



"To see a World in a Grain of Sand And a Heaven in a Wild Flower, Hold Infinity in the palm of your hand And Eternity in an hour."

William Blake

ERMIAS KIFLEYESUS CASCADE OF KNOWLEDGE

ERMIAS KIFLEYESUS

Ermias Kifleyesus (b. 1974) lives and works in Brussels. He was born and raised in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, where he studied painting formally at the Alle School of Fine Arts and Design under the acclaimed artist Tadesse Mesfin. Kifleyesus employs a myriad of artistic techniques and media – particularly large-scale paper collages and mixed-media canvas pieces – to investigate important questions about the human condition and the folkloric tales of his Ethiopian heritage. While Kifleyesus' work contains narrative qualities and at times socio-political commentaries, he also employs abstractive techniques as an exploration of painting itself. Through his use of colour, medium, and texture, he fabricates complex, expressionistic surfaces that bear meaning beyond the stories they portray. Kifleyesus has had multiple solo exhibitions in Belgium, and has participated in numerous group shows across Europe and Africa.



Ermias Kifleyesus in his studio in Brussel's, Belgium

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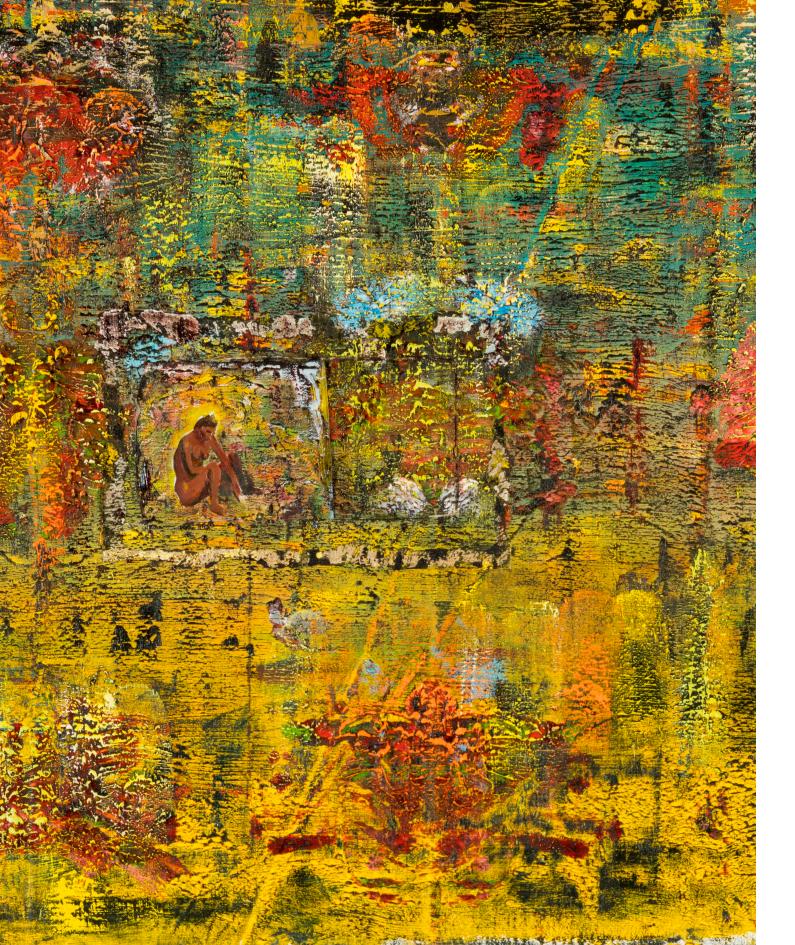




