

Jules Duys.
AND THEN WE BOW.

A graceful bird expressing existential gratitude for all existing things with an elegant bow. An artful translation of a positive, constructive attitude. Because that is how Jules Duys (26) experiences life.

In the meantime, Jules' aesthetic language has evolved considerably. The somewhat naive figurative work of the early period has given way to powerful, expressive abstraction. Acrylic paint has become oil paint. Soft has become full of contrasts. There is more color and texture.

Jules' paintings reached maturity very fast. This is partly due to his father. Kris Duys, an artist himself, has inspired his son Jules both in terms of content and craftsmanship. He cleared the way for more daring and frivolous work, for paintings that pay more attention to composition and explore the essence of Jules' personality in a more direct way.

Another factor in Jules' rapid artistic progression is undeniably his work ethic. He paints a lot, he searches and toils, he modifies and improves. Determined, passionate and playfully obsessive, he explores the graphic boundaries of his own universe, while remaining true to his original story.

That authentic, personal starting point is indeed still present in his work. The 'bow' may be abstracted, it is nevertheless prominent in his recent paintings. The essence of his work is still that positive, connecting view on things, partly in response to a cynical and pessimistic world that surrounds him, however without exercising any moral judgment about it.

Perhaps *the pursuit of cohesion* is the most accurate way to interpret Jules' work both humanly and graphically. The constant search and discovery of ways to connect contrasting colors and shapes in a playful and exciting composition. It is a metaphor for Jules Duys' soul.

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