Karma Chodon (Maria Vittoria Bargero):

**“I call my artwork SOUL ON CANVAS because this is what it means to me; it is my soul in its simplicity put on canvas. It is my way to channel the connection we all have with the Universe. Even if the soul belongs to somebody specifically, in the reality it does not, because is part of the Universe, therefore includes the big connection we all have one with another. “ -Karma Chodon-**

Blog [www.KarmaChodon.blogspot.com](http://www.KarmaChodon.blogspot.com)

E-mail [www.trailcuoreeilsole@yahoo.co.uk](http://www.trailcuoreeilsole@yahoo.co.uk)

Web page [www.facebook.com/KarmaChodon1](http://www.facebook.com/KarmaChodon1)

**KARMA CHODON** - Maria Vittoria Bargero

Born in Turin in 1969, Italy. Artist.

Graduated from Liceo Artistico Vittorio Veneto, Torino, Italy.

Karma Chodon grew up in Italy and has since lived in the Netherlands, North India , England, and South Korea. In North India, His Holiness the 17th, Karmapa, honored her with the name "KARMA CHODON". (Karma means the Star, and Chodon means a butter lamp, the kind that is used as an offering at a temple), which she uses now as her artistic name. For the last four years she has been living in Busan, South Korea.

Studying art in Italy, Karma Chodon obtained a solid foundation in drawing techniques and the history of classical art. Her interest in Buddhist philosophy, which grew during her time in Italy, and natural curiosity about the world was finally fulfilled when she took the opportunity to travel around the world and absorb its beauty through variety of cultures.

As a result she continues developing artistically and professionally, researching different methods, passionately exploring variety of interactions between mediated and animated creative techniques that actively involve hand work and natural textures – wool, silk, crystals, felt, shells, thulle. Her artistic desire is to achieve a sense of authenticity in the world that is becoming more and more an artificial environment.

In her artwork, Karma Chodon sees the astonishing beauty of the planet Earth as a home of humanity, drawing a soulful connection between the individual life and the surrounding nature, denouncing the alarming increase of detachment from it.

Her nomadic lifestyle plays a major role in her understanding of what is “true” in the world, nature, feelings, cultures and the gradual disappearing of it; she is a determined spiritual warrior within the culture that does not teach us how to keep in touch with our senses and on the contrary tend to depersonalize human beings and the planet itself.

In her works in fact the recurrences regarding what is created with human unique touch, the unbreakable relationship with “Mother Earth” and the link with the inner soul of human being are symbolized constantly and in different ways.

**Testimonials from the last exhibitions**

“I like the variety of media and your creativity”- Wowie Delos Reyes, The Philippines

“Fantastic idea, paper, cotton, fabric and watercolors. What a combination!” Meng Lee, South Korea

”It was amazing, good luck”- Valeria Alimzhamova, Kazakhstan

**Expositions:**

1994 - **ALI (*Wings*)** for the visit of President Daisaku Ikeda -Soka Gakkai International Torino Italia, Artist Division

1995 - **CITTADINI DEL MONDO** (***Citizens of the World***) - International Year for the Tolerance- Soka Gakkai International Torino Italia, Artist Division

2002 - **CHEMIN**, solo exhibition for COFIPROIND. Paris, France

2002 - **US** International exhibition for EMERO Amsterdam, The Netherlands

2003 - **AUCTION for COFIPROIND**, Charity for Children. Paris, France

2010 - **AUCTION for BIWA** Charity Spring Ball. Busan, South Korea

2011 - **KOREAN INSPIRATIONS**, joint exhibition with Magda Kwiatkowska. Painted Chair Gallery, Busan, South Korea

2012 - **SENSI IN SOLO**, solo exhibition in Painted Chair Gallery, Busan, South Korea

**EDUCATION**

Liceo Artistico (Artistic Lyceum) Vittorio Veneto. Torino Italia

Facolta'di Scienze Politiche Universita' di Palazzo Nuovo Torino Italia.

Tangka Painting (traditional tibetan painting) Norbulingka Institute Dharamsala India

KimHongDO DDaRaGabGi (Korean Painting) Museum of Modern Art Busan South Korea

Hanji Art - Korean Traditional Arts and Crafts Association, Yeasarang Art Culture Center Busan South Korea