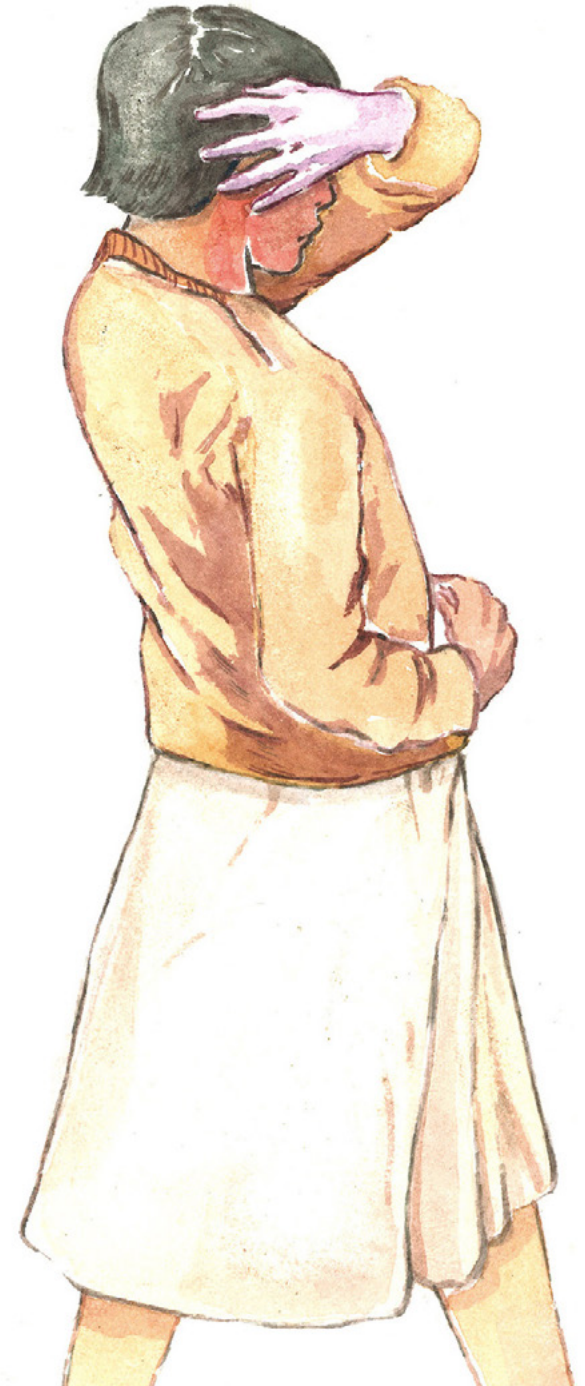


Valentin Rilliet

Selection of works
2021-23



In conversation between historical references and magical realism, my work manifests as visual interpretations of mythologies, symbolism, popular culture and allegories. The compilation of personal and pictorial archives against the unpremeditated process of oil painting collapses the narratives, forging a connection from fantasy to reality as well as raising the question of authenticity in my heritage.

Through this practice, I like to focus on the purpose of painting in specific socio-cultural contexts, and how its function could serve as an aesthetic pattern used to reshape history and blur memories. This investigation spans how visual art has historically been used as a tool to mystify reality. By combining fictional and documentary, a dialogue is articulated on the canvas, as a method to deconstruct, collect and contemplate the multiplicity of interpretations over a seemingly real –or fabricated– memory.

Valentin Rilliet is a visual artist born in Geneva (1996, CH) from a Swiss father and a Chinese mother. He graduated with a Bachelor degree in Fine Arts at the Slade School of Fine Art, University College London in 2020. In September 2021 he started an MA in Fine Arts at the Zürcher Hochschule der Künste (ZHdK) in Switzerland. He currently lives and works in Zürich.



Black Magic (I & II) – Oil on linen, 130 x 95 cm (left), 140 x 95 cm (right)

Installation shot from *Kunst im Nomad*, Basel, 2023

Black Magic (I)

Oil on linen
140 x 95 cm
2023



Black Magic (II)

