

24 JULY – 7 SEPTEMBER

**SIMETI
TO
YAMATO:**

**THE
RHYTHMS
OF
ABSTRACTION**

Simeti to Yamato: The Rhythms of Abstraction

Simeti to Yamato: The Rhythms of Abstraction brings together key artworks from both the 'maestros' and 'tyros' of abstract art spanning the past 50 years. Showcasing the well-known aesthetics of Turi Simeti, Peter Halley, Ugo Rondinone, Ed Moses and Damien Hirst, alongside paintings by younger artists from the gallery's roster, Andy Moses, Katrin Fridriks, Luis Olaso, Santiago Parra and Mio Yamato, the exhibition seeks to capture the dynamism forged between varying languages of abstraction, where paintings exist not just as single entities but as an active experience of colour, shape, and rhythm.

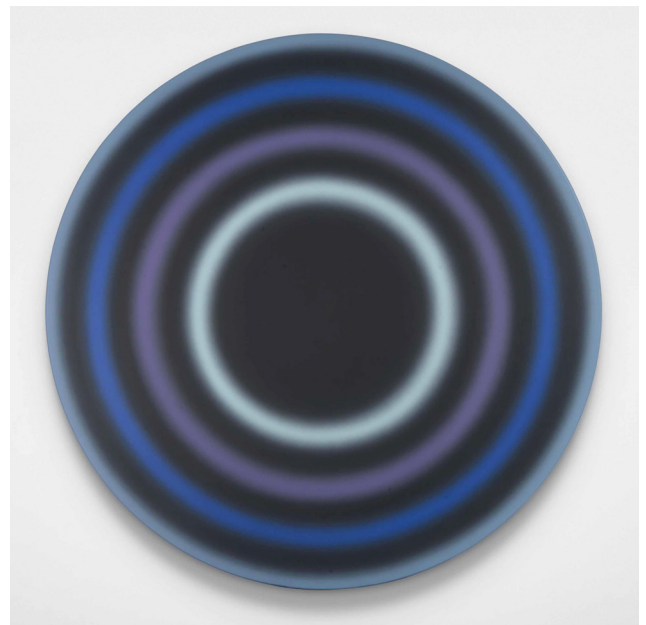
This exhibition not only presents a rare opportunity to explore the convergence of renowned and emerging voices in abstract art but also provides collectors with the chance to acquire works being publicly shown for the first time alongside pieces already featured in prestigious international exhibitions.

Jean-David Malat, the gallery's founder, shares his enthusiasm: *"By bringing together established masters and emerging talents, we created a new constructive dialogue. It's extraordinary to witness the unfolding of the visual connection between the works of world-renowned masters and those of the JD Malat family. We believe that our artists, even in the earlier stages of their careers, possess the potential to rise to the same degree of recognition, showcasing similar traits of innovation and distinguished visual language."*

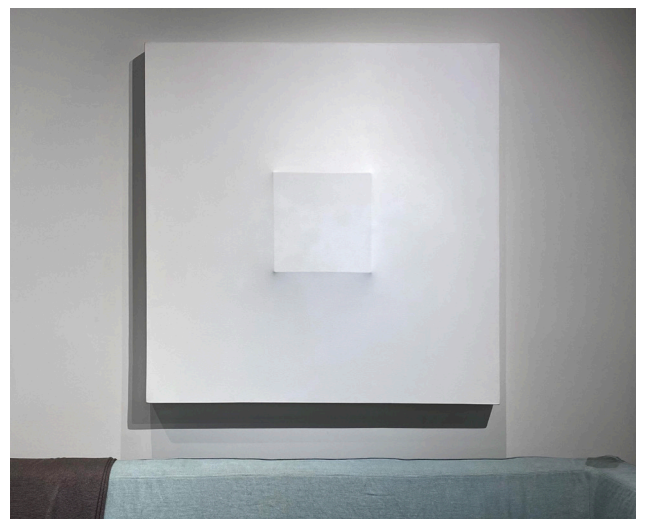
The exhibition juxtaposes pioneering styles from 20th and early 21st-century movements in abstraction such as 'Light and Space', 'Zero' (also known as the monochromatic movement), 'Neo-Conceptualism' (also known as Geometric art) with innovative approaches of today. Ed Moses' iconic experimental mark-making, Halley's geometric precision, Simeti's minimalist elegance, Rondinone's multi-media depth and Hirst's dynamic spin motifs set a masterful tone for the exhibition. These artists, whose works are prominently featured in world-class museums such as The Museum of Modern Art in New York, Tate Modern in London, and the Centre Pompidou in Paris, underscore their global significance. Their pieces, sourced from artist estates and private collections, provide the starting point for a rich dialogue with newly created abstract paintings from the gallery roster.

The transhistorical fusion at play in this exhibition demonstrates the exploratory thread of rhythm in abstraction in which visual and auditory patterns have been created through repeated shapes, textures, colours, and movements. The newest artworks made between 2018 and 2024, evoke movement or rhythm across their surface, as demonstrated through highly textured and enlivened surfaces of Santiago Parra's work made by just a single brushstroke, or the repetitive 'drip' markings by Mio Yamato.

