

OLIVIER MOURAO



Moving Figures
2017

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„Karl Marx was wrong.“ - Olivier Mourao

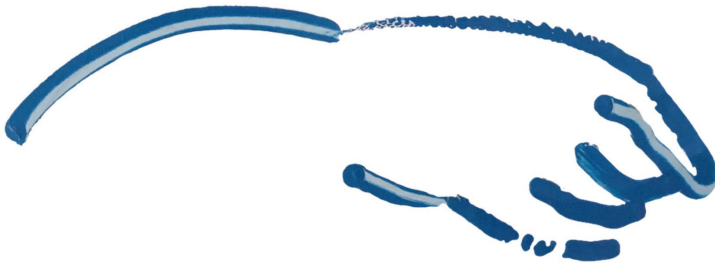
In 1843, Karl Marx declared that religion is the opium of the masses. If he were to return today he would find half empty churches and full stadia, revise his opinion and conclude that the new opium is professional football.

It's the year 2017. Sports, especially football, is the religion of the age. And to be honest, it's much more than that: its fandom feeds a primitive human need to belong to a whole larger than the self. Players like Neymar, Messi and Ronaldo are hero-worshipped, hymns of praise are sung on the terraces, people from all walks of life are indoctrinated into the cult, grown men go about clothed in the robes of the game and yelling yobs proclaim the virtues of "their" team in the streets. A symphony of heroes and zeros.

With his latest work „Moving Figures“, Olivier Mourao shows his boundless fascination for a game which mixes glamour with the ordinariness in subtle proportion. „Though it is distractive, it is highly amusing at the same time. Football players are god-like gladiators which combine the power of a wrestler with the grace of a ballet dancer, but one reason you revere them is because they are alter egos, who could easily be you.“, he explains.

Olivier built up his pictures in layers, losing and finding edges at each stage and this combination of definition and blur is perfect for moving figures. Mostly he focuses on a specific pose, gesture or turn of the head that characterises a particular activity and might be defined while other parts need to be suggested or unclear. He preferred oil colours to chalk because „they are less precise and a bit more painterly in the way they mix on the drawing“. The results are impressive opium-blurred works in which the actual event still has to take place or just has ended: moments evocative of atmosphere and suspense. Welcome to the new opium for the masses – welcome to Olivier Mourao's Moving Figures.

Fabio Christ, award winning German creative



“ NOTHING HAPPEN UNTIL SOMETHING MOVE ”

