## ASJewels - Inspired by Nature

"The ancient love between stones and sea meets the artist's fancy and gives birth to jewels, made of light, shape and colour... precious seals of eternity"

Once upon a time, a girl with the passion for dancing, drawing, nature, art and with a deep love for the sea, dreamt one day she would become a dancer... and a painter. Years went by, she met her Prince and together they danced all over the world, among theatres, parties, sumptuous mansions, castles and did... and they all lived happily ever after. smiles of people happy to watch and dance with them. One day she dreamt of her old brushes and It sounds like a fairy-tale, but it is a true story, the started painting again. She chose some stones on the shore of the tiny village on a remote island in Bahrain for some of her cultural activities. where she lived and painted them with the images she "saw" in her soul. When a rich merchant came to the island with his big vessel he was so struck Ludica Antiqua and have organised events also by them that he wanted to have one because, he said to her: "those stones have given me a strong emotion: they still keep the weight and strength

of time and eternity, now elevated by painting, what makes them become... art. I want to have one for myself so that it can always give me joy". The girl then understood she had to make that passion become a way to enrich her spiritually and to come in touch with people, making them reflect on the beauty of the universe and eternal values such as peace, brotherhood, friendship... which she wanted to express with her art. So she

one of Lucia Oliva, an Italian artist already known For over 10 years Lucia and her husband Luca have been running an event company named in Bahrain since 2011 (www.ludicaantiqua.com/ itfestivalbahrain). Their last event here was the 3rd edition of the Italian Grand Ball hosted at of the stone together with the value and memory Sofitel Hotel in late March. "In everything I do",

Lucia says, "I try to transmit emotions to people: I love life and nature in all their aspects and I try to express joy in dancing, painting or organising an event. And people understand and feel it".

Today painting "sea stones" is Lucia's new creative art and AS|ewels (Art Stone |ewels) is her exclusive brand (visit www.asjewels.it for more info). "Each stone I paint contains a little of the artist who is in me. I think the relationship between the artist and his works is splendid she adds - and he is never happy to separate from what he has created unless he knows the receiver loves the work so much and finds joy in it". ASJewels is a very unique form of art and the idea of using sea stones to paint on came from Lucia's passion and love for nature and sea. "I choose each stone with special care" she says. "I collect them in Alicudi, a tiny remote sea village in the south of Italy, an ideal place to create art".

Lucia finds the stones on the beach or often also whilst swimming in the sea: each stone looks different in shape, size and has a different story to tell. "Watching a sunset, a storm or even in the middle of a moonlit night, I get many ideas and would like to have ten hands and ten brushes, fearing I might loose my inspiration". Music, nature, literature, feelings, life in all its wonderful aspects speak to Lucia's heart. "Sometimes I have an inspiration and look for the right stone to embody it. Other times it is the opposite: I find a strange and peculiar stone and... it is almost as if the stone found me and gave me the idea to make it become a jewel".

Lucia has created a series of ASJewel collections, such as "Moods", "Sins and Virtues" or "Homage to Great Artists" and, as the title suggests, each stone has a name of a different state of mind, human value or artistic masterpieces (according on the kind of the collection) that Lucia wanted to fix in the stone. "Each jewel - she adds - has an origin certificate, which tells the story of the stone". The jewels are ideal for birthday or wedding gifts and other special occasions, or even as original pieces for interior design. "What I am sure about is that I can only give the stones to someone who... will love them!" states the

Lucia tells us her secret. The words that remain close to her heart to perfectly explain one's desire to express creativity are the ones quoted by the writer Florenskij (in a letter to his daughter): "The secret of creativity consists in preserving youth inside. The secret of a genius consists in preserving childhood's soul all life long".

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