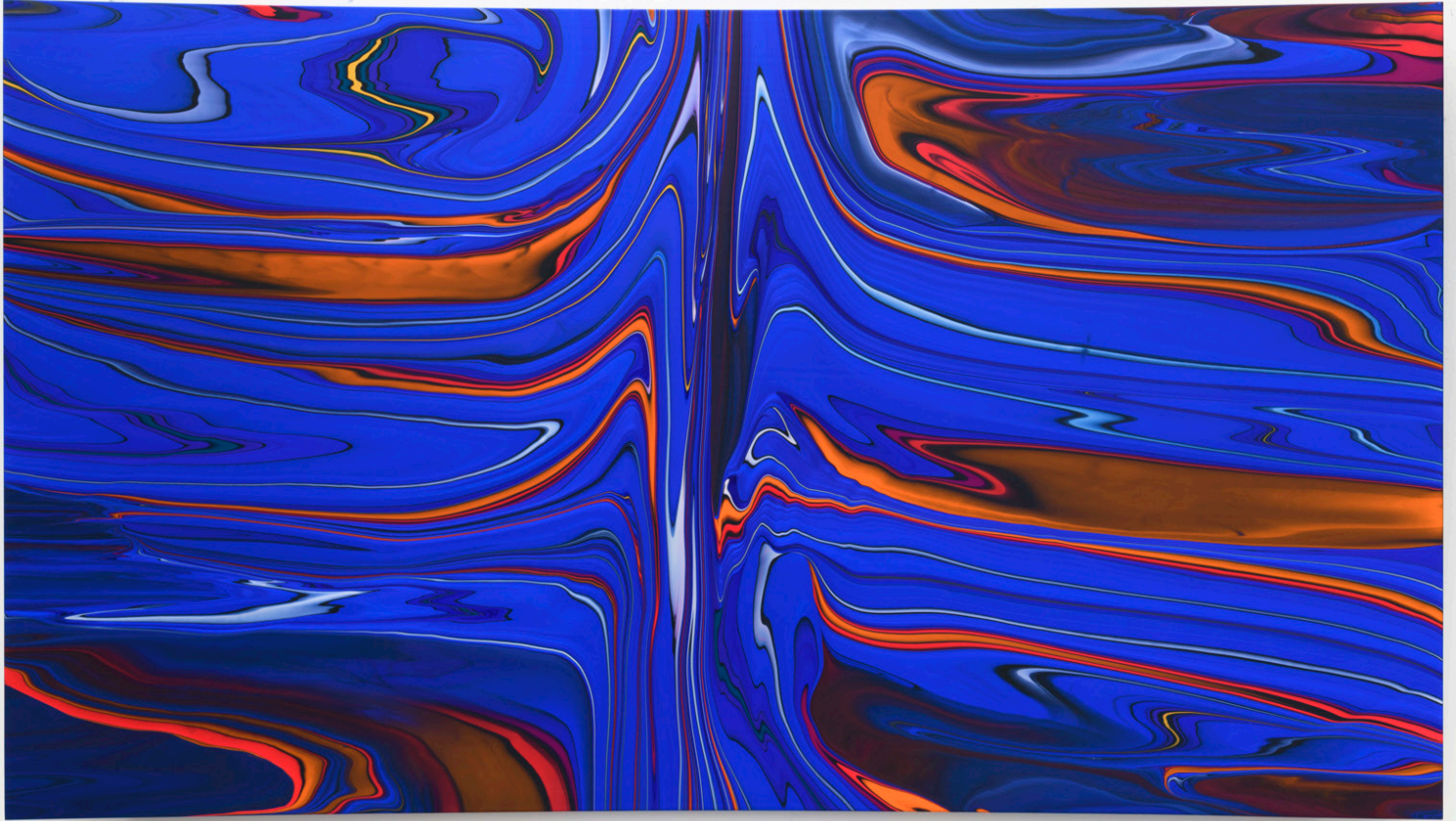
While varying transcultural exchanges led these artists to develop unique languages of abstraction, together, they unveil the enduring presence of rhythm in their respective artistic methods and offer a renewed appreciation for both the legacy and future of abstract and geometric art.



Ugo Rondinone, '5. September, 2007', 2007, Acrylic on canvas and Plexiglas plaque, 220 x 220 cm, 86 5/8 x 86 5/8 in



Turi Simeti, 'Quadrato su quadrato (Square on square)', 1972, Acrylic on canvas, 132.5 x 132.5 cm, 52 1/8 x 52 1/8 in



ANDY MOSES

MORPHOLOGY 1411, 2019

Acrylic on polycarbonate mounted
on concave wood panel

48 1/8 x 83 7/8 in
122 x 213 cm

Andy Moses was born in Los Angeles in 1962. Influenced by California culture Andy seeks to investigate colour and form through dynamic abstract works. Attending California Institute of Art in 1979 he was exposed to a plethora of creative methods including performance, film and painting. After graduating from CalArts in 1981, Andy moved to New York City where he worked as an assistant to artist Pat Steir. During this time Andy began developing an approach to process painting incorporating both abstract and representational elements. Andy's oeuvre is marked by his investigation into the physical properties of paint. Exploring the material's chemical reactions, viscosity interference, and gravity dispersion Andy creates elaborate compositions reminiscent of nature and its forces.



