

## David Schluss

Inspired by masters such as Chagall, Miro and Botero, David Schluss uses his individualized technique of "hand painting" to create bright, joyful images of dancing figures that express his love of life. Named the official artist of the 2008 Summer Olympics in Beijing, Schluss is already one of the top selling artists in the USA today with paintings currently being displayed in the Teffen Museum in Israel and The Museum of Modern Art in Fort Lauderdale.

Born in 1943, he started painting at a very early age in Israel. He attended school in the ancient city of Jaffa, the historical seaport in central Israel. It was there that the mystical walls of the city and the austere religion of the historic churches, temples and monasteries captivated him. It was during these early years in Israel that Schluss sensed his overwhelming desire to paint.



Unable to afford the necessary painting materials as a young artist, Schluss began sketching with charcoal and cheap pencils. He gave his sketches away to anyone who showed interest in his work. His main objective was the development of his craft. During his early 20's, Schluss and his family migrated to Montreal, Canada. In 1969, he enrolled in the renowned art school "Ecole des Beaux Arts." Soon after, he began teaching private lessons to other students of the school. In 1971, he pursued his interests in art education at the University of Sir George Williams in Montreal where he earned his fine arts degree.

Schluss has created his own individualized style and technique of painting. He began experimenting by painting with his hands, using no paintbrush or spatula. He says,

"With the palm of my hands I can get a play of light that I could never achieve with a brush. I start with the abstract, and figures emerge."

Today, Schluss paints only using his hands. Using his fingers as paint brushes, he sculpts out images, textures and colors directly onto the canvas. It is with this unique vision that Schluss creates his whimsical and playful images. The joy and enthusiasm that David Schluss depicts in all of his works are signature to the graceful, elegance that exemplifies the beauty of his artistic style of painting.

In 1983, David Schluss opened a Studio in Fort Lauderdale, Florida where he still continues to perfect his painting technique. He travels back and forth from Florida to Tel-Aviv, drawing inspirations for his work.

Recently, Schluss was selected to create a painting to submit to the USOC (United States Olympic Committee).

"Being approached by the committee was a great honor to me. I wanted to create an image that represents team spirit. So I painted my idea of the cycling team racing together to the finish in celebration while holding the Olympic Flag along with the

torch. The image shows unity amongst the athletic team and love for their sport and competition. When I finished the painting, I knew in my heart that it was something very special.&rdquo;

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