

Gorka Mohamed  
Spanish-Iraqi, B. 1978



When first approaching paintings by Gorka Mohamed one is immediately struck by the vibrancy of colour that has been imbued in the canvas with strong and fluid brush strokes. Once one has overcome the initial powerful impact a more reflective stage takes over. What is the painting inviting you to see?

In conversation with Mohammed a name reoccurs with some regularity; that of American Abstract Expressionist artist Philip Guston. The latter is famously quoted as stating that;

“The painting is not on a surface, but on a plane which is imagined. It moves in a mind. It is not there physically at all. It is an illusion, a piece of magic, so that what you see is not what you see.”

Indeed, when viewing paintings by Mohammed it is difficult to determine what one is really looking at. What we see on the surface is merely a conduit characters and scenarios that Mohammed sets out before us.

# FIUMANOCCLASE

## Education

- 2008 Masters in Fine Arts, Goldsmiths College, London, UK  
2003 Graduated in Art and Design, Escola Massana. Barcelona, Spain

## Selected Awards & Residencies

- 2019 Artist in residence at Lo Pati Contemporary Centre of Arts. Amposta, Spain.  
2019 Residency, Hammana artist house, Hammana, Lebanon  
2018 El Ranchito Libano. Matadero Madrid, Spain.  
2014 Finalist, Exeter Contemporary Open, Exeter Phoenix. Exeter, UK.  
2008 Winner of the Warden's Purchase Prize. Goldsmiths College  
2005 Winner of the Pancho Cossio contest, Santander, Spain.  
Selected in the contest Caja Madrid Generation 2005. Madrid, Spain.  
2005 Arteleku Grant, San Sebastian, Spain  
Residency in Piramidon, Barcelona, Spain  
2002 Winner of the Casimiro Sainz contest, Reinosa, Spain  
2001 Grant of studies, Escola Massana, Barcelona, Spain  
1997 Winner of the Pancho Cossio contest, Santander, Spain

## Selected Publications

- 2020 Joie Panique Editions. EU and FEU editions  
2014 100 Painters of Tomorrow, Thames & Hudson, London  
Young London 2011-2014 Catalogue by V22 Collection & Grey Tiger  
2013 Antes de irse.40 ideas sobre la pintura, David Barro, Spain  
2011 Wonderpia, text by Lee Jinmung & Kira Kim  
2010 Odd Place, text by Lee Jinmyung  
2010 Tautologies, text by Raúl Zamudio  
2010 Toon Toon, text by Kristian Leahy  
2009 Turpsbanana issue nº 6, Review by Sarah Douglas  
2007 Planes Futuros by Lorena & Maria del Corral. Text by Cedar Lewisohn  
Celeste Art Prize, England  
Beauty and Sadness by Monica Alvarez Careaga  
2006 Emerging Art in Spain by Manuela Villa  
Puente de la Vision by the Museum of Santander. Text by Isabel Portilla  
D[x]i Magazine, issue 21  
2004 Street Logos by Tristan Manco

## Notable Collections

- Colección Solo, Madrid, Spain.  
Colección Pilar Citoler. Spain  
Olor Visual Collection. Spain  
Patio Herreriano, Museum of Spanish Contemporary Art, Valladolid, Spain  
Bank Caja Madrid, Madrid, Spain  
Fundacion Coca-Cola. Madrid, Spain

## Notable Collections continued

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Ayuntamiento de Reinosa. Reinosa, Spain  
Culture Department of Cantabria, Santander, Spain  
Goldsmiths College, University of London.  
Colección Los Bragales, Spain.  
Colección Norte. Santander, Spain.  
Fundacion Centenera, Spain.

## **Solo Exhibitions**

- 2021 Hall of Mirrors, Galería Marta Cervera, Madrid, Spain  
2019 I Would Prefer Not To. Galerie Thomas Bernard. Paris, France.  
The Mad Dog of The Desert. Dar El-Nimer. Beirut, Lebanon.  
2018 I ARE. Galerie La Mauvaise Réputation. Curated by Emilie Flory. Bordeaux, France.  
2016 Spotlight on Gorka Mohamed, Orion Contemporary, London  
Raise Ravens and They'll Pluck Out Your Eyes, Peter Von Kant. London  
Ha,Ha. Helena Parada & Gorka Mohamed. Choi & Lager Gallery, Leipzig, Germany.  
2015 Termite Painting & The Sick Feet. Galeria Juan Silio. Santander, Spain.  
2014 Solo Project at Arte Santander Art Fair. Santander, Spain.  
2011 Riendo Hacia Atrás, Galería Distrito Cuatro. Madrid, Spain.  
2010 Tautologies. Gallery b'one. Seoul, Korea.  
2009 Toon Toon. Galeria Siboney. Santander, Spain.  
Cota Uno (Project Room). Arte Santander. Spain.  
2006 Puente de la Vision. Contemporary Museum of Santander, Spain.  
Ghosts and Premonitions. Galeria Luis Adelantado, Valencia

## **Selected Group Exhibitions**

- 2022 One by One, Fiumano Clase, Pall Mall, London, UK  
2020 ¡Fiat Lux! Centro de Exposiciones Caja Granada, Puerta Real, Granada, Spain.  
2019 Masterpieces Vol2. Galerie Thomas Bernard. Paris, France.  
Eugenèsia. Lo Pati Centre d'Art-Terres del l'Ebre. Amposta, Spain.  
Pampre It Up! .La Mauvaise Réputation. Bordeaux, France.  
Masterpieces Vol1. Galerie Thomas Bernard. Paris, France.  
Spanish Omelette. Kalawakan Spacetime. Curated by Manuel Ocampo. Manila, Philippines.  
Abracadabra. Assembly House. Leeds, UK.  
2019 'Ranchito End of Residency'. Hammana Artist House. Hammana, Lebanon  
Del Cuaderno del Coleccionista. Colección Bragales. Castillo de Argüeso. Cantabria, Spain.