GEODESY 1229, 2022

Acrylic on canvas over circular wood panel

60 x 60 in (60 in diameter)
152.4 x 152.4 cm (152.4 cm diameter)

Participating in his first group show in 1986 at Artist Space entitled 'selections' Andy went on to hold a solo show the following year at Annina Nosei Gallery. In 2000, Andy moved back to Los Angeles and was inspired by the colours unique to the Southern California landscape serving to have a profound influence on his chromatic compositions. Continually exploring painting processes and the interrelations between the technical and natural world, Andy exhibits his work both nationally and internationally and is included in a



DAMIEN HIRST

Damien Steven Hirst (Brennan; born 7 June 1965) is an English artist and art collector. He is one of the Young British Artists (YBAs) who dominated the art scene in the UK during the 1990s. He is reportedly the United Kingdom's richest living artist, with his wealth estimated at US\$384 million in the 2020 Sunday Times Rich List. During the 1990s his career was closely linked with the collector Charles Saatchi, but increasing frictions came to a head in 2003 and the relationship ended.

Death is a central theme in Hirst's works. He became famous for a series of artworks in which dead animals (including a shark, a sheep, and a cow) are preserved, sometimes having been dissected, in formaldehyde. The best-known of these was *The Physical Impossibility of Death in the Mind of Someone Living*, a 14-foot (4.3 m) tiger shark immersed in formaldehyde in a clear display case.

In September 2008, Hirst made an unprecedented move for a living artist by selling a complete show, *Beautiful Inside My Head Forever*, at Sotheby's by auction and bypassing his long-standing galleries. The auction raised £111 million (\$198 million), breaking the record for a one-artist auction as well as Hirst's own record with £10.3 million for *The Golden Calf*, an animal with 18-carat gold horns and hooves, preserved in formaldehyde.

Since 1999, Hirst's works have been challenged and contested as plagiarised 16 times. In one instance, after his sculpture *Hymn* was found to be closely based on a child's toy, legal proceedings led to an out-of-court settlement.

