



Xarli Zurell

is a painter who, through his works, seeks to capture the diversity of motifs from his native region, the Basque Country. First and foremost, he engages with the territory through walking. He traverses these mountainous landscapes, tracing the contours of the terrain with his steps, absorbing the contrasts of the scenery, and physically confronting the diversity of the Pyrenean lands. During these hikes, he gathers photographic material that he later reinterprets through his brushstrokes.

His painting series “Born in Fantasy,” which he has been developing for the past four years, freezes these hiking moments through a process of simplifying forms. He creates a cartography marked by vivid contrasts and dazzling chromatic ranges. Figures and objects with dissonant proportions punctuate the landscapes, hollowed by materiality, bearing witness to a transposition of reality into the encounter with an imagined world.

The emergence of the dragon figure introduces a shift within the series. Paintings that once translated reality now confront the contours of myth. This oral tale, once whispered in the valleys, has endured through the centuries and remains deeply rooted in the territorial reality of the Basque Country today.

EDUCATION

2016 | Diplôme National Supérieur d’Expression Plastique (DNSEP), Beaux-Arts Nantes, France

2014 | Diplôme National d’Arts Plastiques (DNAP), Beaux-Arts Biarritz, France

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2026 | *Following Light*, a66Gallery, Santanyí, Mallorca, Spain

2023 | *Original(e)s II*, Centre d’art Les Églises, Chelles, France

2022 | *Lucioles*, Savoir/Dessiner, Paris, France

2021 | *Les Sélénites*, Galerie Sobering, Paris, France

2020 | *Les idoles fauchées*, Art au centre, Liège, Belgium

2017 | *Rebut Reboot*, Galerie du Second Jeudi, Bayonne, France

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2025 | *Feu*, Galerie Ad Astra, Paris, France

— *Paysages Anthropiques*, Galerie de la Main de Fer, Perpignan, France

2023 | *Call Of The Wild*, Galerie Sabine Bayasli, Paris, France

— *Les affleurements*, Station V, Bayonne, France

2022 | *Le Lab*, Galerie Sabine Bayasli, Paris, France

- *Alumni.ae*, Beaux-Arts de Nantes, Nantes, France
- 2021** | *Tableau*, Savoir Dessiner, Paris, France
- *Assemblage 30*, Julio artist-run space, Paris, France
- *Transitoire*, Atelier de la Ville en Bois, Nantes, France
- *Theneverendingstory*, Le SHED, Rouen, France, curated by Bruno Peinado
- *À la différence près que*, Le Houloc, Aubervilliers, France
- 2020** | *Galerie des futurs*, BOZAR, Brussels, Belgium
- *Manivole*, Le Maga, Brussels Gallery Weekend, Brussels, Belgium
- *Peinture Party*, Petite Maison, Brussels, Belgium
- 2019** | *Novembre à Vitry*, Galerie Municipale Jean Collet, Vitry, France
- *Sub Sole*, L'Annexe, Paris, France
- *Hiatus*, Galerie V2Vingt, Brussels, Belgium
- *Finalelement*, Grande Surface, Brussels, Belgium
- *Minuit Blanche*, Palais de Justice de Joigny, Joigny, France
- *Spacehopper*, Knust Festival, Brussels, Belgium
- 2018** | *Extraordinaires objets de l'ordinaire*, Villa Belleville, Paris, France
- *Départ pour Iter*, Area 42, Brussels, Belgium
- *Idées Noires*, Hochparterre Berlin Studio Salon, Berlin, Germany
- *Vent, chants d'oiseaux très légers, bruits de travaux*, Exbek, Brussels, Belgium
- *Premièrement*, Grande Surface, Brussels, Belgium
- *Carte de Visite*, Espace Vanderborght, Brussels, Belgium
- 2016** | *Why won't they leave us alone*, Treize, Paris, France
- *When the storm causes detour*, Treize, Paris, France
- 2015** | *When the storm causes detour*, Fieldwork Marfa, Marfa, Texas, USA

RESIDENCIES

- 2023** | Centre d'art Les Églises, Chelles, France
- Malus Rivus, Orelle, France
- 2018** | Area 42, Brussels, Belgium

COLLECTIONS

- Fondation Maeght, France
- Bibliothèque nationale de France (BnF), France
- Artothèque de Nantes, France

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- **Since 2020** | Drawing and painting teacher, Savoir Dessiner, Paris, France
- **2018–2021** | Co-founder and member of the collective and exhibition space Grande Surface, Brussels, Belgium