

Press Kit 2023

ALIKURSUN



biography



Ali Kursun is a Geneva based visual artist. He is a self-taught artist and his painting is purely intuitive. He began to create his first paintings in dry pastel which a canvas was uniformly covered with earth colours.

His work has received attention rapidly in a career that spans ten years of creative practice. He uses a variety of unorthodox methods to produce paintings and photographs. His work is deliberately experimental.

Out of his immersion in different cultures and people, his art manages to retain its quintessence: the human senses. Kursun is a story-teller, a futurist, and a thoughtful enquirer into the conditions of life. His inquiry into the human knowledge is seminal to his personal motivation.

"In essence, art is the unspoken language of feelings. It is about perceptual worlds and senses. You either feel a piece of artwork or you don't. Art is intuitive. It is a universal system of communication." he says.

Ali Kursun lives and creates in Geneva, Switzerland. He can be reached at ali@alikursun.com

artist statement



My work focuses on the deep understanding of human sensing, the evolution of human knowledge on senses, and the consequences it has on understanding each other. I always try to extract the profound comprehension and deep message of what people sense and their different perceptions in capturing what really matters to them: their relationships with others, the world around them, and the world within themselves.

My obsession to eradicate ignorance from the surface of this planet was the main reason I started creating artworks. All my subject matters involve exploring, finding, and disseminating the meaning of senses in people's daily routines, while attempting to bring clarity on how we understand each other. Consequently, my art attempts to convey a specific feeling instantly to the viewer.

After all, life is all about senses and what we sense that matters. All forms of communication have the same purpose; to convey feeling. Ignoring this key purpose or not grasping it has caused— and still causes — an enormous amount of unintended pain in people's lives. Art, which can play a tremendous role in minimizing this pain by clarifying the true understanding of senses among people, has the potential to be an extremely effective communication tool.

In my own artwork, I seek implicit expression. My art offers an attempt to establish an instant connection or intuitive understanding of the sense I want to convey through totality, rather than just details. The message needs to be fast and immediately felt; otherwise, it does not serve its purpose.

I am also very intrigued by the concept of timelessness, which is the ultimate prize. Anything can be timeless— an idea, a concept, a song, a book, a message, a dress, a painting, a sculpture, anything we can conceive. But timelessness is more than simply a matter of longevity. It is about freshness, day in and day out, and progression that continues beyond time.

My influences are first and foremost everything I sense, think, and experience.

artist profile



Ali Kursun's intuitive art goes back to a very singular experience. Fifteen years ago, when he read Betty Edwards' cult book "Drawing on the Right Side of the Brain" to stimulate creativity in the teams he was working with. Soon enough, he was inspired by this book to expand his own expression by developing his skills of receptivity and intuition fostered by the right hemisphere of the brain.

Since then - from his first paintings to his first exhibition, from his enrichment to his rediscovery of other painters notably Yves Klein for whom a piece of art is but a trace of communication between an artist and the world - Kursun has used luminous images to tell stories sourced from life itself. A tenacity that has indeed inspired his first exhibition "Stubborn", a collection of twenty-five paintings exhibited in Geneva, Switzerland in 2011 to great acclaim.

Linked to the immediacy of emotion, Kursun's way of painting is deeply rooted in urgency. The absolute urgency to express in spurts of pure sensitivity, those unpredictable bursts of emotion, brought to peak in an instant through the intensity of a situation. Plastic arts, expressed with a passionate feeling that cannot be reasoned, a passionate feeling at its peak, expressed in its plastic form.

Long held back, interiorised, focused, premeditated and then suddenly released, the artist's work, reflects not only visions of deep understanding but also invites to a poetic inspiration where the intervention of intellect is present.

Kursun tries to avoid any intrusion of reason and seeks to stay as close as possible to the very essence of his work. Enhancement of human communication through the act of painting.



By choosing big canvases he gives full freedom to the movements of his body. Adapted to large canvases, Kursun's use of diverse techniques obeys the instantaneity of intuition, as does his determined freedom. Kursun uses a mix of current techniques such as tachisme, dripping, soaking, projection, all the while willing the singularity of his style. Experimenting new techniques in a spirit of exhilaration.

Pastel, acrylic paint, ink are used with a wide range of tools, omitting brushes, and including trowels, knives, thin wooden sticks, pads of carpet textile and other fabrics which endow his colorful paintings with rhythms that are subtly textured.

While warm earth colors dominated his first paintings, his more recent ones reveal the more chromatic richness of acrylic paints covering an ever-underlying pastel. Increasing sophistication imbues his compositions, their effervescent visual harmony a sublimated echo to his emotional vibrations.

This self taught emerging artist, in the process of becoming an accomplished one, has recently revealed himself with the "Unbelievable Truths" exhibition as the story teller of our unconscious minds, providing the impalpable universe of emotions with a rhythmical poetic inspiration, quasi musical.

exhibition history



2023 **StART Art Fair, Saatchi Gallery**, 11-15 October 2023 - London, UK

2019 Solo exhibition "**Irresistible**", 23-26 September 2019 - Geneva

2016 Solo exhibition "**Unbelievable Truths**", 21 April 2016 - Geneva

2015 Group exhibition "**The Other Art Fair**", 23-26 April 2015 - London, UK

2015 Solo exhibition "**Timeless Moments**", 26 March 2015 - Geneva, Switzerland

2014 Solo exhibition "**Unspoken**", 6 March 2014 - Geneva, Switzerland

2013 Solo exhibition "**Soulmates**", 7 March 2013 - Geneva, Switzerland

2012 Group exhibition "**PA(F) NYC**", 3-5 August 2012, New York, USA

2012 Solo exhibition "**Heartbeats**", 26-28 April 2012 - Geneva, Switzerland

2012 Group exhibition "**Parallax**", 16-18 February 2012 - London, UK

2011 Solo exhibition "**Stubborn**", 3 November 2011 - Geneva, Switzerland

contact



For further information please contact:

website: www.alikursun.com

email: ali@alikursun.com

instagram: [alikursun.ak](https://www.instagram.com/alikursun.ak)

Artist Studio:

16 Chemin du Foron

1226 Thonex

Geneva, Switzerland