

Garza Blanca Preserve Resort & Spa is honored to present the exhibition *Momentos de Color* by the plastic artist **José Baldi**.

José Baldi is a self-taught plastic artist born in 1964 in Tepetzotlán, Mexico. His birthplace had a great influence in his professional career. From his childhood, he still remembers with yearning the Jesuit school that closed its doors, leaving on him the influence of its architectural legacy. Not a minor share of his early works evokes the old Tepetzotlán, with the façade of the church of Saint Francis Xavier as his anchoring point. In his works, he takes a nostalgic look at what he calls “a Tepetzotlán that is leaving us”, and this nostalgia will be latent in those works as a personal stamp of things his heart longs to see.

Inside the design laboratory of architecture at the Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana –Atzacapozalco, he became acquainted with his first theories of color and materials. His wife Patricia Guerra was a lone witness to his first watercolor works, and it was Patricia who enticed him to try new techniques and to tempt the market of Mexican art. “Salón El Granero” in Tepetzotlán still shows his early fresco works, and ensuing exhibitions led him to the Alberto Mirachi Gallery in Mexico City.

His ability to solve and experiment new materials ushered him to meet good contacts, friends and clients, such as Professor José Reyes Oliva, CEO of Colegio Justo Sierra in Mexico City. He commissioned him two murals for the school’s premises, and it was then when Baldi met architect Herminia Calvillo, from the decoration firm Bagatella, who took him to decorate a series of restaurants in Mexico City, Guadalajara, Monterrey, Puerto Vallarta, Miami and Singapore.

He has made and sold over 750 works, and amidst the commissioned works are two churches, Jesus Christ Savior of the World in Cuautitlán Izcalli, Mexico, and the new Chapel of Our Lady of El Refugio in Tepetzotlán. He was also in charge of the decoration of the lobby of the guest house and the restaurant of the factory Cooperativa Cruz Azul in Lagunas, Oaxaca. For the last few years, Puerto Vallarta has exerted a magical influence in Baldi’s work, and this magic reflects in the motif of his paintings and sculptures.

Jose Baldi’s work quests for nature and freedom funneling through the open or urban landscape, through real or imaginary scenes or through a nude; it is the kind of work that lures the beholder into the painting to play and reflect about the joy of life and its representations in an oneiric way, from the standpoint of a painter that is just looking for a way to spread the pleasure of form and color.