



MICHAEL
VIGER

CINEMATIC SYMPHONY

Portfolio

Discovery



Opening: Artist Portrait

🎨 The Emergence of a Unique Talent

1st Movement: Behind the Scenes of Creation

💡 Artistic Inspiration

🎬 Style and Influences: The Artistic DNA

🌟 From Raw Wood to Work of Art:
The Creative Process

2nd Movement: The Visual Palette

🎨 The Artwork: A Symphony
of Everyday Life

🎭 10 Iconic Creations

3rd Movement: Recognition

🏆 Awards and Permanent Collections

🖼️ Solo and Group Exhibitions

📖 Publications and Reviews





MICHAEL VIGER

Fine Art Painter



From the camera to the paintbrush, Michaël Viger traces an artistic journey as unique as it is daring. The son of a French film score composer and an Austrian mother, interior decorator, he was immersed from a young age in a world where art transcends boundaries.

Trained at the Beaux-Arts, he surprised everyone by diving into the world of cinema.

For 35 years, he roamed the sets, from documentaries to feature films, from "The Man in the Iron Mask" to "The Visitors," honing his eye as a director.

But fate had other plans. A chance encounter with wooden formwork panels reignited his passion for painting. From that moment, Michaël reinvented his art, blending his cinematic experience with an innovative technique.

Today, his works travel from Vienna to Rome and Madrid, bearing witness to a talent that transforms the everyday into scenes worthy of the big screen.



First Movement

BEHIND THE SCENES OF CREATION



ARTISTIC INSPIRATION



Michaël Viger's art is a visual symphony where jazz meets Fellini, and raw wood converses with oil. Each painting is a frozen film, capturing the essence of a moment, an emotion.

His inspiration? It springs from the bustling streets of New York, the smoky jazz clubs of Paris, and the film sets. He paints like a director frames a shot: each brushstroke is a long take, and each texture is a focus on the human soul.

He inspired from **Hopper's** daily poetry, from **Klimt** the elegant sensuality and from cinema the art of the story telling with a single glance. But it is on formwork wood, an unlikely yet evocative medium, that he finds his one voice. Michaël doesn't simply paint scenes; he creates worlds where the viewer is invited to travel, to dream, to feel. Each piece is an invitation to a sensory journey, an immersive experience where the ordinary becomes extraordinary.

STYLE AND INFLUENCES: THE ARTISTIC DNA OF MICHAËL VIGER

SIGNATURE STYLE

- Unique Fusion: A marriage between technical fine Arts and cinematic storytelling
- Distinctive Medium: Formwork wood, bringing texture and depth
- Preferred Subjects: Urban scenes, expressive portraits, bar atmospheres.

MAJOR INFLUENCES

- Cinema: Framing inspired by Hitchcock & shadows' play + Wong Kar-Wai's light reminiscence
- Painting: Edward Hopper's Emotional realism & Klimt's elegance and sensuality
- Photography: Saul Leiter's Intimacy and spontaneity

KEY TECHNIQUES

- Composition: Balance between cinematic rigor and pictorial spontaneity
- Palette: Rich in contrasts, evoking the film noir 's atmosphere and jazz energy
- Light: chiaroscuro's Mastery to create depth and emotion

ARTISTIC APPROACH

- Magnified Everyday Life: Ability to reveal extraordinary beauty in ordinary scenes
- Visual Storytelling: Each work tells a story, inviting the viewer to imagine it
- Immersive Atmosphere: Moods' Creation which captivate and transport the observer

ARTISTIC EVOLUTION

- From Fine Arts to Cinema: Classical training enriched by cinematic experience
- Return to Roots: Rediscovery of painting with a unique perspective
- Continuous Innovation: Constant experimentation with textures and mixed techniques

THE ART OF REINVENTION: AN ECO-RESPONSIBLE APPROACH

*"WHERE SOME SEE WASTE, I SEE A BLANK CANVAS
READY TO TELL A NEW STORY."*

By giving a second life to formwork wood, Michaël brings a unique artistic approach that fuses creativity with environmental awareness, proving that it is possible to create beauty while respecting our planet.



