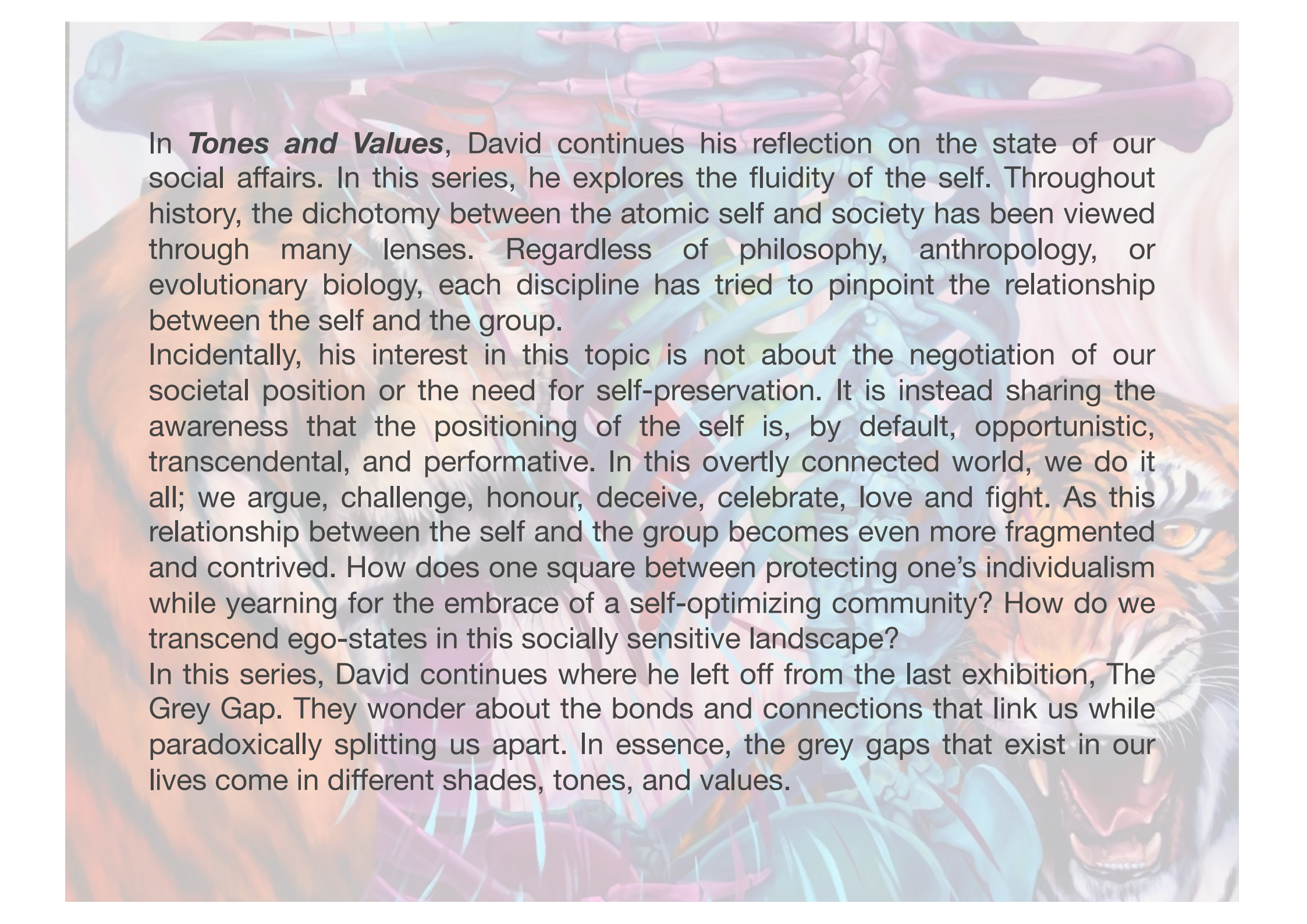


Tones and Values

David Chan





In *Tones and Values*, David continues his reflection on the state of our social affairs. In this series, he explores the fluidity of the self. Throughout history, the dichotomy between the atomic self and society has been viewed through many lenses. Regardless of philosophy, anthropology, or evolutionary biology, each discipline has tried to pinpoint the relationship between the self and the group.

Incidentally, his interest in this topic is not about the negotiation of our societal position or the need for self-preservation. It is instead sharing the awareness that the positioning of the self is, by default, opportunistic, transcendental, and performative. In this overtly connected world, we do it all; we argue, challenge, honour, deceive, celebrate, love and fight. As this relationship between the self and the group becomes even more fragmented and contrived. How does one square between protecting one's individualism while yearning for the embrace of a self-optimizing community? How do we transcend ego-states in this socially sensitive landscape?

