

Henrik Aa. Uldalen

Henrik Aa. Uldalen (b. 1986, South Korea) was raised in Norway and spent time in Barcelona, Florence and Mexico City before moving to England in 2015. Uldalen is a self-taught expressionist artist. Developing his style and technique for over 12 years,



his creative production combines contemporary edge through abstract impasto with the traditional, through classic, figurative painting.

Uldalen examines the darker sides of life, yet this nihilism, longing and loneliness are juxtaposed by a fragile beauty in his works. The artist's practice is self-reflexive such that painting helps Uldalen to better understand himself, expressing, "I paint because I need to paint. I have always had things in my life that I need to work out, and I've found that the best way is to take it out in the studio." In turn, his works are conceived as self-portraits projected onto models. The pieces themselves are not overtly narrative; rather, he invites the viewer to build their own, perhaps through introspection.

Uldalen chooses to focus instead on emotional and metaphysical content through his figuration. A prevailing motif of eyes that are covered, shut, and smudged is symbolic of struggle and inner turmoil. Yet at the same time, Uldalen conveys a beautiful sense of corporeality and physicality through his figures. The result: pieces that truly express body and soul.

As part of his daily routine, Uldalen begins with a brief sketch to catalyse his artistic endeavour. The artist has described the creation of his work taking place with "no limitations," simply "pure expression." Uldalen's striking application of paint creates dream or limbo-like, surrealist atmospheres which add a poignancy to his canvases.

Uldalen has been exhibited globally with recent solo shows in cities such as Seoul, New York, London, Oslo, Los Angeles, and Skagen. The existentialist nature of Uldalen's emotive, moody, naturalistic paintings feels like a breath of fresh air in a contemporary art world that so often showcases abstraction and conceptualism.

Henrik Aa. Uldalen CV

b. 1986 - South Korea

Selected Solo Exhibitions

- 2022 *Paradosis*, JD Malat Gallery, New York, USA
- 2021 *Love in Exile*, JD Malat Gallery, London, UK
- 2019 *Lethe*, JD Malat Gallery, London, UK
- 2018 *Metanoia* JD Malat Gallery, London, UK
- 2016 *Rapture*, Last Rites Gallery, NY, USA
- 2014 Thinkspace Gallery, Los Angeles CA, USA
- 2011 *Galerie Contour*, Skagen, Denmark
- 2010 Galleri Ramfjord, Oslo Norway

Selected Group Exhibitions

- 2025 *Lost/ Found*, Whitestone Gallery, Seoul, Korea
- 2025 *Summer Exhibition*, JD Malat Gallery, London, UK
- 2025 *Portraits: Looking Through The Looking Glass* JD Malat Gallery, London, UK
- 2024 *Realism: MEAM*, European Museum of Modern Art, Barcelona, Spain
- 2024 *Here & Now*, JD Malat Gallery, London, UK
- 2024 *Journeys – On Paper*, JD Malat Gallery, London, UK
- 2023 *Contemporary Figuration: Between Body & Metaphor*, JD Malat Gallery, London, UK
- 2023 *Summer Exhibition*, JD Malat Gallery, London, UK
- 2022 *Summer Exhibition*, JD Malat Gallery, London, UK
- 2021 *Summer Exhibition*, JD Malat Gallery, London, UK
- 2020 *Summer Group Exhibition*, JD Malat Gallery, London, UK
- 2020 *The Contemporary Human Condition*, JD Malat Gallery, London, UK
- 2019 *Summer Exhibition*, JD Malat Gallery, London, UK

- 2017 *Supersonic Invitational*, Spoke Art, San Francisco CA, USA
- 2016 Beinart Gallery, Melbourne, Australia
- 2016 Thinkspace Gallery, Los Angeles, USA
- 2015 *Les Petit Fours*, Friends of Leon Gallery, Sydney, Australia
- 2015 *Unfurl*, Gallery 1261, Denver, USA
- 2015 *Platinum Blend*, Modern Eden Gallery, San Francisco, USA
- 2015 *20 Years Under The influence of Juxtapoz*, Municipal Art Gallery, Los Angeles CA, USA
- 2015 *The Moleskine Project 4*, Hashimoto Contemporary, San Francisco CA, USA
- 2014 *LA Art Show*, Thinkspace Gallery, Los Angeles CA, USA
- 2014 *LA Art Show*, Arcadia Contemporary, Los Angeles CA, USA
- 2014 Arcadia Contemporary, Los Angeles CA, USA
- 2013 *Art Collector Starter Kit*, Corey Helford Gallery, Los Angeles CA, USA
- 2013 *Contemporary Realism*, Gallery 1261, Denver, USA
- 2013 Thinkspace Gallery, Los Angeles CA, USA
- 2012 Galleri Ramfjord, Oslo, Norway
- 2012 Thinkspace Gallery, Los Angeles CA, USA
- 2012 *Beautiful Maladies*, NOoSPHERE Arts Centre, New York, USA.

Art Fairs

- 2021 *Tezos Booth*, Art Basel, Miami
- 2019 *Contemporary Istanbul*, JD Malat Gallery, Istanbul, Turkey
- 2019 *Seattle Art Fair*, JD Malat Gallery, Seattle WA, USA
- 2019 *ZONA MACO*, JD Malat Gallery, CDMX, Mexico
- 2018 *Art on Paper*, Spoke Art, New York, USA
- 2015 *Scope Art Show*, Gallery Ramfjord, NY, USA
- 2014 *Scope Art Fair*, Arcadia Contemporary, NY, USA

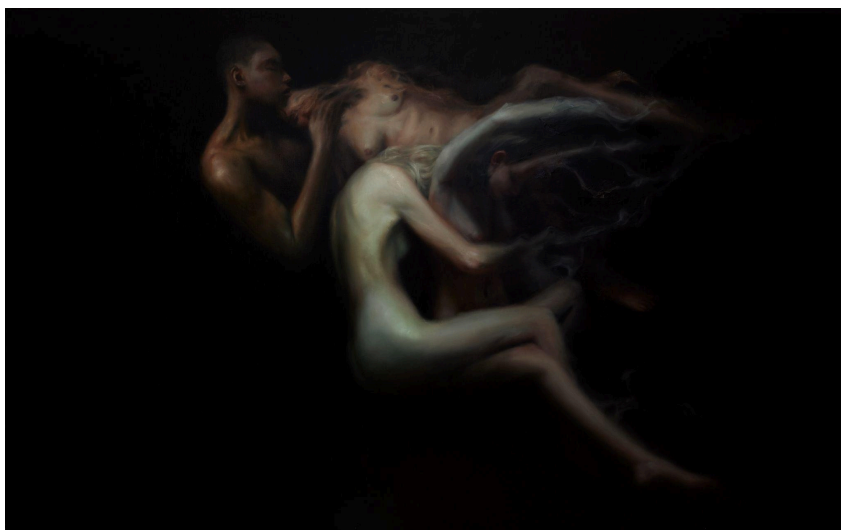
Residencies

- 2020 *Arthouse Pani*, Museo de Arte de Querétaro, Tequisquiapan, Mexico

Selected Works



Henrik Uldalen
Cascade, 2022
Oil on linen
70 7/8 x 47 1/4 in
180 x 120 cm



Henrik Uldalen
Swept, 2022
Oil on linen
70 7/8 x 118 1/8 in
180 x 300 cm