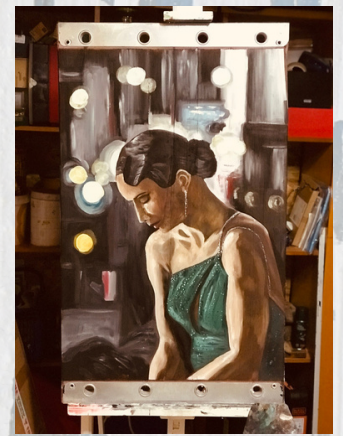
*"ART DOESN'T NEED TO DEplete THE
EARTH TO TOUCH SOULS."*

These wooden planks, silent witnesses of our industrial past, find new life under Michaël's brushes. In their time-worn grains, he sees treasures of emotion to share, transforming the forgotten into the unforgettable.



FROM RAW WOOD TO WORK OF ART: THE CREATIVE PROCESS

From reclaimed raw wood to vibrant works of art, Michaël Viger transforms formwork panels into unique canvases. Each step of the process—from the meticulous selection of wood to the final application of paint—reflects the fusion of his cinematic experience and artistic vision, creating pieces where every brushstroke tells a story.





Second Movement

THE VISUAL PALETTE



THE ARTWORK: A DAILY VISUAL SYMPHONY

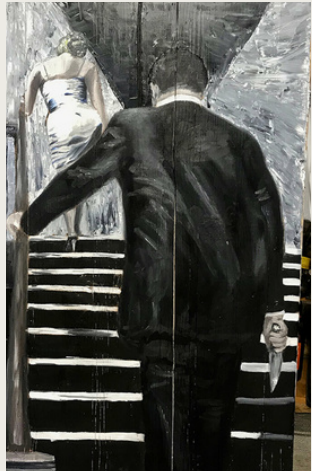
Jazz Scenes: Musical Vibrations Captured on Wood

Jazz clubs come to life under the artist's brush. Each painting resonates with the silent notes of the saxophone and piano, capturing the smoky atmosphere and palpable energy of Parisian nights. The artist translates the rhythm and improvisation of jazz into dynamic brushstrokes and striking plays of light.



Atmosphere : Light and Emotion

A master in the art of creating atmospheres, the painter plays with light and shadow to evoke deep emotions. His paintings capture the essence of fleeting moments—the dim lighting of a jazz club, the harsh brightness of a street under neon lights. Each piece is an invitation to feel and immerse oneself in a world of visual emotions.



Cinema : Framing and Visual Storytelling

The influence of the seventh art permeates Viger's work. His compositions evoke cinematic shots, characterized by a keen sense of framing and staging. Each painting is like a freeze frame, suggesting a larger story unfolding beyond the edges of the canvas.

Portraits : Souls Captured in Colors



Michaël's portraits go beyond mere physical representation. Each face tells a story, and each gaze reveals an inner world. The artist captures the essence of his subjects with remarkable depth and empathy.

Urban Life : The Magnified Everyday

Michaël transforms ordinary scenes of urban life into extraordinary paintings. Each familiar place becomes a window into the soul of the city. His art celebrates the hidden beauty found in the simplest moments of urban everyday life.



Texture: Formwork Wood as a Signature

Formwork wood as a medium is the distinctive signature of Michaël Viger. This raw material brings a tactile dimension and unique depth to his works. The texture of the wood becomes an integral part of the composition, creating a striking contrast with the finesse of his painting technique.



A man wearing a dark cap and glasses is shown in profile, pointing his right index finger towards a large mural. The mural depicts several soldiers in a trench, wearing various types of headgear like flat caps and berets. The scene is set in a room with wooden walls. The text '13' is overlaid on the left side of the image.

13

UNIQUE

WORKS

THE EARLY WALKING MAN

2022
250CM X 60CM
OIL ON WOOD

"The Early Walking Man" is a vibrant tribute to Charlie Parker, nicknamed "Bird." This colorful and dynamic work depicts a graffiti-covered wall, symbolizing Parker's effervescent creativity and enduring legacy.

