



The Rabbi's Car

An accomplished painter, printmaker and sculptor, Mauricio Trenard's work can be found in private collections throughout Europe, Mexico and the United States. His illustrations for *Dance, Nana, Dance* won him the 2009 Aesop Award and Bank Street College of Education, Children's Book Committee's Best Children's Book of the Year. With over 25 years of teaching experience under his belt, the historic Educational Alliance Art School is honored to count him amongst its talented staff of teaching artists. In 2019, Mauricio helped to reestablish screen-printing as one of the Educational Alliance Art School's educational offerings. Swirling patterns and cascading textures compete with Mauricio's saturated color palette. Creating a lush visual and tactile experience for viewers is central to his ethos as a creator. Mauricio creates a space where each of us can escape. Each piece is inviting, relying upon familiar iconography of houses, farm animals, and human forms. His work encourages us to make ourselves at home, wherever we are.

Here is Mauricio describing what inspires his creative practice:

I paint more by memory and experiences than by real events or photographic models. I work mainly with stories and images of my past and try to find and understand how they connect with my present. At the same time, I try to understand how my actions today are linked to these memories. The process of making art inspires me, not the finished art itself. Making art is an act through which I find freedom to change anything without any obligation to cultural patterns or stereotypes of beauty. Making art is a mental exercise, not only to create new images, but to facilitate my own survival in this country. Through painting I discover how both memory and reality interact: how they repel and attract each other; how they mix and remain separated. Each time I paint, I remember more and I learn more from my experiences-- both the good and the bad ones.

Mauricio is a generous contributor to the Educational Alliance Art School's creative community. He is always willing to lend a hand with whatever project needs to be completed in the art school studios. Mauricio built many of the mixed media studio's drying racks and designed and constructed all of the screen-printing equipment. His ingenuity as a maker and artist is matched only by his commitment and passion as an educator.

Mauricio Trenard holds a Bachelor of Arts from the Universidad del Oriente in Santiago de Cuba. You can learn more about Mauricio's work on his website: <http://www.mauriciotrenard.com/>

Be sure to follow Mauricio on Instagram: [@mauriciotrenard](https://www.instagram.com/mauriciotrenard)



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