

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. Henrik is a self-taught, expressionist artist, whose creative production revolves around classic figurative painting.



Developed for over 15 years, his technique is placed together with abstract impasto, presented in a contemporary manner. Henrik examines the dark side of life, nihilism, existentialism, longing and loneliness, juxtaposed with fragile beauty. The artist's practice helps him grasp his entity, 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." Though a figurative painter, his focus has always been the emotional and metaphysical content rather than narratives, his works being self-portraits projected onto models. This visual stimulus is deeply ingrained in his production.

Moreover, the prevailing motif of covered or shut eyes, is symbolic of the atmospheres, struggles, and inner turmoil rather than the physical conceivable world. As part of his daily routine, Henrik begins with a brief sketch, allowing him to release his artistic endeavour. Using oil paint as his main medium, the artist interprets his own photography.

The poignancy of his canvases, achieved through the striking application of the paint, creates atmospheres often presented in a dream or limbo-like state, with elements of surrealism. The existentialist nature of his realist paintings appears like a breath of fresh air in a contemporary art world saturated with abstraction and conceptualism. Indeed, Uldalen leaves the viewer to build a narrative of his works. The artist has described the creation of his work taking place with 'no limitations, pure expression', a rare approach combining both gesture and intellect, two actions never before synchronised.

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 *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 Artworks



Henrik Uldalen
Pour, 2022
Oil on linen
70 $\frac{7}{8}$ x 47 $\frac{1}{4}$ in
180 x 120 cm



Henrik Uldalen
Spill, 2022
Oil on linen
70 $\frac{7}{8}$ x 47 $\frac{1}{4}$ in
180 x 120 cm