

# Meet Parisian Artist, Julien des Monstiers

Art Paris

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November 5, 2015

When we first saw [Julien des Monstiers paintings](#), we immediately fell for his bursts of color. His series [Tapis](#), is a set of beautiful floral paintings that carry a nostalgic yet energetic aura to them. Julien is a young artist, who despite his age, is widely acknowledged among the Parisian artistic scene. Graduate of the prestigious [École Nationale Supérieure des Beaux Arts](#) in Paris, Julien Des Monstiers plays around with colors, textures, concepts and a forgotten artistic *savoir faire*, in the hope of placing art in a place where it had once been.



Julien in his atelier | Courtesy of Julien Des Monstiers

**TCT: Can you tell us a bit more about your project and style?**

**JDM:** For a few years I've been working with my paintings as surfaces. In fact, it means that I consider the surface of the painting as a kind of skin. I developed my style of painting in such a way, that the process has a fundamental importance, it allows me to paint either figurative or abstract scenes, it doesn't matter. I really want to feel free to do whatever I need on the canvas. I use the space of the painting as a screen. Most of the images I use, which can be taken from Art History or Crafts, are pretexts to create appearances on the surface. I look to create "holes" on the pane surface of the painting, that allude to the memory/collective memory or to the classic tricks of painting, composition and use of colors. I first work on the different strata and then I decide which kind of pattern I will confront it to, so that the final process often looks like an image damaged by time.



La Grande Surface, 'Tapis' series, 2014 | Courtesy of Galerie Christophe Gaillard

**TCT: What advice would you give to someone who was trying to break into the art business?**

**JDM:** You should be working by now.

**TCT: What is the most unusual request (related to your work) you've had?**

**JDM:** 'Where does your interest in flowers come from?' As I said before, It's always a matter of pretexts, I could paint everything. Flowers are interesting because of their shapes and colors...and also because of their use in Art History. I'm more interested in the question 'What?' rather than 'Why?'

**TCT: What's next?**

**JDM:** I'm actually working on my solo exhibition at [Christophe Gaillard Gallery](#), which will take place on January 2016, in Paris.



Les loups des surfaces, 2015 | Courtesy of Galerie Christophe Gaillard

**TCT: What is your favorite art gallery or museum and why?**

**JDM:** It actually depends on the exhibitions... I spend some time in all the galleries located in Le Marais, Paris' third district, that's where you can see a large panel of the contemporary Art. I also like to regularly have a look at the Centre Georges Pompidou, the [Palais de Tokyo](#) or The [Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris](#). But on a more personal level, I often go to the [Musée de la Chasse et de la Nature](#) or the [Musée des Arts et Métiers](#).



Abysses, 2015 | Courtesy of Galerie Christophe Gaillard

**TCT: What is the most memorable moment from your career?**

**JDM:** Every time I meet someone who believes in my work: artists friends, gallerists or collectors. But more specifically, my new collaboration with Christophe Gaillard. He has just opened a wonderful new Gallery, near the [Centre Georges Pompidou](#) and being able to showcase my work there is really exciting!

**Beach or mountain?** Beach. I have a special and personal link to the sea ever since I'm a child, especially since I also practice surfing...

**Braque or Miró?** Miró

**Palais de Tokyo or Pompidou?** It depends but because I'm a young artist, the Palais de Tokyo seems, sometimes, to be more attractive; it's more about what's happening now, more experimental.

**Wine or beer?** Wine

**Love or friendship?** Friendship. It's more difficult, and it's truly precious.

**Guy de Maupassant or Marcel Proust?** Marcel Proust. I'll never forget the pleasure I felt while reading [A La recherche du temps perdu](#), one of the most beautiful books I've ever read.

Visit Julien Des Monstiers' website and discover more artworks of this Parisian artist: <http://www.julien-desmonstiers.com/>

Introduction by Diana Vernon </p>

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