

Food in Artistic Inspiration

- **Music (keep playing as background when introduction begins)**
- Committed to sharing cultural diversity through food. Welcome to El Paso Food Voices.
- **(Music as transition)**
- Hi I'm your guest Lyuba Titovets for El Paso Food Voices. Today I'll be sharing ...
- **(Music as transition)**
- **Host's Introduction:** Welcome, I'm your host Stephanie Bulloch for today's episode. El Paso Food Voices explores the local food landscape by gathering food-based stories from El Paso's residents. El Paso Food Voices offers a taste of a living history that speaks of ethnic and racial cross-cultural connections. If we're what we eat, we're committed to highlight the food-based culture and history of this city. In this spirit, let's begin our conversation on Art in Food and Food in Art with our guest and nationally known artists, originally from St. Petersburg, Russia, who lives and works in El Paso, Lyuba Titovets.
- **Musical transition**
- **Topic #1:** While you've been a long-time resident of El Paso, our listeners might not know how long you've been here, where you came from, what brought you to El Paso, and drives your painting. Can we begin by knowing a bit more about you?
- **Topic #2:** Lyuba, many of your paintings are filled with rich images of food, particularly fruit. Are there any food inspired paintings that you have a particular connection with?
- **Topic # 3:** How has your particular relationship with food from your culture of origin and in El Paso helped inform and inspire your numerous artistic creations? How has this relationship helped inform your composition?
- **Topic # 4:** You seem to have a connection to the pomegranate and wine....Pomegranates and wine are quite predominate in a number of your paintings. I find this particularly fascinating in light of the fact that both the production of wine and the pomegranate tree are not native of either Russia or El Paso. Pomegranate and Wine production has a rich history of transcending borders—from Iran to Morocco and Spain, from Spain to the Americas etc..... Pomegranates and wine have been embraced by many cultures. In Mexican cuisine, for example, the pomegranate is a central ingredient for Chiles En Nogada: green poblano chiles, stuffed with fruits and meat, served with a walnut sauce, and sprinkle with pomegranate seeds. Needless to say the El Paso region is famous for its local vineyards and wine festival. Would you explain your relationship to Pomegranates

and wine and its place in your artwork? How has the pomegranate and wine integrated itself into your life, both in food and art?

➤ **Music transition**

- **Public Service Announcement:** Thank you for joining us today at El Paso Food Voices, and now for a small break. If you're interested in learning more about art and its inspirations here is a wonderful opportunity option you can explore, El Paso's Las Artistas, an Art & Fine Crafts Show featuring many artist from El Paso, Texas and Las Cruces, New Mexico is an annual event held at the History Epic Railyard Event Center at 2201 E. Mills Avenue, one of El Paso's coolest new events centers! The show usually takes place in mid to late November, in 2019 it will be Nov. 23 & 24. Let's get back with guest Lyuba Titovets. In this next segment we explore Food and cuisine influences from Russia and El Paso and how it has inspired Lyuba and her art...

➤ **(Soft background music)**

- **Topic # 4:** Can you please share some food and cuisine influences from your culture of origin and how it has inspired and integrated its way into your creative process?
- **Topic # 5:** How has your life as an artist (impacted?) affected your relationship with the food from your culture of origin and form to those foods you've been introduced living in El Paso region?
- **Final Question:** As we come to a closing of our conversation, could you offer some words of advice to inspiring artist about the aesthetic and cultural value of incorporating food into their paintings?
- **Closing Comments:** We want to thank once more our guest Lyuba Titovet's for sharing her knowledge on Food in Art and Art in Food, a fascinating El Paso food-based topic.

➤ **Music begins again (the section that will end the podcast)**

- El Paso Food Voices was created by Meredith E. Abarca, professor of Food Studies and Literature at the University of Texas at El Paso; produced by Adrian Mesa from UTEP's Creative Studios, and music composed by Jake Jacobs. To learn more about how food practices, memories, and stories shape a city's history, culture and its character, please visit us at El Paso Food Voices. Thank you.

➤ **Ending with music**