

MARJAN AUGUSTIN
SLOVENIA

Marjan Augustin

Born in 1982 in Slovenia

He started painting back in the 90s, more precisely around the year 1994. In the early stages of his painting career, he has dabbled with other forms of media, such as poetry, sculpting and collages, but his main form of art remains painting.

With his work, he is trying to show us that different things, that may seem random or unrelated at first sight (just like in the real world) are just pieces belonging to a larger puzzle. It is up to us, to find their connection.

The inspiration for his work, comes from many places. Everyday conversations, historical paintings, movies, both old and new.

Often he is asked a question, "why do you paint?" A seemingly easy question, but still hard to explain. The need for painting and to create, has always been with him. He is always looking for new ways to present a tired and worn-out theme. That provides a sense of freedom and chase for him.

With his work, he tries to challenge the viewers mind, their emotions or even their personal beliefs.

He currently living and work in Slovenia, Europe.



NEVERMIND THE NAME #6

Acrylic on canvas, 70x70 cm, 7.9.2019

Main inspiration for this painting came from an old French book called “120 days of Sodom”, by Marquis de Sade.

It is an image filled with highly sensitive emotions, while simultaneously exploring the rawness of human sexual instinct, a basic need for all living creatures. It has existed since the beginning of mankind and even before. The various shapes and figures that exist inside the painting are simply living in the moment, letting their primal instincts to lead them.

For this painting there was no previous sketching, as I followed my instinct, my gut while I was painting it.



NEVERMIND THE NAME #7

Acrylic on canvas, 65,3x84,8 cm, 25.12.2018

As I watch a movie, read a book, follow the news, I get to thinking. How different would my life be if I were someone else? A completely different person. I see a famous person, making headlines, observing how the media shreds them apart, like a dying carcass in the wild. I watch them, as they completely tear the person down, invade every last part of their privacy, that now no longer exist. And I think, what is must be like for them. For the people who worked so hard to achieve a bloated dream of fame and stardom and I wonder, was it even worth it? Is this still their must desired dream, or has that dream, turned into a nightmare?

Many decades ago, even thousands, people worshiped gods, they carved their images into stones, making them last forever.

This logic has not changed since the dawn of times, it only modernized itself.

The piece was also created with no sketching, just like the other pieces, belonging to this series.



BDSM #1

Acrylic on canvas, 100x80 cm, 18.02.2019

She wakes up. There is a moment of silence, a moment of clarity, a moment before she remembers who she is, before everything comes crashing down. She looks herself in a mirror, disgusted by her body, ashamed of its form. She looks at the person in the mirror, and thinks, “if I walked down the street right now, would my followers recognize me?”. They don’t know who she really is, what she really looks like, what she really feels. No one besides her, knows the emptiness she feels every day.

No one knows she is a lie, that the person she plays online, doesn’t really exist.

She doesn’t really exist. She is just an image on social media, an image she is selling.

Inspired by a 16th century painting named “Gabrielle d’ Estrees and one of her sisters”.



FOMO

Acrylic on canvas, 100x70 cm, 2.01.2019

If social media could be wrapped and generalized into one painting, this would be it. With the arrival of new technology, new ways to communicate, it is no wonder, that younger generations coined a few new phrases, that only apply in our current time. One of these phrases is “Fomo”, meaning “a fear of missing out”. Such expression seems fit with the sudden rise of so called influencers that have taken over social networks, creating their perfect digital lives.

No matter their location, no matter their age or gender, their goal is always the same; to look good, to look happy and to appear more blessed than others.

Here we are able to see a figure representation of the vicious digital circle.



SCRATCH OF CREATION No.5
Oil on canvas, 50x40 cm, 2017

It was the year 2016. I sit in my atelier and I think and think. Unexcitingly I hear a scratching noise, somewhere near me. I look down on the floor and I see a blank canvas that has fallen to the ground. On it stands my black cat. The scratching noise came from her. I look at more closely, to see what is she doing. Right away I notice a tear in the canvas.

The cat was for more comfortable scratching my canvas than her cat scratcher. Suddenly, out of nowhere an idea is born, an idea for a new series.

For a couple of weeks, I leave the canvas on the floor and I let my cat scratch it. After a while, I start to notice interesting patterns she left behind. Soon the patters create a unique form, that is only missing a dash of vibrant and lively color.



SCRATCH OF CREATION No. 3
Oil on Canvas, 40x40 cm, 2017

The calming blue, just like the sky above us. It is the most beautiful on a warm sunny day, without a cloud in sight, but not all days can be perfect. No matter what we do, how we live our lives, dreary things will happen to each and every one of us. The only thing we can control, is how we react to events that have fallen upon us.

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