



STUART McALPINE MILLER

LOST LIVES // SPLIT PERSONALITIES



THE ROCK AND ROCK WALL OF FAME

BY ESTELLE LOWATT

As I write this, we are in one of the most challenging periods of our time as unexpected events are happening with Brexit, Megxit, Greta, Trump, BoJo and Coronavirus. Finding peace in art, I can only applaud the impact of McAlpine Miller's new collection, Split Personalities.

Each portrait, a zealous testament to the life of an iconic rock star no longer alive, except through their music.

All immersive, these portraits are moreover an exposé of you. A self-portrait of you; you becoming part of the picture through personal reflection and identity. When you look at them you hear your favourite half of fame pop star song in your head. Reliving your younger early teen years, in your mind's eye you hear each portrait miraculously pitch a melody, hum in tune, purr with harmony, tinkle tones wax lyrical, bang drums, strum and pluck guitar strings and heart strings. You get the feeling you're backstage in a dressing room, a private moment before the rock star goes live on stage. As McAlpine Miller says, "The emotion that music can reveal can allow the listener to transport themselves to a time, a place and a feeling. Art can do the same. We just have to open our minds. If it shudders

when I heard [it] this music and that feeling still lives with me today".

McAlpine Miller takes Kandinsky's synesthesia to a new level. Mixing Pop Art with pop music, using his paintbrush like a conductor's baton, his pencil like Sooty. As McAlpine Miller says, "I generally listen to music by these musicians while painting. Each creates a different emotion and I would imagine my work in the same kind of context as the music I was listening to. Music is an emotion, a feeling and a state of mind. Expression is key. The idea that if I could achieve a fraction of the brilliance of these musicians through my own art really inspired me."

Painting the singers and creatives McAlpine Miller has a special connection to, he "explores the notion of the icon's split personalities; the performer and the person, or in some cases multiple personalities, characters or personas. Many musicians and performers have talked openly about the different people or characters they become on stage when playing to audience, the person off stage but in 'the band' and the person they are when at home or on holiday. Finding it difficult to switch between the many 'me's'

or to find balance.' Meet David Bowie's rebellious alter-egos achieving fame with more make-up more fashion and more glamour -puss than wuss. From drag-rocker to operatic genius, McAlpine Miller calls it, "Code Switching". Like switching between languages in conversations; adapting dialects, accents and/or mannerisms based on your audience. Now more than ever we seem to wear different 'hats' when we are with different groups; work, social, friends, family, all I have a slightly different version of 'you' for all of them.' We see Ziggy Stardust rise and fall in high-heels just as Amy Winehouse 'died a hundred times' back to black the colour of mourning. Whilst in the background, McAlpine Miller's signature cartoons - some infinitesimally small (as an abstract shaped kaleidoscopic pattern - meet Wonder Woman and Super Girl looking drawn like a tarot card outline of a goat's skull, the Devil's sacrifice symbol of death, So Winehouse is Millais's Pre-Raphaelite 'Ophelia', offered as a saint and martyr, but sexier.

Without doubt, as religious Renaissance portraits served up donor's mortality, the Dutch Golden Age 'memento mori' cries 'You'll die' and Mae West says, "You only live once, but if you do it right, once is enough!". So it's faith holding George Michael, Freddie Mercury and Jim Morrison together to model Christ's white loin cloth. Staging the crucifixion of Jesus on the cross, the central symbol of Christianity, doesn't make for a

Christian painting, no. But as we each have our cross to bear, each picture puffs a Rite of Passage towards the afterlife.

Death is a part of life. Like Hirst's miraculous 'The Physical Impossibility of Death in the Mind of Someone Living'. Preserved in formaldehyde this 14-foot tiger shark is 23 tons of heavyweight dead weight. Whatever way you want to look at it, [this] art is a gift from god. The Lord, or whatever Deity you believe in - or not,

foretells of death and rebirth thereafter, restoring body and spirit for all eternity.

McAlpine Miller believes, 'John Lennon, the greatest of talents, will without doubt 'live forever'. Music needs to touch the soul and bleed the heart. His did. Equally, as John Lennon and in his relationship inspired by Yoko Ono. Fellow Beatles band member, the spiritual George Harrison, hands it up to 'My Sweet Lord', praising the great Hindu god Krishna under a halo symbolising his saintly side. As McAlpine Miller has 'Elvis Presley (very appropriately) under the spotlight. Hailed as The King of Rock and Roll, the eternal light shines on Elvis'.

Some are members of the '27 Club' (popular musicians who died aged 27) including Amy Winehouse, Jim Morrison and a smokin' Jimi Hendrix through Purple Haze "scuse me while I kiss the sky". Alas, they all kiss the sky now from a world of highly addictive amphetamines, prescription drugs and hard alcohol that lead to [their] untimely

early deaths. "Significant of our hopes and dreams only to find that not all come to fruition," says McAlpine Miller, "more relatable than ever." And instantly wow-ing." Several faces are painted not once but twice in the same picture. Each legend celebrated over and over as two portraits, side-by-side, living together as one artwork, traditionally a diptych. A pair. Double the meaning double the fun. Respectively twins as unique as Esau and Jacob, Romulus and Remus, Apollo and Artemis, Ronnie and Reggie Kray. Sacred love on the one-side and profane love on the other - significantly philosophical and psychological 'it's the 'psychologist' in McAlpine Miller, suggesting different characters behind the paintings." The 'good-cop bad-cop', lekyl and Hyde, Abbott and Costello 'other side'. It's about the complex relationship we have with ourselves; me, myself and I.

As McAlpine Miller says, "It's been said, that to be a genius, there must also exist 'A Personality Defect'. Whether this is entirely true is a question for debate. It can be revealed however that some talents do have certain personality traits which, in some cases, have led to untimely deaths. I want to explore all possibilities without conclusion. After all, asking the question can only produce half the answer." Which is why McAlpine Miller's double-portraits are so efficacious.

Certain McAlpine Miller double-portraits

the Sex Pistols.

Little things in the bigger picture of life inspire McAlpine Miller: 1920s American comic book cult heroes; the vintage and the retro, bonbon-colours so brilliantly luminous each looks like a Dan Flavin neon. I've said McAlpine Miller is tomorrow's Old Master-in-Waiting creating a 'newness' to portraiture in his 4D signature style I call 'SuperNatural Realism'. Making 'Split' biographies more than pictures they are

