

NICOLAS NOVERRAZ

Swiss artist born in 1969 in Geneva where he lives and works.

After a stint at the University of Geneva where he began studying geography, he decided to devote himself to his true passion, painting. He chooses figuration namely hyperrealism.

"I listen to the city, look at it, feel it, strive to get the viewer's attention to look at things that he usually looks away from..."

Nicolas Noverraz defines himself as an urban artist. The urban fabric is a reflection of the people who live there, the painting of Nicolas enhances it and leads us to reconsider our a priori of the ugly or the social inconsideration of the subject. Fascinated by the city, its facilities and its equipment, he paints faithfully the transformation of the materials of which they are made and the deteriorations caused by their repeated uses.

Hyperrealist painter, he shows objectively the neglected elements of the city: traffic lights, pedestrian crossings, bus lanes, indicative signs or industrial drums. The "Barrel canvases" are shaped canvases that he makes on a 1/1 scale, their dimensions and profile are identical to the industrial cask. Only their design differs, indeed he realizes these works in the most realistic way possible so as to accentuate the confusion between the real object and the painted canvas. These shaped canvases embody all sorts of potential contaminations, which range from radioactivity to the chemical through the classic fuel.

Sidewalks are playgrounds and another challenge for the artist. Pavers, flagstones and worn slabs, manhole covers sometimes formatted as shields, constitute the discrete identity of a city, but they are rarely observed. Nicolas Noverraz was the subject of another series on the city. He molds in situ the cobblestones, the pebble fragments and the sewer plates that he reproduces identically in resin, then paints them and inserts them into consolidated canvases.

He is seduced by the appearance and the colors that take the deformed metal or the rusty steel then the bodywork, the construction machines, the cabin of plane or the railway equipment will be sources of inspiration. He sublimates the subject by the extreme technique that he brings to each of his achievements and to make himself use, in particular, oil, acrylic, oxidizing powders, metallic paste, resin, road coatings, sand, ground, city dust, wood and metal.

Nicolas Noverraz has no limits for reproducing his subject exactly.