

# WHAT IS

#005

## Is Painting Really Dead?

I have been reading about 'the death of art' since I was 18. Then, came 'painting is dead'. Then 20 years later painting dies again. A few years ago was hailed that all non-digital mediums died too. Now and then, I question the possibility of the claim.



**Salad Days**

Acrylic on canvas paper  
60x40cm

Last week, a friend tells me:

- PAINTING IS DEAD.
- Again?
- Yes, but this time for good.
- How come?
- No appetite for painting worldwide. It is shifting to new media.
- ...

I have friends who sound like oracles when they speak, so I gave myself a full week to duel on the matter and I got to an answer. Before the pandemic, my home was where I sleep, eat, and relax with my family and my workplace (studio) was where I work. The feel-good emotions of life came from the gym, the restaurants, the clubs, the parties, the museums, the galleries, the movies, the outdoors, the conferences, meeting friends, making new friends, traveling... Without a doubt, since the pandemic and Lebanon's existential crisis, I have seen my habits shifting. Besides taking walks and running urgent errands, I spend most of my time staying in. As a matter of fact, my home became a one-stop-shop, and to stay sane, there is an urgent need to replace a lot of the feel good emotions I had in going out. To compensate my home transformed slowly into a sanctuary.

If this is true to most of us, then our sanctuary is in a great need of sensory bits to enhance the space we live in; lighting, sights, music, sounds, scents, plants, objects, flowers, animals, music, art... the last three being the sacred trio. Of them, visual art finds its natural place in the intimacy of a sanctuary, because above all a painting or an object of art is a conduit to impressions and reflection and a constant reminder of how fragile we are. So, no I do not think that painting is dead. On the contrary, painting is more likely to gain importance and significance as we live this new reality since a work of art we love, has a positive effect on our spirit and it is a catalyst for peace and tranquility. Humanity needs more painting not less. And remember, a painting you love, loves you back.

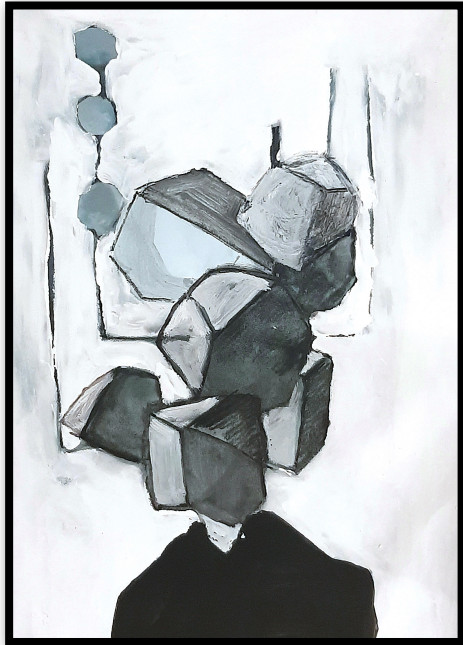
## Studies For Birthday

*We age.  
From not knowing, to not knowing.  
Love and hate and a whole lot in between.  
Crystallize and fossilize, Mr. Stone.*



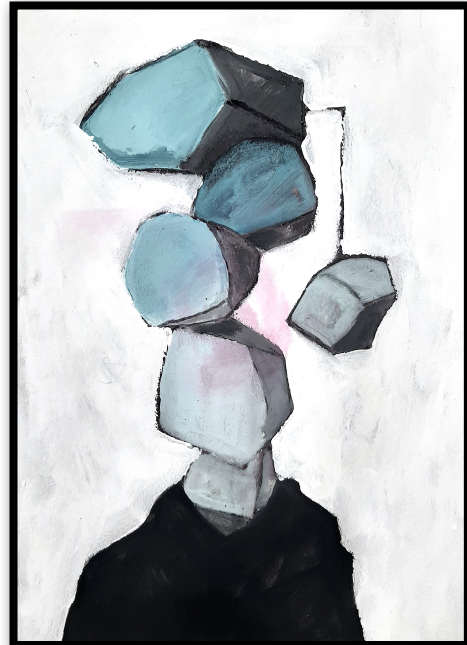
**Mr. Stone**

C type Print 70x55cm



**Studies 1/3**

Oil and Tempera on  
watercolor paper 55x37cm



**Studies 2/3**

Oil and Tempera on  
watercolor paper 55x37cm

## **DIRTY** **TALK**

**#001**

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