

Harland Miller

Harland Miller (b. 1964, Yorkshire, UK) is a painter and a novelist. His writing and painting have developed synchronously and come together in his most iconic artworks, The Penguin Book Series. Based on the dust covers of Penguin books, Miller found a way to marry aspects of Pop Art, abstraction and figurative painting at once, with his writer's love of text. The ensuing images are humorous, sardonic and nostalgic at the same time.

Miller moved to New York after finishing his MA at Chelsea College of Art, London. Success with his painting in New York encouraged Miller to travel and he spent the following years living in New Orleans, Paris and Berlin. In 2002 he occupied the Writer in Residency post at the ICA which led to the publishing of his first novel, the critically acclaimed *Slow Down Arthur, Stick to Thirty*. *Tonight We Make History (P.S I Can't Be There)* at Blain Southern in 2016 was Miller's first solo exhibition in Germany, marking twenty five years since the artist lived in Berlin. Departing from his use of appropriated imagery, the works incorporated Miller's own designs, another first for the artist. He took formal and conceptual inspiration from the abstract geometrical covers of popular psychology books of the 60's and 70's, an era when positive messaging often masked societal neurosis.

Miller's solo exhibitions include: *In Dreams Begin Monsters*, Palacio Quintanar, Segovia, ES (2015); *Don't Let the Bastards Cheer You Up*, BALTIC Centre for Contemporary Art, Gateshead, UK (2009) and *First I was Afraid; I was Petrified*, Fig.-1, London, UK (2000).

Notable group shows include Hay Festival, Museum Esteban Vincente, Segovia, ES (2015); *Cool Britannia*, Gallery Hyundai, Seoul, KR (2012); *Exhibitionism, The Art of Display*, Courtauld Institute of Art, London, UK (2010); *Direct Painting*, Kunsthalle Mannheim, DE (2004); *Fools Rain*, Institute of Contemporary Art (ICA), London, UK (1996).