

“Nature does strange and bizarre things” is how Yannick Val Gesto reacted upon receiving the question to produce a digital artwork that touches on the subject of climate change. He asks himself if he wants to contribute to the chaos, the misinformation and manifesto’s we see online.

He doesn’t and the results are what can be identified as butterfly silhouettes, or rather interpretations of butterflies, sprouting from the idea of something beautiful and untouchable, maybe unreachable and incomprehensible, that gets destroyed or is in the process of being destroyed. An image arises of a butterfly that gets too close to the sun, like it doesn’t know it’s doing something wrong. Icarus.

The interpretations also beget a Rorschach feeling, which links them to mental health. Posed against the backdrop of our actuality, they might portray collective madness, fear and insecurity, more so than anything else.

Yannick Val Gesto’s form arose from his YES series, a series of digital drawings focusing on composition and line work, always turning out as very flat, 2D imagery. Here he continues his play of shape and achieved an iconographic style end result, much like a series of coats of arms for the elements. A no non-sense aesthetic, without being overtly comical.



YELLOW  
GREEN  
PINK  
BLUE  
ORANGE

SUN  
EARTH  
AIR  
WATER  
ETHER

Biography:  
Yannick Val Gesto (born 1987, Borgerhout, Belgium) is most interested in cyberculture, psychology and image-making. His drawings and videos explore the relationship between digital perfection and the human condition. He has exhibited internationally at places like Higher Pictures (US), BidProject Gallery (IT), Sunday Art Fair (UK), NRW-Forum (DE) and Ausstellungsraum Klingental (CH). He is currently living and working in Hemiksem (BE) and is represented by Levy.Delval (BE) and Cinnamon (NL).