

For immediate release

August Vilella

Autumn Dreams

21 October – 20 November 2021

Opening reception: 21 October 2021, 5 – 7 pm



August Vilella, *The Carp*, 2021, oil on canvas, 100 x 81 cm. Courtesy of the artist and JPS Gallery.

“And when we remove the will of the artist regarding his creation, each painting becomes a work of art of the world and for the world; a piece of art in which all people can find themselves to reflect, and above all, a work of art with a life of its own that wants to be seen, awoken felt.”

-August Vilella

JPS Gallery is delighted to present *Autumn Dreams*, a solo exhibition of August Vilella, on view at the gallery's Hong Kong location in LANDMARK ATRIUM. This exhibition marks the artist's first solo

show in Hong Kong, showcasing a series of new paintings that feature his signature big eyed characters, guiding the audience to dive deep into their subconscious through their reflective gazes.

Working under the Surrealist automatism method, like his innovative predecessors, Vilella creates his paintings without any previous sketches or ideas. Instead, each work is painted from his subconscious mind as he accesses his material. From this process, he created his big eyed characters, who are spirits that came to his mind, introducing their dream-like world to the audience. In the artist's own words, "I don't choose my characters... in some way they choose me."

Vilella's style and technique poses an interesting juxtaposition with his creating method. He employs fine brushstrokes and applies multiple thin layers of oil paint and varnish onto his canvases. He also plays with light and shadows, producing a heightened dramatic effect, vitality and exuberance in his paintings. Completed with his original gold frames, his works recall the ones of the old masters, displaying a flamboyant and vivid picture for the audience.

The contrast of his creative method and oeuvre can be seen throughout the presented series. In *The Carp* (2021), Vilella depicted a scene of a big eyes character riding a gigantic carp reaching over a Sakura tree. Set in a very high-contrast and dramatic atmosphere, the image is poetic and emotionally charged, inviting the audience to ponder and reflect on the seemingly direct subject.

Haunting in their extraordinary and distinctive imagery, the presented works exemplify Vilella's ability to evince uncanny and stylized forms through precise explorations of color and shadow, transporting the audience to an ultra-reality within themselves.

About August Vilella

August Vilella is a self-taught painter who creates oil paintings that open dialogue with contemporary and classical art. Working in the Surrealist automatism method, he creates without any previous sketches or ideas. Each painting has a unique psychical opening and meaning that reflect the subconscious mind.

Using classical oil techniques, his works evoke a dream-like aura in a magical, metaphorical and philosophical language. The use of light and shadows and refined brushstrokes in his works recall works of the old masters, presenting an interesting juxtaposition with his cartoonish characters. Vilella's characters often feature stylized big eyes, through their insightful gaze, the audience is invited to engage with their deep emotions, exploring the feelings with quiet introspections.

Born in Barcelona in 1986, Vilella was the winner of numerous artist prizes including, Best Artist at the Tokyo International Art Fair in 2016; Best Innovative Art at The Global Art Awards of Dubai (UAE) in 2017; International Artist Grand Prize and Chairman's Award in the Art Revolution Taipei

in 2018. His works are also featured in various media outlets, including Vice, Hi-Fructose and Beautiful Bizarre.

About JPS Gallery

Established in 2014 in Hong Kong, JPS Gallery is an independent contemporary art gallery presenting works of emerging and established artists from around the world. The gallery is founded with a passionate spirit that dedicates to the new digital age and the exploration of the world of fine art and pop culture.

We aim to create an innovative environment for a new generation of artists and collectors, fostering a creative space for all. We focus on fun and playful works of the era that spans across different mediums and disciplines, showcasing a discerning selection of works that embody the aesthetics of today.

We are committed to supporting the culture and art scene both in Hong Kong and Japan, creating a vibrant local art community. The gallery regularly presents works of emerging artists in our gallery spaces in Hong Kong and Tokyo as well as international art fairs, giving them a platform to gain global exposure, supporting young artists to launch their careers. JPS has also been an active contributor to society and the local art scene by sponsoring various charity events and auctions.

Location

Shops 218-219, 2/F, LANDMARK ATRIUM, 15 Queen's Road Central, Central, Hong Kong

Media Inquiry

For media inquiries and press preview, please contact
Angela Tam | angela@jpsgallery.com

Social media hashtags

@august_vilella_art @jpsgallery @jpsartstore
#augustvilella #autumndreams #jpsgallery #jpsartgallery

即時發佈

August Vilella

《秋天的童話》

2021 年 10 月 21 日至 11 月 20 日

開幕酒會：2021 年 10 月 21 日，下午 5-7 點



August Vilella，《鯉魚》，2021年作，油畫畫布，100 x 81釐米。圖片由藝術家和 JPS畫廊提供。

「當我們去除藝術家對其創作的意願時，每幅畫都成為了世界的藝術作品；一件所有人都可以在其中反思自己的藝術品，最重要的是，一件擁有自己生命的藝術品，渴望被人看見，喚醒人們的感受。」

