

MARC DENNIS Master Artist of Time Travel



Hyperrealism is considered an advancement of Photorealism by the methods used to create the resulting paintings or sculptures. An artist that pushes the genre to its limits while also masterfully embodying the core of the discipline is Marc Dennis. Beyond just creating beautiful pieces of hyperrealistic art, Dennis also applies his unique twist to the already bold genre by bringing old masters' works into the modern-day, allowing the current generation to find a new appreciation for classic art. "99% of the work I do is oil on canvas or linen," Marc says when asked what mediums he primarily chooses to work.

Marc Dennis was born in Danvers, Massachusetts in 1972, and was one of five sons. His mother often encouraged him to play outside, as most mothers of five boys would, thus fueling his inquisitive nature as a byproduct. During his excursions, he would explore the woods and unearth stones to see what creatures lay beneath. Dennis never seriously considered art as a career, although he was curious about the craft. When his mother spotted his interest, she took him to receive lessons from a woman in his town where he could expound on his curiosity about animals, nature, and art. The husband of his teacher was a taxidermist and allowed Dennis to take some of his mounts home to draw and study. His art education eventually led to Dennis drawing things for his classmates, and even receiving payment for his work at quite a young age. He states his genuine appreciation, "I feel blessed that people actually like what I do." At 15 and a half years of age, Dennis was arrested for something particularly serious. When he found himself in court for the case against him he was asked quite a generic question, one that many people have since queried, "Where do you see yourself in 5 years?". When the judge leaned forward to make this inquiry, his response was, "Your honor, every day is a lifetime." This profound and distinct remark put an end to the line of questioning then and is a response Dennis offers those who are still unoriginal enough to presently ask. I feel blessed that people actually like what I do. "



Among Dennis's extensive catalog is a piece titled, "From a Close Distance," a painting that contains a woman in a blue dress, found amongst an array of polaroids of the same woman, all against a paint-strewn wall. The piece in the center is his re-creation of a famous work by French painter Angès-Louis Janet. Dennis comments on the construction of the piece and its meaning to him, "The painting at the center is in the Metropolitan Museum of Art and is one of my favorite paintings in the world," Dennis goes on, "I thought if I could paint that, repaint it so to speak, as if it appears on my studio wall surrounded by the process of which I work." Another piece that was discussed during the Vibe2Vibe interview with host Tori Indeed was, "The Joy of Painting". Dennis speaks of the piece's relationship to the pandemic, how during the peak of COVID while everyone was quarantined, people were sending each other text messages. The piece was a commentary of sorts on how people weathered the pandemic. Dennis added post-it notes in the painting, including some of

the messages that he received. Each artifact that made its way into the piece was an expression of his love for those who kept in contact during the tough time. Other images can also be found in the cacophony of post-its, letters, and polaroids.

One such image is of the infamous banana sold at Art Basel. Dennis's re-creation of the banana was his way of exposing it as something of a farce, and how potentially decadent the \$250,000 "piece" selling meant to the art world.

"I channel the old master sensibility... I'll paint old master paintings and then I'll refresh them... so a contemporary audience can find a newer relationship with this old masterpiece "



Time has a substantial effect on the concepts that direct Dennis's work. A piece of his childhood, bits of artists like Van Gogh, and even his ancestry can all be seen influencing everything he creates. Dennis's work seems to brilliantly transcend the limitations of time in many ways. The professional artist and art professor is dealing in time yet again with his current, "Holocaust Projects" which he will be including in his curriculum at Elmira University in New York where he teaches. To find out more about this incredible project head to his website at marcdennis.com/projects/holocaust-projects/



I'm represented with: Gavlak Gallery, Los Angeles and Palm Beach Nancy Littlejohn Fine Art, Houston, TX My exhibitions from the recent past and near future: I will show new paintings at the Felix Art Fair, which takes place at the Roosevelt Hotel in Los Angeles with Gavlak Gallery in February 2022. I will show at Frieze Los Angeles with Gavlak Gallery, February 2022. I showed one of my exclusive "post-it note" painting titled, "Love You Too" in Art Basel Miami Beach with Gavlak Gallery, Nov 30- Dec 3, 2021 I also showed my painting titled, "Jewish American Princess" in the Untitled Art Fair, Miami Beach with Nancy Littlejohn Fine Art, Nov 30- Dec 3, 2021 I showed one of my "post-it note/investigation board" paintings titled, "The Joy of Painting" in The Armory Show, New York, with Gavlak Gallery this past September 8-12, 2021 I showed my painting, "She Loves Me, She Loves Me Not" with Nancy Littlejohn Fine Art at Intersect Aspen Art Fair, August 4-8, 2021

I showed one of my large floral paintings at Park House in Dallas, TX, courtesy of Cris Worley Fine Art, Dallas, TX in a group exhibition in honor of the 10 Year Anniversary of PATRON Magazine. Curated by Terri Provencal, PATRON founder and editor in chief. The exhibition was intended to represent important contemporary artists of our time. I had a solo exhibition at The Berkshire Botanical Garden, Lenox, MA, July 30 - September 6, 2021. My show was titled, "Revolution." I had twelve floral paintings on display. I had a solo exhibition with Gavlak Gallery, Palm Beach, April 4 - June 6, 2021. My show was titled, "Love in the Time of Corona." I had seven paintings on display. I had a solo exhibition with Nancy Littlejohn Fine Art in Houston, TX. My show was titled, "Paradise Lost." I had ten paintings on display.

– Daniel Johnson