Source:
TATE: Damien Hirst: Biography



UNTITLED PAINTING SPIN
CIRCLE FOR MARK, 2022

Acrylic on paper

20 1/2 x 20 1/2 in
52 x 52 cm



ED MOSES

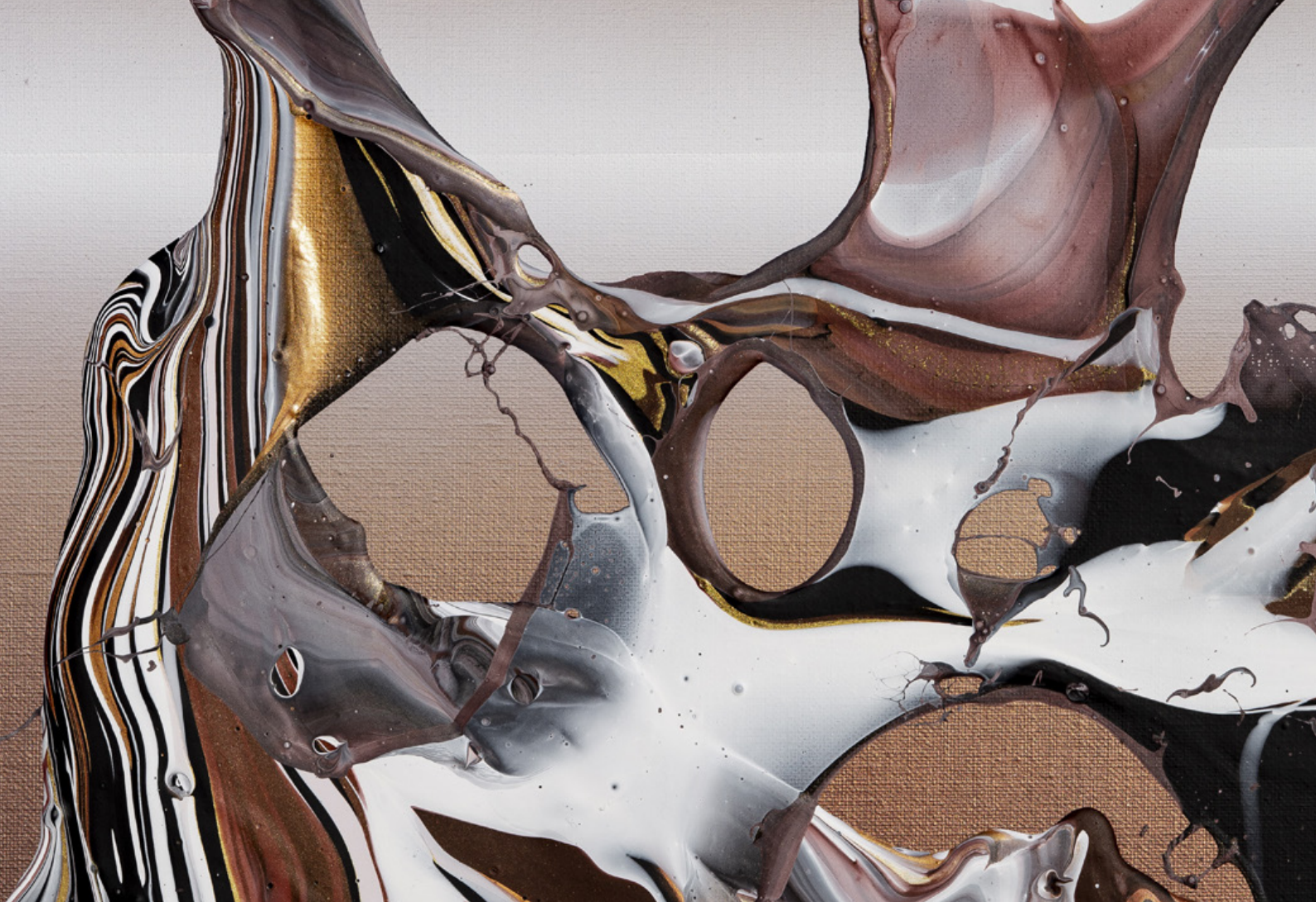
SAMBA, 2008

Acrylic on canvas

72 x 60 in
182.9 x 152.4 cm

Born in 1926, Long Beach, USA, Ed Moses (1926 - 2018) was a central figure of Post-War West Coast movement, creating an eclectic body of work which engaged with the varying possibilities of painterly abstraction. From monochromes and diagonal grids to gestural works and vibrant expanses of saturated pigment, Moses has unveiled a continual process of discovery within painterly abstraction.

Moses' work explores his fascination with the mutability of concepts, transitional spaces and processes. Referring to himself as a 'mutator', Moses took inspiration from various sources, such as Buddhism, the open spaces of his Venice, California studio as well as what he called, his daily 'habit' of painting. Moses challenged representational form and experimented with graphite, acrylic and oils by working with unconventional tools, such as mops, hoses and rubber scrapers. Innovative and experimental, Moses' work is instrumental in contemplating and pushing the possibilities of painterly abstraction.



KATRIN FRIDRIKS

Katrin Fridriks was born in Iceland in 1974. She is an abstract expressionist painter who examines questions about new technologies and polemical scientific research of the contemporary age. The artist explores forces that mould our society and raises controversial and political themes through her pieces. Her artistic process looks at stimulating our memory and consciousness. Her Icelandic roots have aroused a curiosity primarily in the four elements – air, fire, earth and water. These elements are powerfully displayed in her native country by volcanoes, geysers and glaciers, and these have shaped her way to comprehend nature and life.

With her well-defined colour palette using silver, gold, copper and aluminium as backgrounds and shadows, Fridriks takes us deeper into her richly colorful world. Through the enlarged size and shape of her drippings, in the vein of pioneer Jackson Pollock yet with an

enhanced precision and technique, the movement of her kinetic abstract paintings are heightened, giving a stronger rhythm and boldness. The essence of this visual language radiates from a self-taught urban iconoclast. Emphasized by a tireless work on matter and technique, her abstract expressionism combined with subtle Japanese calligraphic details embodies all the cultural wealth and open-mindedness from years spent in several countries. Fridriks pictorial substance envelops space, shape and time. Creating new perspectives, her work brings an innovative dimension to abstraction.



**INDIGENOUS
STARTRAVELLER, 2024**

Acrylic on canvas

39 3/8 x 39 3/8 in
100 x 100 cm



GOLDEN STARTREK , 2024

Acrylic on canvas

39 3/8 x 39 3/8 in
100 x 100 cm



DETAILS



LUIS OLASO

COMPOSITION FOR A WHITE CERAMIC VASE WITH FLOWERS, 2023

Oil, acrylic, oil bar
and oil pastel on canvas

78 3/4 x 63 in
200 x 160 cm

Luis Olaso (b.1986) is a Spanish abstract artist currently living and working in Bilbao, Spain. Initially self-taught Luis went on to study Fine Arts at the University of the Basque Country where he developed his personal artistic style. Often working on large canvases Luis' abstract paintings are influenced by his emotions and personal views. His artistic practice is divided into two parts: action and analysis. Working from improvisation Luis paints impulsively, creating shapes, spots, and colour planes. Once his initial impulses have been made Luis takes a step back from his work and observes it. Often analysing his compositions for hours, he discerns what does and doesn't work. The combination of both impulsive energy and quiet contemplation allows him to reach his internal feelings more effectively producing



COMPOSITION FOR A BOUQUET OF FLOWERS, 2023

Oil, acrylic, oil bar
and oil pastel on canvas

78 3/4 x 114 1/8 in
200 x 290 cm

Explaining his art as being dynamic self-portraits Luis states “my work is the result of how I am, how I work. I always do it unconsciously; we could say that it is a painting that is born from the irrational part of the brain.” Interested in the contrasts between order and chaos Luis explores the visual tension between colour, geometry, organic shapes and accidents. Often incorporating plant elements and human bodies in his paintings Luis’s oeuvre is dynamic, colourful, and expressive.



