

Ilya Yod_Artist

ABOUT ILYA YOD

"I started creating art in the early 2000s. As a young artist, I was looking for opportunities to share my work with people and found them on the Internet, a virtual space that had just begun to gain popularity. People had little understanding of what the Internet was and avoided giving information about themselves online. Social networks did not exist yet and most of the communication largely happened on forums and websites where I shared my traditional and digital drawings under the alias Ilya Yod.

I saw how the anonymous nature of the Internet had changed humanity. We became able to communicate directly without knowing our interlocutor and how he looks. No one cared if the nickname "Mountain003" is a 10-year-old or a 40-year-old man or woman, black or Asian, a bank owner or a cleaner. Erased so-

cial roles allowed us to be bolder and freer than ever before. We simply shared our thoughts, feelings, ideas, and creations with a sincerity that humanity has never known before.

This time has had a huge impact on me and it has taught me that anonymity promotes freedom of expression and thus enriches humanity. So, when the anonymous era of the Internet was replaced by the era of social networks, big money, and transparency, I chose to remain anonymous online. Moreover, when later I began exhibiting my work at art shows, I extended my online anonymity to all media and made Ilya Yod my artist's identity. This means that I do not publish photos and videos of myself in the media, leaving viewers the opportunity to present me as they want or not to present me in any way." —Ilya Yod.

THE ARTIST'S STATEMENT

"People want to know who they are. However, thinking about ourselves and what we are doing is often confusing. The key is looking at yourself through the eyes of someone who is interested in you and trying to understand you. This is what I do as an artist: fixing into art my observations and reflections on humanity to help people discover who humans are.

Drawing attention to the objects that we create, such as buildings, screens, furniture, books, windows, and others, I noticed that their geometrical forms oppose the organic forms and probably can tell us much about ourselves. So, I started to explore people's geometrocentrism and how

it physically transforms our environment into a geometric one. Our way of communicating is also changing. Live connections go digital, making us look at rectangular screens of smartphones and computers much more frequently than people's faces.

I capture these changes in my colorful paintings, sculptures, digital pieces, and drawings, combining figurative elements with lines, rectangles, cubes, and other more complex geometric shapes. I simultaneously oppose curve to straight, figurative to abstract, verbal to sensual, and virtual to real, to create an internal conflict that pinpoints how our world is transforming into something totally new." —Ilya Yod.

The *Figures* series examines people and challenges our notions of understanding through the exploration of complexity and limitations. Despite our self-confidence, we are subject to restricted parameters of perception, cognition, emotion and intelligence. Through 3D figures that are manually painted with acrylic or drawn digitally as vectors or rasters, Ilya Yod invites viewers to re-examine their perspective on

themselves and their comprehension. Every piece in this series is designated with "*Figure*" followed by three characters as its unique number identifier ("*Figure 012*"). Yod's work encourages people to confront the realities of their own boundaries while also become more aware of the restrictions of their intelligence and thus realize our place in the grand scheme of things.