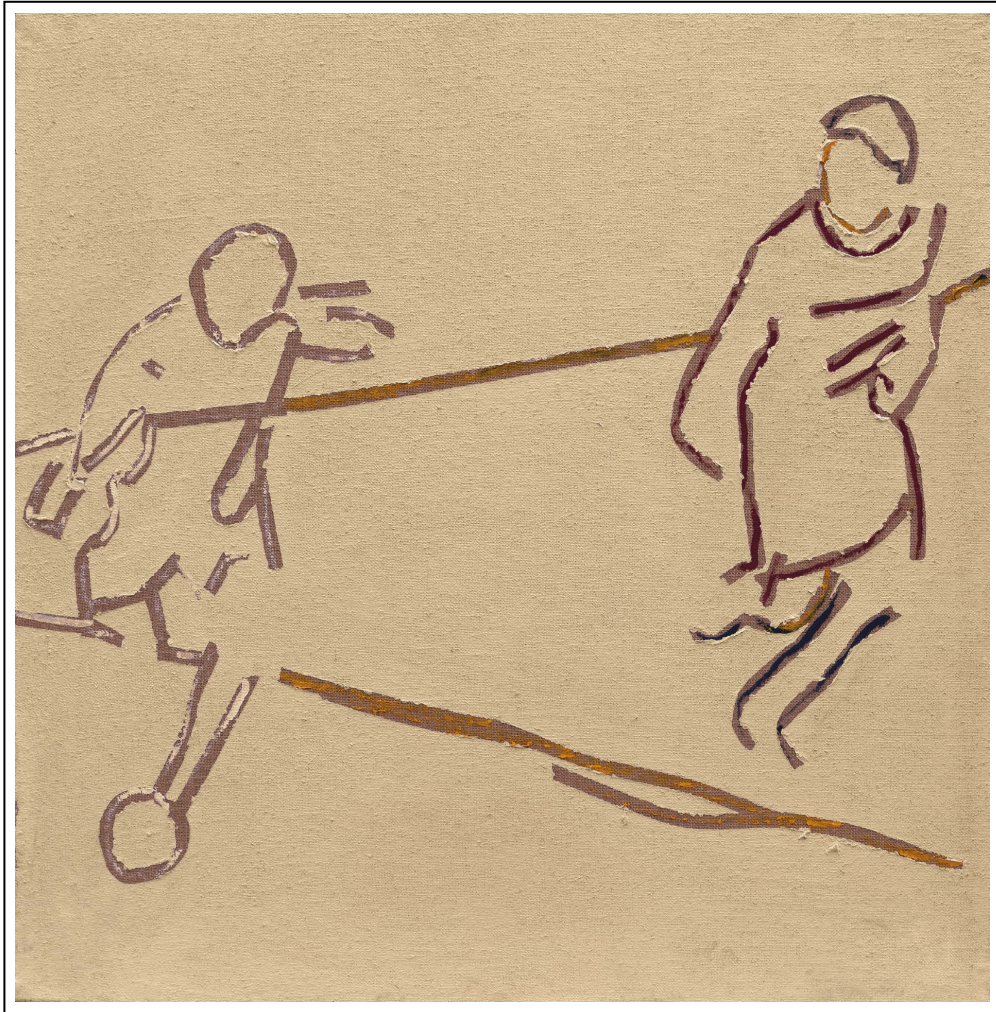
Albert Eistein



Olivier Mourão, British artist, eclectic, profound, Olivier releases the lines straight from the tube and unites the drawings and pictorio-sculptural masks, mixing the paint on the brush itself, so that the viewer can follow the process of pure and mixed colour in one stroke, achieving all this with paramount simplicity. It is easy to perceive the serenity and quality of each work, like those works of the great immortals which are lauded by collectors around Europa.