Valiant, 2021 Mixed media, collage, oil on canvas 65 x 51 cm

Powersite, 2021 Mixed media, collage, oil on canvas 104 x 130 cm







Denkenesh, 2021 Mixed media, collage, oil on canvas 106 x 90 cm

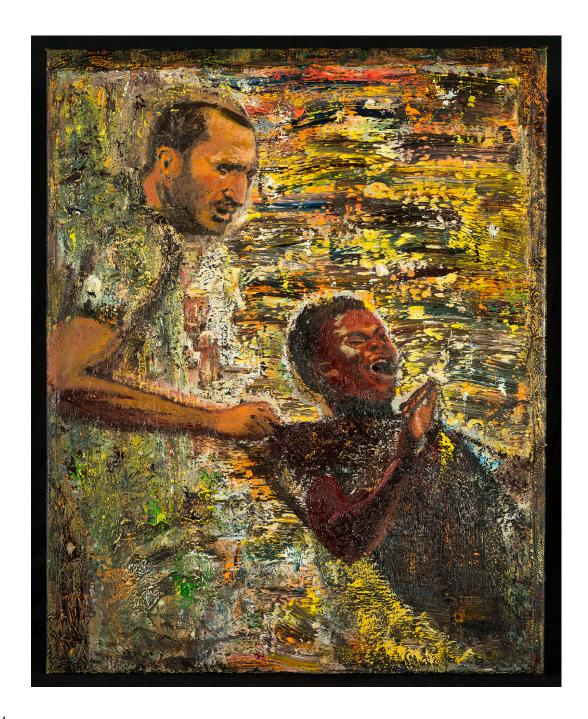


The Glasshouse and the Ants Hill, 2021 Mixed media, collage, oil on canvas 190 x 172 cm

Dallol, 2021 Mixed media, collage, oil on canvas 70 x 48 x cm



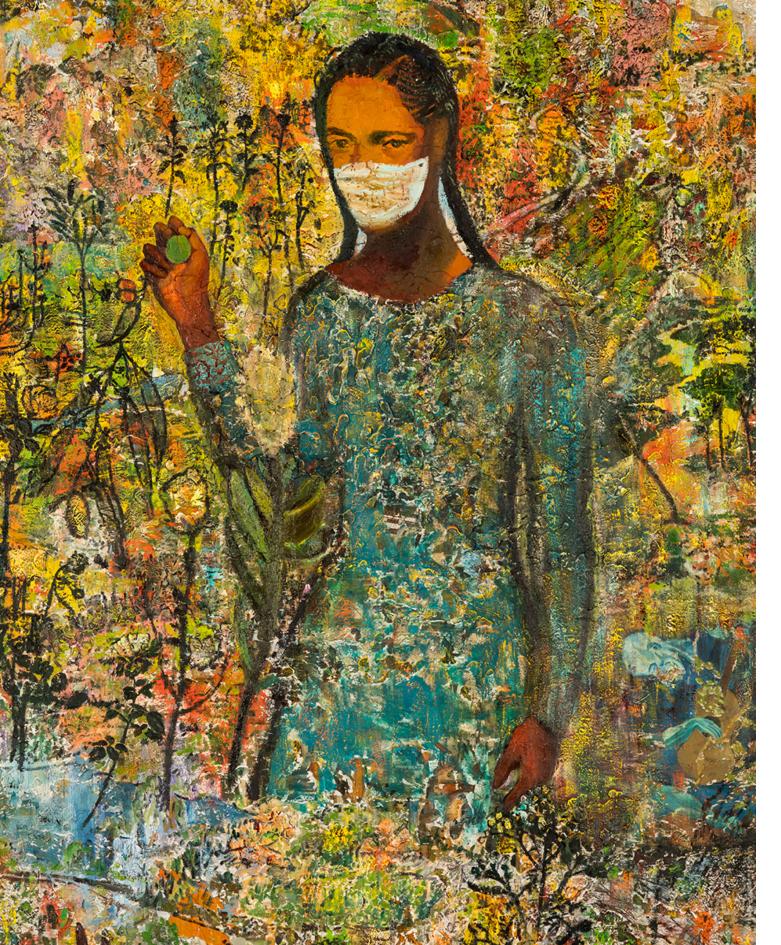
Touch, 2021 Mixed media, collage, oil on canvas 72 x 52 cm







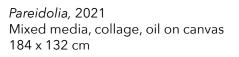
Apostle, 2021 Mixed media, collage, oil on canvas 40 x 50 cm