MIO YAMATO

REPETITION RED (DOT) 48, 2018

Oil on canvas

76 3/8 x 102 3/8 in
194 x 260 cm

Mio Yamato was born in 1990 in Shiga, Japan. She received her B.A. and M.A. from Kyoto University of Art in Fine art and Mixed Media, in 2013 and 2015 respectively. Upon graduation, she received the award for the excellent work from the Kyoto University of Art and Design Graduation Exhibition 2015.

A myriad of dots on monochromatic canvas is Yamato's signature style. Through a careful repetition of individual and separated drops of paint, the images that emerge resemble the shapes of nature, such as the ridge of mountains or the shape of waves. She explores how material and form change throughout time by using constant repetition and pattern.



REPETITION BLACK (LINE)
8, 9 DIPTYCH, 2019

Ink on canvas
59 1/8 x 157 1/2 in
150 x 400 cm



PETER HALLEY

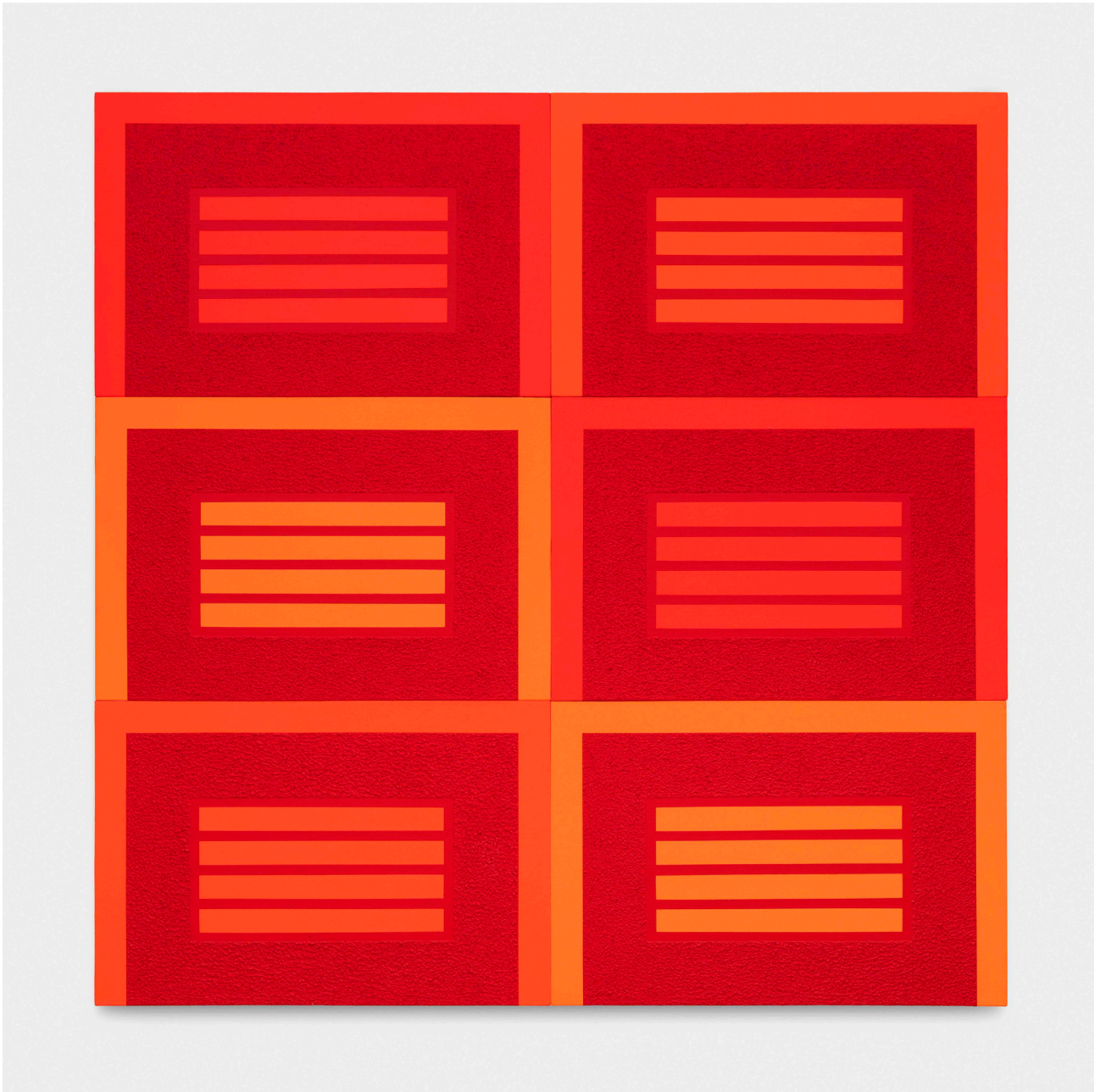
Peter Halley is a contemporary American artist born in New York in 1953. Throughout his career, Halley has gained extensive praise for his vibrant neon-coloured geometric paintings, often featuring barred windows, prison cells, and grid-like structures as focal points.

