

Coco Dávez creates art for the digital world that demands your attention

On 10 May, Maddox Gallery, Westbourne Grove will be home to Spanish artist Coco Dávez's first UK exhibition. Coco Dávez is the alter-ego of Valeria Palmeiro, a self-taught and experimental artist with an idiosyncratic style. Inspired by popular culture and illustrated realism, Dávez spent many years working in London as an illustrator collaborating with brands such as Vogue, Chanel, Dior, Prada and Shiseido. Paying homage to Fauvism, Dávez soon developed her signature technique of unconstrained brushwork, painting pure acrylic colour on large scale canvases that play with colour and shape. Her work has led her to being listed in Forbes' "30 under 30" as one of the most influential young artists in the world today, as well as exhibiting in Paris, Queensland, Brussels, Lisbon, Barcelona and Madrid.

Coco Dávez's work will be exhibiting in the UK for the first time with her most acclaimed project to date, *Faceless*, which explores themes of popular and historical culture through a neorealistic lens with a nod to pop art, including a collection of Dávez's cultural icons from her past and present, all painted on towering canvases.

In *Faceless*, Dávez invites us into her world of eclectic subjects, ranging from musicians and artists to film and cartoon characters. Joining the conversation of society's obsession with celebrity, Dávez deconstructs the images of Jean-Michel Basquiat, Jackie Kennedy, Pablo Picasso, Grace Jones and Peggy Guggenheim. The collection of faceless characters are recognisable even without their facial features, allowing Dávez to pay tribute to her icons by elevating them beyond their traditional iconography.

Coco Dávez creates artwork for the digital universe that demands your attention. Through her exhibition at Maddox Gallery, Westbourne Grove, she's undoubtedly about to disrupt both the London and international art scene alike. Watch this space.



THE
GALLERY
SPACE

Face/off

Renowned for supporting cutting edge, provocative artists of the contemporary scene, Maddox Gallery, Westbourne Grove introduces Spain's Coco Dávez with her upcoming show *Faceless*.

Story by **Sophie Clark**

Since opening its flagship location in 2015, Maddox Gallery has become one of the rising names of the art world. The London based group now has six galleries, adding its first US location in Los Angeles in September last year. Housing artworks from a tightly curated network of emerging, established and blue-chip artists such as Bradley Theodore, Tyler Shields, Banksy and Andy Warhol, Maddox Gallery has become a go-to contemporary art destination for both the thriving London art scene and around the globe.

The artists within this international group of galleries are all acclaimed in their fields – working in media across photography and painting. Maddox Gallery group has become an important hub for artists who encourage each other to create a unique environment. Showcasing artists who have a message for the world has led to the Maddox Gallery portfolio representing talent that stands out for its quality and commitment. The latest exhibition at the Maddox Gallery Westbourne Grove is no exception.



Coco Dávez's work combines neorealism with pop art that explores modern icons who have shaped our culture

