

Yann Leto

Born in Bordeaux, France, Yann Leto (b. 1979) has been residing in Spain for over a decade, and recently moved to Rome. In the period between 2015 and 2016 Leto lived and worked in Rome, since he was granted a Scholarship of the Royal Spanish Academy. Leto has widely exhibited throughout Europe, and actively participates in various art fairs. Following his first solo show in Los Angeles in 2019, Leto gained international recognition.



At the beginning of his career, Leto was strongly influenced by American and French comics, the underground culture of the 90s, and German expressionism of the post-war period. Exploring irony as his primary tool, Leto embraces equivocal topics and sociopolitical criticism through his distinctive and liberating painting technique. Although Leto's paintings often convey different narratives, the portrayals of people in dynamic settings, indoors or outdoors, remain fundamentally in his imaginative worlds. Sports, television, social networks and personal experiences serve as sources of inspiration for Leto from which he draws his ironic ideas and critiques.

Leto's creative practice can be described as unconventional. Working primarily within the medium of painting, the artist never settles for a particular representational technique, creating a visual language in which hybridity is key. In his extensive body of work, Leto ferociously banishes all limitations of artistic expression and incorporates a captivating synthesis of the poignant, the absurd and the provocative. The combination of vivid and murky colour palettes allows Leto to articulate vulnerable topics in an entertaining and compelling way, and underscores nonconformism as an essential component of his paintings.

Leto incorporates motifs and iconography from different periods of art history, but always gives his pieces a modern twist. One can witness elements from Cubism, mixed with the fluidity and vibrancy of Matisse's forms, and many other hints to various artistic styles, - a beautiful fusion sprinkled with Leto's distinct punk attitude. His thought-provoking artworks create narratives that can be perceived as surreal collages. A lover of classical painting, Leto combines inspiration from great

masterpieces of art history and incorporates elements from his surrounding environment. This fusion creates collage-like imagery, which is also the result of a collection of hard drives filled with digital files, Google images, newspaper clippings and articles. The radio also plays a crucial role in the creative process, as it gives Leto a continuous flow of information, from sports to the most tragic news.

Leto also examines and utilises images from social networks since everything is already 'an online caricature'. Through investigation of all these sources, Leto generates a variety of different storylines, deeply unique and with no rules for the protagonists – a purely visual and emotional circuit that reproduces new narratives and re-positions individuals in a turbulent society.

Yann Leto

b. 1979, Bordeaux, France

Education

2002-2004 IUT Bordeaux III – Option Socio-Culturel

1998-2001 Beaux Arts de Bordeaux

Solo Exhibition

- 2024 *"Those That Watch, Those That Know,"* Andrea Festa Fine Art
- 2023 *Big City*, JD Malat Gallery, London, UK
- 2023 *Auction Heroes*, Curator's Room, Barcelona, Spain
- 2022 *La Arteria* (Badajoz), Badajoz, Spain
- 2022 *ONE OF US*, Galeria Yusto / Giner, Malaga, Spain
- 2020 *The Round 2*, The Cabin LA, Los Angeles, USA
- 2020 *Cabin L.A*, La Brea studio Residency "Round 2", Los Angeles, United States
- 2020 *"Pray for me"*, A01 Gallery, Napoli, Italy
- 2018 *"Safari"*, IACC Pablo serrano, Zaragoza, Spain
- 2018 *"What culture, what tradition"*, Scan project, London, United Kingdom
- 2018 *DKV*, World trade center, Zaragoza, Spain
- 2018 *"The Round"*, Galeria T20, Murcia, Spain
- 2016 *"Totem"*, Galería T20, Murcia, Spain
- 2015 Solo show of Mixed Techniques, The Art Valley, Madrid, Spain
- 2015 Solo show of Mixed Techniques, Metropolitan, Madrid, Spain
- 2014 *«Viva primary colours, viva»*, Galería Carolina Rojo, Zaragoza, Spain
- 2014 *Summa 14*, Solo Project, El Matadero / MADRID, Galería T20, Madrid, Spain

