

An abstract painting by Samuel Riera, featuring a central figure with a red face and a wide, open mouth, surrounded by vibrant, swirling colors like yellow, blue, and black. The style is expressive and gestural, with thick brushstrokes and a dense, layered composition. The overall effect is one of intense energy and emotional depth.

RIERA STUDIO

STORIES FROM THE SHIRE

SAMUEL RIERA



STORIES FROM THE SHIRE

By Derbis Campos

Narratives, anecdotes, fables, tales, the stories that someone lived and are transmitted from one to another are the total experience of a town or a city. Real matters which are disrupted by fantasy and the given subjective idea of every person, regarding all the different social, religious, political and cultural problematics of every society. Stories that can be feel like real ones, but they aren't and others with so fantastic contents that amaze by the veracity of its reality. Real situations that can fit perfectly in others realities from others regions of the world and be part of the world storytelling because they share feelings, desires, experiences with global attributes regardless of the storyteller. However, the context of our society makes more magnificent this world of storytelling because unavoidably it brings out the magic realism, an eclectic, fantastic and absurd environment and sometimes it could be contradictory, diffuse and incomprehensible for many.

In that sense this series of canvas, woodcuts and drawings are witnesses in visual images of an enormous amount of information of the author's experiences. Images where figuration is mixed with the unbridled action, with the automatism guided by a latent but diffuse subjectivity. The intentional segmentation of the artworks is as the way for a search to put together every story. Iconographies and ambiances that are put one over the other creating imperceptible forms and elements from what was before completely exposed, as an anecdote pass mouth by mouth, adding details of personal intimate issues from every individual. The whole plot crafting the mysticism of every singular piece.



Samuel Riera Méndez Havana ,1978

He graduates in 1999 from San Alejandro National Academy of Fine Arts in the specialty of Engraving. Between 2001-2006 Riera serves as Professor of Engraving in San Alejandro. In 2003 he founds, along with others artists, the Galería Postal project. Two years later, Riera is awarded the Tamarind Institute Scholarship (Albuquerque, New Mexico, USA), dedicated to lithographic studies. In the same year he is granted the Grand Prize for Graphic Art, sponsored by the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation and the Embassy of Spain in Cuba. In 2018, he is awarded with the COUNCIL fellowship (organization based in France) to develop the project: "Art at the margins of Art" in relation with the creation of art workshops for patients at mental institutions.

Presently, his artistic work moves fluently through a variety of techniques, encompassing Graphic Arts, Painting, Video Art, Cinema and Installation. He has imparted conferences on Video Art in Cuba, Venezuela and Mexico and participated in international festivals such as the Festival of Alternative Cinema (Mexico), the Festival of Young Filmmakers (Cuba) and the Low Budget Film Festival of Gibara (Cuba). Riera has taken part in more than one hundred collective exhibitions in Cuba and abroad. Currently he exhibits his work at the permanent collection of the First Museum of Cuban Art in Vienna, Austria, as well as in personal collections in Spain, Denmark, USA, Japan, Venezuela and Cuba.

From 2012 on, Riera runs his open atelier RIERA STUDIO, with the objective of creating an autonomous space for dialogue, diagnosis and cooperation amongst alternative discourses dealing with Cuban art, supporting primarily the presence and development of peripheral art beyond the centrist current. Since 2013, he creates and organizes Art Brut Project Cuba, aimed at building an action programme throughout Cuba that allows to recognize, catalogue, support and promotes the work of Cuban Art Brut and Outsider Art creators.

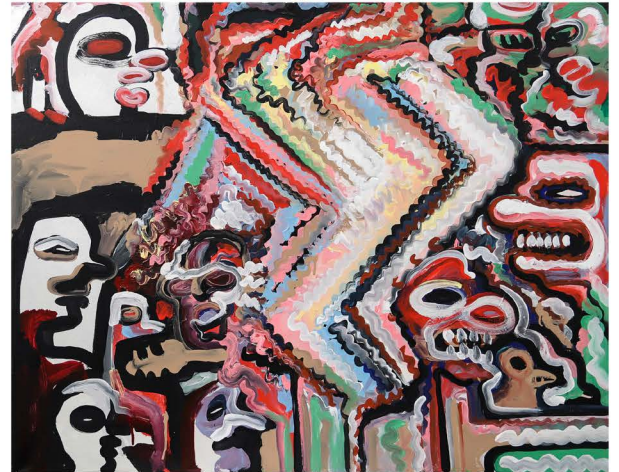
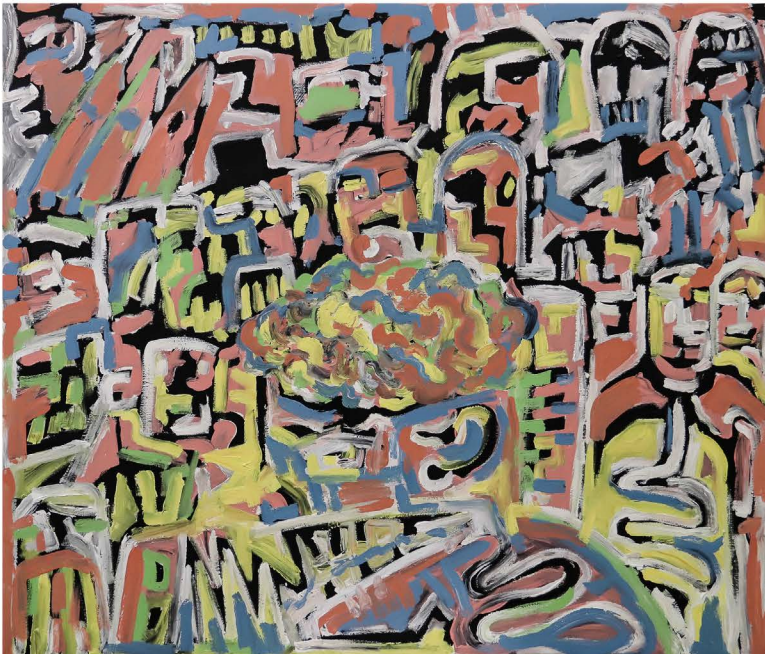


The Lost Gold of the Crown. Acrylic on canvas. 100 cm x 80 cm (set of two pieces). 2019.

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The Hero and the Demon. Acrylic on canvas. 230 cm x 131 cm. 2019.

The Social Guru. Acrylic on canvas. 120 cm x 100 cm. 2019.

Sunday Mass. Acrylic on canvas. 131 cm x 100 cm. 2019.



Harvest Times. Acrylic on canvas. 100 cm x 80 cm (set of two pieces). 2019.

The King is Dead, Long Live the King! Acrylic on canvas. 120 cm x 100 cm. 2019.
The Tangle Storm. Acrylic on canvas. 120 cm x 100 cm. 2019.



RIERA STUDIO

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RIERA STUDIO

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Dreaming about the Neighbouring Shire. Acrylic on canvas. 125cm x 200 cm.
2019