Jose Bonell

PEANA



Jose Bonell (b. 1989, Barcelona) is a painter of fragmentary details, whose work is imbued with immense subtlety. His narratives are based around the collective imagination and infused with historical, literary and personal references. Whether dreamlike, sarcastic or simply humorous, his canvases depict scenes in which his characters are involved in a series of outlandish or bizarre acts. In a lively and fluid manner, the paint is applied to the surface in subtle brushstrokes and dabs, giving rise to discreet acts of folly, absurd situations and ambiguous moments, all emphasized by the artist's perceptive use of atmospheric colors. Jose Bonell paints with a swift hand, seeking out with his brush the shapes and colors that form his tragi-comic images which probe the mysteries of time and space. His paintings are visual allegories of both the futility and poetry of human existence. They form a mythological universe rich in metaphor, like a vast kaleidoscopic frieze revealing a world that is the mirror image of our own.

Jose Bonell is a permanent resident of the Piramidón Centro de Arte Contemporáneo in the Catalan city. His works have been exhibited in numerous solo and collective shows, most notably at Various Small Fires (VSF) in Los Angeles, the Rossi Contemporary in Brussels, White Columns and The Hole in New York, Plataforma in Barcelona and The Curator's Room in both Amsterdam and Barcelona. He was awarded the Prix Novembre in Vitry-sur-Seine, France, in 2020. Alongside Sara Bonache, he is the co-director of Unica Edicions, founded in 2020, which publishes artist's books and objects in limited series.





Jose Bonell, Insomne, 2025. Oil and spray paint on linen, 46 x 38 x 3 cm. Image courtesy of the artist and PEANA

LIVES AND WORKS

Barcelona, ES.

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2025 He soñado tanto que ya no soy de aquí, PEANA; CDMX, MX.
- 2024 Ways of Measuring Twilight, Adams and Ollman; Oregon, US.
- 2023 Scenes from Painterhood, Semiose; Paris, FR.
 - Some Stories, Various Small Fires (VSF); Los Angeles, US. The Indiscreet
 - Night, Adams and Ollman; Oregon, US.
- 2022 When Time Was a Party, Palmer / Galerienhaus 3.0; GER El Gran Banquet, Espai Guinovart; Agramunt, ES. Through the Mirror, Rossi Contemporary; Brussels, BEL.
- 2021 Una Temporada en Ardèche, La Centrale; Ardèche, FR.

DUO & GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2025 Material Art Fair Vol. 11; CDMX, MX
- 2024 Horsing Around, Galerie Lake; Oldenburg, GE. What I Want You to See; Monti8, Latina, IT.
 - José Bonell & Yu Zhiton, Palm Gallery; Taipei, TW.
 - 38, PM/AM; London, ENG.
- 2023 Benefit Auction, White Columns; New York, US.
 - Piramidón: Sota un mateix cel, Castell Benedormiens; Girona, ES. Midnight Hour, The Hole; New York, US.
- 2022 Lauréats du Prix Novembre à Vitry, Galerie Municipale Jean-Collet; Vitry-sur-Seine, FR.
 - Wat Voel Je Nou, The Curators Room & Moya Museum, Amsterdam, NL.
 - WE ARE NOT ALONE, The Curators Room; Barcelona, ES Preludios de mi lira, CAC La Sala; Vilanova i la Geltrú, ES.
- 2021 Delicartessen 20, Galería Esther Montriol; Barcelona, ES.
 - III Premio Internacional Nasevi, Casa Vicens; Barcelona, ES.
 - Needful Things, Uxval Gochez Gallery; Barcelona, ES.
- 2020 Càpsules de confinament: art i pandèmia a Catalunya, Fundació Vilacasas; Barcelona, ES.
 - Showhouse Art Call, Showhouse JayJay (Online); Antwerp, BEL.

COLLECTIONS

- X Museum, Bei Jing Shi, CHN
- Fundacja Krupa, Warsaw, PL
- Collection de la Ville de Vitry-sur-Seine, FR

He soñado tanto que ya no soy de aquí

PEANA; CDMX, MX. 2025..

This exhibition estands as a trenchant exploration of the dialectic between wakefulness, sleep, and insomnia in contemporary times. Far from a mere description, the exhibition critically interrogates the imposition of hyper-productivity, which reduces rest to a pragmatic "efficiency hygiene," culminating in a pathology of chronic exhaustion. Through a meticulously curated selection of images that fluidly traverse the phenomenal and the dreamlike, Bonell's work not only questions the erosion of darkness and the richness of the night but posits imagination as a subversive act of resistance against the incessant maelstrom of a world that refuses to pause.









Jose Bonell, *Encender la sombra,* 2025, Oil and spray paint on linen, 73 x 60 x 3.5 cm. Image courtesy of the artist and PEANA



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