

**HECTOR DIAZ**

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Biography

# HECTOR DIAZ



Christian and his monumental work "Inclusion" in his studio in Guatemala | Art & Photo © Christian Escobar

## Christian Escobar

B. November 3, 1982 - Guatemala, Guatemala.

Christian was born into a family of doctors and dentists. From a very young age, he was influenced by medical science, nature, and the human body. Despite growing up in an environment where logic and reason prevailed, music was always present in his life, awakening in him a desire for art and culture.

During his time as a student at a Jesuit school, he stood out for his creativity in artistic and athletic activities, with the former being his favorite subjects, while not neglecting natural sciences and history. The school, with its religious and social education, sparked in Christian an interest in humanity and its connection to the world.

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Following family tradition, he decided to study dentistry at Universidad Francisco Marroquín in Guatemala City. There, he discovered his passion for human anatomy, not imagining that he would later become a professor of that subject. He graduated as a dental surgeon and Bachelor in Science in 2009.

Eager to learn more, he pursued a master's degree in Dental Prosthetics at the Federal University of Santa Catarina, Brazil. This academic phase was a turning point in his professional development as a dentist and man of science, but it also laid the foundation for his future as an artist. He decided to research the effect of lighting on color selection, opening up to a universe of knowledge about light, optical physics, human physiology, and above all, spirituality. At that precise moment, when he understood how light works, he decided that his path was to paint. He graduated as a Master in Dentistry in 2012 and returned to Guatemala to continue what he believed would be his life in the medical field.

In Guatemala, he taught Human Anatomy for many years at Universidad Francisco Marroquín. He also created and directed the only Scientific Journal of Dentistry in Guatemala and El Salvador. In addition to his professional practice with patients in private clinics, he dedicated his spare time to painting, seeking in each of his works to capture the details his eyes perceived in everyday life.

Many may wonder how Christian became an artist despite having a strictly scientific background and no formal training in art and painting. In the artist's words: "Science was my best art school; it opened my eyes to the exquisite universe of light."

In 2014, he realized that life was calling him to dedicate himself exclusively to art. He felt the fire of passion for painting and expressing his ideas, philosophies, and concepts as his life mission. Gradually, he resigned from all his activities in the fields of medicine and science to fully devote himself to being an artist—there was no other option for him.

He is a faithful lover of large-format easel paintings, venturing into the creation of giant works known as murals. With a hyperrealistic technique, a Neo-Baroque style, and acrylic on canvas as his medium, his works transport us to the past, to classical Italian art, also influenced by contemporary cultures.

In 2015, he began exhibiting his art at various prestigious venues and events in cities such as Miami, New York, Guatemala, and Mexico, and in countries like Belgium, Italy, and India.

One of his most significant achievements was representing his country at the Venice Art Biennale in its 59th edition in 2022. Later, in 2023, he exhibited at the Santa Severa Castle in Rome.

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He exhibited in Mexico as part of the 175th Anniversary of Diplomatic Relations between Guatemala and Mexico, coinciding with the centennial of the world-famous Latin American Muralism movement at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Museum in Mexico City. His mural, "Inclusión", has served as a cultural ambassador for Guatemala in different parts of the world, carrying a message of unity and respect.

In Guatemala, his works can be found in national and private museums, including the National Museum of Guatemalan Art, the National Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology, where his mural "Xibalbá" is located, the Ixchel Museum of Indigenous Costume, and a public mural in the Civic Center of the South, which reminds us of the golden era of muralism in Latin America.

Christian currently resides in Guatemala City, where he develops new ideas in his studio with the goal of painting works that will stand the test of time. His works often highlight the human body and use elements that evoke nostalgia, such as old toys, flowers, and skulls emulating the vanitas of the Baroque period, with compositions that create epic scenes involving many characters.

Always staying true to academic works that address the theme of death, Christian also paints about family, values, and spirituality, establishing himself in the world of sacred art.



Christian with his daughters in his studio in Guatemala | Art & Photo © Christian Escobar