© Estelle Lovatt FRSA

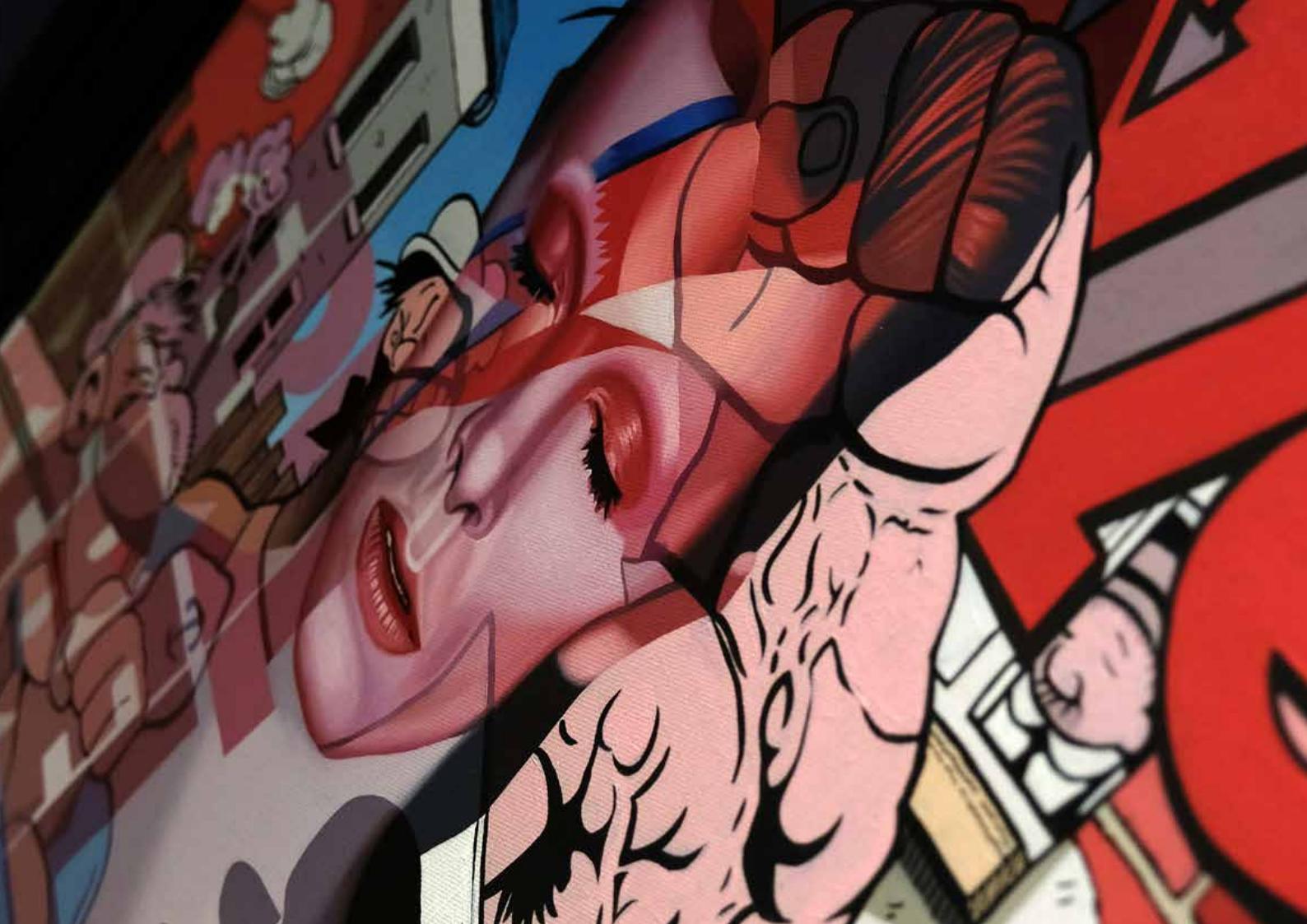
remind me of Andy Warhol's blotted-line prints. Warhol printed them to create an image that's repeated in reverse, the right-hand side a mirror image reflection of the left-hand side. As in McAlpine Miller's double-portrait where each dearly departed soul looks protected by the shadow of their other self - their neighbour, as the second commandment says, 'Love your neighbour as yourself'. McAlpine Miller says, "The idea that we have someone watching over us is a constant theme within these works. Almost suggestive of a guardian angel. Symbolised as the one watching over the vulnerable side of the main character." Making you look twice, the portrait multiplied by two, equals a stereophonic Holy Ghost. As powerful as Popeye with his spinach keeping you 'strong to the finish', and Superman flying high keeping you safe past safety lines and safety pins to 'Never Mind The Bollocks, Here's the Sex Pistols.'

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STUART McALPINE MILLER
LOST LIVES / SPLIT PERSONALITIES





//LOST LIVES

Music, for Stuart McAlpine Miller, is second only to art as a mode of artistic expression. A talented musician himself, it is no surprise that he has been deeply inspired by many of the great performers from the 1970s to present day.

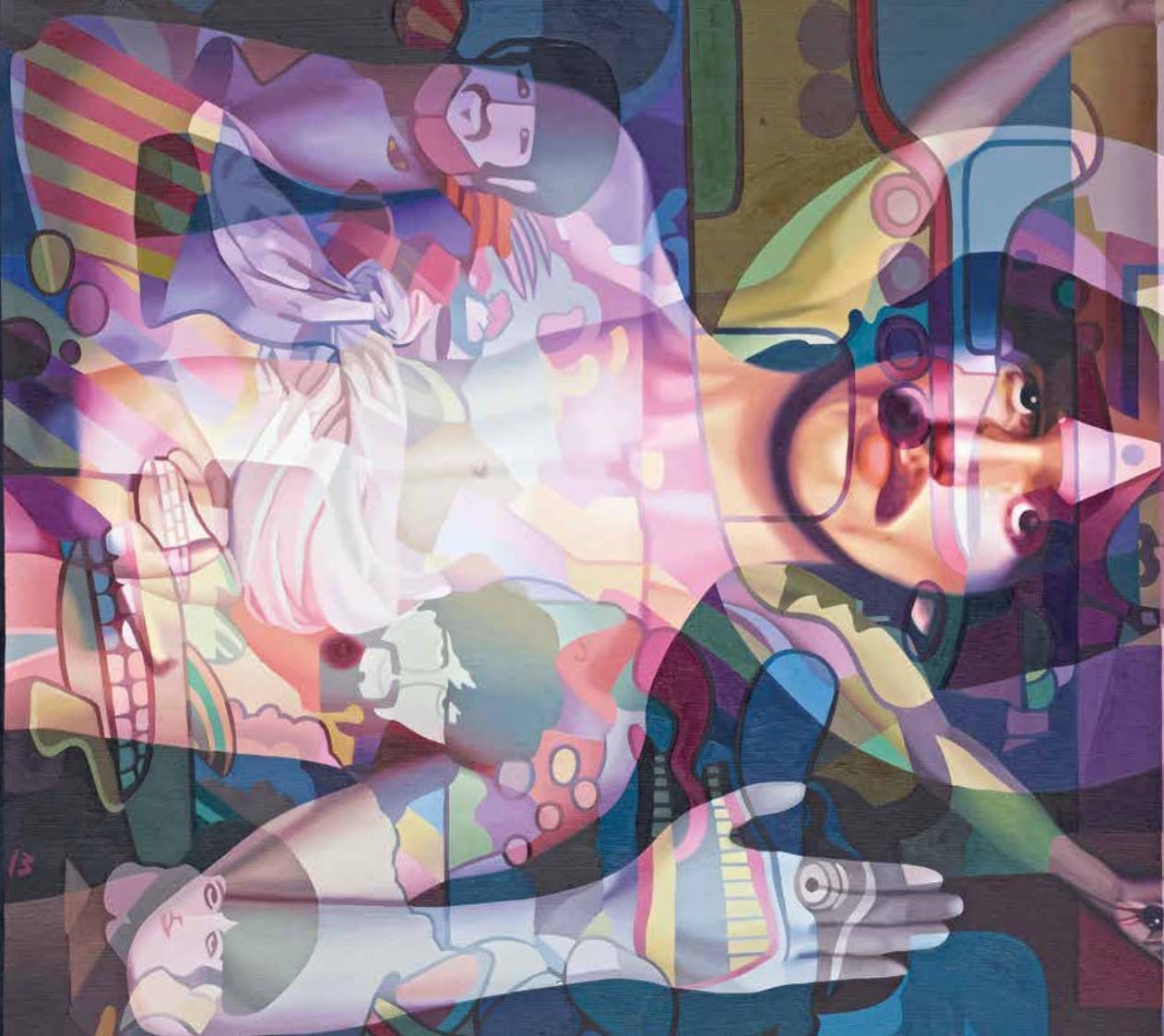
Lost Lives is a series of original works that strives to honour the subjects in Stuart's paintings, by recognising the role they have played in shaping the artist that he is today. Speaking of David Bowie, Stuart says: "His music reminds me of why I'm doing what I am today."

