

Victor Ash

I was born in Portugal in 1968, grew up and studied in Paris, and moved to Denmark in 1995. I started my career as an autodidact artist in the late 80s in Paris. Following this, I was approached by galleries and curators to exhibit my work. My inspirations are mostly based on a variety of personal experiences like moving from the countryside to the cityscape, and the theme of urban contemporary subcultures.

Pictorially, my works have been mostly big-scale figurative monochrome paintings and many were commissioned for public space. Aside from big-scale commissions, I also paint on canvas and make installations or various other projects using different sorts of media.

The subject of subcultures is particularly represented in my work from Berlin called "Astronaut Cosmonaut".

In 2007, I was invited by the Museum Kunstraum Bethanien to realize a big mural near the station Kottbusser Tor, in Kreuzberg, a neighbourhood famous for being a meeting point for punks, junkies, clubbers, etc. On that mural, I wanted to concentrate and express all my experiences from the Berlin subcultures and somehow the desire to escape reality.

I was inspired by David Bowie's song *Space Oddity* from 1969 in which he tells the story of an astronaut who gets lost in space, and later by the song *Ashes to Ashes* in 1981, Bowie tells us that the spaceman was in fact a junkie on a trip.

Throughout my career, besides creating mural paintings in various countries, I have exhibited my work in several institutions, like the Saatchi Gallery London, Palais de Tokyo Paris, Weserburg Museum für moderne Kunst Bremen, Von der Heydt Museum Wuppertal, Århus Kunstbygning Danmark, Museum of African art and design Johannesburg South Africa, Kunstraum Kreuzberg/ Bethanien, as well as in other international galleries.

I have been working professionally as an artist since 1991, and for the last 17 years, I've been mostly based in Copenhagen.



Selected exhibitions and projects

- 2022 "Climbing to the Moon" Monumental painting with UNESCO and mairie du 13 eme Paris France.
Paris, France 2022. Circulus, solo exhibition. Gallery Gallery Anne Aarsland Copenhagen Denmark.
Into the Void, solo exhibition. Gallery Urban Spree. Berlin Germany.
- 2021 "Freedom" Monumental painting commissioned by Harris county, Houston Texas USA.
The Child, large scale painting commissioned by the United Nations Zero Hunger program and the city of Oakland, California, USA
Hal Singer, 3 big format paintings on the Hal Singer music house in Chatou, France.
- 2020 "The finish line" Remiseparken. A public art project in collaboration with BOGL Architects. Commissioned by the Copenhagen Commune. Copenhagen Denmark.
- 2019 Wood Art Institute Museum, selected works, Hamburg Germany.
Fly Like an Eagle, Large scale painting in the city of New Rochelle, New York, USA
ILO 100, A mural celebrating ILO 100 years. Realized on the United Nations Indian Mission building. New York City, USA
- 2018 BIG art exhibition 2018, Charlottenborg palace Copenhagen Denmark.
"The craters" Painting Project in the city of Herford in collaboration with the Marta Herford Museum, Herford, Germany.
"Eclipse" Large scale painting in the city of Sandefjord, commissioned by Sandefjord Kunstforening, Norway.
"Interstellar Refugees", large mural painting, Skien, Norway.
- 2017 United Nations headquarters New York City, USA "At This Age" A group exhibition supporting a campaign against child trafficking.
SAM project Miami, big format painting exhibition and live performance, the port of Miami, USA
Solo exhibition Gallery Celal M13, Paris France.
Live performance at IIT Kharagpur, West Bengal, Indian Institute of Technology, project supported by Dansk Kulturministeriet.
- 2016 VUC Vest Esbjerg "Fishing for Knowledge" a series of 20 wall paintings inside the high school.
Exhibition Gallery Eigen + Art, Berlin Germany.
Emergency Room, Museum of african art Johannesburg, South Africa.
- 2015 "May the roof over your head be always strong" 6 wall paintings in the entrance of Kunstraum Kreuzberg / Bethanien Museum Various sizes, Berlin Germany, 2015.
"The Wolf of Copenhagen", 2000 m2 painting on B&W Hallerne Copenhagen, Denmark.
Slagelse Gymnasium "Body and Mind" + "The Big Thinkers", a series of 22 wall paintings inside the Slagelse high school.
- 2014 "The Waves", Amman, Jordan. A mural painting in the centre of the Jordanian capital Amman, commissioned by the Jordanian tourist office.
"Border to Paradise" Tenerife, Spain, mural commissioned by the City of Santa Cruz de Tenerife.
- 2013 "Havudsigten" Exhibition and mural painting on the Haderslev Silo, Haderslev, Denmark with the support of the Danish Arts Foundation, Statens Kunstfond.
Exhibition "The Red Dog" part of the "Red never Follows" show. The Saatchi Gallery London.
Solo exhibition "Unchained". Beyond second gallery, Hong Kong.
- 2012 Exhibition "Animals Faces". Beyond art at Platoon Kunsthalle, Seoul, South Korea.
- 2011 Exhibition "Street art meanwhile in deepest east Anglia, thunderbirds were go", Von der Heydt museum, Kunsthalle barmen, Wuppertal Germany
Exhibition "Paris Forever", Gallery Magda Danysz, Paris, France.
- 2010 Solo exhibition "Look at Me, Look at You", Gallery Helenbeck, Nice, France.
Exhibition "Evil Heroes" Buckjumps junior issue 4.2, Kunstraum Bethanien, Berlin Germany 2010.
- 2009 "Look at Me, look at You" a series of wall paintings project realized for Kirchentag and the Weserburg Museum Bremen Germany.
"Animal's Wall" and "The Elephant", mural painting commissioned by ARTotal Lüneburg, Leuphana Universität Lüneburg and the Reinking project, Germany.
Exhibition "Collection Gallizia", Le Grand Palais, Paris France.
- 2008 "Cars Mountains", a series of wall paintings project commissioned by BIG architect bureau for the VM Bjerget Ørestad, Copenhagen, Denmark.
"Car Mountain", wall painting inside the Palais de Tokyo, Paris France.
Exhibition "Icons for Now", Århus kunstbygning Museum, Denmark.
"Falling Colours", mural painting commissioned by the city of Berlin for the districts of Friedrichshain, Germany.
- 2007 "Astronaut / Cosmonaut", a wall painting project commissioned by the city of Berlin and Kunstraum Bethanien Museum, Kreuzberg Berlin, Germany.
Exhibition "Backjumps 3", Kunstraum Kreuzberg Bethanien Museum, Berlin, Germany.
Exhibition "The Emergency Room". PS1 Museum, New York, USA.