

Luis Olaso

Luis Olaso is a Spanish artist (b. 1986). He was initially self-taught, later studying Fine Arts at the University of the Basque Country. He currently lives and works in Bilbao.



Often working with plant elements and human bodies, he is interested in the contrasts between order and chaos, the visual tension between colour, geometry, organic shapes, and accidents. Olaso never has a concrete idea of what he wants to transmit, instead he is principally interested in the idea that his painting speaks of himself, and as a result he considers all his work a dynamic self-portrait.

Olaso's large, abstract canvases possess an expressive power drawn from the artist's feelings, state of mind, and personal views. He works from improvisation, and divides his process into two parts: Action and analysis; he paints impulsively, creating shapes, spots, and colour plans, and then observes what he has created for hours, trying to analyse what does and doesn't work. In Olaso's mind, this impulsive energy helps the work become fresher and more visceral, able to reach his internal feelings more effectively.

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He states that “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.”

Selected Works



Luis Olaso

Composition for a jug and sunflowers, 2023

Oil, acrylic, oil bar and oil pastel on canvas

59 x 47 1/4 in

150 x 120 cm



Luis Olaso

Composition for a blue banana tree, 2023

Oil, acrylic, oil bar and oil pastel on canvas

78 3/4 x 63 in

200 x 160 cm

Luis Olaso CV

b. 1986 - Bilbao, Spain

Selected Solo Exhibitions

2023 *The Garden*, JD Malat Gallery, London, United Kingdom

2023 *Cíclico*, KUR Art Gallery, San Sebastián, Spain, 2023

2022 *Insight*, Makasiini Contemporary, Turku, Finland

2021 *Physis*, JD Malat Gallery, London, United Kingdom

2021 *Memories of a night*, Galería Lumbreras, Bilbao, Spain

2020 *Ephemeral*, Makasiini Contemporary, Turku, Finland

2019 *ORGÁNICO*, KUR Art Gallery, San Sebastian, Spain

2019 *Wild*, Makasiini Contemporary, Turku, Finland

2017 *Medousa*, Mirat & Co Gallery, Madrid, Spain

2016 Galería Abartium, Barcelona, Spain

2015 Centro 14, Alicante, Spain

2014 Aixerrota Arte, Getxo, Spain

2014 Blancao, Madrid, Spain

2013 Estudio Raquel Chamorro, Madrid, Spain

Selected Group Exhibitions

2023 *Summer Exhibition*, JD Malat Gallery, London, United Kingdom

2023 *Past, Present, Future*, JD Malat Gallery, London, United Kingdom

2022 *Summer Exhibition*, JD Malat Gallery, London, United Kingdom

2021 *Under 35 to Watch*, JD Malat Gallery, London, United Kingdom

2020 *Group Exhibition*, JD Malat Gallery, London, United Kingdom

2019 *Summer Group Exhibition*, Makasiini Contemporary, Turku, Finland

2018 *Prison des Eveques*, Saint Jean Pied de Port, France

2018 *Reina Sofia Painting Contest*, Casa de Vacas, Madrid, Spain

2017 *International Art Biennial of Cerveria*, Cerveira, Portugal

2017 Museo Casa Ibanez, Melilla, Spain

2017 Museo Luis de Morales, Badajoz, Spain

2017 *Reina Sofia Painting Contest*, Casa de Vacas, Madrid, Spain

2016 Exhibition Hall, Pola de Siero, Asturias, Spain

2016 *De lo Concreto a lo Abstracto*, Nave 73, Madrid, Spain

2016 Zabaleta Museum, Jaen, Spain

2016 Museu d'Art de Prego, Alicante, Spain

2016 Sala Francisco Pradilla, Zaragoza, Spain

2015 *Ibercaja*, Patio de la infanta, Zaragoza, Spain

2015 Zabaleta Museum, Jaen, Spain

2015 *International Painting Biennial*, Miquel Viladrich, Lleida, Spain

2015 *Propuestas 2015*, Centro14, Alicante, Spain

2014 Pablo Picasso Museum, Malaga, Spain

2013 Academy of Fine Arts, Sabadell, Spain

Selected International Art Fairs

2024 ZONA MACO, JD Malat Gallery, Mexico City, Mexico

2023 *Art Madrid*, KUR Gallery, Madrid, Spain

2022 *Untitled Art*, Makasiini Contemporary, Miami Beach, USA

2022 *Contemporary Istanbul*, JD Malat Gallery, Istanbul, Turkey

2022 *Artmonte-Carlo*, JD Malat Gallery, Monte Carlo, Monaco

2022 *ZONA MACO*, JD Malat Gallery, CDMX, Mexico City, Mexico

2022 *Art Madrid*, KUR Gallery, Madrid, Spain

2022 *Estampa Art Fair*, Galeria Lumbreras, Madrid, Spain

2019 *Untitled Art*, Makasiini Contemporary, Miami Beach, USA

2017 *Art Marbella*, Malaga, Spain

Selected Collections

Yusaku Maezawa Contemporary Art Foundation, Tokyo, Japan

Stefan Simchowicz Collection, USA

Diputacion foral de Bizkaia, Spain

Santander Creativa Foundation, Spain

Luis de Morales Museum, Spain

Diego del Alcazar Collection, Spain