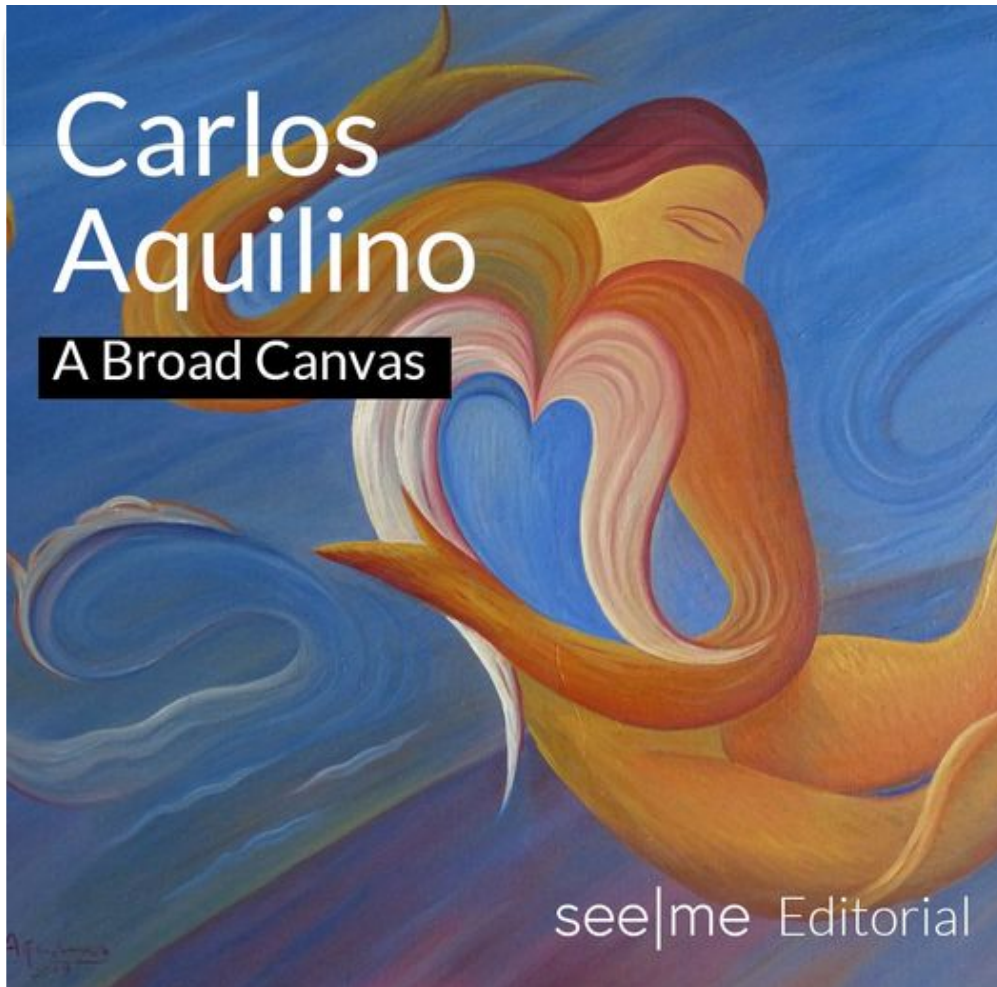




See Me

New Interview for **A Broad Canvas! see|me Editorial Section**

Meet Carlos Aquilino, Grand Prize Winner of Nature/Nurture -
(Art competition and Exhibition during 2021 Summer).

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- **Tell us about how you decided to become an artist and why?**

How I decided to become an artist is something I don't know how to express in words. I have always felt the need to paint and draw. I feel it as an inescapable need.

I grew up painting and drawing. At the age of 16 I told my parents that I wanted to make a living as an artist. I worked in a graphic industry for a short time while I continued drawing and painting. Later I prepared my first exhibition and started to develop my life as an artist.



- **What influences you the most when you are in the process of creating a new artwork?**

What influences me the most during this process is the music I listen to, music is essential for me, it is one more color. I am happy painting while listening to the music I like. The city I live in and the density of my surroundings are also very important.

- **Which artists are you most inspired and influenced by?**

I imagine that all the visual experiences that I have had throughout my life, since I used to visit the Prado Museum with my father when I was a child, have remained in my spirit, influencing my way of perceiving the world and expressing it in my artworks.

I have learned from so many artists that I really don't know which ones to name. All of them have moved me throughout my life and have left their mark on me.

- **What do you hope viewers will take away from your artwork?**

What I would like the most is for viewers to take my work with them, but that's a pipe dream. At least I hope they feel good about my work, get excited when they see my paintings and enjoy it.

- **What was, or is an artwork you especially enjoyed creating and why?**

I especially enjoyed painting my oil on canvas "The birth of my Venus", 200 x 280 cm. It was my first large format work, I painted it in a wonderful studio at the Spanish Academy in Rome, Italy, where I felt very free. From this artwork I began a new stage in my painting.

- **Do you have a dream project? What might that be?**

Currently my dream project would be to get a big studio, with good light and, what is very important, without noises. To work quietly and capture in my works the beauty that I live intensely in my dreams.