Oil on linen
130 x 95 cm
2023







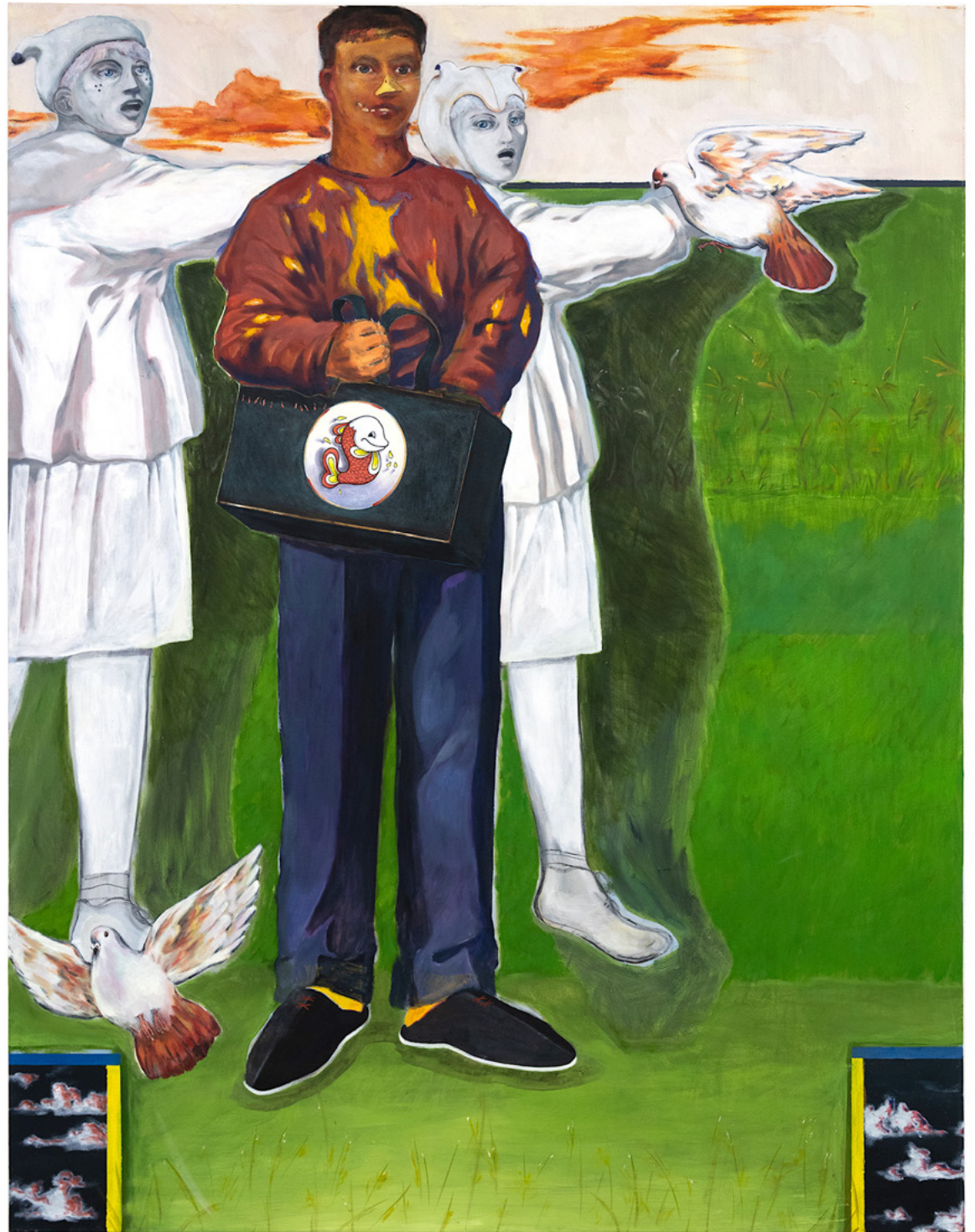
Hard to Tell You

Oil on cotton
165 x 165 cm
2022



Wasn't it Real?

Oil on cotton
140 x 180 cm
2022



Beautiful Baits

Oil on cotton
180 x 140 cm
2022

Untitled

Oil, sand and marble dust on faux leather
165 x 130 cm
2022





Untitled (1)

Oil on cotton
40 x 50 cm
2023



Untitled (2)

Oil on cotton
40 x 50 cm
2023



The End of the Night

Oil on cotton
50 x 60 cm
2023



Backscratcher

Oil on linen
16.5 x 25.5 cm
2022



Untitled (Stage) Oil on cotton, 180 x 260 cm, 2022



Sciuri Sciura

Mixed media on cotton
145 x 175 cm
2022

Century eggs
(To put nightmares in my hands)

Oil on cotton
145 x 105 cm
2021





Fifteen Years in One Week - One Year in Fifteen Weeks

Oil on cotton
80 x 145 cm
2021



Stargazing

Oil on cotton
80 x 80 cm
2021

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2023 Kunst im Nomad, Nomad Hotel, Basel
- 2022 In the other Room, Sonnenstube Offspace, Lugano
- 2021 Ausstellung Josef Lada, CzechIN, Zürich
- 2021 Shifting Sands, ZHdK, Zürich
- 2021 KingDom, Art Hub Studios, Deptford, London
- 2021 Slade Summer Show, Slade School of Fine Art, UK
- 2021 Bigger Pleasures, All Mouth Gallery, online auction, UK
- 2020 Visionaries, A Space for Art, London
- 2020 Solo Representation, Zetter Hotel, Clerkenwell, London
- 2020 Slade Degree Showcase, online group showcase
- 2019 Spaceship Dungeon Zoo, Hackney, London
- 2019 18/11/1, PMQ, Hong Kong
- 2018 Bridge, Izo Art Gallery, Moscow

DISTINCTIONS

- 2022 Hintermeister-Stiftung Scholarship, Zürich CH
- 2020 Max Werner Drawing Prize – Nominated
- 2019 UCL Global Experience Bursary for international opportunities, UK
- 2016 Cultural Scholarship – Collonge-Bellerive Municipality, Geneva CH

EDUCATION

- 2021 - 2023 MFA Fine Arts, Zürcher Hochschule der Künste, CH
- 2017 - 2020 BFA Fine Arts, Slade School of Fine Arts, UCL, UK
First Class Honours
- 2011 - 2015 Maturité gymnasiale, Collège Calvin, CH

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2022-23 Installation set up for ZHdK Fine Art exhibitions and auctions*
hanging & installing artworks, setting up exhibition space
- 2022 Studio assistant for artist Lorenza Longhi*
- 2022 Studio assistant for artist Paulina Olowska*
- 2022 Studio assistant for artist Yvonne Robert*
- *non-contractual job positions
- 2020-21 Department of Public Instruction, Geneva CH
Supply teacher in Visual Arts and Industrial Design
Teaching in secondary, tertiary and (pre)vocational schools,
from the age of 12 to 18 years old.
- 2018-20 Student Assistant, Slade School of Fine Art UCL, London UK
Assistant for the Bachelor entrance examination, portfolio inspections
and interviews at the Slade School of Fine Art.