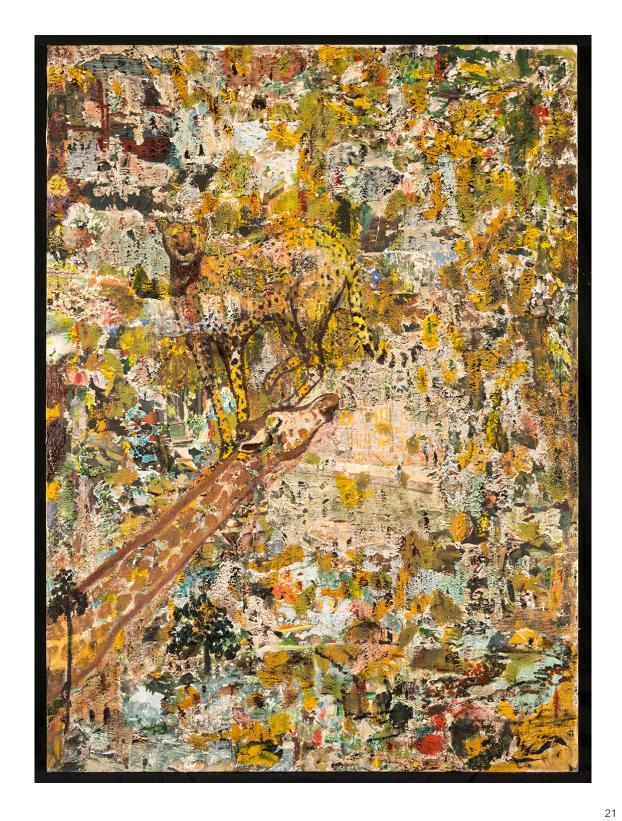


Exit, 2021 Mixed media, collage, oil on canvas 205 x 147 cm

Regard, 2021 Mixed media, collage, oil on canvas 159 x 182 cm







Picasso, 2021 Mixed media, collage, oil on canvas 127 x 94 cm



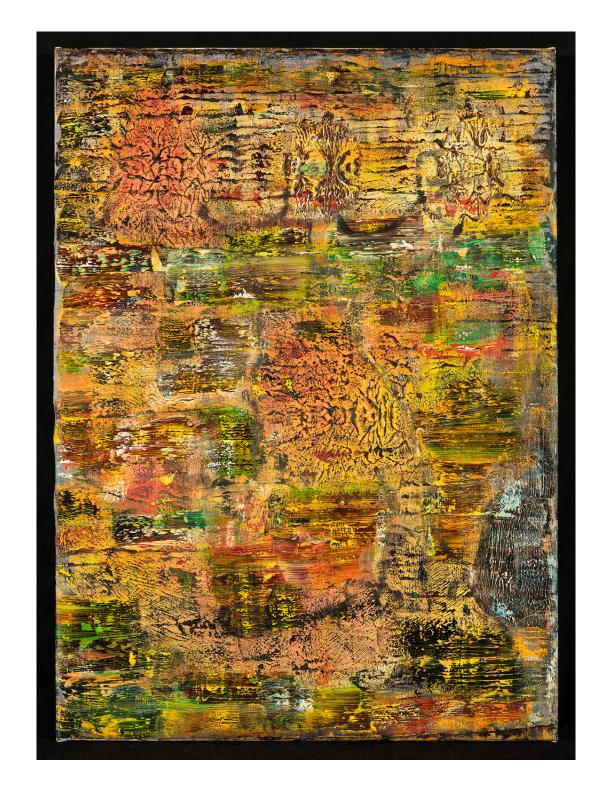
Perseverance, 2021 Mixed media, collage, oil on canvas 60 x 76 cm