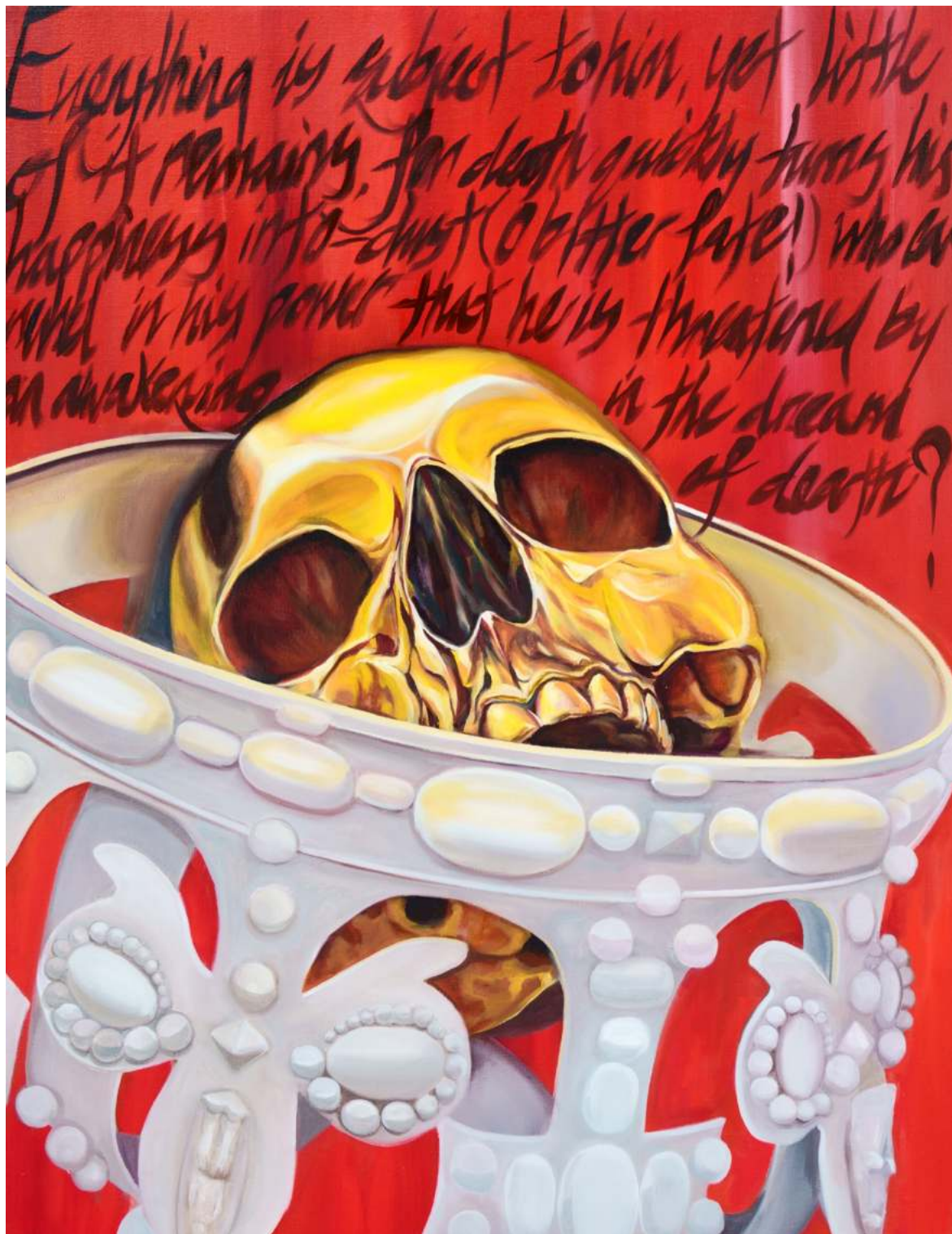
In this series, David continues where he left off from the last exhibition, *The Grey Gap*. They wonder about the bonds and connections that link us while paradoxically splitting us apart. In essence, the grey gaps that exist in our lives come in different shades, tones, and values.



