



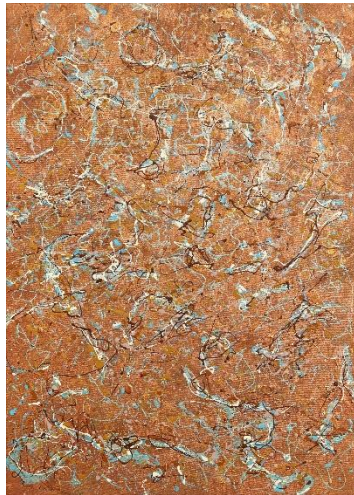
## MARC RAPHAEL

Influenced by the New York abstract expressionism of the 1940s and 50s, Los Angeles artist Marc Raphael began teaching himself how to create his first action paintings in 1991. After encountering Jackson Pollock's work for the first time, Raphael was enraptured by the scale, energy, color, and abstraction, awakening his creative spirit.

After living abroad in Paris, France and graduating college, Raphael pursued his passion for painting alongside his 25-year career as a K-12 classroom teacher. Marc reveals that the murder of his brother in 1982 led him to want to make a difference in the world and to do his part to educate children from poor, underserved communities. Although his years as a teacher filled his life with many rich and rewarding experiences and many fond memories, he decided to pursue his art full-time in 2020.



Since making the transition to full-time artist, Raphael has painted in several studios across Los Angeles, always refining his drip and splatter action painting technique. Marc's desire to create large abstracts and actively engage his whole body in the process is the perfect fit for someone who spent years competing at the highest levels in basketball. The dynamic interplay between body and creative energy is immensely satisfying for Marc, resulting in his stunning compositions. Here is what Raphael says about his work:



*"As an action painter who paints in an abstract expressionist style, I am primarily interested in the **process** of making art. To begin a painting, I lay raw, unstretched canvas on the floor, and without a preconceived notion of what I am going to do or how the finished painting will look, I intuitively apply the first marks of acrylic paint on the canvas. What I love about raw canvas is how watered-down acrylic paint stains the cotton fibers, providing a smoothly textured background. Working quickly, I scoot, lean, bend, and squat as I move around the canvas executing rapid-fire drips, splatters, and swirls. By consciously attending to formal elements, especially color, line, and texture, and allowing intuition to freely assert itself, the painting soon comes to life and presents a direction. I liken this balance of control and spontaneity to a conversation I am having with the painting. This balance between control and spontaneity also reminds me of improvisational jazz, and that is why I refer to my paintings as*

*'jazz-like improvisations on canvas.'*"

Marc Raphael's artworks are exhibited and collected across the United States.

### Exhibitions

- 2022 Camelback Gallery's Bold Abstracts 2022 International Juried Art Competition, Bronze Award
- Art Show International Gallery, 5th Abstract Competition, Talent Prize
- ART2art District, Los Angeles, CA
- Art Transforming Spaces, Lark Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
- Centered on Center, Huntington Beach Art Center, Huntington Beach, CA



2021 LIVE Holiday Group Show, ART2art District, Los Angeles, CA  
Contemporary Art Gallery online All Color; Third Place for Coral Reef,  
Acrylic on canvas, 24 x 21in  
Grey Cube Gallery Painting and Photography online art show, Merit Award  
Abstractions, Mona Niko Gallery, Mission Viejo, CA  
ArtUniteLA, Tropico de Nopal Art Gallery, Echo Park, CA  
Art Impact International, The Child Factor online exhibit and in person exhibit at Busboys and Poets, Washington D.C.  
Art Room Gallery online, Abstract  
Grey Cube Gallery online, Colors Art Show  
Las Laguna Art Gallery online, Purely Abstract



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