Michaël uses his oil-on-wood technique to recreate the texture and energy of street art, incorporating visual elements that evoke Parker's life and music. The painting captures the spirit of bebop and the complex personality of the artist, blending references to his musical brilliance and personal struggles.

This piece illustrates the artist's ability to merge different artistic styles to create a powerful visual narrative.





CIAO BELLO

2023

150CM X 60CM

OIL ON WOOD

"Ciao Bello" pays tribute to Federico Fellini, 30 years after his passing. On the wooden stage, an elegant male figure is depicted, arms raised in a theatrical gesture, evoking the dynamism of Fellini's cinema—grandiose, bold, slightly absurd.

Colors dance on the rough texture of the surface, creating a visual ballet where the bright white of the suit stands out against a background of warm and deep tones. It's a play of light worthy of the director's finest shots, where every shade tells a story.

The title "Ciao Bello," both a greeting and a farewell, reflects Fellini's enduring legacy.

The artist, drawing on his own years behind the camera, transforms the canvas into a movie screen. Every brushstroke is a sequence shot, every texture an emotional tracking shot.

This piece is more than a painting; it's Fellini brought to life, for a moment, in a whirlwind of creativity and pictorial audacity.

BORN TO BE BLUES

2023

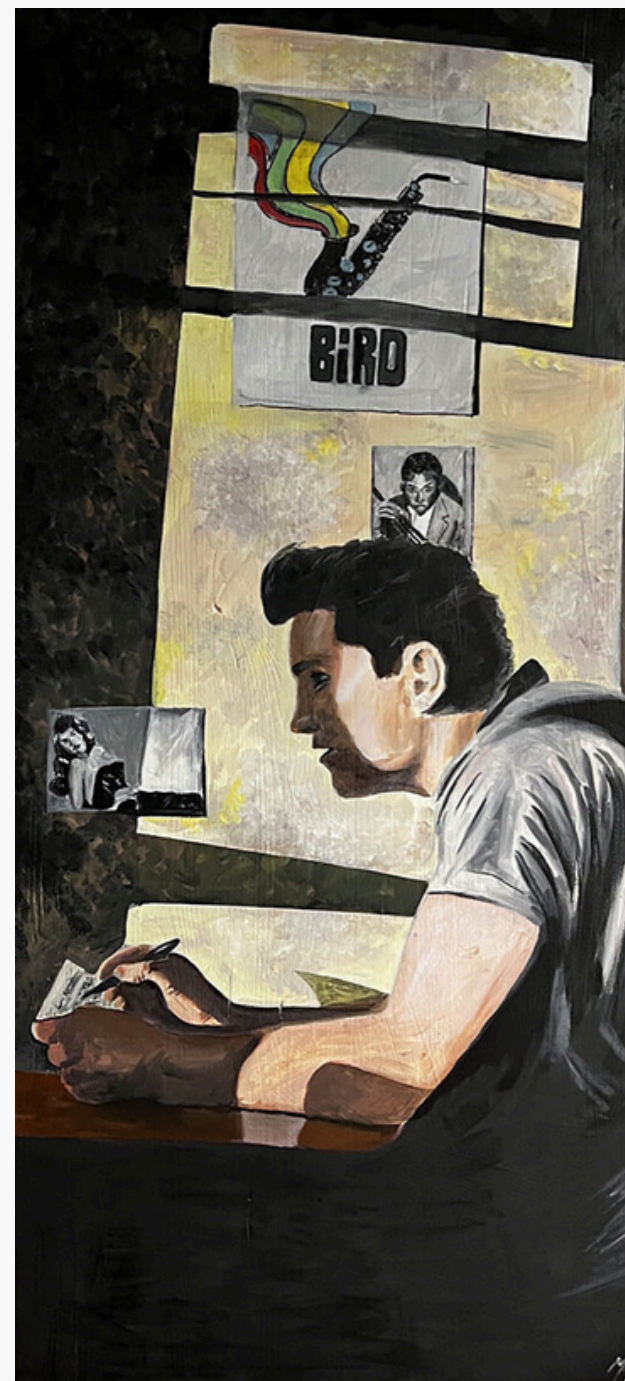
150CM X 60CM

OIL ON WOOD

"Born to be Blues" pays tribute to the legendary jazz trumpeter Chet Baker. This striking piece captures an intimate moment from Baker's tumultuous life, depicting him seated, deep in thought, as he writes.