## **Selected Group Exhibitions continued**

# FIUMANOCCLASE

- 2018 'Back to the Hood'. Thomas Bernard/Cortex Atletico & La Mauvaise Réputation. Bordeaux, France  
 'Boy Meets Girl at Spinnerei'. Choi & Lager Gallery. Leipzig, Germany  
 'A Monochrome Exhibition'. Rocky Shore Gallery. Tokyo, Japan  
 'Poco Hecho/Medium Rare'. Matadero Madrid. Madrid, Spain.  
 'Boy Meets Girl'. Bernhard Martin, Dale Lewis & Gorka Mohamed. Choi & Lager. Cologne, Germany
- 2017 'Yes, Sir/Ma'am! No, Sir/Ma'am! Right Away, Sir/Ma'am!' Manuel Ocampo & Collaborators. Tyler Rollings Gallery. NYC, USA.  
 The Untimely Dream. Contemporary Spanish Art in Dysfunctional Times. The Drawing Room Gallery. Manila, The Philippines
- 2015 'De La Mano'. Centro Centro.Palacio de Cibeles. Madrid, Spain.  
 'Tener Que Sentir'. Centro de Cultura, Antiguo Instituto los Bragales Collection. Gijón, Spain.
- 2014 '100 Painters of Tomorrow'. One Art Space Gallery. New York. USA.  
 'Exeter Contemporary Open 2014' Exeter Phoenix. Exeter, UK.  
 'Untitled (Unconscious), TJBoulting Gallery, London. UK.
- 2013 'Creekside Open 2011 Selected by Ceri Hand. A.P.T. Gallery.', A.P.T Gallery, London.  
 'Ultima pintura en las colecciones del DA2 y la Fundación Coca-Cola'. Museo de Arte Contemporáneo de Arrecife (MIAC). Lanzarote, Spain.  
 'Meaning Making' (curated by Monica Alvarez Careaga ), touring show: New York, Washington & Brussels.
- 2012 "Enlaces + Seis Contextos. Museo Patio Herreriano. Valladolid, Spain.  
 'Salon Art Prize'. Matt Roberts Arts gallery. London.  
 'Swollen Jungle'. Union Gallery, London.
- 2011 'Creekside Open 2011 Selected by Dexter Dalwood', A.P.T Gallery, London.  
 'Young London', V22 Collection. London.  
 'Translate/Transcribe', 15th Art Moscow. Moscow, Russia.  
 'Wonderpia', Seoul Museum of Contemporary Art, Nanji Studio Gallery. Seoul, Korea.  
 'Ultima Pintura' (Collections from DA2 & Coca-Cola Foundation), DA2. Salamanca, Spain.
- 2010 Odd Place, Artside Gallery. Seoul, Korea.  
 TAG, Brown Gallery, London.  
 DA2. Acquisitions 2010 from Coca Cola Foundation. Salamanca, Spain.
- 2010 'Enlaces+4', Patio Herreriano Museum. Valladolid, Spain.  
 Bright Lights London Painting, Resy Muijsers contemporary art. Tilburg, Netherlands.  
 il alla A lai de IA il, Crimes Town Gallery. London, UK.

## Selected Group Exhibitions continued

- 2009 Bragales Collection, Palacio de Sástago. Zaragoza. Spain.  
 Ventriloquist (curated by Emma Dexter), Timothy Taylor Gallery, London, UK.

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- Code of Being (Jill Mason, Eemyun Kang, Gorka Mohamed), Gallery With Space. Beijing, China.
- Modern Times, Vegas Gallery. London, UK.
- Notes from the underground, James Taylor Gallery, London, UK
- 2008 Enlaces+3, Patio Herreriano Museum. Valladolid, Spain.
- 2007 Planes Futuros (curated by Lorena and Maria del Corral), Sala Baluarte, Pamplona, Spain
- Celeste Art Prize: T2 The Old Truman Brewery, London, and Lyon & Turnbull, Edinburgh
- Beauty & Sadness (Juan Navarro Baldeweg, Juan Uslé, Eduardo Gruber, Gorka Mohamed, Manu Ar-regui amount others): Galeria Torreao Nascente da Condoaria Nacional, Lisbon.
- Industrie-und Handelskammer. Frankfurt am Main, Germany
- 'Fall-in Theatre', V22 Basement, London.

## **Public Speaking**

- 2019 The Mad Dog of The Desert. Dar El-Nimer centre of Arts and Culture. Beirut, Lebanon
- 2018 Termite Painting. Universidad de Historia del Arte de Malaga, Spain
- 2017 Proyecto Chimenea. Power Art Point. Casa Encendida, Spain
- 2007 La cultura alternativa como alternativa cultural. Universidad de Cantabria, Spain