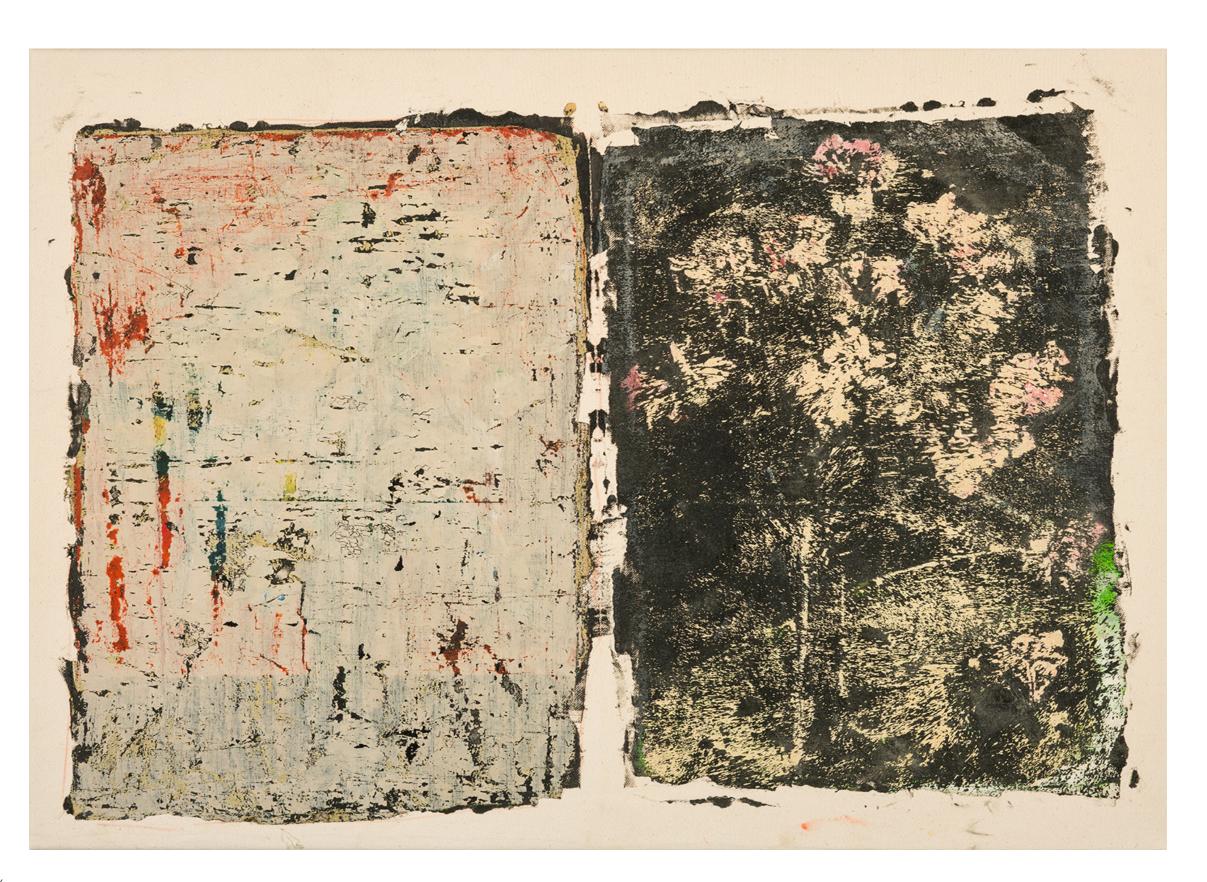
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One Blade, 2021 Mixed media, collage, oil on canvas 112 x 84 cm

Farenji, 2021 Mixed media, collage, oil on canvas 73 x 52 cm





Mythos, 2021 Mixed media, collage, oil on canvas 70 x 90 cm

Addis Fine Art

In 2016, Rakeb Sile and Mesai Haileleul co-founded Addis Fine Art, creating the first white-cube gallery space for modern and contemporary art in Ethiopia. Described as one of the "Most Important Young Galleries in the World" (Artsy 2019), the gallery has since then grown to become one of the leading galleries in Africa, establishing a prominent international platform for artists from the Horn of Africa.

In October 2021, Addis Fine Art London moved into expanded premises in Eastcastle Street, opening a two-storey gallery space in the heart of Fitzrovia. The London gallery programme will encapsulate Addis Fine Art's commitment to heightened international exposure for, and critical reappraisal of, African art on the world stage. The gallery's Addis Ababa space will continue to be an incubator for emerging talent, facilitating critical engagement within the local market and encouraging the growth and development of the artworld ecosystem on the continent. The gallery will also serve as a space for artists from the diaspora to return to the continent and share and develop their practice.

Credits

Ikenna Malbert

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