



14-29 June 2005 *A journey of discovery*





Biography

Vásken Kalayjian, a multi-disciplinary artist, a meditation teacher and a businessman. Kalayjian is an abstract painter; his work delves deeply into the human psyche through his lifelong practices and studies of the spiritual and mystical in nature. Kalayjian became interested in meditation at a very young age. He began with transcendental meditation, later studying yoga, Pathwork, meditation and receiving formal training in Rinzaï Zen School and Koan study, Qi Gong and other schools of Taoism and Buddhist studies. He later became involved in shamanic practices and vision questing as well as Eastern Sufi, Esoteric Christianity, and the Fourth Way, the teachings of G. I. Gurdjieff and P. D. Ouspensky.

Kalayjian was born in Aleppo, Syria in 1956 where he began his artistic training at a very young age; he studied art at the Saryan Academy of Fine Arts, where he received a very formal, traditional training in art. He continued his studies in New York and received his BFA from Pratt Institute.

As a young man, Kalayjian began his career as a graphic designer at NBC, where he quickly advanced and was rewarded for his tremendous successes. Later he formed his communications design company, Glazer and Kalayjian, Inc., (www.gkdesign.com). The company recently merged with Namebase, forming GK Namebase, and is part of ComVort, a network of agencies headquartered in Barcelona, serving 70 cities around the world. GK Namebase specializes in global strategic branding, naming, integrated marketing and design.

Kalayjian's paintings are a profound exploration of a different nature—the study of the human mind and our conscious or unconscious states. Some of these studies took Kalayjian to the Eastern schools of yoga, Qigong, Buddhism and Zen meditation, including formal training in Rinzaï Zen and Koan study, as well as Zen brush art. In later years he became interested in some of the nature-based practices of Shamanic teachings, through "Vision Quest", whereby a deeper understanding through nature became available to him. This influenced what emerged as a unique and distinct language in his art. Kalayjian spends extended periods of time in nature, going on classical vision quests consisting of fasting, meditation and shamanic practices. Always exploring, growing and learning, Kalayjian later arrived at the Work, which was developed by the mystic and philosopher G. I. Gurdjieff and his student P. D. Ouspensky, as well as some of the Sufi teachings. These rich and varied explorations of the esoteric nature for the past 30 years have fused into Kalayjian's work as we see it today.

Kalayjian has been exhibiting in New York since 1996. Kalayjian has been featured in a number of art journals and publications, including ArtNews, ArtSpeak, and Gallery and Studio.

On Painting:

Whatever concepts that I cannot express through language all flow through me into my painting. In that moment, it becomes my connection—a lifeline to everything and everybody. The separation between me and everything else is healed; the gap between the past, present and future is bridged. My work is a very personal part of myself. It's where my psyche and spirituality dance together. It transcends time, space and connects to the infinite. I can say that it's a religious experience for me. I try to approach painting as if looking through a mirror, thoroughly ageless and mindless. When objects appear before a mirror, they are shown as beautiful or ugly. Everything is revealed as it is. There is no discriminating mind or self-consciousness on the part of the mirror. If the object disappears, the mirror lets it, with no traces left behind.

The Vision Quest Series: The paintings from The Vision Quest Series celebrate the human spirit, raw and real, as I have experienced them. This is the pure essence I try to achieve; the state of no mind, or the free working mirror. This state of an immaculate, lucid mind, me, myself, the brush, the paint, paper, canvas, emotions, the sub-conscious, objects, and countless things, melt into this one.

The Ray of Creation Series: This series of paintings go deep into the study of vibration in me and everything that surrounds me as it is reflected from the cosmos. The experience of the vibration transcends the psychological, yet the psychological has brought me to where I recover my inner vibration: the cosmos. "Like water and ice, there is no ice apart from water."