Music took on a new meaning for Stuart when he adopted the piano as his instrument of choice. Stuart says: "Music has, for me, like many others, greatly influenced my own approach to my art, and the potential it creates within. The emotion that music can reveal allows the listener to transport

themselves to a time, a place and a feeling. Art can do the same. We just have to open our minds."

It is often the musician's storytelling, the journey conjured through creating art; multifaceted and rich with detail and meaning, it creates intrigue for the viewer. These paintings invite the onlooker to return multiple times to view the pieces, discovering something new with each glance, much like seeing a favourite band twice. Commenting: "Talent like this needs to be celebrated... over and over again." Perhaps this was exactly Stuart's intention, a prompt to his audience to unravel the multiple layers of each person depicted in *Lost Lives*.

George Harrison
Sweet Lord Isn't It A Pity

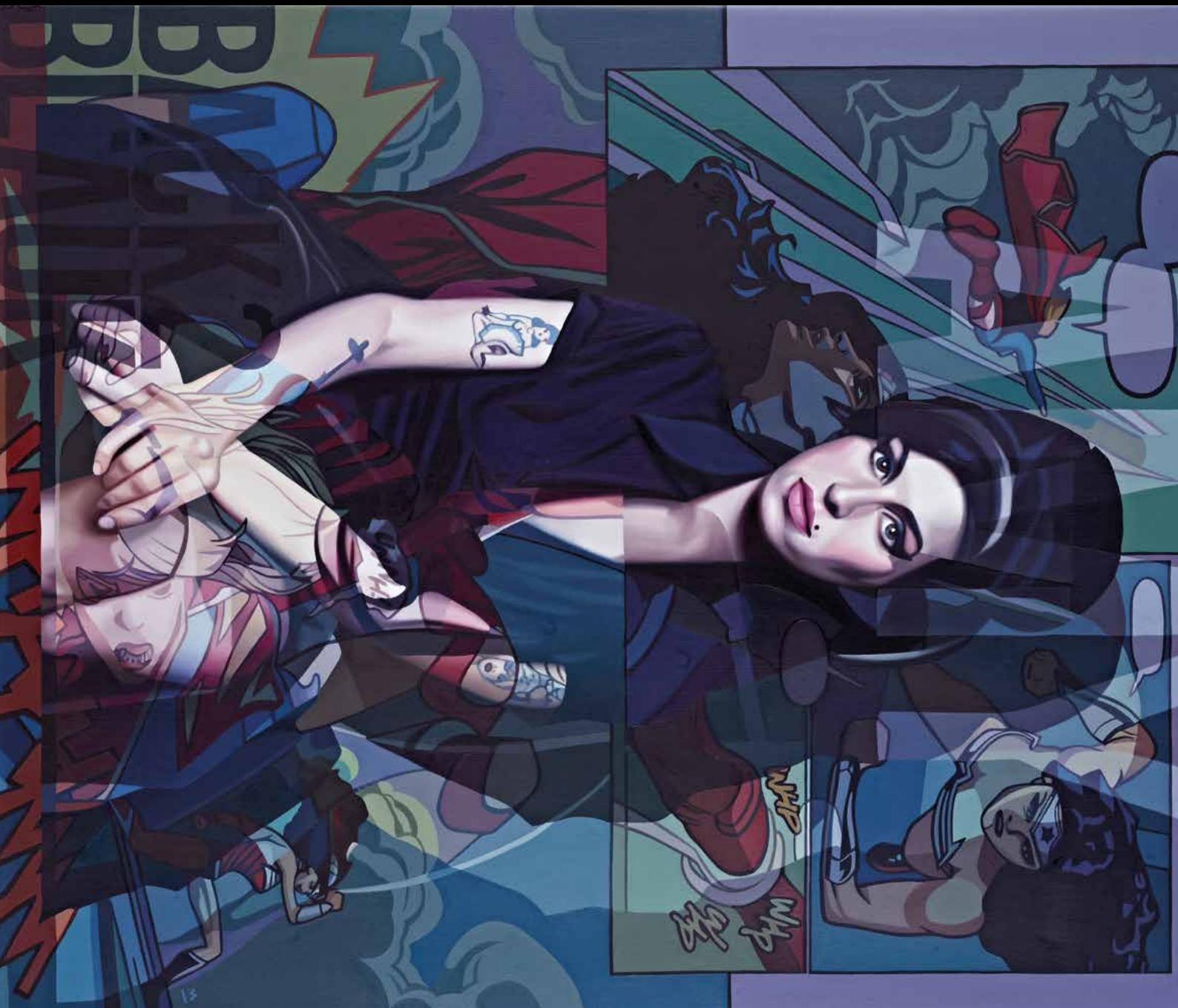


//ISN'T IT A PITY

Oil on Canvas Framed // Image Size 63.5cm x 76.5cm

//BACK TO BLACK

Oil on Canvas Framed // Image Size 81.5cm x 97cm



"Amy Winehouse approached her music with an originality from a time gone by. Her combination of Punk Approach to life with her incredible vocals, revealed a troubled and dark side to her nature. Her dark side inspired and appealed to an audience impressed by her brilliance."

