

MÉNÉ



TIME IS LOVE

20/3 - 2/5/21

Barcelona - Spain



MÉNÉ

Born 1977, Ivory Coast
Lives and works in Dabou (Ivory Coast)

BIOGRAPHY

Méné continues to promenade the improbable silhouettes of his characters through his work and through our lives and we are grateful for the sweetness and the color he gives them. Graduate of INSAAC (Abidjan School of Fine Arts) and certified professor of fine arts, Méné goes his way, without unnecessary hype, but with stubbornness and talent.

More and more art collectors appreciate his many talents that are expressed in his high quality painted works. With Méné it's about painting, the artist having never departed from this medium to express his feelings, visions, dreams and his moments of melancholy. Painting is surely his way of expressing emotions, a man in his forties, who does not speak much, is sparing in his gestures, laughter and tears. Everything is in the richly colored work, he has pursued for years.

We know him for his use of various supports, paper, canvas, plastic sheeting on which painters in building had left. Everything is good for him then, by the magic of color, reinterpret things and give them the turn he wanted.

Behind the apparent disorder of his works, one can find not only an excellent technical mastery, but also an attention to composition which is all the more remarkable. The balance of the materials is really not random, nor is the chromaticism of the palette; it obeys a harmony that, without being classical, is absolutely undeniable. The artist's success is in the ordering of apparent disorder and the works exhibited here are large enough to make this clear to the observer.

FAMILY | 2018

121cm H x 151cm L | Acrylic and natural pigments on canvas - [ENQUIRE](#)



Although there are some in profile, most of his characters are presented from the front. All of Méné's works are inhabited by humanoid characters, often said to have descended from some flying saucer, and yet they seem to belong to the same world as ourselves. Because it's the human condition that's in question here, of man, his kingdom, his community and his immediate environment.

TERRE DES HOMMES 2 | 2018

130x130cm | Acrylic and natural pigments on canvas - [ENQUIRE](#)







The titles of these paintings are very evocative and reinforce our feelings of well-being and recognition. So is it with his "Earth of Men", that the artist in his beatitude tells us, or in "Land of Love", that these places that will never be dark, these spaces of freedom where the artist reflects, indicate a fundamental optimism which, while not overstated is no less sensitive and easily perceptible. There is at least, by exception, "A vision of another world", whose hosts are more birds or fish than humans. This world is not scary, it is just different, other, and it does not seem to affect the artist anymore; he does not suggest anything to us, allowing us to draw our own conclusions. Blues or pastels invite our eyes and suggest other approaches of these spaces of which only the artist has the key.

BLEU PASSION | 2018

100cm H x 88cm W | Acrylic and natural pigments on canvas - [ENQUIRE](#)







"Dream World", the title given to this series is very consistent despite the apparent dissimilarities among the works. Is it a world the artist saw in a dream and hastened to transpose it on the canvas or is it the world he dreams of, but has never seen? No one will ever know if it's a vision of the past or of the future that it thus offers to our lust and to the lucubrations of our souls.

The colorful universe of Méné transports us and gives us so much pleasure, so many pretexts for sweet dreams that we are ready to follow, without thinking too much of the consequences, because we know his benevolence as a man and as an artist.

TIME OF JOY | 2018

100cm H x 150cm W | Acrylic and natural pigments on canvas - [ENQUIRE](#)



In this state of suspension of the active consciousness in which he engulfs us, crossing his universe brings us joy, strength and beauty and, somewhere, helps us to forget the real world that surrounds us and that makes us too rarely happy. Let us hasten to embark on this sweet ferry, like a boat on the limpid and quiet ocean and trust the rower, he knows the pitfalls, he knows the currents, he knows the way, he is initiated".