Michaël uses his signature technique of oil on wood to create a dark and melancholic atmosphere, evoking the complexity of Baker's life. The painting references the episode when Baker, incarcerated in Italy in 1962, composed one of his rare songs, "Chetty's Lullaby."

The artist skillfully blends biographical and symbolic elements, such as photographs and the trumpet in the background, to narrate the story of a musician truly "born to the blues." This work showcases the visual storyteller's ability to merge his love of jazz and cinema within his paintings, creating a poignant portrait of a troubled artist.



AROUND MIDNIGHT

2022

60CM X 250CM

OIL ON WOOD

"Around Midnight" immerses the viewer in the enchanting atmosphere of a New York jazz club. The artist captures the nighttime scene's essence, where the legendary voice of Billie Holiday resonates. The painting evokes turbulent'sessence life of Lady Day, blending the beauty of her music with the tragedy of her existence.

Through his oil-on-wood technique, the painter creates a dark and intimate ambiance, reflecting the artist's personal struggles and the magic of her voice.

"Around Midnight" invites us to close our eyes, listen with our hearts, and be carried away by the mesmerizing rhythm of a bygone yet eternal era. This work merges the artist's love for jazz with his mastery of visual storytelling, offering a poignant tribute to a musical icon.



SHE WAS 18 / HE WAS 20

**2023 (DIPTYCH)
150CM X 60CM (EACH PANEL)
OIL ON WOOD**

This poignant diptych captures Daniel Warner Martin and Mary Farquarson's tragic story of D, intertwined with the fate of the Titanic. The artist employs his signature technique of oil on wood to create two contrasting yet connected scenes. The first panel depicts a young man in evening attire, symbolizing Daniel, standing near a Titanic lifebuoy. The second panel portrays a radiant young woman, evoking Mary, on the ship's deck. The vivid colors and deep shadows create an atmosphere that is both glamorous and melancholic.

The artwork illustrates the pivotal moment when the couple, married for only a few months, is torn apart by tragedy. Daniel's words, "It's alright little girl. You go. I stay," resonate within the composition, capturing their youth and his ultimate sacrifice.

Michaël blends his cinematic experience with his painterly sensitivity to tell a story of love and fate, transforming a historical moment into a moving and timeless work of art.



SHE'S LOOKING FOR

2024
60CM X 150CM
OIL ON WOOD

Emilie just arrived in Berlin from the States, from Massachusetts. It was the first time she travelled out from her place. She had a old picture in her bag, where was her grand parents with her mother and oncle in 1939 in front of this house. They left in hurry in 1940, her grand father had to hide some papers before joining them. He never came after and disappear after .

Emilie wanted to understand and to get the info what happened .

She's on the phone with her grand mother telling her that she was standing exactly where the picture has been taken 80 years before. Left just the façade.



CALLE GIANNI

2023

150CM X 60CM

OIL ON WOOD

"Calle Gianni" immerses us in Federico Fellini's enchanting universe. A stylish and mysterious male silhouette stands out against a scarlet background, like a ghost from the streets of Rome. The oil gently caresses the raw wood, creating a texture that evokes vintage posters and timeworn film sets. Each brushstroke is a cult replica, each hue an iconic scene.

Mastroianni, Connery, Ford—their shadows dance in the folds of the white suit, recalling the legendary collaborations that shaped the golden age of Italian cinema. The artist, drawing from his years behind the camera, translates the magic of the big screen onto wood.

