

Juan Canals
Barcelona

My first set of oils was a gift from my aunt and uncle. I was very young and had no idea what oil, tempera or watercolor paints were. I remember someone talked me into painting part of my bicycle. Which I did. It goes without saying that I didn't realize oil paint took such a long time to dry. I ended up with paint-stained pants and a severe reprimand.

I remember the turpentine we used back then to thin oil paint bothered everyone else, but the smell of it filled me with an enormous sense of satisfaction, in the same way the smell of new books do.

When I was little and would go to my grandmother's house in L'Hospitalet de Llobregat, I remember the pleasant, synchronous noise of the nearby trains coming and going. A visual memory of a framed illustration of a scene from the Bible in which a little boy was crying. I remember time passing slowly and rhythmically in a rocking chair. The unbearable boredom of going to mass in Plaza Espanola on Sunday mornings. My only relief was to amuse myself by gazing at the murals painted on the walls.

This all happened a long time ago. I ended up studying Painting Procedures and Mural Painting, and worked at hundreds of jobs, including as Color Specialist for a historic study on ancient architecture in Barcelona. I now have my own studio, in the same city of L'Hospitalet de Llobregat, with large windows through which I can see the trains and hear a pleasant noise that very likely connects me to my childhood.

Juan Canals



Refuse, debris and abandoned objects are what inspire Joan Canals and are the protagonists of his work. A broken umbrella spoke, fragments from a drain cover, an old piece of furniture, retrieved fabric and cardboard, scrap material, opened cans of paint...

The artist frees the debris that he finds from its state of abandon, with which he creates his own world, a marginal urban universe.

He explores different methods and techniques. He lets some of his works rest before completing them; he makes compositions out of fragments previously put to one side. He expresses himself by way of drawings, oils, acrylics, engravings and sculptures, often mixing techniques in a painting. He experiments in many areas, as his intuition tells him that each work should be approached differently, and that there is no such thing as an absolute method, technique or style.

The only constant is the implicit message he wants to put over.

His protagonists are isolated beings and devices, whose introversion makes them incapable of relating to each other.

His “fenomenolillos” are tiny animals with an insect’s body that defend themselves with their huge open mouths.

His man and woman, with the same mouths as his insects’, are enclosed within an aureole of colour; without their clothes, they cannot hide their defects or their sexuality, neither can they deny that by displaying their genitals it becomes more than clear that they are unable to communicate with each other.

The machine-device-towers have bodies modelled out of different volumes, while the extremities are made of tubes and rods that end as needles, nails and spikes, which prevent any type of proximity. The levers and propellers in equilibrium transmit movement and anguish.

A thick, steady line defines broken and elusive shapes, and unusual colour combinations make up a very evocative poetic space.