Sylvain Sankale

Art Critic

Dakar, Senegal

PETIT PRINCE 2 | 2017

150cm x 150cm | Acrylic and natural pigments on canvas - [ENQUIRE](#)



LIST OF SHOWS & PRIVATE COLLECTIONS

SOLO SHOWS

2020 | “Humaniste”, OH Gallery, Dakar, Senegal

2019 | “Dream World”, OOA Gallery, Barcelona, Spain

2018 | “Terre des Hommes”, OOA Gallery, Barcelona, Spain

2016 | “L’autre rive”, Hôtel (Phénix), Dabou, Ivory Coast

2015 | “L’Art et le Vin”, Galerie Amani, Abidjan, Ivory Coast

LE PETIT PRINCE | 2017

100cm H x 150cm W | Acrylic and natural pigments on canvas - [ENQUIRE](#)







GROUP SHOWS

- 2021** | “Time is Love”, OOA Gallery, Barcelona, Spain
- 2020** | “Matière”, OH Gallery, Dakar, Senegal
Amani Gallery, Abidjan, Ivory Coast
- 2019** | ”African Art Beats”, Washington DC, USA
- 2018** | “Renaissance”, OH Gallery, Dakar, Senegal
- 2017** | “No border”, Galerie Louis Simone Guirandou, Abidjan, Ivory Coast
AKAA Fair, OOA Gallery, Paris, France
- 2016** | “Love is everywhere”, OOA Gallery, Barcelona, Spain
- 2014** | “Africa Plural”, OOA Gallery, Barcelona, Spain

MY REFLECT | 2019

94cm H x 122cm W | Acrylic on canvas - [ENQUIRE](#)



- 2013** | “Visages d’Afrique”, OOA Gallery, Benasque, Spain
“L’énigmatique désir”, ARKADI 16th edition, Abidjan, Ivory Coast
“OFF Dak’art, Biennale de Dakar, Eiffage, Dakar, Senegal
- 2011** | “La poétique de la blessure”, ARKADI 15th edition, Abidjan, Ivory Coast
- 2010** | “L’odyssée de la beauté”, ARKADI 14th edition, Abidjan, Ivory Coast
- 2009** | “Les pierres vivantes”, ARKADI 12th edition, Abidjan, Ivory Coast
- 2008** | “Valeurs sûres”, BICICI Amie des Arts, Abidjan, Ivory Coast
- 2007** | “La cité radieuse”, ARKADI 11th edition, Abidjan, Ivory Coast
“De l’esclavage à la liberté”, USA Embassy, Abidjan, Ivory Coast
“Boribana”, ARKADI 10th edition, Abidjan, Ivory Coast

TOUS EN COEUR | 2019

94cm H x 122cm W | Acrylic on canvas - [ENQUIRE](#)











- 2006** | “La traversée du désert”, ARKADI 9th edition, Abidjan, Ivory Coast
Kajazoma Gallery, Abidjan, Ivory Coast
“Couleurs nouvelles”, Aniss Production, Abidjan, Ivory Coast
- 2005** | Kajazoma Gallery, Exhibition/Performance, Abidjan, Ivory Coast
“Mythologie”, ARKADI 8th edition, Abidjan, Ivory Coast
- 2003** | “Le dialogue”, ARKADI 7th edition, Abidjan, Ivory Coast
- 2002** | Galerie Espace Libre, 'Isle-Sur-la Sorgue, France
- 2001** | “Ecriture”, Ars Ante Africa, Espace Communic'Art, Paris, France

THE EARTH SONG | 2016

107cm H x 102cm W | Acrylic on recycled plastic hand stitched on canvas - [ENQUIRE](#)



PRIVATE COLLECTIONS

2016 | S.M. the King of Morocco Mohamed VI, Morocco

2016 | Francisco Hernandez, Murcia Street Art Project, Spain

2015 | SODIREP, Ivory Coast

2012 | EIFFAGE, Senegal

THE EARTH SONG II | 2016

107cm H x 102cm W | Acrylic on recycled plastic hand stitched on canvas - [ENQUIRE](#)











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