STUART McALPINE MILLER



//WE ALL HAVE FAITH

Oil on Canvas Framed // Image Size 71.5cmx86.5cm

//A STUDY INTO THE MIND

Oil on Canvas Framed // Image Size 61cm x 71.5cm





// THE FOCUS OF MY ATTENTION

Oil on Canvas Framed // Image Size 63.5cm x 76.5cm

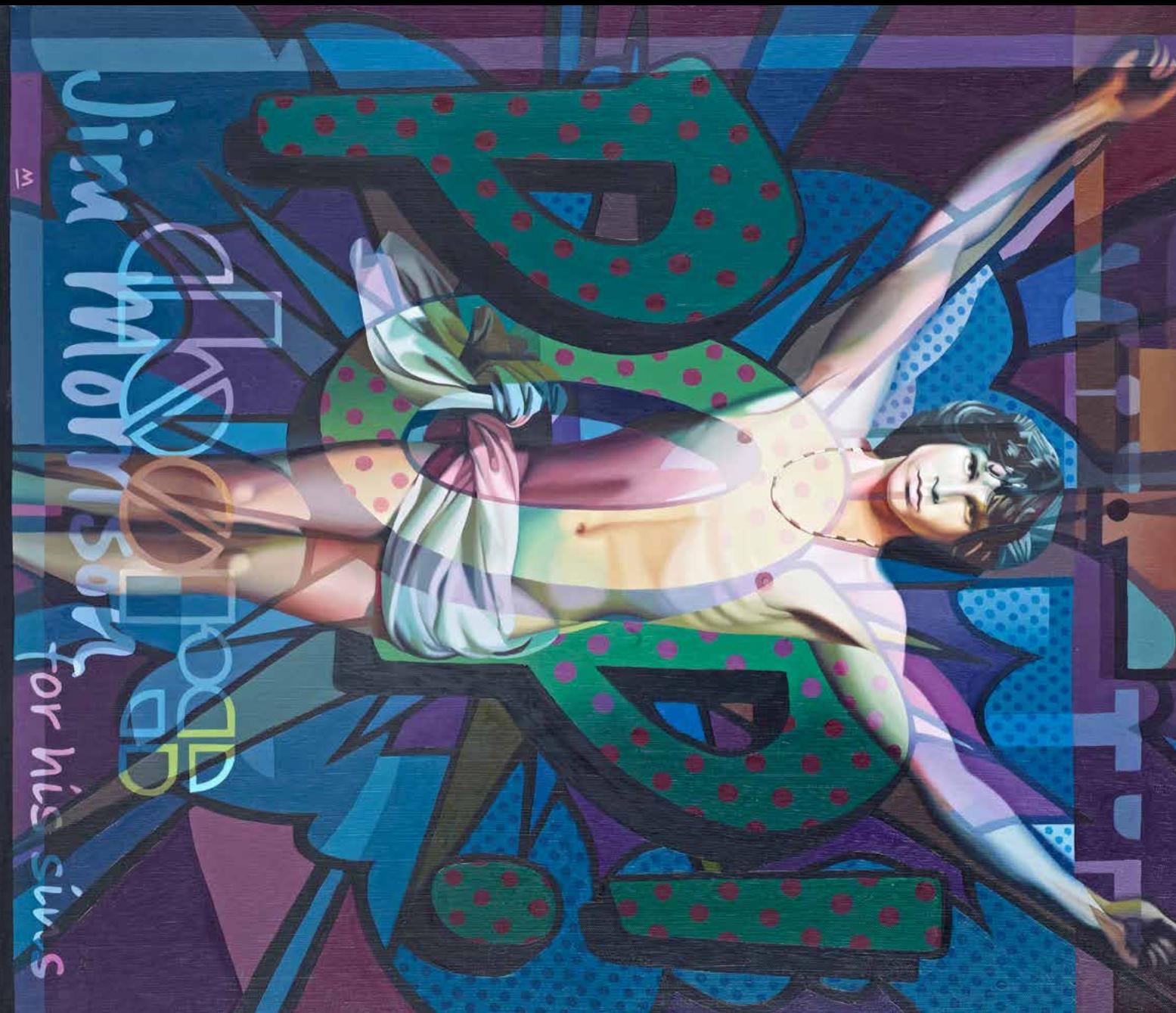
STUART McALPINE MILLER
LOST LIVES / SPLIT PERSONALITIES



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//WORTHY OF SACRIFICE

Oil on Canvas Framed // Image Size 63.5cm x 76.5cm



FREDDIE MERCURY



//TORTURED GENIUS

Oil on Canvas Framed // Image Size 63.5cm x 76.5cm

"Mercury was another great influence. Creating original sounds in the 70s, he went on to sheer brilliance. His ability to alter his approach and retain a fresh feeling for his music was testament to his versatility and creativity."

STUART McALPINE MILLER

//ANXIETY ATTACK

Oil on Canvas //Framed //Image Size 76cm x 91cm





//INTO YOUR SOUL

Oil on Canvas Framed // Image Size 76cm x 97cm

// THE ETERNAL EXPERIENCE

Oil on Canvas Framed // Image Size 71.5cm x 86.5cm

"Hendrix explored, experimented and experienced. The utter brilliance of his music could do nothing but inspire. Talent like this needs to be celebrated...over and over."

STUART McALPINE MILLER



Experience



//MAN BEHIND THE MIRROR

Oil on Canvas Framed // Image Size 61cmx76cm



//SPLIT PERSONALITIES

The mixed media *SPLIT Personality* originals are a creative progression from the origins of the *Lost Lives* paintings. Here the intention is to unmask the multiple personas behind the performer. In honouring these musical icons, Stuart intends to reveal that the spotlight often belies a darkness in the otherwise seemingly glittering lifestyles of these stars.

Stuart digitally remasters scans of the original paintings; through changing colours, adding symbolic references and removing elements, an entirely new image evolves. This new original piece becomes the printed base layer, over which Stuart hand-finishes a subsequent kaleidoscopic layer to complete the piece.

build depth and intensity, and yet it is simultaneously a departure from previous collections. This work conveys a new level of complexity that is nonetheless relatable, and instantly wow-ing.

Having taken eighteen months in research and creative development, *SPLIT Personalities* is the perfect successor to the much sought-after *Lost Lives* collection, and will potentially herald a new phase in the already illustrious career of Stuart McAlpine Miller.

This series clearly retains Stuart's signature style of a pure colourist's touch, infused symbolism and working within layers to