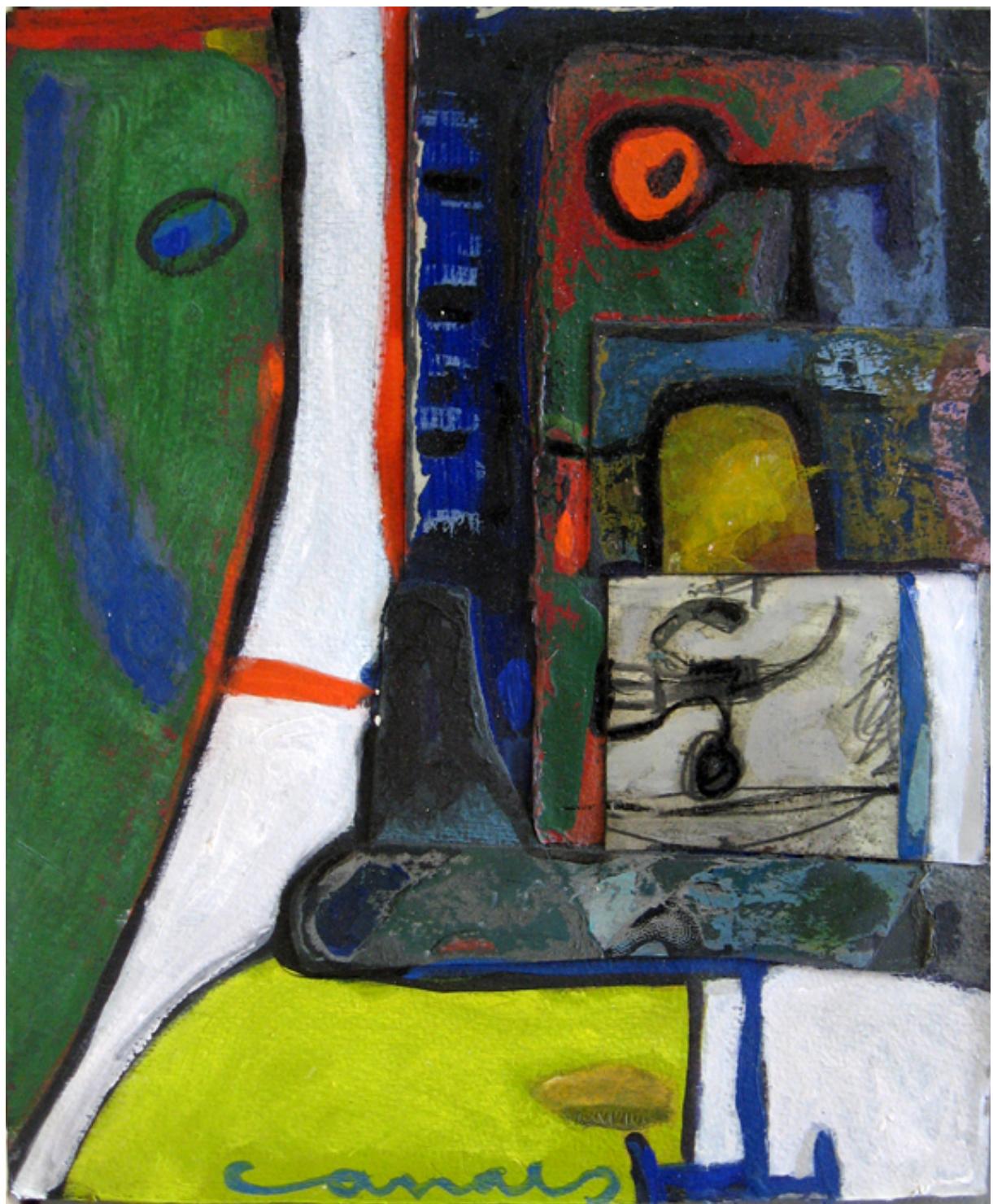
Man and the machine cannot escape the aggressiveness they carry inside them, nor can tensions be erased. Only the tiny animals, the “fenomenolillos” can overcome this. They climb mountains, clamber up the towers, the steps and the machine-devices, from where they prepare to take flight.