Ilya Yod

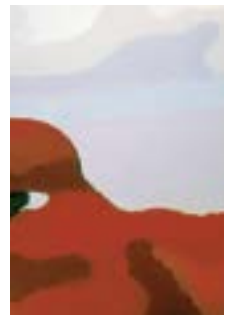


Figure 023 Part 1_2020

Medium: acrylic on canvases
Size: 2 canvases 135X240X4CM
N 056

Ilya Yod

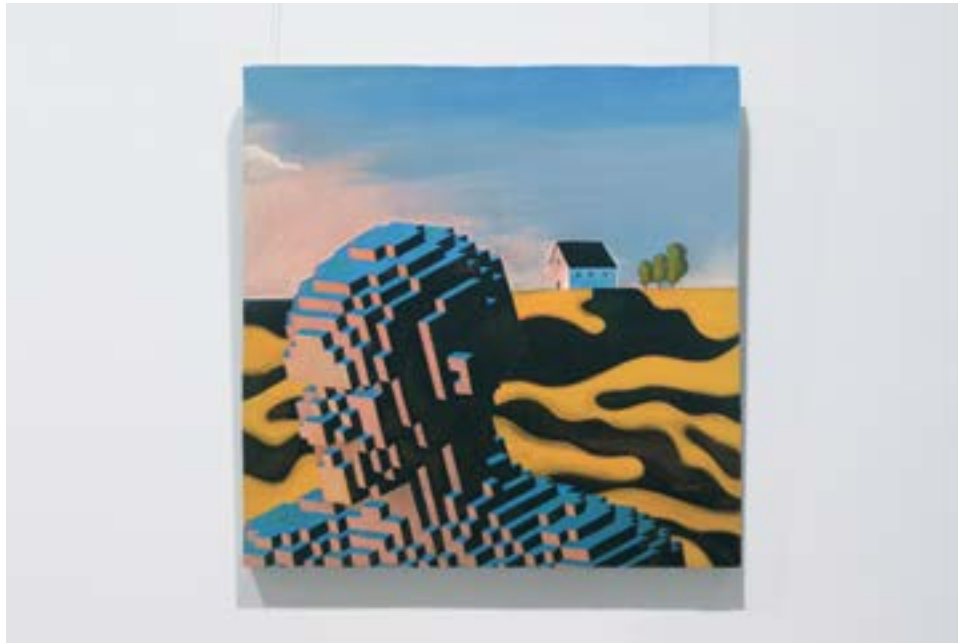


Figure 015_2018

Medium: tempera on canvas

Size: 60X60X4CM

N 048

Ilya Yod

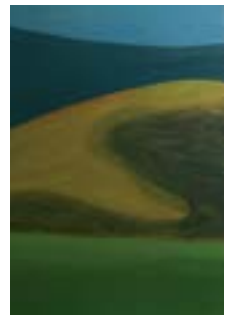


Figure 018_2019

Medium: acrylic on canvas
Size: 4 canvases (80X80X4CM each),
160X160X4CM overall.
N 051

Ilya Yod

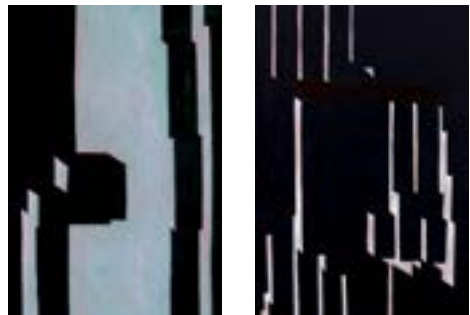


Figure 014_2018

Medium: tempera on canvas

Size: 80X80X4CM

N 047

The *Wordalisation* series explores the verbalization process. Language is an imperfect tool that humans use for thinking and communicating, but it is nonetheless effective for sharing experiences and interacting with others. However, thoughts are often more complicated and nuanced than language can express. This is because language is linear while thoughts are not. Thoughts are more like clouds. The thinker Lev Vygotsky once wrote that “clouds of thoughts, driven by the winds of motives, are raining words”. This beautiful meta-

phor shows how different our thinking and speech are.

In the *Wordalisation* series, Ilya Yod investigates the connections between thoughts, words, and visuals. By combining written and visual elements, linear and voluminous shapes, felt and said experiences, the artist invites viewers to create their own interpretations. To work on the series, Ilya Yod uses a variety of materials and techniques, including pencils, acrylics, paintings, and collages.

Ilya Yod



Je vois (En.: I see)_2010

Medium: acrylic, paperboard
and wire on canvase

Size: 40X40X2CM

N -29

Ilya Yod



Etre (En.: to be)_2010

Medium: acrylic
and paperboard on canvas
Size: 80X80X2CM
N -34

Ilya Yod



Anxiously_2022

Medium: acrylic and pencil on canvas

Size: 20X20X2CM

N 211

Ilya Yod



Delighting_2022

Medium: acrylic on canvas

Size: 60X60X0,2CM

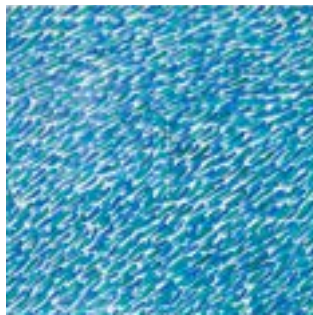
N 207

The *Iselfs* series of collages on canvas is the artist's self-exploration. It's essential to understand ourselves and others if we want to make the most of our potential. However, self-discovery can be hard because our brains prevent us from seeing who we really are. We create false images of ourselves that we believe to be true. These images might help us survive and reproduce, but they also limit us from seeing all aspects of ourselves.

There are many ways to gain a better self-understanding. We can ask those who

know us well for their opinions, or we can explore our personalities more deeply through tests or therapy. Ilya Yod has undertaken self-exploration through art, putting his impressions and mental states into images. These paintings have become a series of collages on canvas with volumetric "I" (ru.: Я) letters made from paperboard, wood, plywood or MDF as the central element. Each painting represents a part of the artist. Together they showcase Ilya Yod.

Ilya Yod



I_2022

Medium: acrylic and paperboard
on canvas
Size: 80X80X2CM
N 202

Ilya Yod



Я (En.: I)_2022

Medium: acrylic, plywood
and scotch on canvase
Size: 60X60X2CM
N 200

Ilya Yod



Я (En.: I)_2022

Medium: acrylic, wood
and wire on canvase
Size: 20X20X4CM
N 201

Ilya Yod



Я (En.: I)_2011

Medium: acrylic and wood on mdf

Size: 40X40X0,5CM

N -26