Jaws
2022
Oil on Linen
117 x 117 cm



*Bark, Quack,
Sneer and Hum*
2022
Oil on Linen
117 x 117 cm



Awakening

2023

Oil on Linen

90.5 x 70 cm

Sleeping
2023
Oil on Linen
90 x 70.5 cm





Chameleon 1

2023

Acrylic and Embossing on Primed Fabiano

56 x 38 cm



Chameleon 2

2023

Acrylic and Embossing on Primed Fabiano

56 x 38 cm



Fashionista 1

2023

Acrylic and Embossing on Primed Fabiano

56 x 38 cm



Fashionista 2

2023

Acrylic and Embossing on Primed Fabiano

56 x 38 cm



Globetrekker

2023

Acrylic and Embossing on Primed Fabiano

56 x 38 cm



Miss Colour 1

2023

Acrylic and Embossing on Primed Fabiano

56 x 38 cm



Miss Colour 2

2023

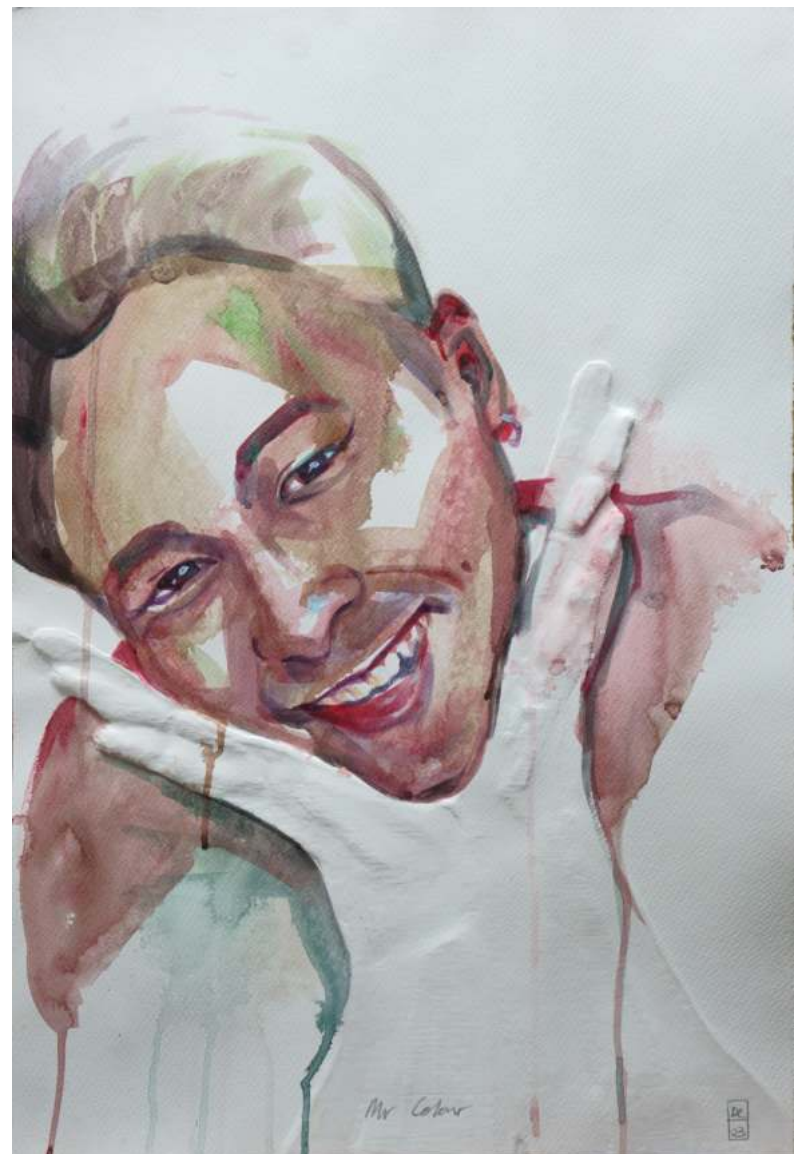
Acrylic and Embossing on Primed Fabiano

56 x 38 cm



Mr Colour 1
2023

Acrylic and Embossing on Primed Fabiano
56 x 38 cm




Mr Colour 2
2023

Acrylic and Embossing on Primed Fabiano
56 x 38 cm

Performer
2023
Acrylic and Embossing on Primed Fabiano
56 x 38 cm





DAVID CHAN paints in a realistic style, yet hints of the surrealistic connotation come into play in his subjects such as animals, humans/human hybrids against his vivid or monolithic background. At first glance, the audacious works seem comical or bewildering. However, upon closer observation, the initial impression gives way to the artist's reality and his take on social issues such as popular culture and genetic engineering, and human behaviour in our current times. In that, it is always not easy to unpack the story behind each of David's works. It is like taking a lateral journey with David, the improbable storyteller himself. One has to dip deep into David's realm of reality and imagination to understand his visual language and its iconographical interpretations of the story to be able to fathom the realistic rendition of his work.

A Master's in Education (Arts) from the National Institute of Education and a Bachelor's of Arts (Fine Art, First Class Honours) from the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology. Born and raised in Singapore, David Chan was able to enjoy early success in his career; at age 25, he became a full-time artist with his first sold-out solo exhibition – Genetic Wonderland. The same year, he also won the 23rd UOB Painting of the Year – Representational Medium Category Award. David has had 7 solo exhibitions in Singapore and 2 overseas; the most recent was "Grey Gap" in 2022. He has also exhibited in several countries, including China, America, Taiwan, Indonesia, Korea, and Malaysia. In 2011 he exhibited his work at the 54th Venice Biennale at the Fondazione Claudio Buziol. The same work travelled to the Wereldmuseum Rotterdam in the Netherlands the following year. In addition, David has participated in the Singapore 2016/2017 Biennale. In the exhibition, he built a gigantic installation in front of the National Museum of the Arts titled: The Great East Indiaman. In addendum to painting and sculpting, David also lectures at the National Institute of Education and Art Design & Media at the Nanyang Technological University. David's collectors include the Singapore Art Museum, the Museum of Contemporary Art, Taipei, and many important private collections worldwide.

ART SEASONS

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