Prince Tomasz Lubomirsky

I FIND THE GAME MESMERISING
MESMER WAS AN ILLUSIONIST AND HYPNOTIST FROM VICTORIAN TIMES

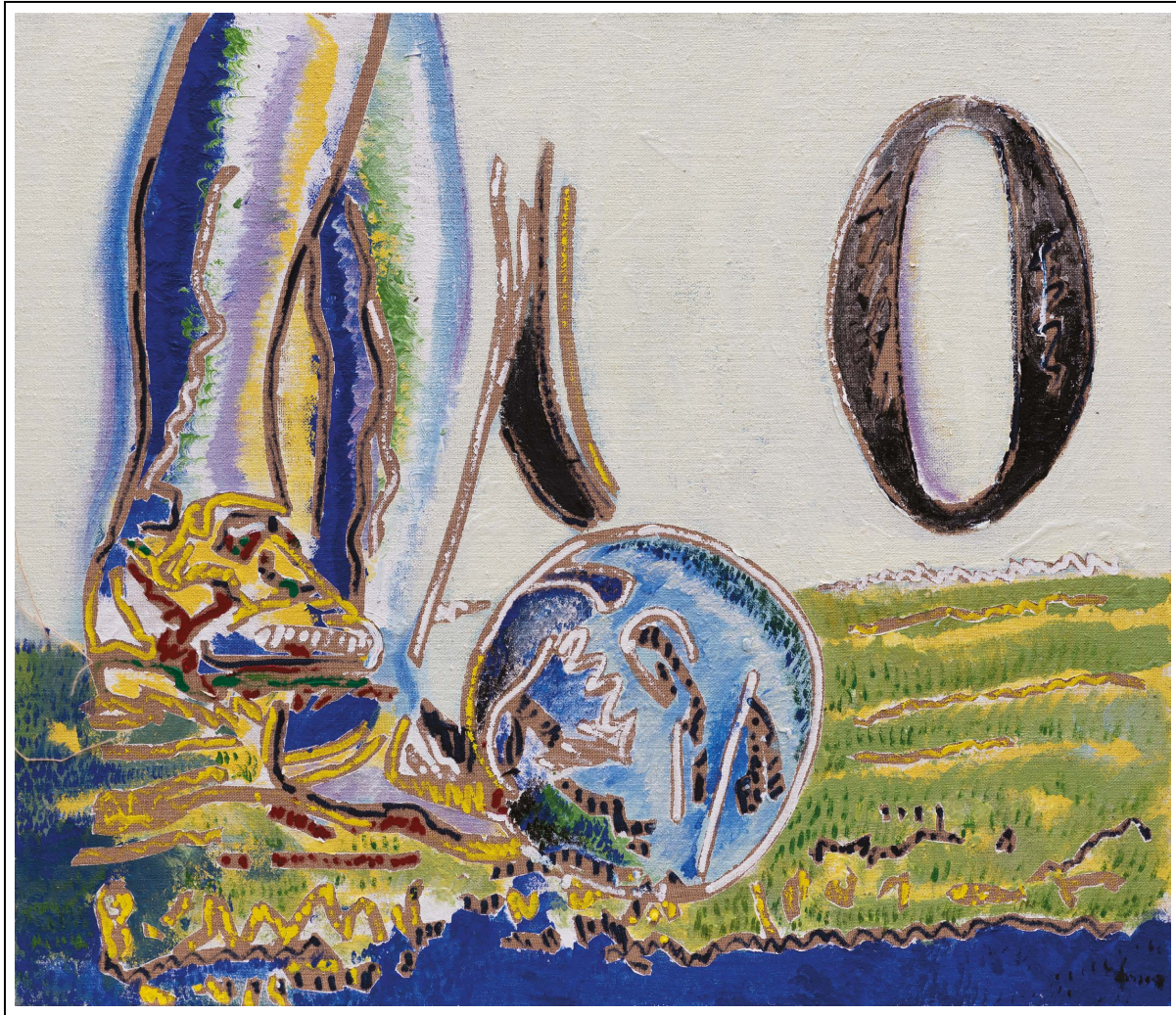


FAST LANE, 2015

Acrylic, Oil and pigments on canvas, 120 x 160cm

“ TIME IS ILLUSION ”

