

HECTOR DIAZ

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Statement

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B. June 30, 1973 - Lisbon, Portugal.

My work delves into the ways we perceive the world, reality, and each other.

From an early age, I was captivated by the simple act of observation, often preferring to sketch the faces of my dolls or the forms of plants. Over time, those dolls evolved into women - enigmatic figures caught between the real and the digital, brought to life through my exploration of shadow and light, despite using traditional mediums such as oil, graphite, and watercolor.

At the heart of my art lies a fundamental concept: our perception of reality is inherently incomplete. We glimpse only fragments, partial views of an ungraspable whole. We never fully know a situation, nor the depths of others, or even ourselves. Thus, my figures never reveal themselves entirely, shrouded in an aura of mystery, withholding their identities. The black bars in my work represent this unknown aspect, while also evoking the widescreen format of cinema, as though we are peering into a still frame of a film, a moment frozen, yet never fully understood.

The characters I create are reflections of universal human questions or mirror the evolving chapters of my own life. Art becomes a mirror and a window: it compels me to reflect, to question, to grow. It urges me to explore both external narratives and the landscapes within, unveiling slivers of reality that remain otherwise hidden.

While my primary medium is oil paint, I also work with graphite, watercolors, colored pencils, and acrylics. There is a profound, almost sacred joy in the tactile process of creation: the feel of brushes, the texture of paint, the movement of pencil on paper. To witness a new world emerging from a blank canvas or a sheet of paper is indescribable, a quiet yet insistent pleasure that has always been, and will always remain, an essential part of my existence.

Duma Arantes
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