It's a visual symphony where cinema and painting dance a passionate tango, inviting the viewer to get lost in a labyrinth of cinematic memories and pictorial emotions.



A TIME FOR REFLEXION

2023
60CM X 250CM
OIL ON WOOD

Venice, 1970. She knew that it would be her last glass before a long time. Sascha just left hearing the steps of the police in staircase.

Laura was a spy, working for the KGB, she had too. It wasn't because she loved her country, it was because she wanted to change things. She almost succeed? Her last mission was to give the name of the mole working for the Americans to Sascha. The mole was just working for money and gave the list of agents being in Europe. Her husband was on that list.



SHE WANTS TO WIN

2023

70CM X 60CM

OIL ON WOOD

With a bold stroke of the brush, we find ourselves in pre-war London, where jazz vibrates through the walls. At the heart of the canvas stands a singer, determined to conquer her audience. Behind her, an explosion of graffiti shouts modernity. It's a clash of cultures: jazz and street art ahead of their time. Michaël plays with contrasts, blending the amber tones of the club with the freshness of urban tags.

This artwork tells the story of women daring to dream big in a man's world. "She Wants to Win" is more than just a title; it's a rallying cry. A visual ode to determination, where the roughness of the wood embraces the fluidity of the oil.



MEN AT LUNCH

2022
60CM X 250CM
OIL ON WOOD

Lunch atop a Skyscraper is a black-and-white photograph taken on September 20, 1932, of eleven ironworkers sitting on a steel beam of the RCA Building, 850 feet (260 meters) above the ground during the construction of Rockefeller Center in Manhattan, New York City. It was in fact a promotion picture made from Charles C. Ebbets. Those men were used to move and to work without any protections and security. They came from Irland, Poland, Germany and were ready to risk their life just to work in this open and new country. What did change today ?



CANNES 1952

2023

150CM X 60CM

OIL ON WOOD

At the heart of the painting, a young and carefree Roger Vadim savors the moment. The artist captures the effervescence of the Cannes Film Festival with a warm palette of greens and browns. One can almost hear the rustle of evening gowns.

Yet, this is not just a frozen scene. It's the story of a budding romance, that of Vadim for Brigitte Bardot, subtly woven into the fabric of the composition. Two years of waiting, of restrained desire, crystallized in a gaze.

"Cannes 1952" is more than a painting; it's a time capsule. It transports us to the dawn of the New Wave, when French cinema was poised to conquer the world.

A moment of pure happiness, captured on wood like a dream.



HEAR MY LAUGHT

2024
60CM X 150CM
OIL ON WOOD

She was very happy for once to meet a friend. As the youngest daughter of the president, in an African country. She wasn't allowed to do a lot. And to go out, even less. In fact she had a very painful experience a few month ago. She falls in love with Jimmy who was in fact a spy. She gave him to much access in her life and to secret informations about her father.

When they discover that Jimmy stole some sensible informations, he disappears. She was broken. But she feels his presence all the time.





EARTHA KITT “C’EST SI BON”

2020

150CM X 60CM

OIL ON WOOD

A Silver’s flash in the night, and suddenly, Eartha Kitt emerges from the darkness. Her voice, one can imagine, suave and powerful, vibrates the air around her. The artist captures the very essence of the jazz diva. In her white gown, Kitt is an apparition, part woman, part spirit. The striking contrast between the deep black and the touches of light creates a palpable tension, as if the singer is emerging from the shadows to enchant us.

"C'est si bon," whispers the title, and we feel it. Each brushstroke is a note of music, each nuance of gray a modulation of her legendary voice. Realism intertwines with the fantastic, creating a work that transcends the mere portrait.

This is not just a painting; it’s a sensory experience. One almost believes they can hear the rustling of her dress, feel the electricity of her presence. A moment of magic, frozen on wood, capturing the soul of jazz and the timeless charisma of Eartha Kitt.





