

Adam and Eve

Plates 19 a & b

January 1991 to June 1991

Brasilia, D.F.

oil and acrylic on canvas

42" x 60"



Consider this painting an intuitive visual statement portraying a life-forward movement. Certain symbolic images align with a future direction or energetic field well in advance of the painter's conscious understanding. In the Unconscious field, the concept of time does not operate in a linear pattern with a past, present and future trajectory. Perhaps as many physicists, philosophers and mystics have hypothesized, time is cyclical and eternal, without beginning, middle or end. A traveler on the Symbol Journey can access a different form of knowing other than deductive reasoning, which is prioritized in ego-logical reality.

This is one of several paintings in this series that depicted precognitive knowing about events long before they occurred. In 1991, I had no intention of writing a *book*, nor did I understand why I had painted one in the *goddess' lap*. But two years later, in 1993, I began writing *Painting Your Soul: A Method to Develop the Creative Personality*, published in Brazil in 1996.⁴⁹ Ten years after this painting was completed, I felt compelled to start writing another book, the one you now hold in your hands.

In this painting we see *Eve* as a divine *goddess*, seated on a *golden mountaintop*, her natural throne. She is an aspect of my Higher Self, an intuitive, sensual, bare-breasted woman who comes out from hiding and openly reveals her feminine divinity. One *hand* is transmuted into a *snake*, an animal revered in ancient matriarchal times for its healing capabilities and wisdom.

The biblical Adam and Eve myth takes on new meaning here. It was created by a patriarchal order that wanted to implement social change and subvert matriarchal beliefs by discrediting the sacred serpent and women's power. According to the Bible, it was the serpent that counseled Eve to disobey Jehovah and eat from the tree of knowledge. Joseph Campbell spoke to the influence of this essential myth in heralding a mind-set of good versus evil, sacred versus profane, and a religious climate that espouses judgment and blame. This has been the prevailing cultural paradigm until now.

"You get a totally different civilization and a totally different way of living, according to whether your myth presents nature as fallen or whether nature is in itself a manifestation of divinity."⁵⁰ The *goddess* in this painting symbolizes an aspect of my inner divinity and Higher Self. As I disconnected from the punishing fearful God of the patriarchal tradition, my relationship with a loving God has deepened over the years. The goddess does not exact obedience through fear, punishment and destruction. Feminine spiritual values respect our common humanity and a new egalitarian partnership between the sexes, a relationship not of power over, but power with. In this painting, *Eve* offers back to us the ancient wisdom, not by means of an apple but through the *book* on her lap. This book offers a field-tested method of regaining feminine power and a means to assume our inner divinity.

Journal entry, May 2012: "I understand what being a Goddess means. I say good-bye to the part of me who is unable to relax and be happy because she believes that there is always some detail or mistake to worry about. Like someone suffering from an auto immune disease and their cells attack their own body, I vow to never attack myself again. I say good-bye to my Self attacker and I affirm my right to feel pleasure and gratitude in each moment."

Tenderly *Eve* holds *Adam's head* in her *hand* and looks into his *eyes*. *Adam*, the *green man* sprouting from the *earth*, embodies the feminine life force ready to collaborate and cooperate. Their sensual *bodies* form a harmonious unity as *Adam* lovingly supports *Eve's head*, admiring her strength and intuitive wisdom. *Eve* caringly supports *Adam's head* (the rational mind). This sacred union between the masculine and feminine, where neither dominates, is a symbolic embodiment of love, balance and wholeness.