

. JOSÈ MOLINA, NARRANDO L'UOMO

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### ***JOSÉ MOLINA, THE MADRILENIAN ARTIST***

#### **From communicator to artist. What determined this choice?**

Characters that become real, a painting that is almost photographic, art fusing with science giving birth to subjects imbued with unsurpassed naturalness, so believable as to give chills. José Molina is a Madrilenian artist who has chosen to live in Lake Como. He started painting when he was very young, studied art, painting and sculpture. After completing his studies at the Academy for Fine Arts in Madrid, and following some intense years of activity in advertising as creative director with international agencies, aged 35 he decided to go back to painting, devoting himself entirely to art.

#### **What sparks the creative gesture? Where do you draw inspiration for what you create?**

I always have paper and pen, I write, draw, sculpt and gather objects that, for some reason, capture my imagination. I enjoy hiking and I gather trunks and a lot of material I then elaborate and work on. I draw everything that comes to mind. Then the sketches mature in my mind and eventually become my work. The stimuli also come from the newspapers I read, from people's chatter, people from every walk of life: from the most humble to the most important.

#### **What are the qualities an artist should have?**

This depends on the type of artist and the choices he/she has made. I think though that artists share a vital curiosity and the need to tell things, to recount what is happening.

**Why are you interested in the human being more than in any other thing?**

I try to be open-minded. I like the psychological, philosophical, social aspect. I love history and the extraordinary dialogue between science, philosophy and art that emerged in the XIX and XX centuries.



**Besides painting and sculpting you often express yourself through writing. Do you write while you create or does the work come first, trailed by the considerations?**

There is not fixed rule. For me it is important to express some concepts with words too. These are reflections that emerge from facing some topics, from phrases and quotations that have struck me. Letting myself be carried away and follow the stimuli that emerge by observing what surrounds me, along with the experiences I make, is vital to me.

**What do you like and dislike about the human being?**

I like generosity, the ability to get together to solve problems, while I dislike egoism, a vice that debases the being and that I have well represented in my work *Predadores* (thirty-seven characters born from Molina's phantasy, narrating the human being. E.N.). Socially speaking, egoism generates monsters.

**What is your relationship with solitude and how does the individual experience his solitude?**

I enjoy very much the company of others, but I think that to have a good relationship with others it is necessary, above all, to learn to be alone. There are moments in life when we are really alone, it is important to learn to live with them.

**What is your research these days?**

I am currently working at three collections. *Beloved Earth* is my homage to nature and beauty through a dialogue between human body and nature. In this project I am also crafting the frames, which thus become an integral part of the work. *Once were warriors* is a reflection on the social crises, where I represent some beings that are all jaw, as a metaphor of their mere pursuit of personal interest and their lack of humanity. Lastly *Sins and Virtues*, my personal take on human sins and virtues.

