



MEET GABLES ESTATES NEIGHBOR AND ARTIST

EVELYN POLITZER



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Gables Estates, more so maybe than any other community in South Florida, reflects the vibrant multicultural melting pot that is South Florida. The Politzer family is an ideal example. Evelyn and Gabriel Politzer are from Uruguay and Argentina respectively. Having lived in New York for almost a decade, the family decided to plant its roots in South Florida in the early 2000's, and their search for a home ended in none other than Gables Estates.

In the fiber art renaissance, Evelyn Politzer takes her part as a visionary for the limitless bounds of what she can create with yarn. From 2-dimensional tapestries that look like stain glass to 3-dimensional pieces that suspend from wires or form sculptures, this Gables Estates resident has refined her talent. Politzer's fiber art will be featured in a new installation at the Miami International Airport showcasing this year. Her husband Gabriel Politzer is Chairman of the Advisory Board for BigSur Partners, a private wealth management firm which was founded by another Gables Estates neighbor, Ignacio Pakciarz.

As a native of Montevideo, Uruguay, Politzer grew up in a rural setting which garnered her love for nature. "Uruguay is a place known for having more sheep than people," Evelyn explains, so having an abundance of wool readily available meant an early relationship with knitting, sewing, and dying the natural element. At 8 years old, she began doing tapestries, exploring her natural tendencies to create. Politzer eventually went to law school in Montevideo. It was during her University years that she met Gabriel Politzer. The couple married and had their first children, twins, in the late 1980's.

By 1993, Gabriel began working on Wall Street and the family made the move to New York. Evelyn's law degree was incongruous with law in the









States however, and the relocation granted Politzer an opportunity to start afresh. "I saw a chance to pursue my passion for art and creating," Politzer relates, "I graduated from Parsons School of Design in NYC so that I could fulfill my creative side. Since then, I have discovered that making art is the best way of taming my whimsical mind from jumping from one place to the next."

During the Internet wave in 2000, Gabriel became Chief Strategy Officer for Patagon, an equity brokerage and online banking firm and the Politzer family moved to Miami. Evelyn saw Miami as a flourishing landscape to influence her vivid art. Their eventual home in Gables Estates with open space and the possibility of having a garden overlooking the water was the main reason for choosing the community.

While having fallen in love with Miami, Politzer never forgets her roots. The yarn that she uses in her pieces, specifically with the installation for Miami International Airport, come from her hometown in Uruguay. "Every time I find a piece of grass or pasture in the wool, I smile and imagine sheep grazing on the countryside. I stop and think about the journey the raw material made to get to my hands," Politzer explains. The raw elements she uses to create are a clear connection to the earth, the culture she grew up with, and her handmade process of creation.

While she began with tapestry and knitting, her work with fiber art began to evolve in 2007. Quilting, freestyle embroidery, yarn bombing, and fiber installations, her pieces have the ability to take many forms because of the versatility with noble wool. "The color, texture and 3D characteristic of the yarn itself gives me total freedom to experiment; it's painting and sculpting with natural materials," she says, "Even though I create through conventional methods, the objects I make are totally unconventional," she laughs. A personal project she accomplished was honoring breast cancer victims with an installation of knitted and crocheted





contemporary sculptures of breasts to exhibit diversity and pay homage to a dear cause. This idea of utilizing her art to form connections and raise awareness has led Politzer to many projects that she finds truly rewarding.

"Fiber art has let me foster community," Politzer expresses, "I bring people together to knit for different charities like breast cancer, premature babies, soldiers, even school events at Ransom that I held for my children towards scholarship contributions." Working with the Perez Art Museum, Politzer has also established a "Knit in Public Day" with her fiber arts group, Fantastic Fibers, as a way to promote artistic interactions within the community.

Politzer's current collaboration with the Miami International Airport is, in its own way, another way for her to foster community. In the hub of visitors and locals alike, they will be able to appreciate a whimsical, vibrant installation that was inspired by Politzer's affinity for the natural world. With hand-dyed bright

colors, yarn all knitted by hand forming different sculptures and shapes, her piece is an interpretation of nature, which is why the exhibition is called "Knitting as Poetry: Reflections on the Natural Environment." Curated by Yolanda Sanchez, whom Politzer greatly admires as both an artist and curator, the exhibition has been worked on for over 6 months and will debut at the end of this year.

In a location where people from all over the world will be traveling through, it is fitting that she says, "I feel like exploring and creating with yarn is like speaking a universal language that everyone understands no matter where you are."

Bringing together art with social collaboration and aesthetic beauty is Politzer's personal calling, as she says, "I think the need to create, to wake up every morning and think, 'what am I making today?' that's evolving-- when I make art." Gables Estates congratulates Evelyn Politzer on her many projects as a cultivating, creative force in our community!