Albert Eistein



THE KICK, 2015

Acrylic, Oil and pigments on canvas, 160 x 120cm

“ FOOTBALL IS THE OPIUM OF THE PEOPLE ”
OPIUM IS KARL MARX'S PIPEDREAM



C. RONALDO GOING FOR THE BALL, 2015
Acrylic, Oil and pigments on canvas, 220 x 180cm

**“ WE ARE ALL IN THE GUTTER
BUT SOME OF US ARE LOOKING AT THE STARS ”**

Oscar Wide



SLIDING, 2015

Acrylic, Oil and pigments on canvas, 160 x 120cm

WITHOUT FOOTBALL I BELIEVE THERE EOULD BE MORE WARS
WITH MORE LOGIC I KNOW THERE WOULD BE MOTE PEACE



MESSY RUNNING, 2015

Acrylic, Oil and pigments on canvas, 150 x 170cm

BEING = FROZEN TIME
BECOMING = MOVING TIME



GOING FOR THE TACKLE, 2015
Acrylic, Oil and pigments on canvas, 200 x 180cm

**“ I MAY WIN AND I MAY LOSE
BUT I WILL NEVER BE DEFEATED ”**

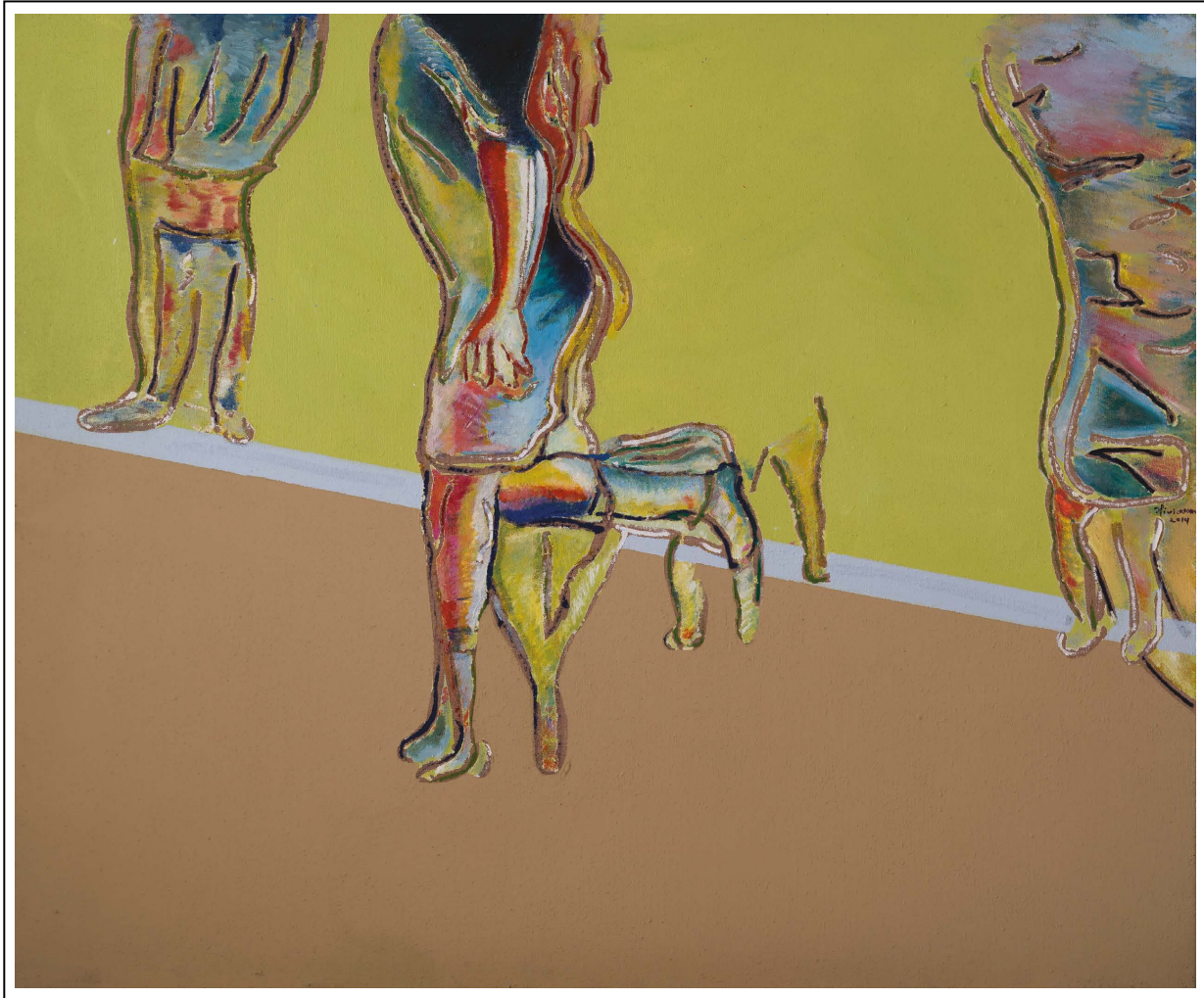
Emmitt Smith



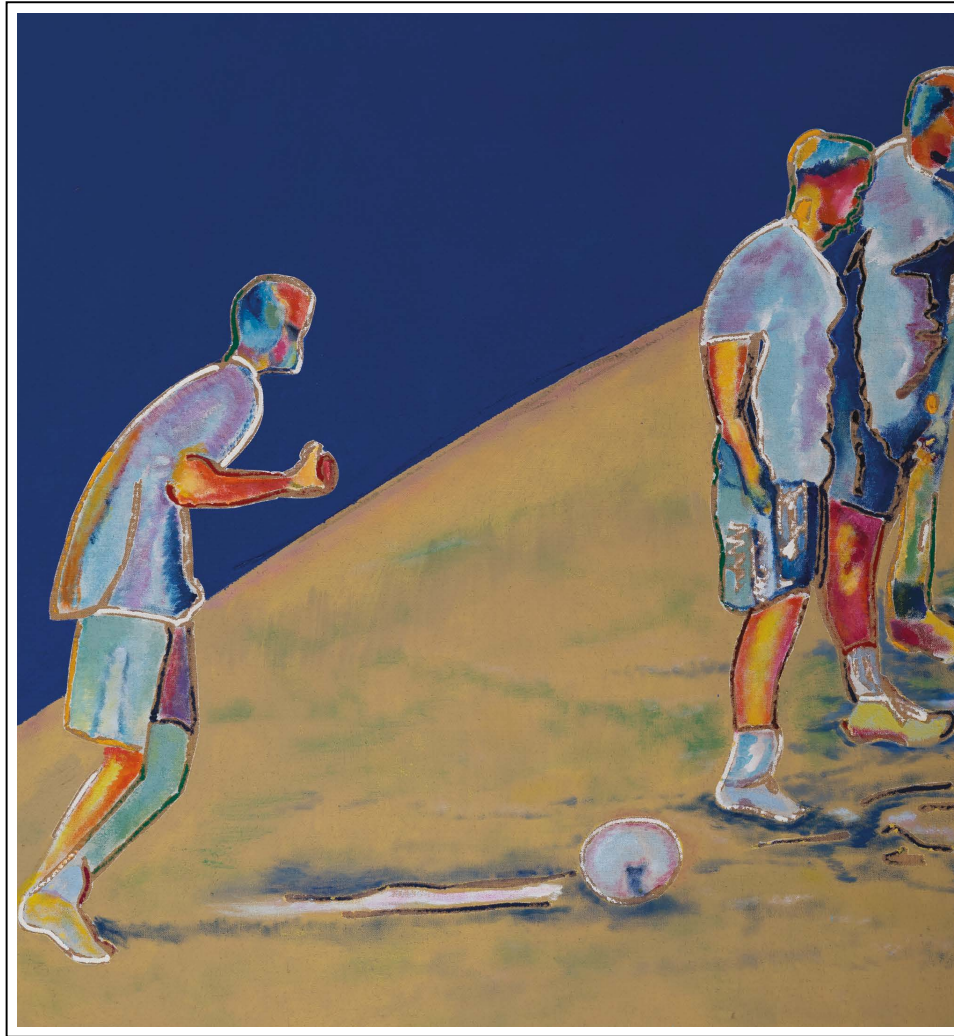
NEYMAR MODERN GLADIATOR, 2015
Acrylic, Oil and pigments on canvas, 120 x 120cm

" FOOTBALL, BEER AND ABOVE ALL
GAMBLING FILLED UP THE HORIZONS OF THEIR MINDS
TO KEEP THEM IN CONTROL WAS NOT DIFFICULT "

George Orwell



GAME ABSTRACTION, 2015
Acrylic, Oil and pigments on canvas, 220 x 180cm





GAME DECISION, 2015
Acrylic, Oil and pigments on canvas, 400 x 180cm

**“ I MAY WIN AND I MAY LOSE
BUT I WILL NEVER BE DEFEATED ”**

Emmitt Smith



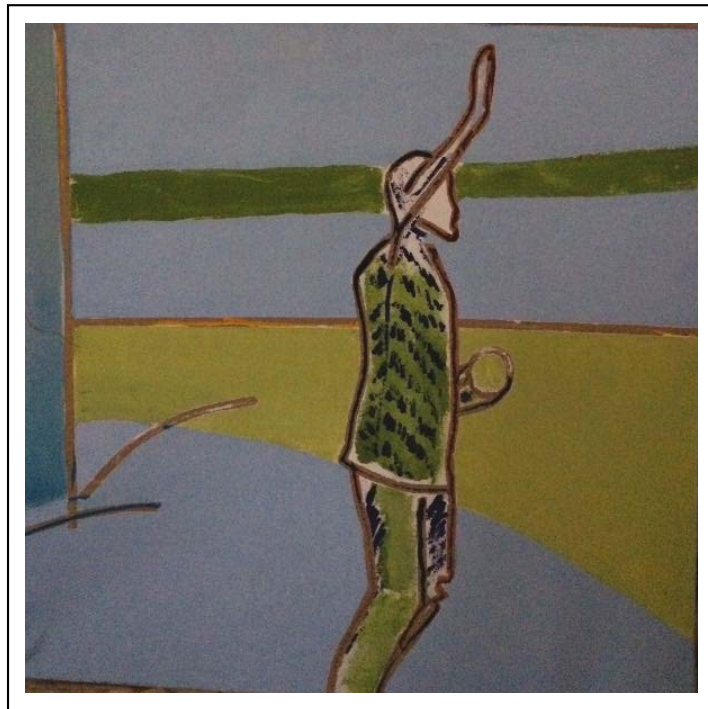
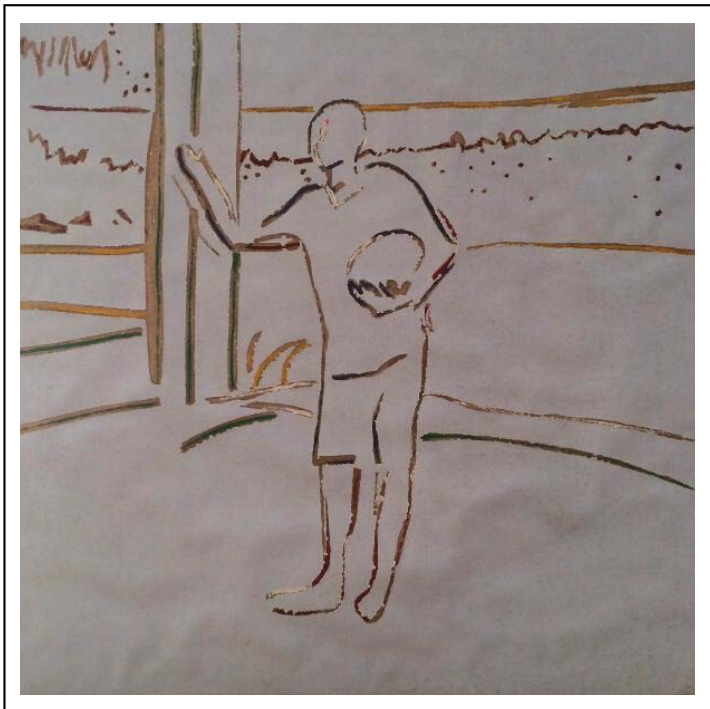
STUD, 2015