My more recent work reflects my study of the science of vibration in my experience. How I experience my body yearning for homeostasis. Every part of me strives for this balance, the specific vibration of each and every part in me. The vibration is the highest energy coming down, connecting every part of me to this need for homeostasis. The yearning in me is of this memory, to return to it over and over again, remembering to come back to the vibration. I notice something in me strives for this physically. My emotions yearn for this, every part of me yearns. I notice the psychological is part of this yearning too.







Returning to Source / 2004
Oil on Canvas
51.25" x 77"





A Self Developing Organism / 2004
Oil on Canvas
51.25" x 77"





Zinotrago / 2004
Oil on Canvas
51.25" x 77"





Creation / 2004
Oil on Canvas
51.25" x 77"





Kali's Moon / 2004
Oil on Canvas
51.25" x 77"





Distraction of the Senses / 2004
Oil on Canvas
19" x 27"



Wrong Use of Centers / 2004
Oil on Canvas
8" x 10"



Sex Center / 2004
Oil on Canvas
51.25" x 64"





Opposing Forces / 2003
Oil on Canvas
40" x 60"





Manifestation of Unconscious / 2004
Oil on Canvas
51.25" x 64"





Sun Absolute / 2001
Oil on Aluminum Panel
19" x 27"





Changing Influences / 2001
Oil on Aluminum Panel
19" x 27"



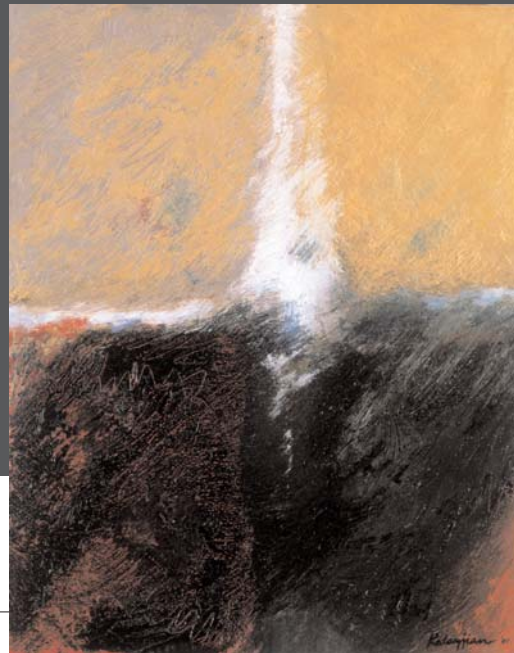


Conscious Shock / 2003
Oil on Canvas
66" x 72"





Ray of Creation 1 / 2001
Oil on Wood Panel
22" x 28"





Ray of Creation / 2001
Oil on Wood Panel
22" x 28"





Vibration Above / 2001
Oil on Aluminum Panel
19" x 27"



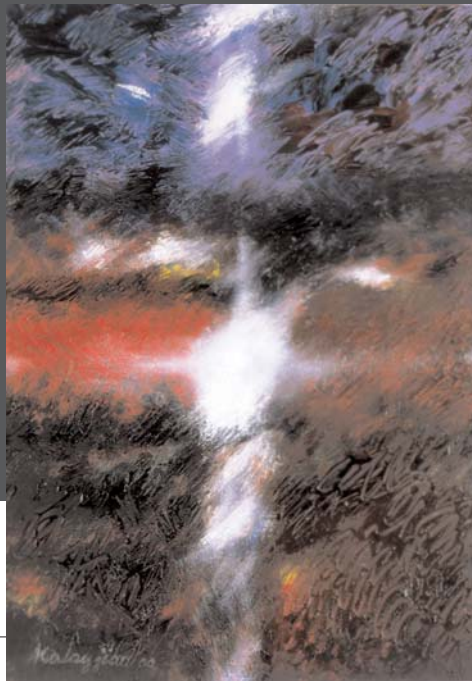


Ray of Creation 2 / 2001
Oil on Wood Panel
22" x 28"





Changing Level of Being / 2001
Oil on Aluminum Panel
19" x 27"







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www.kalayjianfinearts.com

Vásken Kalayjian

Collection

www.kalayjianfinearts.com

For information about pricing and availability

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