//SPLIT PERSONALITY

Remastered Mixed Media Original on Canvas // Image Size 148.5cm x 103cm



// THE FUTURE IS BLACK

Remastered Mixed Media Original on Canvas // Image Size 74.5cm x 90.5cm



// ANOTHER POINT OF VIEW

Remastered Mixed Media Original on Canvas // Image Size 62cm x 76cm



//JOURNEY THROUGH MY THOUGHTS

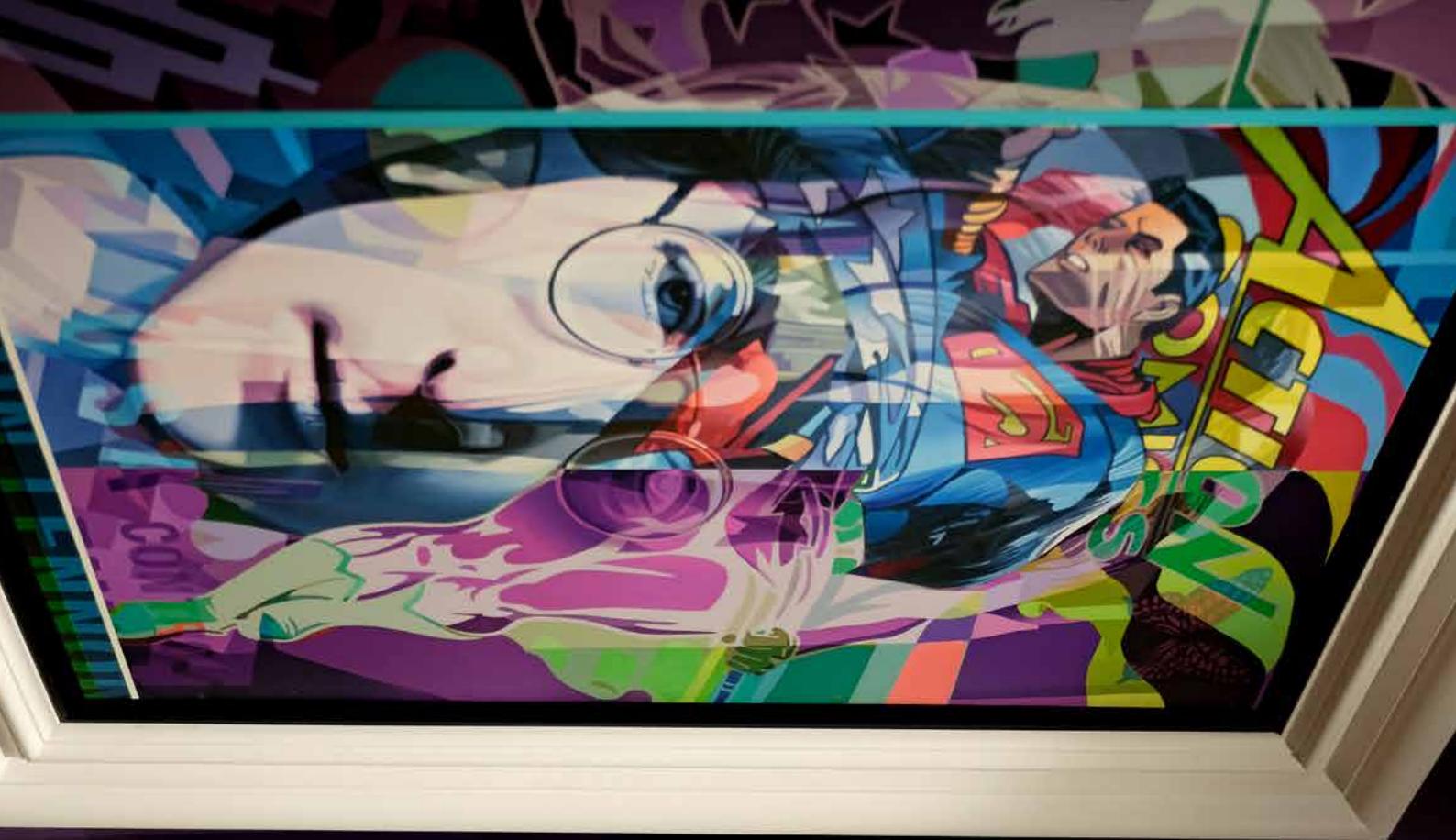
Remastered Mixed Media Original on Canvas // Image Size 78.5cm x 96cm



//HALF WAY THERE

Remastered Mixed Media Original on Canvas // Image Size 61.5cm x 76cm

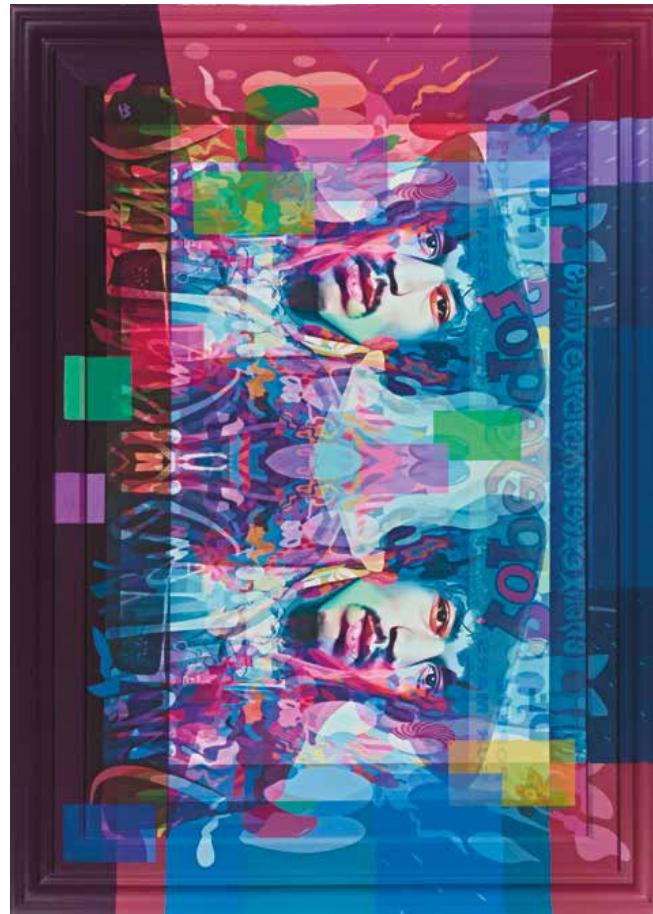




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//A TRIP BEYOND IMAGINATION

Remastered Mixed Media Original on Canvas // Image Size 140cm x 109.5cm



//ALTERED IMAGINATION

Remastered Mixed Media Original on Canvas // Image Size 143.5cm x 103cm

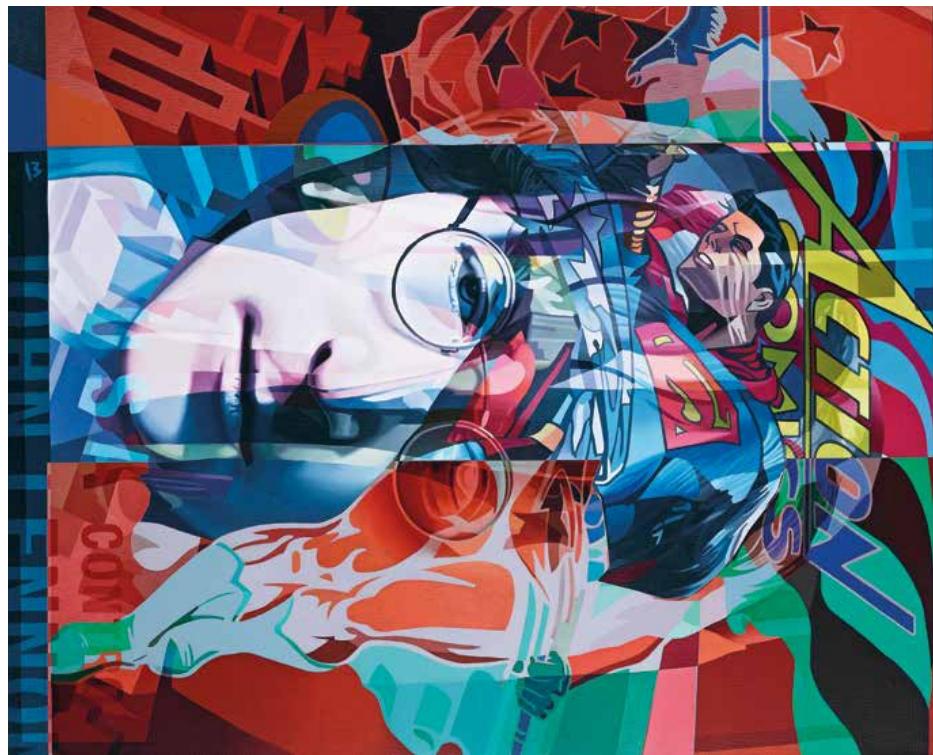
"The greatest of talents, Lennon will without doubt 'live forever'. Music needs to touch the soul and bleed the heart. His did. Genius. I listen to his music often and the Imagine album was a great benefit to me throughout my years both at the piano and at my easel."