Third Movement

RECOGNITION

AWARDS AND PERMANENT COLLECTIONS



2022

Distinctions: Visionary Art Award - Laureate, Rome, Italy

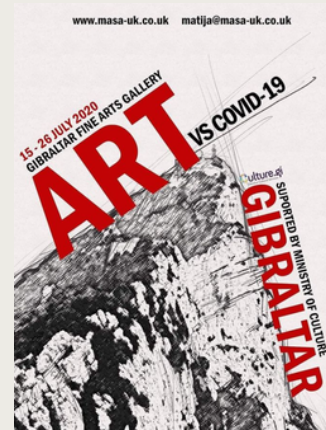
Permanently Collection: "Free Ladies" - Spain



2021

Permanent Collections: "Let's the show start" - Austria

"The Ladies" - Italy



SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2022 "LET'S THE SHOW START" - Vindobona Gallery, Vienna, Austria
- 2021 "THE LADIES IN ITALY" - Galleria Mentana, Florence, Italy
- 2020 "ART vs COVID" - Gibraltar Fine Arts Gallery, Gibraltar
- "THE CINEMA AND THE JAZZ" - Kreativraum Galerie, Vienna, Austria
- "CINEMA HAS THE RHYTHM" - Masa-UK Art Gallery, Bury, UK
- "JAZZ & CINEMA" - Schindl Gallery, Vienna, Austria

COLLECTIVE EXHIBITIONS

2025

KreativRaum Galerie, Vienna, Austria

2024

Florence Contemporary Art Festival, Florence, Italy

2023

Transcendence Art Exhibition - Galleria Angelica, Rome, Italy

Thomson Gallery Fine Art - Zurich, Switzerland

Artlab - ARTLAB L.A., Los Angeles, United States

"VIVA MAGENTA" - Kreativraum Galerie, Vienna, Austria

2022

"Sommersache" - KreativRaum Galerie, Vienna, Austria

"VISIONARY" - Galleria Angelica, Rome, Italy

Galeria Aurea - Madrid, Spain

2021

"WHEN JAZZ MET CINEMA" - Florence Biennale, Florence, Italy

2020

"CINEMA HAS THE RHYTHM" - Manchester Art Fair, Manchester, United Kingdom



PUBLICATIONS AND CRITIQUES

2022

"MOOD the Art of Today International Magazine"

- "A glamorous artist in NY's Hollywood"

Catalogue of contemporary art by Monica Ferrarini

"American way of life" by Gasparotti Giada



Maler und Filmemacher zu Gast im Vindobona

Der französisch-österreichische Maler und Filmemacher Michael Viger wurde bereits in Österreich und Italien für seine Werke ausgezeichnet und in ganz Europa ausgestellt. Am 25. Mai kommt er mit seiner Vernissage in die Vindobona Lounge am Wallensteinplatz 6.

Viger, der 1966 in Paris geboren wurde, lebt seine Kunst nach dem Motto „Accept everything but nothing“. Für die Vernissage verspricht das Vindobona einen spannenden Abend für Fans von zeitgenössischer Kunst mit Schwäche für Jazz und Film noir.

Am 25. Mai ist Michael Viger im Vindobona zu Gast. Foto: Katharina Schöff

seiner Werke werden deshalb in der Lounge des Vindobona ausgestellt – diese sind auch käuflich zu erwerben. Bei der Eröffnung der Ausstellung am 25. Mai 2023 ab 19 Uhr wird Viger persönlich zugegen sein, die Ausstellung selbst wird bis in den Sommer gezeigt. Mehr Infos zur Vernissage gibt's auf www.vindobona.wien (trw)

New Yorker Jazzclub-Vibes
Denn die Werke Vigers spiegeln die Welt des Jazz und des Films wider und sind eine Hommage an New Yorker Jazzclubs. Der Maler-Regisseur erzählt mit seinen Pinselstrichen Momentaufnahmen, die die Betrachtenden neugierig machen sollen. Mehr als 20



2020

"Cinema and Jazz with oil colors" - Kreativraum Galerie, Vienna
- Yulia Onipchenko

"Art Vs Covid" - Gibraltar Fine Arts Gallery - Matt Triay

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2024 - 2025