-August Vilella

JPS 畫廊欣然在香港置地廣場中庭的畫廊空間呈現 August Vilella 的個人展覽《秋天的童話》。本次展覽是藝術家在香港的首次個展，展示了一系列藝術家以標誌性大眼睛角色為題的新畫作，透過角色深邃的目光，引導觀眾深入反思自我的潛意識。

他以超現實主義的自動性技法創作，就像那些創新的前輩一樣，Vilella 在沒有任何草稿或事先構思主題的情況下創作。取而代之的是每件作品都是從他的潛意識中浮現，並從他手中的畫筆繪製出來。在這個創作過程中，他創造了他標誌性的大眼睛角色，這些角色都是他腦海中出現的精靈，向觀眾介紹他們夢幻般的世界。藝術家曾經說道：「我的角色不是我選擇的……他們以某種方式選擇了我。」

然而，Vilella 的繪畫風格和技術與他的創作方法形成了有趣的對比。他運用精細的筆觸，在畫布上塗上多層薄薄的油畫顏料和清漆。他還玩弄光影，在他的畫作中呈現高度的戲劇效果和活力。他的作品配以他原創的金框，讓人想起古典大師的作品，為觀眾呈現出一幅華麗而生動的畫面。

在展覽呈現的系列中，我們可以看到他的創作方法和技術的對比。在《鯉魚》（2021年作）中，Vilella 描繪了一個大眼睛角色騎著一隻巨大的鯉魚，嘗試伸手觸及眼前櫻花樹的場景。設置在一個非常高對比度和戲劇性的氛圍中，圖畫充滿詩意和情感，邀請觀眾對看似直接的主題進行思考和反思。

展出的作品以其非凡而獨特的意象帶來一場令人過目難忘的視覺盛宴，體現了 Vilella 通過對色彩和光影的精緻繪畫，展現了他對異乎尋常事物的探索，將觀眾帶入一個屬於自己的超現實世界。

關於 August Vilella

August Vilella 自學油畫，所以他的畫作清新，讓當代藝術與古典藝術遙相對話。他不起稿，也不事先構思主題，而是把超現實主義自動性技法融入到油畫當中，他的每一張畫作也由零出發，讓他的靈魂從潛意識浮現到畫布上。

他採用經典油畫光影技術，讓作品呈現出如夢似幻的氛圍，並蘊藏著一種隱喻性，甚至是哲學性的語言。他精湛的油畫技術使人不其然聯想起古典大師的鉅著。當古典特色遇上當代個人風格，趣味便油然而生。Vilella 的筆下角色都擁有一雙水靈靈的大眼睛，彷彿定神地望穿了觀眾的靈魂，刺探他們心底幽深的秘密，沉默地觀察。

Viella 出生於一九八六年的巴塞羅那，現在於東京生活和工作。他獲獎無數，包括二零二六年東京藝術博覽會的「最佳藝術家」、二零一七年阿聯酋杜拜全球藝術獎的「最具創意藝術獎」、二零一八年的國際藝術家大獎賽和台北新藝術博覽會的「大會主席獎」。他的作品還曾刊登在《Vice》、《糖果雜誌》和《Beautiful Bizarre》等不同的媒體上。

關於JPS畫廊

JPS畫廊始創於二零一四年，先後在香港和日本成立畫廊空間，是一所主打當代藝術的畫廊，代理來自世界各地的新晉及知名藝術家。

畫廊旗下的藝術家大玩流行文化，從現代生活文化符號取材，以不同媒介創作出獨特的當代藝術品，趣緻玩味，呈現當代美學。本畫廊不但為新一代藝術家提供自由的創作空間，亦為收藏家提供別樹一幟的藝術品，更為香港藝術品市場帶來緊貼時代潮流的作品。

我們矢志於推動香港及日本的文化與藝術界發展，為本地建立充滿活力的藝術社區。我們會定期為藝術家於香港和東京兩地的畫廊設置展覽，亦會安排他們的作品於國際藝術節展出，讓新晉藝術家得以於國際舞台嶄露頭角，同時維持知名藝術家在全球藝術市場的熱度。除了貢獻本地藝術界，畫廊亦熱心公益，積極參與和贊助各項慈善和義賣活動以回饋社會。

地點

香港中環皇后大道中15號置地廣場中庭2樓218-219號舖

媒體查詢及導覽，請聯絡

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社交媒體標籤

@august_vilella_art @jpsgallery @jpsartstore
#augustvilella #autumndreams #jpsgallery #jpsartgallery



Sunflower, 2021

Oil on canvas

99 by 80 cm

Sunflower

2021年作

油畫畫布

99 x 80 釐米



Fallen Star, 2021

Oil on canvas
100 by 80 cm

Fallen Star

2021年作
油畫畫布
100 x 80 釐米



New Friends, 2021

Oil on canvas

33 by 24 cm

New Friends

2021年作

油畫畫布

33 x 24 釐米



Awaiting You, 2021

Oil on canvas

33 by 24 cm

Awaiting You

2021年作

油畫畫布

33 x 24 釐米



My Lovely Birds, 2021

Oil on canvas

33 by 24 cm

My Lovely Birds

2021年作

油畫畫布

33 x 24 釐米