

Octogenarian Artist Joanne Turney Excels In The Art Of Living

By Renee Phillips

"I now face all challenges with gratitude because I know they are my teachers and they give me opportunities for positive growth and guidance."

Joanne Turney

Joanne Turney is an active octogenarian and accomplished abstract painter, author, and classical pianist. I've had the good fortune of knowing her for almost 20 years. She has

served as an important positive role model for me and many other individuals who are blessed to know her.

Turney's dramatic award-winning art has been influenced by her extensive world travels, having lived in the colorful Costa Del Sol, in Spain. She currently lives in Washington, D.C. and maintains a pied-à-terre in New York, NY.

Her successful art career includes many international exhibitions, including a one-person exhibition at La Casa de Cultura, Estepona, Spain, and several gallery exhibitions in New York, NY.

Her art work is in many private collections worldwide such as International Resources Corporation, in Washington, D.C.; Mallorcan Properties International, Palma de Mallorca, Spain; and Hyatt Hotel, Arlington, VA.



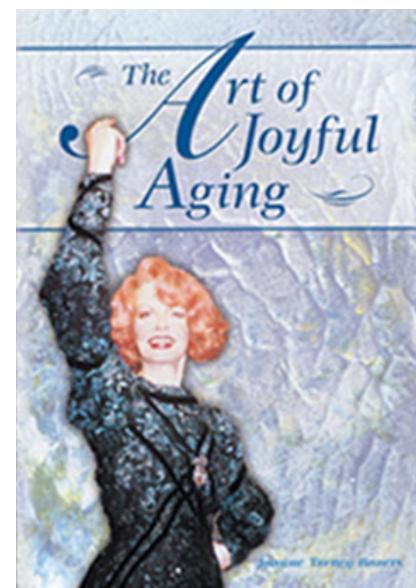
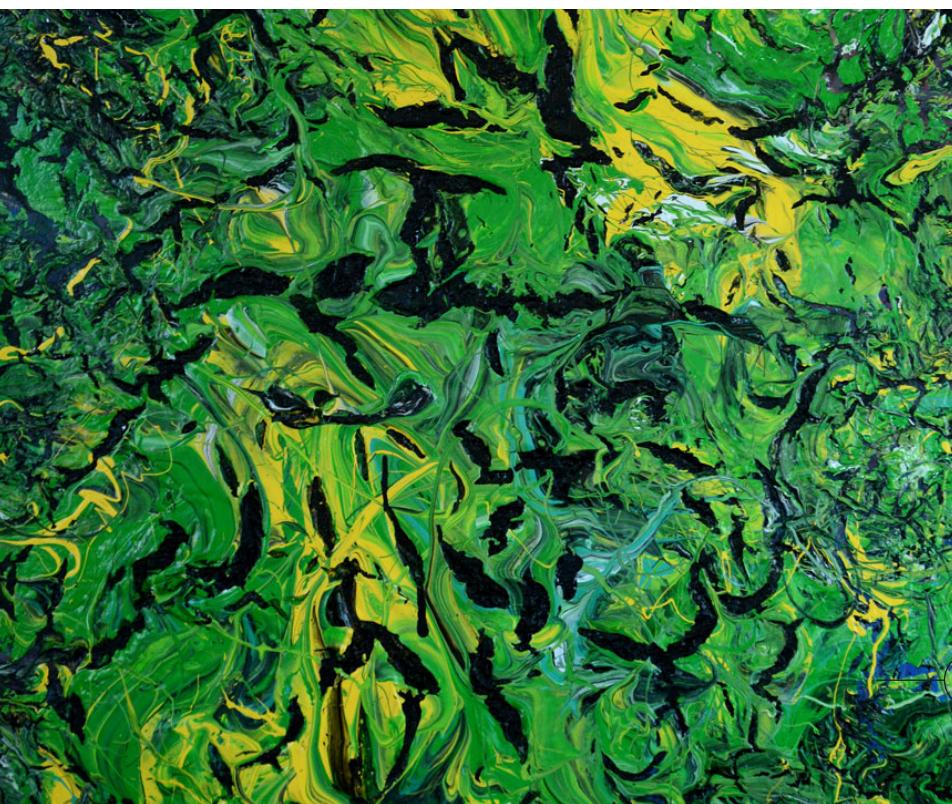
Far left:
Detail of "The Ballet of the Unhatched Chickens" by Joanne Turney, from her "Pictures at an Exhibition" series.