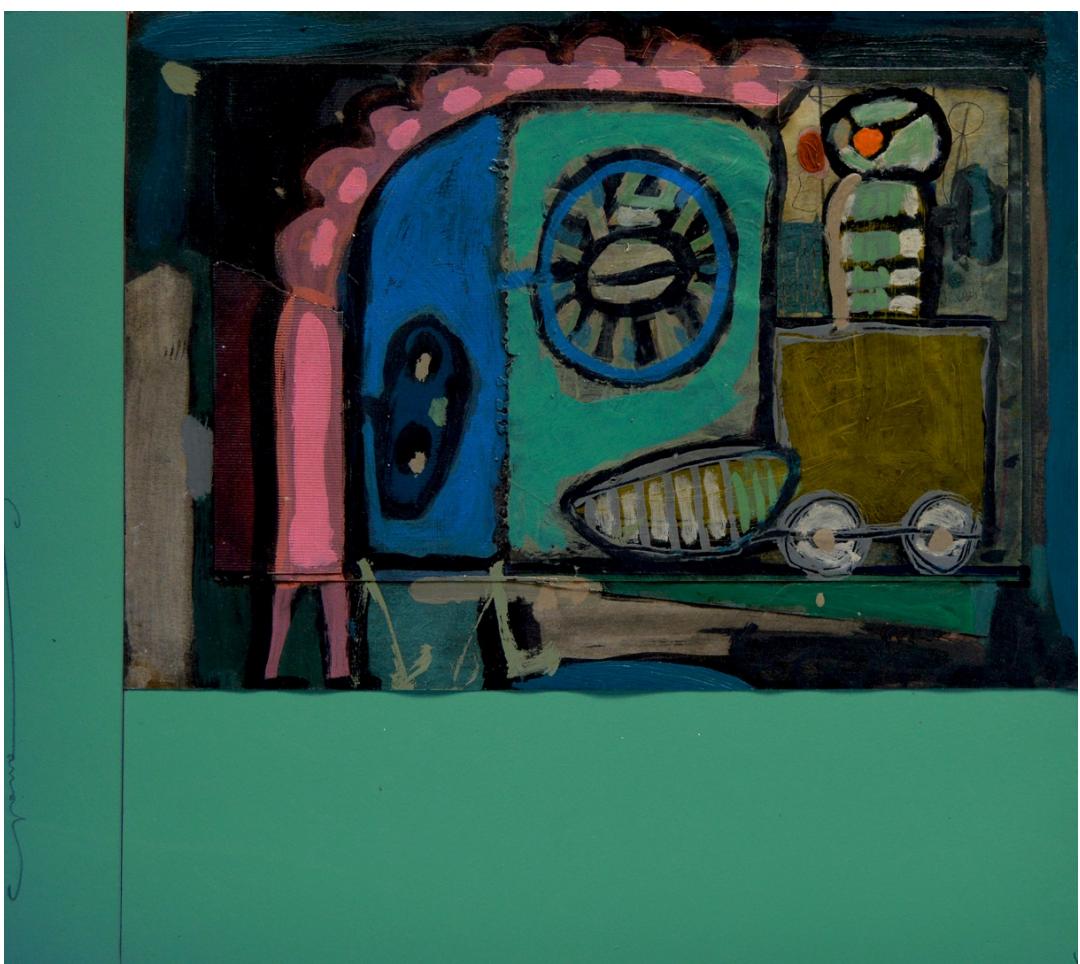






5 de mayo del año 2014. en mi estudio de
La calle del Carmen en el barrio del Raval.
Barceló

