

JONCQUIL (1973)

Joncquil is Dutch by birth and lives and works in The Hague.

Joncquil's monochrome, loosely-executed paintings, though instantly identifiable, are not easy to categorise. His work combines figurative and abstract images that seem to be in a state of flux, suggesting a momentary arrest of an ongoing process.

Joncquil sets the canvas out flat on the floor, and uses very liquid paint. He allows spontaneous shapes to appear and then builds on them, incorporating accidental marks as they occur. Joncquil uses a calculated process of addition and subtraction, applying gentle washes of paint and removing pigment from the canvas surface to highlight areas.

Joncquil chooses to paint environments that are semi-detached from reality. Drawing on historical as well as contemporary subjects, he creates fragmentary paintings that resemble hallucinations, dreams or memories rather than images of everyday life. Joncquil's use of colours such as magenta, cyan and yellow alludes to photography and its chemical processes, distancing his work yet further from certain painterly expectations.

Joncquil's elusive yet enigmatic paintings linger in the mind and have a strong, timeless quality. At 35, Joncquil has already established his very own visual vocabulary as he continues to explore the possibilities of paint on canvas, searching for emotion and ambiguity.