STUART MCALPINE MILLER



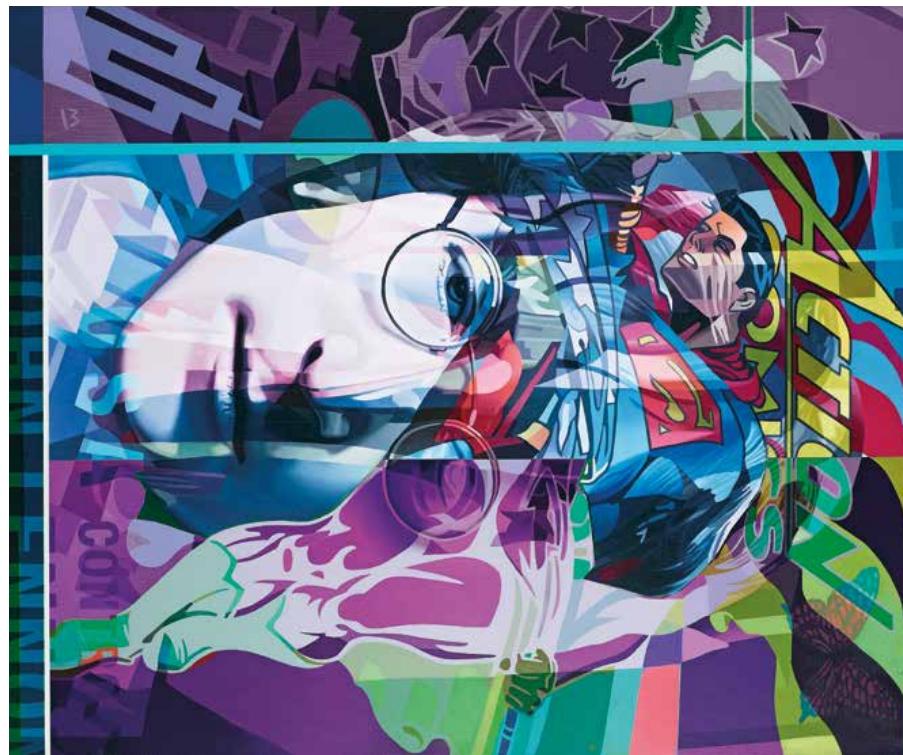
//LENNON 1

Remastered Mixed Media Original on Canvas // Image Size 70cm x 85.5cm



//LENNON 2

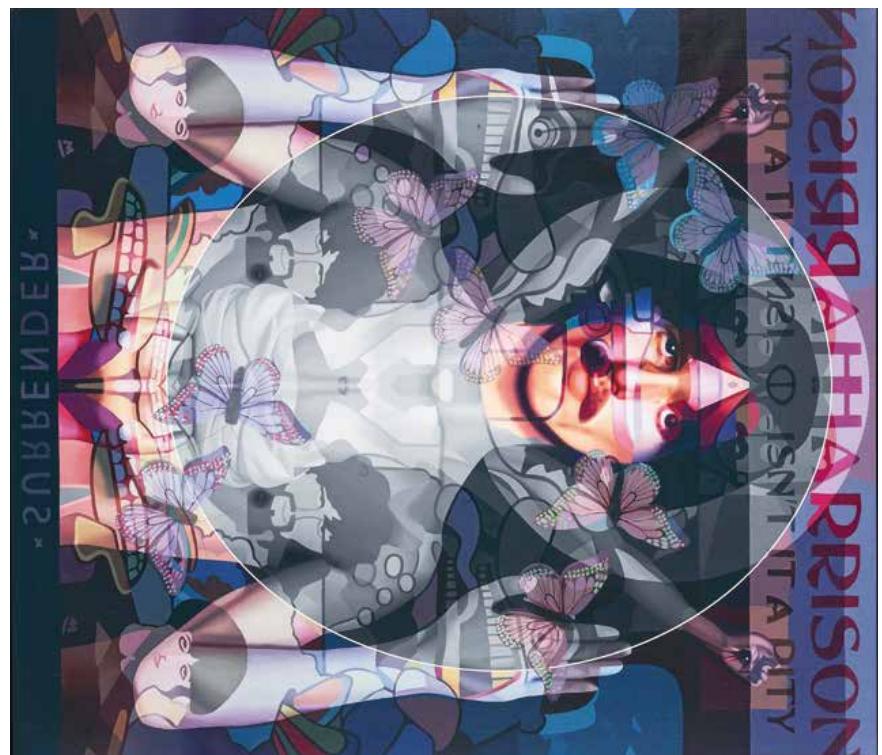
Remastered Mixed Media Original on Canvas // Image Size 71cm x 85.5cm





//SURRENDERED TRUTH//

Remastered Mixed Media Original on Canvas // Image Size 65.5cm x 76cm



//A COLOURLESS FUTURE//

Remastered Mixed Media Original on Canvas // Image Size 87cm x 100cm

//BAND OF BROTHERS

Remastered Mixed Media Original on Canvas // Image Size 171cm x 113.5cm



//REFLECTED GLORY

Remastered Mixed Media Original on Canvas // Image Size 161cm x 111cm



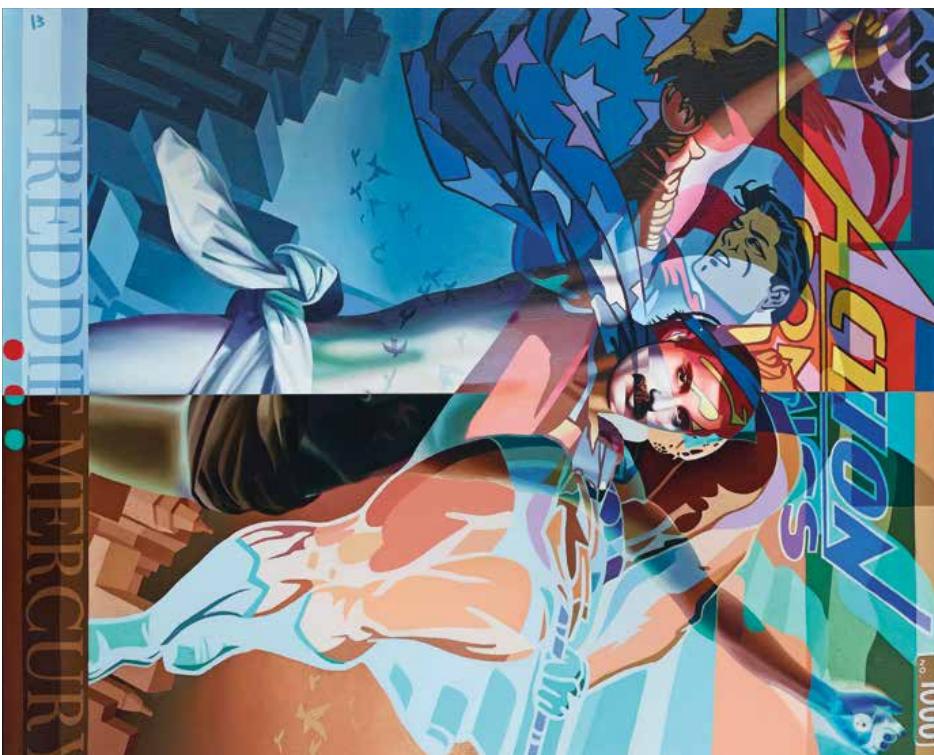
//REVEALED

Remastered Mixed Media Original on Canvas // Image Size 62cm x 76cm



//MY ALTER EGO

Remastered Mixed Media Original on Canvas // Image Size 62cm x 76cm





[CLICK TO VIEW VIRTUAL GALLERY](#)

