

SPACES WITHIN

YUP | Paulo Arraiano - ADD FUEL TO THE FIRE | Diogo Machado
16TH February to 26TH February



Despite the marked differences between their graphic and visual languages, long-time friends Paulo Arraiano (YUP) and Diogo Machado (ADD FUEL TO THE FIRE) have often collaborated on many projects. Over the years each has developed an extensive portfolio in the fields of graphic and visual arts, working in a variety of mediums. Each has also taken part in a great number of individual and collective exhibitions, in Portugal and abroad. This is the first time they ZShWeZai USeW their work together in the UK.

Both grew up in and live in the seaside town of Cascais, outside Lisbon, Portugal, and in spite of their distinctive paths they share multiple references and interests. They have developed a high level of understanding and familiarity which often borders on the complicit, turning their fertile partnership into an ongoing intuitive collaboration. It is this convergence towards a mutual space where both their differences and similarities intersect that can be viewed here.

Spaces Within explores this point of contact where the two individual realms meet and overlap – an area which both reflects and transcends the many inner spaces and territories their lives and work have created; a new multi-layered expanse composed of myriad emotions, characters, stories, landscapes, colours, shapes and details.

Text: Miguel Moore

Pure Evil Gallery 108 Leonard St London EC2A 4RH | t: + 44 (0) 20 7729 2866 | Opening Event 6-9PM
Monday to Saturday 10am – 6pm or by appointment | Admission free, www.pureevilclothing.com

For further press information and images please contact:
Pure Evil Gallery | cue@sofuzzycrow.com - [Enable2Plus](http://Enable2Plus.com) | info@enable2plus.com

Notes to Editors:

YUP / Paulo Arraiano (b. 1977)

In the organic flow of lines, characters, shapes, colours and compositions that form Paulo Arraiano's visual universe, there lies a duality that merges the natural and the artificial, nature and urbanity, emergence and creation. In the intersection between these two seemingly opposite and excluding worlds, he has managed to set a new-found balance which emerges from the primitive energy that flows between one and the other and is at the root of the visual language he has created and so intensely expresses. In this universe, the all-encompassing nom de guerre of Yup is an exclamation of positivity, an exhortation to life at its fullest, to the primeval motion which is channelled forward by means of those same lines, those same meridians that express the subject of drawing in its purest and most essential form.

Whether digital or analogue, printed or hand-drawn, Yup is essentially about a never-ending quest, an unstoppable metamorphosis of styles and an endless pursuit of balance, fully imbued with genuine love and soul. A quest for the roots, for the organic balance and energy motion that shapes, forms and sustains all life in this complex network of interactions and symbiotic relationships we are all a part of. A quest for a new writing system, a new language to bridge the natural and the artificial, nature and urbanity, which has become more and more abstract, more and more texturised, closer and closer to what lies at the root of all things.

www.pauloarraiano.com

ADD FUEL TO THE FIRE / Diogo Machado (b. 1980)

Located in the outer fringes of a multi-layered imaginative mind, one simple glance seems enough to take in all the colourful, weird, funny, exciting, cosy and warm features of Planet Fire – the brain-child of Diogo Machado. And yet, the visual complexity of some of his creations demands a deeper, more meaningful look, as amid the stylish, dynamic artwork there are often small and unexpected details operating on a whole different level of meaning. In this duality of propositions – the simple and the complex –, lies the vitality of his universe.

Ever since he set off on this journey, his visual probes have been travelling far and wide, scanning the lost worlds of B Movies, low-budget sci-fi, cartoons, Japanese Kaiju, animation, street art, video games and skateboarding visual culture, fuelling his creative drive and giving rise to a deeply ironic usage of these elements, highlighted with bright colours and a fun-loving feel to them. Visual balance, composition, and the use of wild typographic elements are often cornerstones of his graphic and visual language – a unique, vivid style that stands out in this current graphic-soaked culture of ours. Whether hand-drawn or vectorised, the energy and joy which irradiate from the confines of Planet Fire to the rest of the galaxy, act as the perfect tools to conquer drabness; adding fuel to help fire up the colourlessness that permeates our daily lives.

www.addfueltothefire.com

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Pure Evil Gallery

To understand a bit about Pure Evil it is illuminating to know that he is a descendant of Sir Thomas More, the Lord Chancellor who wrote the controversial work Utopia and who was later beheaded by King Henry VIII. With this busy background (Sir Thomas was later canonised) it is only natural that Pure Evil should explore the darker side of the wreckage of Utopian dreams and the myth of the Apocalypse, a belief in the life-changing event that brings history with all its conflicts to an end.

www.pureevilclothing.com

Enable2plus

Enable2plus (Enable++) is a creative company based in London, working in partnership with talented artists. This way we became a platform for a variety of influences, reflections, styles and interests. "Enable2Plus, created in an attempt to reach the masses by our influence.

The enable team want's to focus on the ones that are trying to live from their passions and skills"

www.enable2plus.com