Acrylic, Oil and pigments on canvas, 100 x 180cm

ENCHANTING STAR

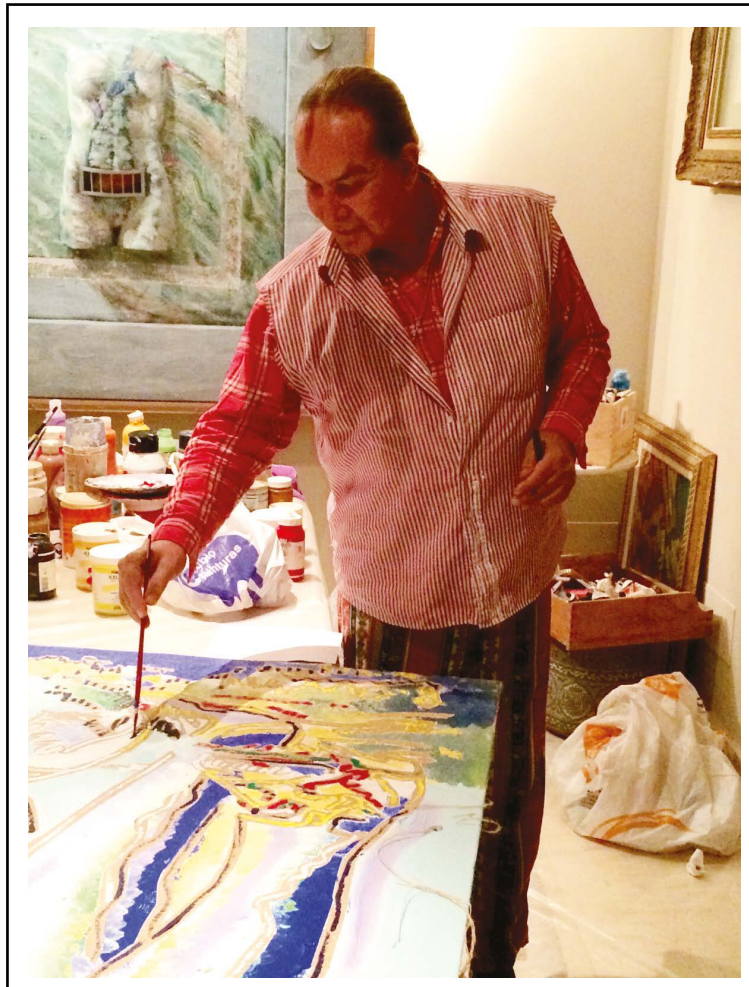


RONALDO & MESSY,
Acrylic, Oil and pigments on canvas, 150 x 130cm



CASTILLAS

Acrylic, Oil and pigments on canvas, 150 x 130cm



Olivier Mourão, simplistic maximalist, passionate host and collector of art and pharaonic artefacts, has been a professional artist since the early 1960s. His paintings, designs and sculptures have been highlighted in more than 700 publications, books and 74 exhibitions around the world.

