

Artmonte-carlo: Group Show

14 – 16 July 2022

JD Malat Gallery is pleased to announce our first participation at artmonte-carlo Art Fair 2022. As a representative of diversity and innovation, JD Malat Gallery brings together an eclectic and exciting group show, including highly expressive works by the following artists: Luis Olaso, Santiago Parra, Kojo Marfo, Georg Óskar, and Georgia Dymock. We are thrilled to take part in a fair that serves as a bastion of diversity and multiculturalism, bringing together an international audience and showcasing an international roster of artists.

About the artists

Georgia Dymock is a London-based artist known for her textured oil paintings of fluid tubular forms. Dymock's process begins with manual sketches transposed into Photoshop and Illustrator digital software which is then manipulated and translated back into the analogue world of paint on canvas. Her subjects reveal her re-imaginings of her friends, family and self, where figures are stripped of traditional body identifiers to allow for new meanings and identities that explore gender fluidity and body image in our post-digital age. Dymock's painterly technique explores the constant push-pull relationship between physical and virtual worlds, making her work intellectually and visually stimulating.

Born in Ghana, Kojo Marfo developed his interest in art and visual culture through the traditional Akan artifacts, sculptures and carvings that he was exposed to as a child. The large-scale figurative paintings that depict single figures, families, animals and social gatherings, are inspired by the diverse social map of New York and London. Marfo creates his paintings in an effort to inspire change and cross-cultural connection. Stripping his figures of traditional body identifiers, he builds a bridge between his colourful depictions and the reality of struggling to live in the West as a Ghanaian artist.

Spanish artist Luis Olaso was initially self-taught, typically working from improvisation. His artistic practice is often divided into two parts; action and analysis. Often deriving inspiration from his surroundings, Olaso scratches and applies spots and drips of acrylic onto canvas which are impulsively constructed, and later altered. While it is natural to draw parallels between the ensembles of objects in Olaso's work and the mimetic tradition of still-life painting, Olaso aims at presenting an abstraction of forms based on his feelings, state of mind, and personal views.

Colombian artist Santiago Parra is internationally recognised for his large, abstract, and highly expressive black paintings. His staple medium of a blank canvas and black acrylic paint plays an integral role in his quest for autonomous expression. The one brush stroke technique presents the purest and most seamless channels for his expression and materialisation of the unconscious mind. He achieves a harmonious conversation between spontaneity and pondering in his practice, capturing the suspended flatness of calligraphy-like imagery.

Icelandic artist Georg Óskar fills his canvases with a sarcastic twist, a signature in his artistic practice. His paintings act as a visual diary of his personal observations of the mundane, drawing inspiration from popular culture and the environment in which he grew up. Óskar's work is saturated with humour and wit as well as a melancholic quality that channels the artist's long-standing interest in the extremes of human existence. The quotidian, fleeting moments of the everyday life, inspire the artist's quest to explore and understand the human condition.

JD Malat Gallery's participation at artmonte-carlo 2022 strengthens our interest in promoting and situating established and emerging artists within the framework of contemporary art. The unseen before works on display are becoming part of the wider international art historical context of figurative abstraction and abstract expressionism. By bringing its engaging programme to the culturally diverse audience of Monte Carlo, JD Malat Gallery seeks to encourage the continuous dialogue between art, artists and viewers across the world.