



Muna Malik, *Tough Exterior*, 2021, Acrylic, Oil pastel, charcoal and chalk on canvas, 50 x 82 inches.

PRESS RELEASE

African Abstraction

featuring Bouvy Enkobo, Marc Standing, Muna Malik, and Thameur Mejri

March 18, 2021 - April 23, 2022

OPENING RECEPTION: March 17, 2022

Montague Contemporary is thrilled to present a new group exhibition featuring four artists who are breaking new ground in abstraction across the African continent. New works from Bouvy Enkobo (DRC), Marc Standing (Zimbabwe), Muna Malik (Yemen), and Thameur Mejri (Tunisia) will be presented. The exhibition entitled "African Abstraction" will open on Thursday, March 17 and remain on view through Saturday, April 23.



PRESS RELEASE - AFRICAN ABSTRACTION

The exhibition "African Abstraction" will feature new artworks from a selection of some of the most exciting artists challenging the identity of African art.

Bouvy Enkobo's large scale abstract works forge a new path for abstraction in Kinshasa: instead of featuring key figures in his works, the subject or subjects are often swept up into the landscape of each city scene - with only suggestive tokens of their existence - further expressing the power of the city and the environment to shape and overpower our independence, making us simply patches in the tapestry as opposed to central heroes.

Marc Standing's ethereal works are manifested through his personal experiences, visual expressions of his personal search for identity as well as the complexities felt by mass consciousness. Heavily influenced by both the natural world and his lived societal experiences, his works have the feeling of both mental nodes of thought as well as organic cellular systems in constant flux.

Muna Malik's practice explores the often complex relationships between individuals and communities. The two core interrelated strands to her practice are using abstraction to explore the variations and nuances of identity, and the second is creating platforms for community connection through interactive installations, sculpture, and photography.

Thameur Mejri's canvases attempt to deconstruct the standard modes and representations of power and control put in place by the political, economic, cultural and religious systems in Tunisia and by extension, in North Africa. Both chaotic and pre-meditated, the canvases allow the viewer to regain agency over the symbolic gestures of authoritarian and capitalistic overtures.

For further information, please contact us at info@montaguecontemporary.com, or visit us at www.montaguecontemporary.com