Mourão's life as an artist reads like something from an Oscar-winning movie script: From his early years as Brazil's most famous child portrait painter, to the style-defining years when he met Pablo Picasso and Francis Bacon, his great idol. He was also a good friend of Salvador Dalí and his wife Gala, whose influence is of great value for his work till today.

Inspired by beautiful people, beautiful things, and the island of Ibiza, Olivier creates intense moments of pure hedonism. His works are created with closed eyes in a distinctive process. First, he draws an image straight from the tube of paint on canvas, and then he paints it on cardboard or handmade paper. Spontaneity and simplicity play a key role.

His visual language tells stories about escapism, infantile excitement and immeasurable admiration, in which an uncompromising attitude towards ancient and contemporary art can be found. His exhibitions can also be seen as a kind of savoir vivre, happenings of openness, tolerance and warm curiosity from international viewers and collectors.

And now with his latest work, Moving figures, Olivier is taking the fast lane into a new source of inspiration which will resonate with the fans of the high speed game of football.

Fabio Christ, German world award winning creative writer

OLIVIER MOURÃO

BIOGRAPHY

1945

Born in Divinópolis, MG, Brazil

Lives and works in London and Ibiza

EDUCATION

1973

Art History, King's College, London, UK

1965

Fine Arts at the Guignard University of Art of Minas Gerais, Brazil

WEBSITE

www.oliviermourao.com



Olivier at Home in Ibiza

SOLO EXHIBITIONS:

2017
Moving Figures, B12 Gallery, Ibiza, Spain

2016
Moving Figures, Museu Inimá de Paula, Minas Gerais, Brazil

2014-15
The Lloyds Club, London, UK

2013
B12 Gallery, Ibiza, Spain

2011
Retrospective, Museu Inimá de Paula, Minas Gerais, Brazil

2010
K.5 Galería, Ibiza, Spain

2009
K.5 Galería, Ibiza, Spain

2008
K.5 Galería, Ibiza, Spain

2007
K.5 Galería, Ibiza, Spain

2005
Edden Gallery, Arosa, Switzerland
K.5 Galería, Ibiza, Spain

2004
Pool Party K.5, Ibiza, Spain
Global Room Pacha, Ibiza, Spain

2003
K.5 Galería, Ibiza, Spain

2002
K.5 Galería, Ibiza, Spain

2001
K.5 Galería, Ibiza, Spain

2000
K.5 Galería, Ibiza, Spain

1987
The Centre Gallery, Mayfair, London, UK
The Holland Gallery, London, UK

1967
Palácio dos Leilões, Minas Gerais, Brazil
Amato Lanza Studio Art Gallery, New York, US

1965
L'atelier d'Art, Minas Gerais, Brazil

SELECT GROUP EXHIBITIONS:

1967
Historical Museum Dona Beja, Minas Gerais, Brazil

1966
Salão Ouro Preto, Minas Gerais, Brazil
Salão Art Museum, Brazil

1965
Salão do Museu de Arte da Prefeitura de Belo Horizonte, Minas Gerais, Brazil



Brazilian-born, British artist Olivier Mourão (b.1945), was still a boy when he was discovered by the late highly regarded Brazilian journalist Wilson Frade in Minas Gerais, Brazil. He was a twelve-year-old who painted children in a unique style and design with sophisticated techniques. His portraits of politicians' children delighted the First Lady of Brazil, Maria Tereza Goulart, who invited him to paint their children at the President's residency, Alvorada, in Brasilia.

Mourão went on to study Fine Arts at the Guignard University of Art of Minas Gerais. His years as an artist in Brazil yielded numerous gallery and museums exhibitions, and regular conceptual art performances on the TV programme, "Band 13" (1972). The Brazilian dictatorship did not sanction his works, so Olivier moved to Europe. After stints in Rome and Paris, he settled in London along with filmmaker Neville D'Almeida, Caetano Veloso and Gilberto Gil.

The Balearic Island of Ibiza was first visited by Mourão in the mid-1970s. He was so smitten with its easy going lifestyle that the island soon became his summer residence. For nearly 4 decades, it has been a source of inspiration and artistic renewal.



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