2014 «Fake», El
(Festival Periferias), Spain

Matadero, Huesca

2013 "Iconofobia", Galería T20 Murcia, Spain

2012 "Circus Dances", Ada Gallery, Richmond, USA

2010 "Pink Agent", Galería Cámara Oscura, Madrid, Spain

2010 "Beautiful Hooligans processions", Vecteur gallery, Charleroi, Belgium

2010 *Kill the author*, Caja Madrid, Zaragoza, Spain

Group Exhibitions

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

2023 *Past, Present, Future*, JD Malat Gallery, London, UK

2022 *Iberian Contemporaries: The Resurgence of Spanish Art*, Fabien Fryns Fine Art,
Dubai, UAE

2022 *Carnivals of Clouds*, Janet Rady Fine Art

2021 XIV Certamen Fundación Unicaja, Malaga, Spain

2021 Aragón Park, Madrid, Spain

2021 Festival Mar de Música, Cartagena, Colombia

2019 Espositivo "Jumanji", Madrid, Spain

2018 Ada Gallery, Richmond, Virginia, United States

2017 *Re-construir el paisaje*, espacio Dorffi – Lanzarote, Las Palmas, Spain

2017 *La précarité notre triomphe*, Centro de Historia, Zaragoza, Spain

2017 *Parlamento la Rioja*, Logroño, Spain

2016 *Convent Sant Domenech*, Xàtiva, Borgia, Italy

- 2016 *Permanent* *Vacation, Bordeaux,*
France
- 2016 *Bienal Guericabeitia, Valencia, Spain*
- 2016 *Galería 6+1, OPFM, Madrid, Spain*
- 2015 *Ultraviolence, CAMARA OSCURA GALERIA DE ARTE, Madrid, Spain*
- 2015 *«Demain ça ira mieux», Galerie Anouk Le Bourdier, Paris, France*
- 2015 *«Nepotismo ilustrado», Galería Fernando Pradilla, Madrid, Spain*
- 2015 *CAC MALAGA, “Made in Spain”, Fundación Benetton, comisariado por F. Francés, Treviso, Italy*
- 2015 *FocusAbengoa, Sevilla, Spain*
- 2015 *“De la mano” (con M. Barcelo, J.Uslé, J.Ugalde), Palacio de Cibeles, Madrid, Spain*
- 2015 *Muestra final Real Academia Española en Roma, Rome, Italy*
- 2015 *Firebrands, Mullherin&Pollard Gallery, New York, USA*
- 2013 *Th3 Fa11, Festival Octavo asalto, Zaragoza, Spain*
- 2011 *The Cheaper show, Vancouver, Canada*
- 2010 *Bienal de Arte contemporáneo de PAMPLONA, Pamplona, Spain*
- 2010 *CUARTO ESPACIO, Premio Isabel de Portugal, Zaragoza, Spain*
- 2009 *MUSEO CAMON AZNAR, Gobierno de Aragón, Zaragoza, Spain*
- 2009 *Ópera Prima. Ciclo de vídeo arte CAJA MADRID, Madrid, Spain*
- 2009 *MUSEO DE LA CIUDAD, MADRID– Fundación Gregorio Prieto, Madrid, Spain*
- 2008 *Drawings, Galería Pepe Rebollo, Zaragoza, Spain*
- 2008 *Y. Leto, P. Martínez y O. Carasco, Galería Luís Adelantado, Valencia, Spain*
- 2007 *IX Convocatoria Internacional Jóvenes Artistas, Luís Adelantado, Valencia, Spain*