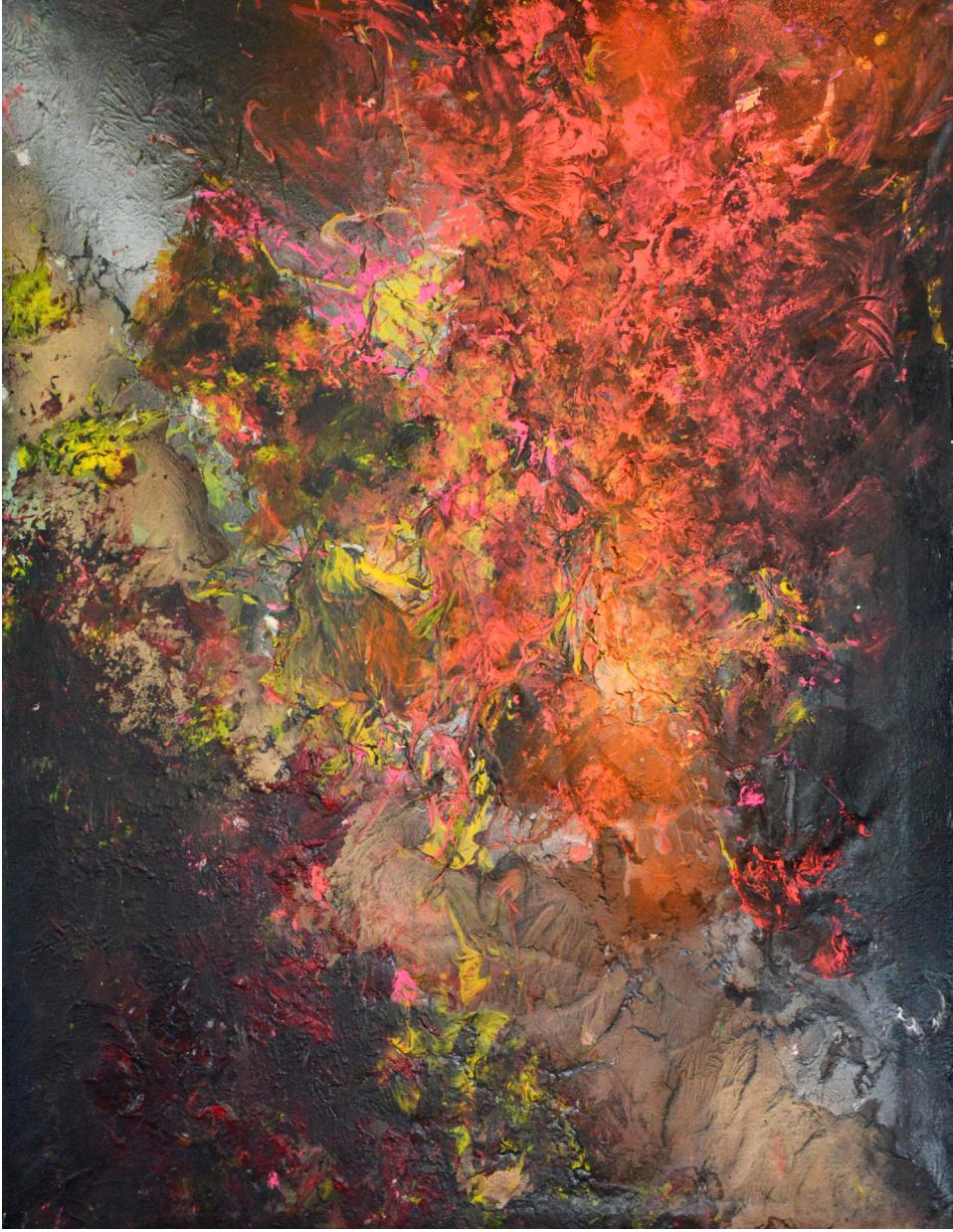
Left:
"The Art of Joyful Aging", a book by Joanne Turney.

