

Theatrical Story Behind Kabuki Warrior and Kyoto Rain

Artist: *Adriane Dedic* www.myartiststudio.com

Kabuki Warrior

Kabuki Warrior is inspired by a Kabuki performance in Kyoto Japan. When the curtain rose, I was mesmerized by the dazzling colors, opulent costumes, and stunning stylized scenery. A samurai warrior in blood-red and ink-black makeup took center stage in a powerful stance and then, using forceful gestures and a deep guttural, expressive voice, the performance began. The exaggerated emotions, stances, and rhythmic Japanese dialog, which I could understand only through the visual drama unfolding in front of me, is imprinted on my memory. Using shimmering gold fabric for the sword and Asian motifs for the costume and background, I tried to capture the unique strength of this 400 year-old Japanese theatrical form.



Kyoto Rain



I was thrilled to glimpse a geisha scurrying down a narrow cobble stone walkway in Kyoto. With paper-white skin, red-painted lips, elaborately coiffured ink black hair, and a glorious silk patterned kimono, I was sure she was going to meet a patron and perform a beautiful traditional dance, recite poetry, or play the shamisen. As young girls, they begin their training to become highly skilled in dancing, singing and playing musical instruments and are one of the most iconic images associated with performance art. Kyoto Rain gives you a glimpse of a geisha walking in the rain to meet her patron.