

TURNER | ART | PERSPECTIVE

Simon Kirk

Simon Kirk is a contemporary British artist based in Essex whose work explores the intersection of painting, poetry, and collage. Since beginning his professional practice in 2007, Kirk has developed a distinctive visual language that blends text, image, abstraction, and figuration into layered mixed-media compositions. His work has gained international attention and is increasingly sought after by collectors across the United Kingdom, Europe, the United States and Dubai.

Kirk's practice is rooted in experimentation with materials and narrative. His works typically combine painting with collaged elements, often incorporating fragments of text that interact with painted imagery. Through a process known as *décollage*, he cuts, tears, or sands away parts of the surface to reveal layers beneath, creating compositions that feel both constructed and excavated. This technique produces dynamic textures and visual depth while reinforcing the conceptual themes of fragmentation and reinterpretation.



Simon Kirk, The Commuters, Mixed Media on Board, Original Artwork, 2026

Influenced by both the literary and visual arts, Kirk draws inspiration from poetry, particularly the concise imagery of haiku, as well as broader philosophical ideas related to human experience and the concept of the absurd. His works frequently present strange or humorous scenarios populated by stylised characters and fragments of text, encouraging viewers to create their own interpretations of the narratives suggested within the composition.

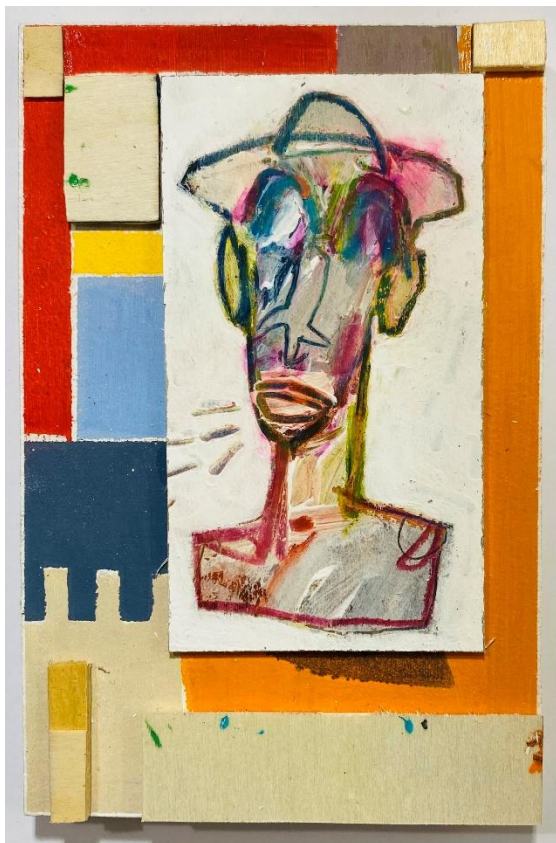
Kirk has exhibited internationally and has been selected for the prestigious Royal Academy Summer Exhibition on multiple occasions. His artwork has also appeared in prominent publications including *Vogue* and *House & Garden*, reflecting the growing recognition of his work within contemporary art and design circles.

Through a practice that combines visual storytelling with playful experimentation, Kirk continues to produce works that balance humour, philosophy and painterly exploration.

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Simon Kirk's current collection brings together two evolving strands of his practice that blend humour, storytelling, and a distinctive abstract pop sensibility. In his expanding *Sketchbook Series*, Kirk creates small, collaged works on board that combine painting with cut-out text and imagery, often pairing witty or absurd phrases with unexpected photographs to form playful, humorous narratives.

Alongside this, his growing *Doc Series* presents portraits of imagined, fantasy individuals rendered in his signature abstract pop art style. These works are filled with bold colour and expressive forms, resulting in a cast of quirky, endearing characters that feel both surreal and warmly familiar.



Simon Kirk, *Wrong Arm*, *Mini Sketchbook Series*, 2026

Group Exhibitions

Royal Academy Summer Exhibition – London (2010, 2013, 2015).

2021

Small Wonders – Well Hung Gallery, Hoxton, London

2017

Genius in Beauty – Hornshaw Gallery, London

DisPlay – Ply Gallery, Crouch End, London

2016

A Higher Perspective: The East Anglian Artists – Turner Barnes Gallery, Shenfield Platform Open Annual Art Exhibition – Morphets of Harrogate

2013

That Summer Feeling: A Group Exhibition of Colour Mood Excitement and Expression – Turner Barnes Gallery, Chelmsford
Impression and Narrative – Lauderdale House, London

2012

A Reservoir of Raw Materials – Lloyd Gill Gallery, Weston-Super-Mare
Kunst I Slusen – Hvide Sande, Denmark

Art Fairs

Affordable Art Fair Battersea – London
Affordable Art Fair Hong Kong – Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre
Affordable Art Fair New York – Metropolitan Pavilion, New York
The Other Art Fair – Truman Brewery, London

Commissions

Artwork included in the 2016–2017 advertising takeover of Regent's Park Underground Station in London.

Publications

Featured in major publications including *Vogue*, *House & Garden*, and *Inside Art Magazine*.