After receiving his formal training at Phillips Academy in Massachusetts, Halley earned an Art History degree from Yale University and later an MFA in Painting from the University of New Orleans. Following his studies, Halley played a pivotal role in establishing the 1980s American art movement known as "neo-geometric conceptualism" or "neo-geo," which critiqued the industrialist and consumerist mindset adopted by contemporary society.

In his essay 'The Crisis in Geometry', published in Arts Magazine in 1984, Halley states, "Space became geometrically differentiated

and partitioned. Circulatory pathways, the omnipresent straight lines of the industrial landscape, were established to facilitate orderly movement." Halley now infers that societal control extends beyond physical spaces, it involves organizing and structuring society so that everything can be observed and managed geometrically or systematically.

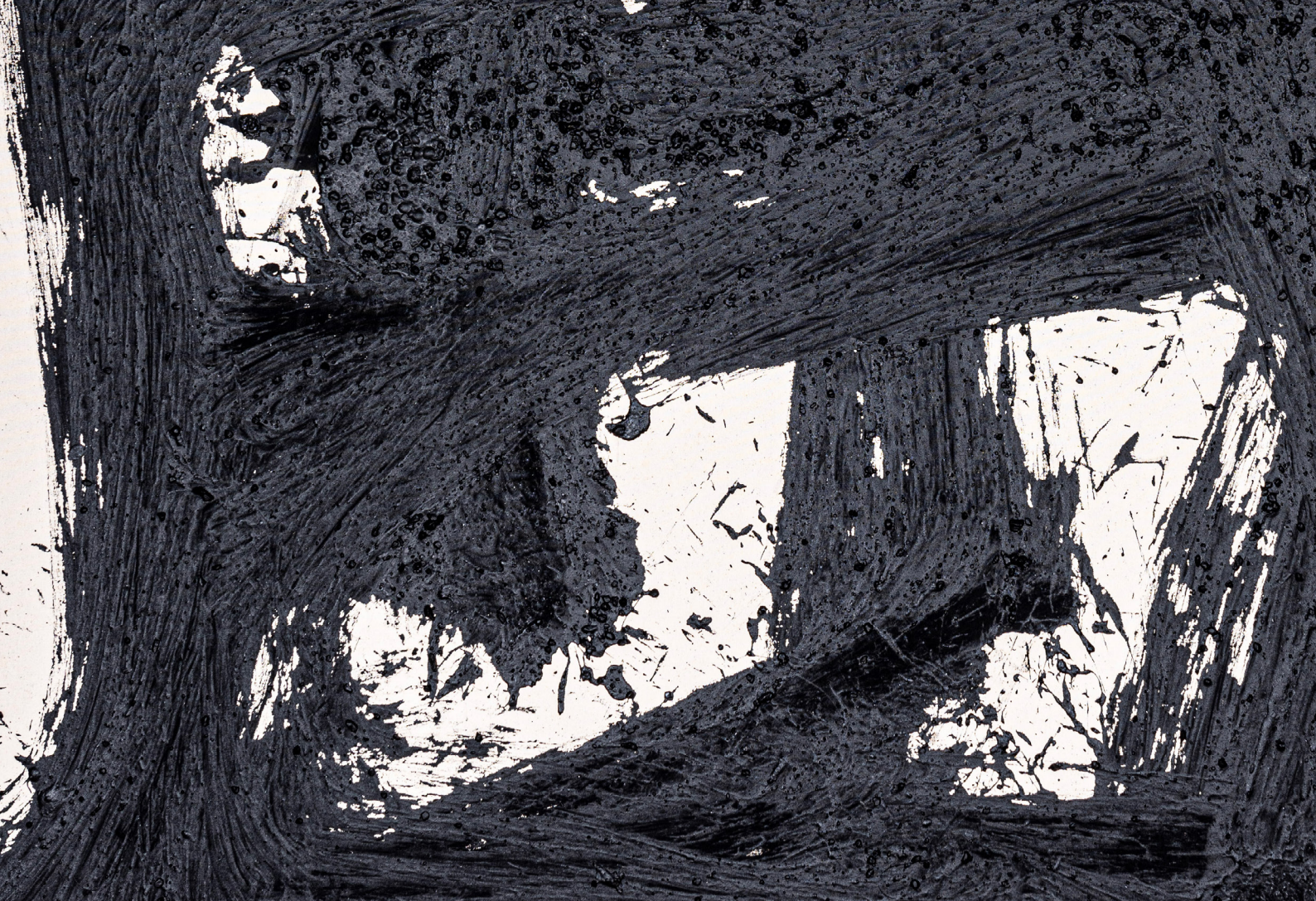
Influenced by philosophical thinkers Michel Foucault and Jean Baudrillard, Halley depicts abstract geometric compositions that incorporate aspects of figurative formation. Viewing geometry as a metaphor for society, he believes that what once provided stability, order, and proportion has now transformed into a symbol of confinement, or what he calls the 'geometricization of modern life'.



