

# MARIA TUDOSA

## Biography



Maria with the Romanian Ambassador to the UK

**Born in Adjud - a town in the Romanian province of Moldova/Moldavia - exuding a life-style and atmosphere not dissimilar from those emanating from Shalom Alechem's *shtetles* or as depicted in Marc Chagall's imagery of his own *Vitebsk*, and which would have a decisive impact on her future spiritual evolution as an artist - Maria Tudosa discovered her passion for art very early on.**

**She started as a singer pursuing classical singing and began performing with one of the most prestigious Romanian musical institutions, the George Enescu Philharmonic, Iasi (Yassi).**

**A very gifted — all round talent/individual [a real Renaissance nature!] - Maria continued assiduously to expand her horizons, dedicating her quest for new artistic & spiritual challenges, by embracing the art forms of Ballet, Poetry and Painting, but it was in the latter where she would find the truest expression of her ethos and ideas. She had several exhibitions in Romania and abroad.**

**After settling in England, she exhibited in the 1988 Royal Academy of Arts Summer Exhibition, and subsequently started studying iconography. It was during this time that she discovered her passion for spirituality, mysticism and surrealism.**

**A fervent opponent of Romania's ruthless & soul-destroying Communist regime, she started to add a new dimension to her work—the *fight against totalitarianism* - as well as a perennial preoccupation with The Shoah/Holocaust.**

**Throughout her career, she endeavoured to deepen her system of beliefs, and has dedicated herself to finding the best means/channels of translating her spiritual universe into art.**

**A complex personality, a completely self-taught painter, her unique artistry was perhaps best described by Radu Negro [the doyen of Romania's art critics/writers]: "Maria Tudosa's varied works/output reveal a poet's personality, with musical fictional visions, a poet contemplating the landscape as well as human hope, oscillating between the natural and the supernatural!".**

# MARIA TUDOSA

writes about her art

Since my childhood years in Romania I always admired the richness and the diversity of the Jewish life around me and later, its religion, its great contribution to civilization, and generally its impact on world culture and human development.

As an artist I also wanted to try and paint something about the Jewish experiences but as seen and understood from the point of view of an outsider. Inevitably, in doing so, some of subjects I have portrayed drew on one of the darkest period not only in Jewish history but indeed throughout the history of mankind. However, where human suffering reaches such unbearable heights, I do feel it is impossible for “art and life to truly imitate one another” except perhaps, when done by those who live, or have lived, through such experiences. Anna Frank is one such revered spirit, who has now come to represent in the world all those known and unknown souls who make this journey, and her story reminds us also of our responsibility towards each other and the potential for “human goodness” we inherit which is born out of her spirit and others like her. In her own words .....

“In spite of everything I still believe that people are really good at heart”

For myself the depictions and subjects in all of my paintings represent what I hope can be seen as the “journey of the human spirit towards God” through many dangerous and dark landscapes and events but always in the hope and belief of a final transcendence into the light.

It was to that spirit that I picked up my brush in the first place

