss artists who are presenting their artworks in an exhibition titled 'Softness versus Dynamism'. The event that will run till 11 January 2014 is being brought by Swiss Art Gate UAE in association with Yas Viceroy Abu Dhabi as part of the former's Crossroad series.

Coming from a background of designing and creating classic jewelry as a goldsmith, Daniela continues to expand her painting skills and her obsession for exploring and creating contemporary variations of colour and shape in her own soft and sensitive way.

On the other hand, Suzanne's paintings are characterized by strong, full colours. Her muse has been the world around her that she observes keenly with its contrasts and wide horizons. She plays with the fantasy of the observers and invites them to take part in her creative adventures, experiences and dreams. Her love for nature, the sun, plants, animal world, desert, oceans, and cities is lucidly transferred to her canvas.

'Softness versus Dynamism' thus shows the bewitching contrast in the artistic expression of two Swiss artists, both equally strong in their technical skills using

various tools to achieve their final work, but both using different hues as per their preferences. While Daniela uses mixed colours in soft shades, Suzanne prefers stronger



Living in the UAE has inspired Daniela Vincenz's recent work titled, *Global Faces*.

SENSITIVE & STRONG

bright colours.

After several successful exhibitions in her home country and after moving to Dubai a few years ago, Daniela's focus is now entirely on her art. Putting her background as a goldsmith to good use, she expanded her painting skills and has bettered her techniques innovatively. In recent years, her theme has been the human body with the accompanying beauty and softness. Using to great effect the colours black and white with shades in between, she has created her own unique style that she applies on the large canvas.

"My art is all about pure intention to create. The urge to create is something I have lived with all my life. Sculpting and painting are two fields I have been practicing from a very young age and since then, anything connected with art has always fascinated and inspired me. As for this current exhibition, an art event is a huge challenge, albeit very exciting. I keep making changes to my pieces and soon I have to present it to an audience and learn to 'let go' of my creations," says Daniella.

"Mother Nature has always stirred my creative juices and in my daily life I do not have to look far for an inspiration. I thus walk with open eyes, eager to capture the beauty of my daily moments. And as for inspirations, there is



Suzanne Ledergerber's paintings are characterised by strong colours.

nothing more inspiring than living in the UAE. The myriad cultures that thrive here, the variety of faces are amazing and gave me the required input for my recent work titled, 'global faces'.

"There are many artists I admire for different reasons; Niki de Saint Phalle for her 'Big Mamas' due to the boldness of size and the artists' experimentalism. I admire Camille Claudelle and Giacometti for their expressive sculptures; I am fond of a more contemporary artist like Gerhard Richter for his unique technique and painting of realistic portraits. Living in the UAE for the past 7 years, I have enjoyed working in two fantastic countries. The contrasts of the two nations give me a lot of energy. In Switzerland I worked with precious metals handcrafting three-dimensional jewelry. Back in Dubai I go wild and spread colour on huge canvas."

Suzanne was born in the USA and has been living in Switzerland since 1992. Choosing textile design as her profession, she completed her training in the city of St. Gallen, a Mecca of the Swiss textile industry. Turning to art was but a natural evolution and now she paints mainly acrylic on canvas.

Says Suzanne, "As a textile designer, I used to travel around the world, seeing and experiencing the beauty of various cultures; I wanted to translate my impressions on to canvas. UAE has lent more fire to this creativity and the sand, ocean and reef in all its glory has lent me several subjects to be mounted on canvas. I am amply inspired by all the interesting, special, beautiful objects around me and I let my imagination do all the work, guiding the brush and producing the colours on canvas."

"I am inspired by several artists, like

Pollock, Simon Bull, Klimt, Julia Nee Chu but the one who inspires me most is Christian Riese Lassen from Hawaii. His ability to paint pictures rich in details and capturing the essence of the underwater world and nature is a huge inspiration for me. He manages to express his impressions of life on canvas as colourfully as the world can ever be."

"While painting a picture I let my imagination do all the work. My motifs are real; they are a part of my life. There is a story behind each one, for I take photographs on all my trips. The story then unfurls from my camera to the canvas. Using the acrylics technique, I use oil pens and start with a sketchy draft. It slowly builds up, changing constantly even as it evolves. The moment I feel the work is completed, that is the end of one and the beginning of something new."