UNTITLED
(SIX PRISONS), 2005

Acrylic, day-glow acrylic
and roll-a-tex on canvas

183 x 183 cm
72 x 72 in



SANTIAGO PARRA

Santiago Parra was born in Bogotá, Colombia in 1986. He studied Literature at Universidad Nacional de Colombia, followed by an art education at Universidad de los Andes, Bogotá and later at the Academy of Art University to study Fine Arts in San Francisco where he also learnt about Motion Pictures and Television.

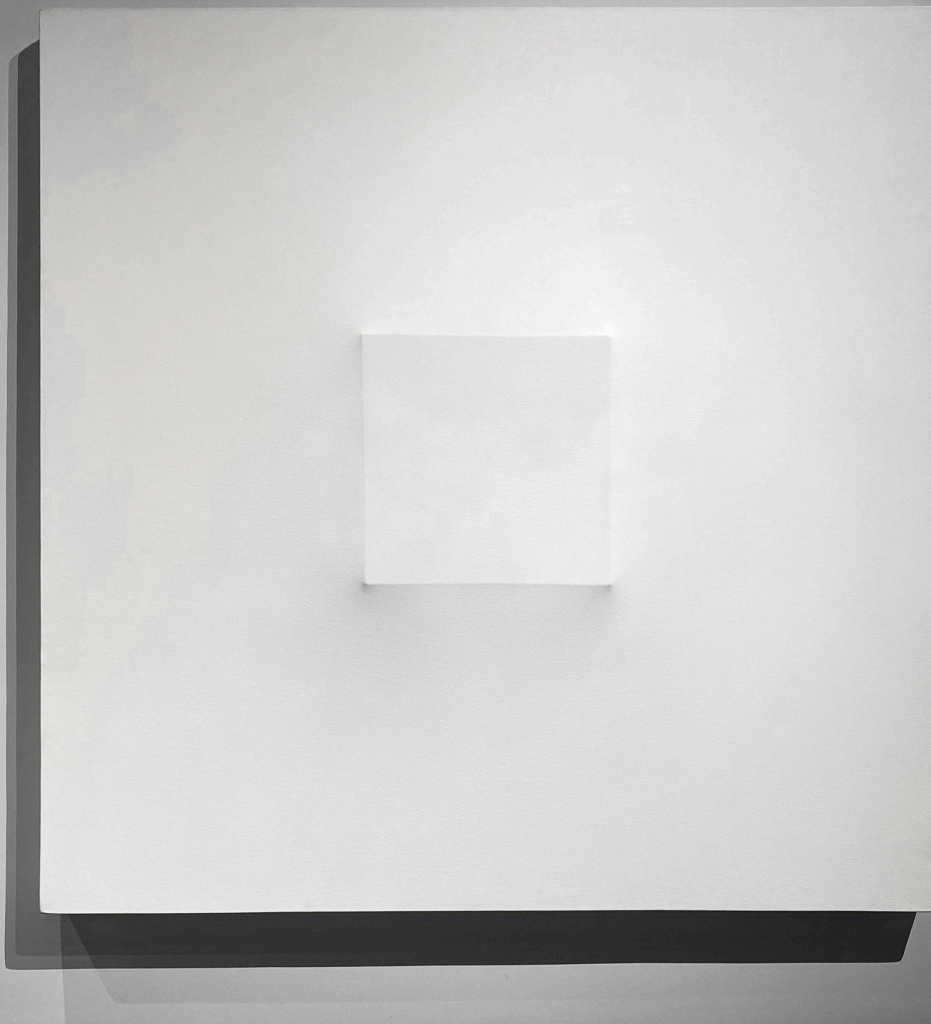
Parra is known for his large, abstract and highly expressive black and white paintings. His canvases capture the suspended flatness of the calligraphy-like imagery, harmonizing two seemingly incompatible aesthetic moments, spontaneity and pondering, which are all shaped by movement, strength, gravity and skill of the Columbian artist's creative process. He explores the expressive possibilities of the quintessential abstract



