

An abstract painting by Julien Friedler, featuring a complex composition of layered colors and textures. The top half is dominated by vibrant pink and magenta hues, transitioning into a middle section of grey and white with visible brushstrokes. The bottom half is a dense, dark area with splatters of red, black, and white, suggesting a more chaotic or symbolic scene. The overall effect is one of intense energy and emotional depth.

Press Release

Julien Friedler

Boz Mythology

Paintings between symbolism and abstraction

The Stash Gallery, London E1
25 April – 11 May 2019



Julien Friedler, *Allégorie* —acrylic on paper, 40x60 cm



Julien Friedler – Boz Mythology
The Stash Gallery, London E1
25 April – 11 May 2019
Opening view: Thursday 25 April

Open 5pm-10.30pm, Monday-Saturday
or by appointment on 07753702910

This spring sees the long-awaited UK showing of Belgian artist **Julien Friedler**. Consisting of 40 intimate works on paper, it is the first significant outing for the Belgian artist in the country and an introduction to Friedler's intriguing body of work.

Well known across Europe and the US, Friedler's work defies the surface activity found in much contemporary art. His works – which include paintings, drawings, writings as well as events – are informed by mythology: of spirits and mystical entities like angels and demons within ethereal universes. Both contemplative and exuberant, they are replete with tensions between space and solidity. They reward slow reflection.

An ex-psychoanalyst – and a long-time pupil of Jacques Lacan – Friedler has long studied mythology and anthropology, and brings these ideas to his work. He has a worldwide association called the **Spirit of Boz**, which aims to establish exchanges and links with a global community. Inaugurated in 2006, the **Tour of Boz** is to operate for 80 years, bringing the Spirit of Boz to the world. It is in the tradition of culture exchanges of Robert Rauschenberg and Fluxus – using the power of art as a catalyst for global interaction – and now updated as a source of communion in the internet age.

Sometimes compared to the Belgian artist James Ensor, Friedler's paintings combines aspects of the

grotesque and carnivalesque with a dramatic use of color.

Friedler's work, seen at many exhibitions including 2017's Outsider Art fair in Paris, offers a sense of transcendence that is now unusual in the contemporary art sphere. He believes that art is a human activity that expresses universal concerns, beliefs and emotions – and Friedler is a believer in Joseph Beuys' dictum that "Every one of us is capable of doing creative or artistic work". Like Beuys, Friedler believes that art can be a philosophical, moral and even existential programme: using the power of the subconscious to awaken the spirits of the age.

"Art is not entertainment. It is more a power that is self-generating – a mystery that we need to probe."

Julien Friedler

Boz Mythology by Julien Friedler
25 April – 9 May 2019

**The Stash Gallery, The Crypt, 30 Prescott St,
London E1 8BB**

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by appointment on 07753702910**

For more information, comment and images, please call Oliver Bennett (obennett134@gmail.com, 07764 941873). For interview requests (French only) or comment from Friedler, please email art historian and Friedler authority **D o m i n i q u e S t e l l a a t stelladomi@orange.fr**

About Julien Friedler

Solo Exhibitions

2018

- [Behind the World - Complesso del Vittoriano - Ala Brasini, Roma](#)
- [Julien Friedler Spirit of Boz Paintings - European Commission](#)
- [Julien Friedler à la Cité Miroir, Pl. Xavier-Neuveau 22, Liège, Belgique](#)
- [La Parole des Anges & Le Maître des couleurs - Museo del Vittoriano, Sala Giubileo - Piazza Venezia, Rome](#)
- [La Forêt des âmes — Valverde Art Gallery, Bruxelles](#)
- [Julien Friedler - Vibrations, la Chiesa della Madonna del Duomo Vecchio \(Arezzo, via Oberdan\)](#)
- [Be Boz Be Art, Torino, Associazione onlus, Gli Accrobati, via Ornato 4, Torino](#)

2017

- [Julien Friedler Boz Forêt des âmes - Chiesa Dei Santi Giovanni E Paolo](#)
- [Julien Friedler Boz Legend - Castello Di Rivara Museo d'Arte Contemporanea](#)

2016

- [Julien Friedler Reto Boz - Palazzo Collicola - Spoleto](#)

2015

- [Julien Friedler Mania Boz - Mudima - Milano](#)
- [Amok & Kalinka - Riflemaker 79 Beak Street - London](#)

2014

- [Voyage, Museo civico Archeologico girolamo Rossi - Forte dell'Annunziata Via Verdi, 41 - 18039 Ventimiglia - IM - Italia](#)

2012

- [Les Disparus Galerie Gourvennec Ogor, Marseille](#)

2010

- [Spirit of Boz, the truth of the Labyrinth, CW Gallery, New York](#)

2009

- [MUBE, Sao Paulo](#)
- [Dialogues, The National Gallery For Foreign Art, Sofia](#)
- [Jack Balance, Christopher Henry Gallery, New York](#)

2008

- [Be Boz, Heilig Kreuz Kirche – Sotheby's, Munich](#)

2007

- [In Quest, Curated by Michel Dewilde – Galerie Philippe Seghers, Oostende](#)

2005

- [The Innocents \(Music : Messiaen, text : Primo Levi\)](#)
- [La Parole des Anges, Galerie Philippe Cazeau La Beraudiere, Paris](#)

2004

- [Paroles et Paraboles ou le Mythe en question, Paris](#)
- [Memories, David Di Maggio Gallery, Berlin](#)

2003

- [L'Infanzia dell'Arte, Curator : Dominique Stella, Fondazione Mudima, Milano](#)

Group Exhibitions

2018

- Outsider Art Fair, Paris, Galerie Gliacrobati de Turin
- Labrys, The Truth of the Labyrinth, Gorizia, Italia

2017

- Fiera Outsider, international art fair, Paris

2016

- International Art Project 2016, Cap d'Ail.
- Gilgamesh, for inauguration of Fondazione Casa della Divina Bellezza, Forza d'Agrò.
- Fiera di Bologna, Spazio Testoni, Bologna.

2015

- The Truth of the Labyrinth - Miami Art Basel
- The Journey Into Fragility, Palazzo Molin, San Marco 1823, Venice
- The Truth of the Labyrinth, Spazio Testoni, Bologne
- Bienal de las Fronteras Taumapilas

2011

- Inauguration, Galerie Gourvennec Ogor, Marseille
- Mix the Path, Heidi Galerie, Nantes

2009

- African Icons, Curateur : Isolde Brielmaier, Galerie Jack Shainman

2007

- The Demoiselles Revisited, Francis Naumann Gallery, New York

2005

- Armory Show, Galerie Roger Pailhas, New York

2004

- De leur Temps – Collections privées françaises, Musée des Beaux Arts, Tourcoing
- Vanitas, Eitelkeit der Eitelkeiten, IKOB, Eupen

2003

- Art Brussels, Galerie Damasquine, Brussels
- Art Basel, Galerie Roger Pailhas, Basel