// COLOUR MY WORLD



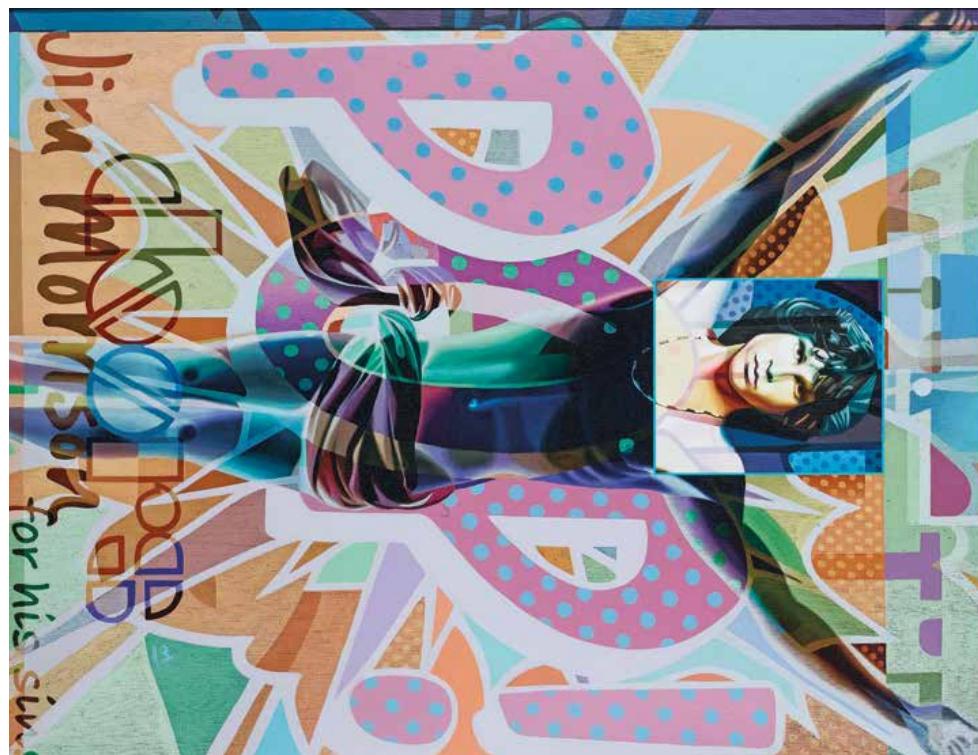


// BRIGHT IS THE LIGHT

Remastered Mixed Media Original on Canvas // Image Size 75cm x 90.5cm

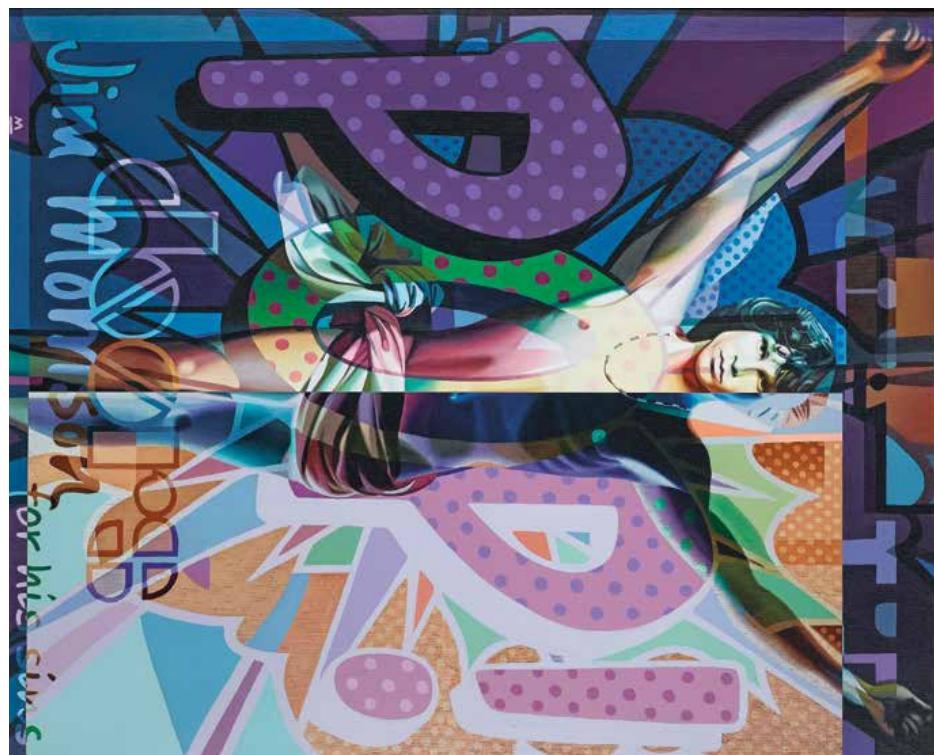
//AN IMAGE OF MY SELF

Remastered Mixed Media Original on Canvas // Image Size 59cm x 76cm



//DARK SIDE REVEALED

Remastered Mixed Media Original on Canvas // Image Size 61cm x 76cm



// FAITH HAS TWO MEANINGS

Remastered Mixed Media Original on Canvas // Image Size 138cm x 102.5cm



// ALTERED IMAGINATION

Deckled Edged Giclée On Paper // Image Size 102cmx 74cm // Framed Size 132cmx 104cm
Edition of 95 // E995

**// SIGNED
LIMITED EDITIONS**



//REFLECTED GLORY



Deckled Edged Giclée On Paper // Image Size 102cm x 74cm // Framed Size 132cm x 104cm
Edition of 95 // £995

//A TRIP BEYOND IMAGINATION



Deckled Edged Giclée On Paper // Image Size 102cm x 74cm // Framed Size 132cm x 104cm
Edition of 95 // £995



"George Harrison's song writing had an incredible beauty and depth. As a band member he continued to write some of the most memorable songs ever; inspiring and clever he both challenged and excelled. Progressive and spiritual, his work will live forever."

STUART MCALPINE MILLER

//BIOGRAPHICAL HIGHLIGHTS

2018

'A Time for Reflection: The Savoy Suite' to be published as a series of Limited Editions

2017

November 30 - Solo exhibition at Castle Fine Art, the flagships Glasgow gallery

2016

Solo exhibition at Haerle-Guggenheim Gallery, Chelsea, New York, 9 - 30 March 2016
Ongoing Limited Editions, exhibited throughout the UK
Private Viewing - Castle Fine Art, Brighton - November
Private Viewing - Castle Fine Art, ICC - December

2015

An exhibition of paintings celebrating Pele's 75th birthday,
'Art, Life, Football' at Halcyon Gallery, Mayfair, London -
September

2014

Artist in Residence at: The Savoy Hotel, London. McAlpine Miller continues his residency and is currently working on new paintings for the renowned five-star hotel.