Art Fairs

- 2024 YUSTO/GINER at Zona MACO 2024
- 2024 YUSTO/GINER at UVNT Art Fair Madrid 2024
- 2024 YUSTO/GINER at Art Busan 2024
- 2023 *Untitled Art, Miami Beach*, JD Malat Gallery, Miami, USA
- 2023 *Art021*, Galeria Yusto Giner, Shanghai, China
- 2023 *UVNT Urovanity Art Fair*, Galería Yusto Giner, Madrid, Spain
- 2023 *Art Busan*, Galería Yusto/Giner, Busan, South Korea
- 2023 *ArtDubai*, Galería Yusto/Giner, Dubai, UAE
- 2022 *Roma Arte in Nuvola 2022*, Andrea Festa Fine Art, Rome, Italy,
- 2022 *ART021 Shanghai Contemporary Art Fair 2022*, Andrea Festa Fine Art, Shanghai, China
- 2022 *Art Busan*, Galería Yusto/Giner, Busan, South Korea
- 2022 *ZONA MACO*, Galería Yusto/Giner, Mexico City, Mexico
- 2020 *ARCO 2020*, Galería T20, Madrid, Spain
- 2019 *ARCO 2019*, Galería T20, Madrid, Spain
- 2018 *T20 at ARCOmadrid 2018*, T20, Madrid, Spain
- 2018 *Artbanchel 2018*, U studio, Madrid, Spain
- 2018 *Estampa 2017*, Matadero, Madrid, Spain
- 2017 *ARCOmadrid 2017*, Galería T20, Madrid, Spain
- 2017 *Estampa 2017*, Matadero, Madrid, Spain
- 2016 *ARCOmadrid 2016*, Galería T20, Madrid, Spain
- 2015 *"Congress topless"*, ARCOmadrid 14, Galería T20, Madrid, Spain
- 2015 *Summa 15*, Galería T20, Murcia, Spain
- 2015 *Sanchinarro Art Fair*, Sanchinarro, Madrid, Spain

2015 *ArtMiami 14*, Galería Cámara
Oscura, Miami, United States

2013 *"Firebrands" (With KottiePaloma)*, Mullherin& Pollard Gallery, NY, United
States

2013 *Summa 13*, Galería T20, Madrid, Spain

2013 *ARCO 13*, Galería T20, Madrid, Spain

2012 Galería LUIS ADELANTADO-Valencia, Con P. Martínez y O. Carrasco,
Valencia, Spain

2011 *ARTE FIERA*, Bologna Artfair, Italy

2011 *ART AMSTERDAM*, Cámara Oscura, Holland, Netherlands

2010 *ESTAMPA 10*, Galería Cámara Oscura, Madrid, Spain

2009 *CIRCA 09, PUERTO RICO* –Galería L. Adelantado, Puerto Rico

2008 *ART SHANGAI 08*, Galería Luís Adelantado, China

2008 *TORINO 08*, Galería Luís Adelantado, Turin, Italy

2008 *MACO 08*, Galería Luis Adelantado, México, Mexico

2008 *ARCO 08*, Galería Luis Adelantado, Madrid, Spain

2008 *ARTBO 08*, Galería Luis Adelantado, Bogotá, Colombia

Awards, Grants, and Residences

2023 Artistic Residency at Adhesivo Contemporary, Mexico City, Mexico

2018 Guash Corranty Award, Piramidon Art Centre, Barcelona, Spain

2017 Artistic Residency Al Jallo, Lanzarote, Spain

2016 Beca de producción EmergenT, Torremolinos, Málaga, Spain

2014 Beca MAEC-AECID en Roma para artistas españoles y extranjeros
(Noviembre 14 – Junio 15), Rome, Italy

2014 Beca de creación artística, Ayuntamiento de Zaragoza, Zaragoza, Spain

2011 Finalista en
Vancouver, Canada

The Cheaper Show,

2011 Finalista en el Festival "Art takes Miami", Miami, USA

2007 IX Convocatoria Internacional de la Galería LUIS ADELANTADO

2007 Premio WTC (World Trade Center) ART FEST, Mexico, Mexico

Selected Works



Yann Leto

A Sleeping Man, 2023

Oil and airbrush on linen

180 x 140 x 3.5 cm

70 7/8 x 55 1/8 x 1 3/8 in



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Game Set and Match, 2023

Oil and airbrush on linen

180 x 140 x 3.5 cm

70 7/8 x 55 1/8 x 1 3/8 in