

Elena Julve, new entrepreneur to join EmprendeBelux

Interview with LexTynGou, Artist

Nobody would say to Elena Julve, born in Tarragona, that she would be giving today her first steps as a professional painter in Belgium. Thanks to her passion for art, she has participated in her first exhibitions under her artistic name LexTynGou.

She is open to new projects and she is now working in an ambitious collection. In this interview, **we learn more about our new entrepreneur that has joined the Chamber through the program EmprendeBelux**, an initiative that aims at supporting Spanish entrepreneurs in Belgium and Luxembourg.

Which were the reasons for coming to Belgium? and how were your first steps in the country?

I used to work in a restaurant in Spain before coming here, and my couple in the construction sector. There was less and less work in both sectors and the situation got worse with the financial crisis. That is why we moved to Belgium. Our idea was to start earning money and to send it back to Spain. These first 3 years were quite hard.

The beginnings were not easy. My first job was as a cleaner. Unfortunately, I had a health problem and I got fired. At that time my French was not good, and I did not know how things worked in Belgium. As after the dismissal I stayed at home, it was then when I started painting.

How would you describe your paintings? What painting techniques do you use?

My works are completely heterogeneous, like me. I do not use a single technique, I like to mix and use different styles. Sometimes I paint with palette, other times with my hand and I always use different materials. **I look for something different, I like to innovate and to surprise even myself. I do not like to settle for always painting the same thing.**



Moreover, my paintings vary depending on whether I am sad, happy, sick ... Painting is a way to blow off for me. I usually paint abstract works, and right at the start I never know what will eventually come as a result. As the work progress, I start seeing what the outcome will be.

My last exhibition was in Charleroi. Patrick invited me to an event in which around 300 artists were participating, it was a kind of art fair. It was very rewarding and although I did not sell any paintings, I received all the support from my friends and family.

“I look for something different, I like to innovate and to surprise even myself. I do not like to settle for always painting the same thing.”

Which have been your most important exhibitions up to now?

At the very beginning I only used to publish my paintings on Facebook for my friends and family. One day, an artist from Liege called Patrick Vandenberghe, contacted me and told me that he liked my works. He asked me if I was interested in participating in an exhibition in Liege together with other artists. I decided to go and to take part. **It was then when I saw my paintings as artworks for the first time.** I had the opportunity to make some networking that later helped me with the diffusion of my paintings in Facebook.

It was Patrick again who some time later offered me to participate in an exhibition in Paris. He put me in touch with the organizer. It was great. The owner of the gallery liked my paintings and I had the chance to make my first sale.

What are your most immediate challenges? What difficulties are you finding in this “first stage”?

My main goal is to feel self-realized, which is what I appreciate the most. At the same time, I want to start making my way in the art world and disseminating the name of LexTynGou by participating in exhibitions.

I am currently working on a project related to Europe, but it is still in process. I will paint about 26-27 paintings, and each of them will represent an EU country. I have already painted about 7 and my idea is that once I have finished painting, I will put them all together creating an immense artwork. If this collection is well received, I am thinking in a linked project, but on a larger scale.

Regarding difficulties, I have recently tried to collaborate in a European art fair that took place here in Brussels. Since I am still managing my “artist number”, I could not participate. This kind of formalities and paperwork are things that I must manage. This type of fair is a way to promote artists and it would be very interesting to take part.

On the other hand, I do not have any special studies, not even fine arts. I think that I can still receive further training.

What benefits does the Chamber brings you?

I feel very grateful to the Chamber. It has meant seeing light at the end of a tunnel for me. Thanks to them I have now the illusion to be able to dedicate myself to what I really like and fulfills me. It was a necessary push to launch myself as an artist. **Now I believe I can be a world-famous artist, which would be my highest goal.**



CONTACT DETAILS

LexTynGou (Elena Julve)
+32 478361927 | lextyngou@gmail.com

Cámara Oficial de Comercio de España en Bélgica y Luxemburgo
Belliard, 20 – 1040 Bruselas | Bld. Emmanuel Servais 4 – 2535 Luxemburgo
Tel. +32 (0)2 517 17 40 – www.e-camara.com Email: info@e-camara.com

Cámara
Oficial de Comercio de España
en Bélgica y Luxemburgo