2013

Exhibition at: Castle Fine Art, Mayfair. The sold out solo show, 'Altered Images'.
Collaboration with: London Fashion House, Lulu & Co.
Commissioned by: Luxe Magazine to create the front cover of this exclusive luxury style magazine. The original painting was unveiled and sold at a star studded event at The Ivy, Leicester Square.

2012

Artist in Residence at: The Savoy Hotel, London
Various exhibitions at: The Hay Hill Gallery, London
Exhibition at: State of the Arts Gallery, Hong Kong
Confirmed worldwide publishing deal with: Washington Green Fine Art

2011

Various Solo and Group Exhibitions at: Art & Escape, London
Exhibition at: The Hay Hill Gallery, London
Exhibition at: State of the Arts Gallery, Hong Kong

2010

Exhibition at: The Hay Hill Gallery, London
Exhibition at: Cross My Art, London

2009

Co-founded art gallery: Art & Escape, London
Exhibition at: Kings Road Gallery, London
Exhibition at: Affordable Art Fair, London

2008

Private sale: 10 works to British collector

2007

Commissioned by: Decoration Gallery
Exhibition at: Charlotte Street Gallery, London
Exhibition at: Catto Gallery, London
Exhibition at: Glasgow Art Fair
Exhibition at: Dublin Art Fair

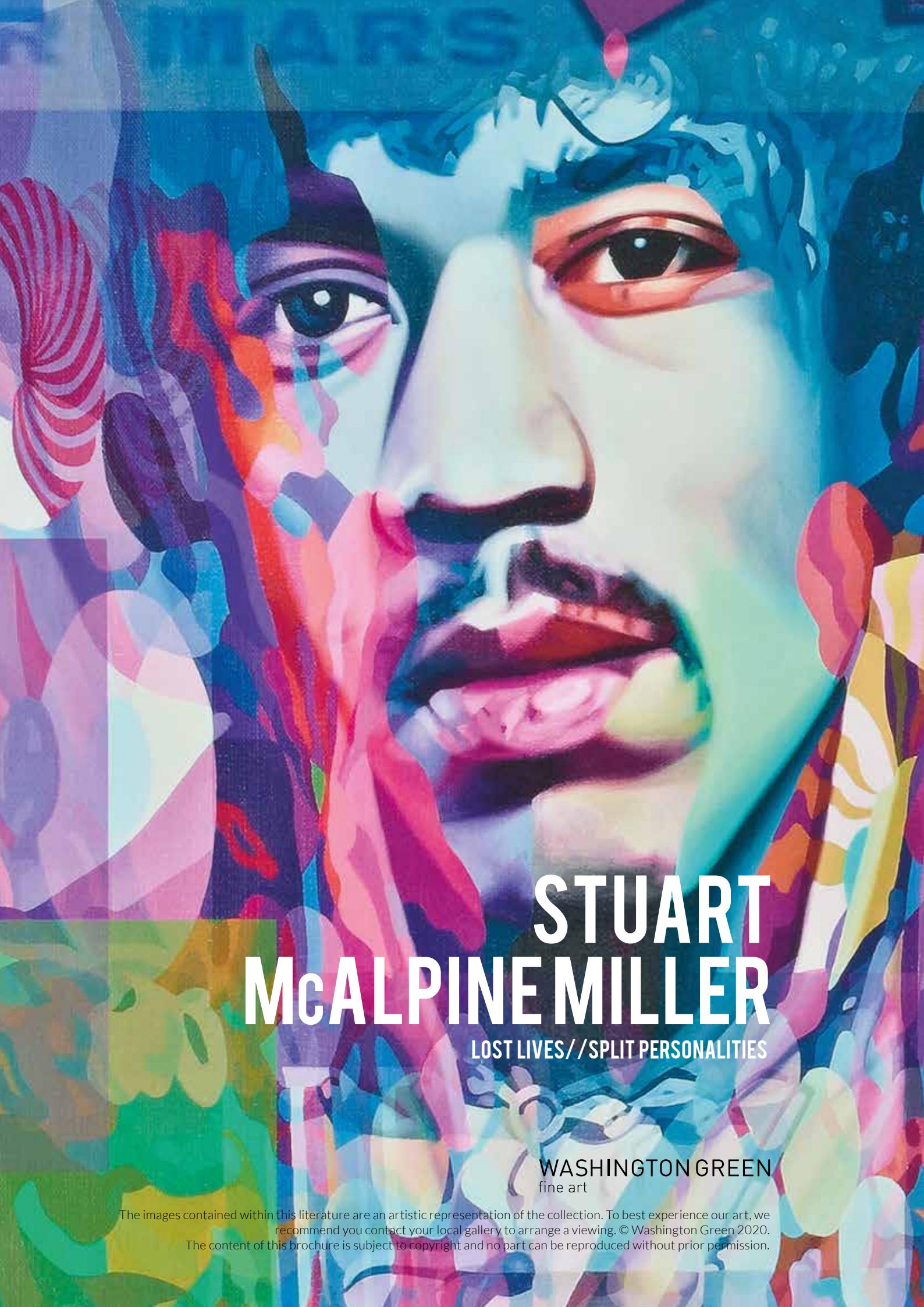
2004

Commissioned by: Paul McCartney 2004
European Tour
Exhibition at: Glasgow Art Fair
Exhibition at: Dublin Art Fair

2003

Exhibition at: Rebecca Hossack Gallery, London

	2000	Exhibition at: Catto Gallery, London
	1999	Exhibition at: Connaught Brown, London Exhibition at: Duncan Miller Fine Art, New York Exhibition at: Ruth O'Hara Gallery, New York
	1998	Exhibition at: Duncan Miller Fine Art Exhibition at: Glasgow Art Fair
	1997	Commissioned by: BBC, Bravissimo, McVities, Persil, Renault, Virgin
	1996	Exhibition at: Art Bank, Glasgow
	1995	Exhibition at: Connought Brown, London Exhibition at: Duncan Miller Fine Art, New York Exhibition at: Gaglardi Gallery, London
	1994	Exhibition at: Connaught Brown, London Exhibition at: Duncan Miller Fine Art, New York Exhibition at: Ruth O'Hara Gallery, New York
	1993	Exhibition at: Art Bank, Glasgow Exhibition at: Connought Brown, London
	1992	Exhibition at: Art Bank, Glasgow
	1991	Exhibition at: Trinity Gallery, London Exhibition at: Poleski Gallery, Italy
	1990	BA Honours: Painting and Drawing, Glasgow School of Art
	1989	Shortlisted for: Provost Award at Kelvingrove Art Galleries & Museums
	1988	Exhibition at: Connought Brown, London Exhibition at: Duncan Miller Fine Art, New York Exhibition at: Chicago Art Fair Exhibition at: Gaglardi Gallery



STUART McALPINE MILLER

LOST LIVES//SPLIT PERSONALITIES

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fine art

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