



Olly Fathers

Born in 1987, Burton-upon-Trent. Lives in Brixton, London, United Kingdom.

BIOGRAPHY

Olly Fathers is an artist based in Brixton, London. His work explores the relationship between abstract shapes, geometry, materials, and three-dimensional forms - the result forming refined, often rather whimsical pieces that encourage contemplation. Upon further consideration, Fathers' works reveal to the viewer the extensive degree to which his process involves meticulous balance and precision. Fathers' attentiveness and detail-centric practice embodies the satisfaction obtained from the process of making, through a self-referential action which at once hints at both the maker and the product of his endeavours.

Fathers' process-oriented approach draws on woodwork both as a skillset and for its material utilitarianism in Art and Design fields - the tradition of which has exerted an influence on his own process. Over the course of his career, Fathers' use of wood in his practice has grown and he now creates pieces using a variety of types and species. His paintings began initially as a simplified reference to observations he made watching the flow of traffic in urban environments. Through the application of paint, he replicated the essence of a public interaction with space, buildings, pathways, roads, and the navigation of other urban channels. Fathers' work has gradually become more refined, having meticulously developed his vision and self-taught marquetry techniques for well over a decade. Although his work has since adopted a cleaner, minimalist visual language compared to those of his earlier years, it maintains a resonance with the city landscape.

For JGM Gallery's *Tangram* showcase, Fathers' displayed works take inspiration from architecture and design, specifically early computer technologies and graphics. These pieces use intricately cut wood veneers which Fathers brings together using marquetry techniques. Exploring the visual language between simple forms and materials, Fathers manipulates independent shapes into a harmonious amalgam of forms, subsequently finding balance. He also makes works with paper, card, recycled cardboard, wood-effect vinyl, and other industrial materials. Many of these pieces he considers as studies for larger, future works, however, when lent the same gravitas as his paintings, defy their definition as a preparatory stage. His work is collected and exhibited internationally and he also works on a commission basis.

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2020 *Form Block Form*, Bearspace Gallery, London, United Kingdom
 - 2012 Taylor Street Baristas, Bank, London, United Kingdom
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SELECTED EXHIBITIONS

- 2023 *Beneath the bark*, Cube Gallery, London, United Kingdom
- 2023 *Artefact Fair*, Chelsea Design Centre, London, United Kingdom
- 2023 *Collect Fair*, Somerset House, London, United Kingdom
- 2023 *Brabourne Room*, Royal Over-Seas Society Members Club, London, United Kingdom
- 2023 *Artists' Artist*, OHSB Projects, New Oxford Street, London, United Kingdom
- 2022 *Studio Response 03*, Saatchi Gallery, London, United Kingdom
- 2022 *Haven*, Aylmer Hall, Steingold Contemporary, London, United Kingdom
- 2022 *Offcuts*, exhibiting with Morgan Furniture, Clerkenwell Design Week, London, United Kingdom
- 2022 Crown Point Roadside Gallery, Leeds, United Kingdom
- 2021 *Concorde Art Prize*, 180 the Strand, London, United Kingdom
- 2021 *Happy Together*, UI Artline Installation, Seoul, South Korea
- 2020 *Objects of Art* (Online Exhibition), The Skateboards, House of Vans, London
- 2020 *Perfectionism IV: A Trick of the Eye* (Online Exhibition) curated by Rebecca Pelly-Fry, Open Art Advisory, New York
- 2019 *Harder Edge*, Hospital Club & Saatchi Gallery, London, United Kingdom
- 2018 *Jealous Needs You*, Jealous Gallery & Saatchi Gallery, London, United Kingdom

- 2018 *Micromegas*, Saatchi Gallery, London, United Kingdom
2017 Jealous Gallery Rooftop Mural Project, London, United Kingdom
2017 *Ecstatic Rays*, Saatchi Gallery, London, United Kingdom
2017 *Concrete Dance*, Bunker Barmbek, Hamburg, Germany
2016 *Traces of minimalism*, Helium Cowboy Gallery, Hamburg, Germany
2015 Pure Evil Gallery, Shoreditch, London, United Kingdom
2015 *We built this city*, Carnaby Street, London, United Kingdom
2015 *Trigonometry*, O3 Gallery, Oxford, United Kingdom
2015 *Capsule*, Embassy Tea Gallery, London, United Kingdom
2014 *Group Exhibition*, Nitra Gallery, Athens, Greece
2014 *Made in Arts London*, Letheby Gallery, Kings Cross, London, United Kingdom
2012 *Angelika Art Prize Exhibition*, Angelika Studios, High Wycombe, United Kingdom
2012 *\$99 Show*, Irvine Fine arts Center, Irvine, United States
2012 *Summer Exhibition*, (Invitation by Tess Jaray), Royal Academy, London, United Kingdom
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COLLECTIONS

- 2022 KOKO Members Club, London, United Kingdom
2018-20 Soho House in London, Amsterdam, Tel Aviv & Mumbai
2019 London School of Economics
2018 Merkle Digital Marketing
Various private collections in United Kingdom, Europe, United States, Australia, and New Zealand
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ART PRIZES

- 2021 *Concorde Art Prize*, Finalist, 180 Strand, London, United Kingdom
2014 Candid Arts Summer Exhibition Art, Prizewinner
2012 Angelika Art Prize, Angelika Studios, High Wycombe, United Kingdom
2012 Candid Berlin Show, Prizewinner, Germany
2008 *State-of-the-Art*, Prizewinner, The Prince's Trust Charity Competition, Royal College of Art, Lower Gulbenkian Gallery
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SELECTED PRESS / PUBLICATIONS

- 2023 Elle Decoration UK, Feature on Birch Hotel interiors and artworks, United Kingdom
2023 Elle Decoration USA, Feature on interior of a private collector's home in Santa Barbara, United States
2021 Happy Together, UI Artline, Seoul, South Korea
2020 Dateagle Art Magazine, Interview by Fiona Grady
2019 Artiq Journal, Interview by Melody Patman
2016 Art Dependence Magazine, Interview with Yukako Shibata by Lavinia Rosen
2015 Rekyr Business Magazine, Featured artist for August edition
2012 Royal Academy Summer Exhibition Illustrated Catalogue 2007

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