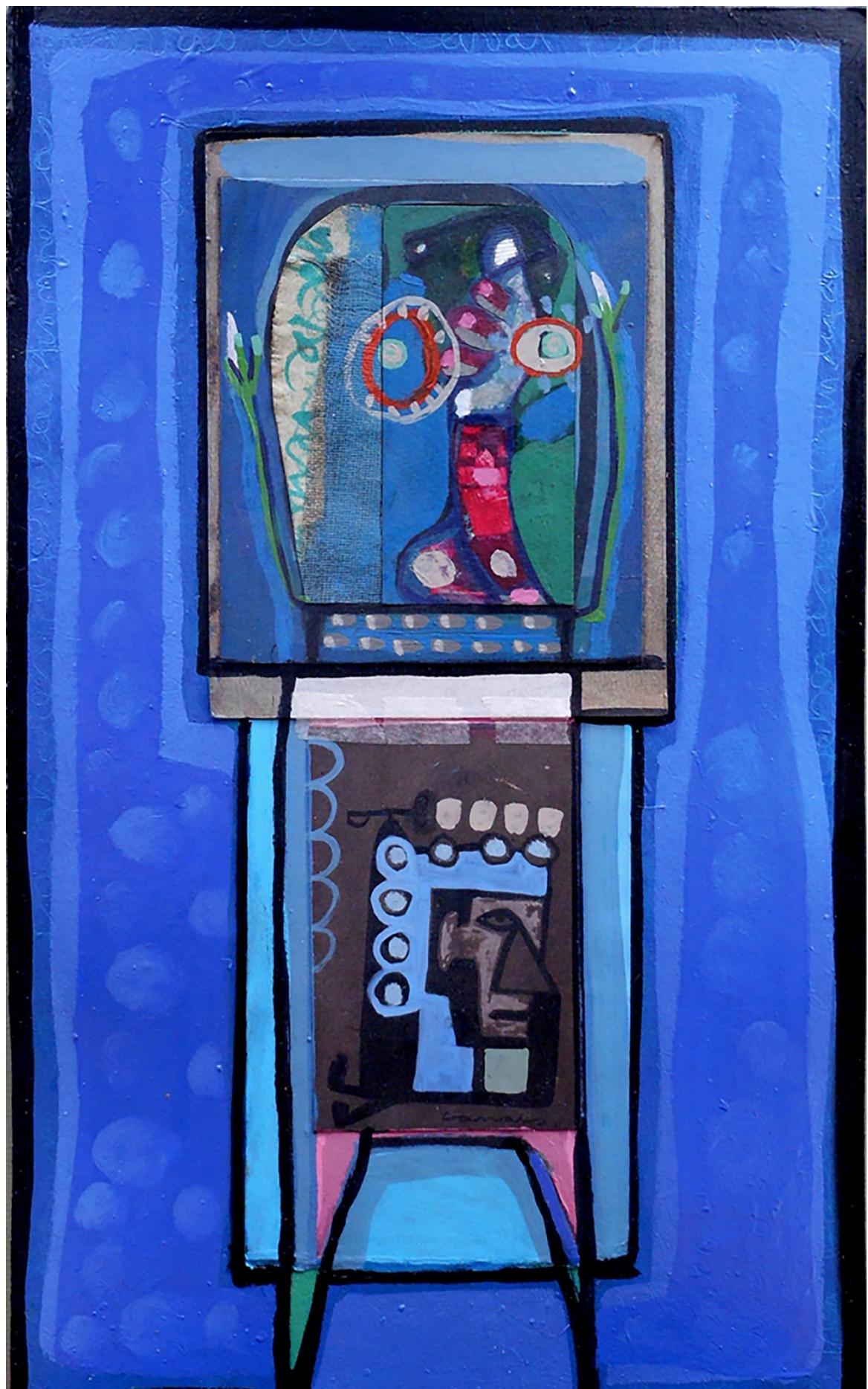






Doblen este libro en la galería o en su
jardín, me preguntó, la vegetación, en la
que se nos oculta que hace el
pintor











Juan Canals Carreras

www.artecanals.com

Exposiciones Individuales

- Galerie Axmann. Berlín. Alemania. 2014
The Grey Square. Tarragona. 2014
Sala de Arte Contemporáneo del CEBM. Hijar Teruel. 2013
MKAC (Museo Karura Art Centre/ Second-life). 2013
Museo de la ciudad de Móstoles. Madrid. 2012
Siart. Espacio de Arte. Cadaqués. 2005-2008-2010
Casal de Catalunya / La Noche de los Museos. Buenos Aires. Argentina. 2008
Consorcio de Arte. Galería. Buenos Aires. Argentina. 2008
Miniprint Internacional de Cadaqués / Individual de grabados. 2007
Sala de Exposiciones del Convento de Sant Doménech. Escuela de Artes Aplic.
Los mosquitos irrumpen y el sueño despierta a la conciencia. ARTEPAI. 1997
ART USUARI. Hospital de la Esperanza. Barcelona Septiembre.1995
Centre Cultural La Marineta. Mollet del Valles. (BCN.) 1995
Fundación Comaposada. 1994
Sala Arte Municipal Can Masallera. Sant Boi de Llobregat. 1994
Roch Minué. Galería de arte. Esculturas. Palma de Mallorca. 1992
Galerie du Syndicat d'initiative. Ceret. Francia.1991

