



**Matthijs Scholten**  
(Dutch, born 1983)

### **Biography**

Matthijs Scholten was born in 1983 in Huizen, The Netherlands. Matthijs describes his artistic inspiration as originating from the streets, from graffiti art and weathered elements of buildings. All of which serve as the impetus for his imaginative faces. Scholten's bold compositions largely focus on the striking eyes of his characters. Eyes that look at him, you, and out to the world.

The work of Matthijs Scholten is immediately recognizable as a 'Scholten' and difficult to classify in any particular style or school. He brings many, partly contrasting components together to create his own new, atypical visual language. Explosions arise from the depth of his psyche and this is his translation of the chaotic world around him. Constructivist elements and symbolism come together to form his very recognizable style.

The urge to establish order out of chaos is present and dominant in all his work. Giving every element of a composition equivalent meaning, his work can at first instance, resemble a large degree of control. Together with the characteristics of the material, Scholten represents the objective world through the use of a 'Basquiat-like' expressionist technique of spontaneity. This explosive connection forms his unique strength. Recognition, ultimately, is subordinate for Scholten, rather it is the emotion that the total image evokes that is most important.

In retrospect, Scholten transforms his visions, explosions, and his reality into a completely visual event. Tensions are either about to come to a discharge, or the drama has already happened. Simply put, Scholten's work expresses the turbulent emotions of human existence. Scholten's combative attitude towards the world around him is evident in his work through his use of colour and shape, making the clashes and movements experienced almost palpable.

Scholten's work have been exhibited nationally, as well as internationally in Russia and Montenegro.



### Selected Exhibitions

2023

*Anna Singer Artweek*, Museum Singer Laren,  
Laren, The Netherlands

*SmithDavidson Icons*, SmithDavidson Gallery, Amsterdam,  
The Netherlands

Solo presentation *Art on Paper* Amsterdam, The Netherlands

2022

*Contemporary Art Exhibition*, SmithDavidson Gallery,  
New York, USA

Duo: *Free or Form*, SmithDavidson Gallery, Amsterdam,  
The Netherlands

2021

Museum Singer Laren, Laren, The Netherlands

2019

Museum Singer Laren, Laren, The Netherlands

Solo: Maritime Heritage Museum, Tivat, Montenegro

2018

Museum Singer Laren, Laren, The Netherlands

Gallery of Contemporary Art, Irkutsk, Russia

### Selected Art Fairs

*Art on Paper* Amsterdam, Amsterdam, NL

KunstRAI Amsterdam, Amsterdam, NL

PAN Amsterdam, Amsterdam, NL

Art Miami, Miami, USA

EXPO Chicago, Chicago, USA

The Armory Show, New York, USA