Above:
"Home Free", by Joanne Turney.

Top-right:
"Il Vecchio Castello", acrylic on canvas, 48" x 36", from Joanne Turney's "Pictures at an Exhibition" series.

Far right:
Transformation and Metamorphosis, acrylic on canvas, 48" x 36"





"Pictures at an Exhibition" Paintings

The artist's unbridled color palette ranges from passionate vermillion red to cool cerulean blue.

Throughout her canvases we witness tactile crackled surfaces as they erupt and coalesce with fluid pools in a continuous symphony of harmony and contrast.

Turney's background as a classical pianist and teacher is a key influence in her art work. In fact, a recent series of paintings were inspired by "Pictures at an Exhibition", composed by Mussorgsky. These paintings exude her mastery of color, composition and rhythm. They exemplify her spontaneous painting process that combines her technical prowess with innate trust that allows the creative process to flow without interference.

"The Art of Joyful Aging"

This exuberant red-haired woman shows no sign of slowing down. In a recent conversation she discussed her plans to create another new series of paintings in addition to

volunteering in a major art museum. In addition to her charity work she has served as a volunteer for the White House during two different administrations.

Turney declares emphatically, "My thoughts create my life!". She refuses to accept the notion of "old age" and refers to this time in her life as "advanced youth."

Determined to replace the negative stereotypes that society attaches to aging she created a book titled "The Art of Joyful Aging". This book contains more than ninety color life-affirming "Teeny Turney" paintings that celebrate the positive benefits of aging.

Adjacent to her paintings in the book are quotations from famous people through the ages as well as ordinary folks, friends and relatives. A famous quotation by Pablo Picasso appears: "It has taken a long time to become young."

Turney has presented many inspirational talks and has raised money for different charities through sales of her book and her art work.

Her book "The Art of Joyful Aging" should be within hand's reach on everyone's book shelf and coffee table as a constant reminder of the how to excel in the art of living.

"The Art of Healing" Paintings

Turney's spiritual foundation has provided strength during challenging times. When she was diagnosed with breast cancer she explained that her initial reaction was shock and devastation. Shortly afterward she asked the question: "God, what shall I do about this situation?" She recalls, the answer she received was loud and clear: "Paint."

This life-changing event gave birth to her extraordinary series titled "The Art of Healing" -- thirteen paintings that depict the emotional stages of her battle against and eventual recovery from breast cancer.

This important series expresses the universal feelings associated with loss, suffering, fear, faith, hope and healing. During the painting process Turney experienced a healing transformation. She is pleased that the paintings also serve as

inspiration and hope for viewers. She plans to donate these paintings to a healing facility.

Joanne Turney is the only woman I know who was married to the same man for 63 years. Sadly, he died a few months ago. In her inimitable spirit she is facing this difficult time with tremendous courage and credits her faith for providing the comfort she needs.

She greets the dawn of each day with an expression of appreciation and recites approximately sixty positive affirmations. A favorite one of hers is, "I now face all challenges with gratitude because I know they are my teachers and they give me opportunities for positive growth and guidance."

Turney knows the importance of living life fully guided by a generosity of spirit, faith, creative expression, and positive purpose. She reminds us of this statement made by Eleanor Roosevelt that appears in her book: "I could not at any age, be content to take my place in a corner by the fireside and simply look on."

To learn more about Joanne Turney's book visit www.edgewoodpubco.com.