Exposiciones Colectivas

Galeria Espai B. Barcelona. 2019

Swissartexpo. Artbox Projects Zurich. 2019

Parallax Art Fair. London. 2019

Red03 Art Gallery. Colectiva Permanente. 2019

Espacio Marcela Jardón / Bulevard dels Anticuaris. Barcelona. 2018

Collectania Mercatart. Colectiva. Wynwood Art Lab Barcelona. 2018

El Sentiment de la Urgencia / Artistas de Cuba i de Cataluña

La Capella. Calaf. Barcelona. 2017

La Nova Vella Sala. Colectiva Artrevella. Manresa. 2017

Cultur3 Club. Feria Nacional de Artistas. Palacio Revillagigedo Gijón 2017

Galeria Maria Nieves Martin. San Martin de los Barros. Extremadura. 2016

Galeria EspaiB. Barcelona. 2007-2019

Cultur3 Club. Feria Nacional de Artistas. Palacio Revillagigedo Gijón 2015

Fiarte & Galeria Aukso Pjuvis. Kaunas. Lituania. 2014

Fiarte & Museo de Instrumentos Musicales. Kaunas. Lituania. 2014

Exposición Colectiva Casa de Cultura de Maracena. Granada. 2014

Fundación CIEC. Centro Internacional de la Estampa Contemporánea.

Grabadores del Circulo de Bellas Artes de Madrid y del Reial Cercle de Barcelona.

Coruña. 2013

AHAF Asia Hotel Art Fair / Art Cuestion Gallery. Korea Seoul. 2013

Which Gate. Factory-Art Gallery. Berlin. 2013

Retratos. U BOX. Fundación Adolfo Domínguez. Madrid. 2013

IX Feria de Arte Contemporaneo de Arevalo. Avila. Año 2013

Siart. Espacio de arte. Cadaqués. 2005-2007-2008-2009-2012

Art Takes Times Square. Broadway entre la calle 42 y calle 44 NY. USA 18-5-2012,

Museo de Historia Ciudad de Arevalo. Avila. Mayo 2012

Feria de Arte Internacional de Granada. Centro Municipal de Cultura de Churriana de la Vega. Granada. Muestra Colectiva. 2012

Visions

Centro de Arte Contemporaneo Can Castells. S. Boi de Llobregat. 2012

Centro Barradas. L' Hospitalet de Llobregat. 2012

Sala d' art, La casa del libro Arabe. Barcelona 2010

Real Circulo Artistico de Barcelona:

Sala Exposiciones Ayuntamiento Ciudad de Leon. 2012

Exposición Benéfica a favor de Japón. Japó ART11 - 日本国 ART11 Bcn. 2011

Circulo de Bellas Artes de Madrid. I Exposición de Artistas Grabadores. 2008

Benavides-Castellanos-Canals Colectiva 2008

Galería Dalmau. Colectiva Verano. Barcelona. 2011

Feria de Arte Contemporáneo de Arevalo. 2011

Secularitat Sagrada i Art. Societat l' Amistad. Cadaqués. Colectiva de Arte y encuentro de dialogo interreligioso y intercultural. 2010

Marina-Art. Gata de Gorgos. Alicante. 2009

Autoretratos. Tres en suma. Espacio de Arte. Madrid. Octubre 2009.

Fira del Avet de Espinelves. Espinelves. Girona. 2008.

Galeria Red0. Colectiva Permanente / Barcelona. 2007-2008-2009-2010.

Sala de Exposiciones Gallardo. Colectiva Permanente / Cadaqués. 2007-2008

4SPAIS D' ART, Galeria:

Homenaje a Picasso. Llerida 2007

HETERO-GENIS. Llerida 2007

Internacional Exhibition at Booze Cooperativa. Atenas Grecia

CARTE BLANCHE VI. 2007

CARTE BLANCHE V. 2006

Waves art gallery. Colectiva de Grabados. Pune. India. 2006

Galería Magdalena Baixeras. Barcelona:

Universos Encontrados: Alejandre, Claret, Canals, Novella. 2002.

Pintura y escultura: Sam. Hernández & Juan Canals. 2001

Feria de Arte. Arte Expo 1997.

BAC 2001-2002 Barcelona Arte Contemporáneo. (Organizado Galería La Santa).

GALERÍA AM DAMM. Dresdén - Alemania. 1997 & 2000

NEW ART 1997. Revista Ajo Blanco. Habitación. 213. Hotel Majestic. Barcelona

Fundación Comaposada. Artistas Plásticos Europeos. 1997

HARDWARE GALLERY. London. 1996.

Young European Art / Open Art Munchen Food Carrier. Munich & Hannover. 1995