UNTITLED, 2023

Acrylic on canvas

59 7/8 x 59 in
152 x 150 cm



TURI SIMETI

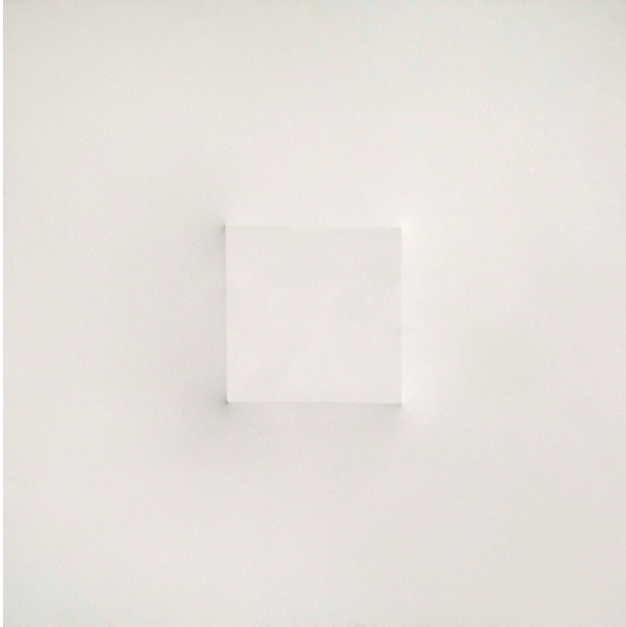
QUADRATO SU QUADRATO (SQUARE ON SQUARE), 1972

Acrylic on canvas

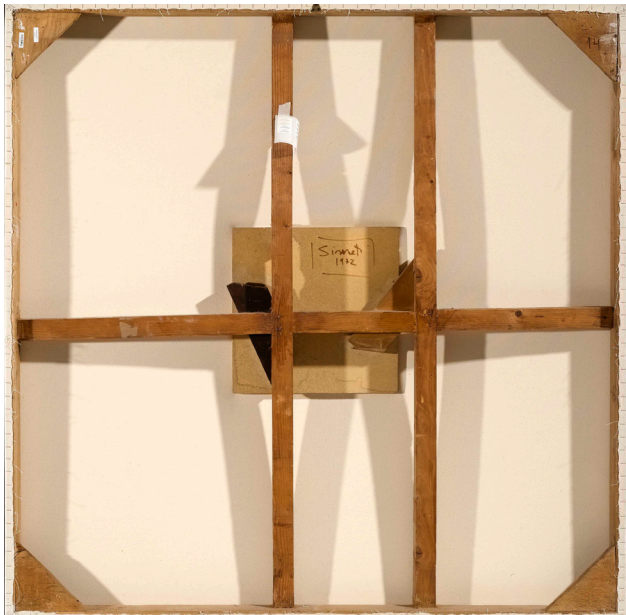
132.5 x 132.5 cm
52 1/8 x 52 1/8 in

Turi Simeti (b. 1929) is a renowned Italian painter celebrated for his contributions to the minimalist art movement. Born in Alcamo, Sicily, Simeti moved to Rome in the early 1960s, where he began to develop his distinctive artistic style. Immersed in the vibrant Roman art scene, he drew inspiration from the avant-garde movements of the time, particularly spatial and optical art, which played a significant role in shaping his overall aesthetic.

Simeti is best known for his oval canvases and monochromatic relief works that explore the interplay between light and shadow. His innovative approach involves meticulously shaping canvases to create three-dimensional effects, resulting in dynamic compositions that challenge the viewer's perception. By manipulating the surface of his works, Simeti creates subtle yet powerful variations that evoke a sense of depth and movement.



Throughout his illustrious career, Simeti has participated in numerous solo and group exhibitions worldwide, establishing himself as a key figure in contemporary art. His works have been featured in prestigious galleries and museums, including the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum in New York and the Peggy Guggenheim Collection in Venice.



Simeti's artistic practice is deeply rooted in a philosophy of simplicity and precision. His restrained use of colour and form allows him to focus on the essential qualities of space and structure. The recurring motif of the oval in his work symbolizes continuity and infinity, reflecting his fascination with the boundless possibilities of artistic expression. Through his minimalist yet evocative creations, Turi Simeti invites viewers to engage with the subtle nuances of form and texture, encouraging a contemplative exploration of visual perception. His dedication to the purity of form and the exploration of spatial dynamics continues to inspire and influence contemporary artists around the globe.



UGO RONDINONE

5. SEPTEMBER, 2007, 2007

Acrylic on canvas
and Plexiglas plaque

220 x 220 cm
86 5/8 x 86 5/8 in

Ugo Rondinone is a distinguished contemporary artist who has made a significant impact on the global art scene. He pursued his artistic education at the Hochschule für Angewandte Kunst in Vienna, an experience that laid the foundation for his diverse and innovative practice. Currently, Rondinone lives and works in New York. Rondinone is celebrated as one of the leading voices of his generation, revered for his profound reflections on humanity and the natural world. His work is characterised by the organic dialogue it exudes, seamlessly blending various sculptural and painterly traditions into a singular entity. This unique oeuvre diversifies his medium while amplifying his artistic expression, creating two-dimensional and three-dimensional objects, paintings, installations, videos, and performances.



DETAILS