

FABRIZIO BIVIANO

Monologues





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3 – 26 April 2025

Opening Celebration & Drinks, Thursday 3 April, 5 – 7 pm

The books in Fabrizio Biviano's paintings are stacked upon one another, like parallel universes of knowledge lying dormant between the covers. Literary classics, philosophy texts and political journalism rub up against science fiction, popular fiction and self-help treatises. The evidence of each book's passage through time – its writing, production, circulation and re-circulation – is visibly marked by the painted lines and shadows of cracked spines, creased and faded covers and frayed edges.

Crowning each seemingly miscellaneous pile of books is an object; symbols of power, wealth and mortality that speak to the heart of 21st Century culture's dominant preoccupations. A shark, emblematic of capitalism and consumerism, sits atop a pile of books that spans topics such as the Roman Empire, corporate greed, pulp fiction and an academic dissertation on the nature of evil. In another still life, a pile of books that includes a series of daily self-help affirmations, the hunting and feeding techniques of birds of prey, and a scientific study on physical modifications that can lead to behavioural control in people, is topped by a serene figurine of mother Mary, emblem of power and belief.

Monologues is a body of work both personal and political for Biviano. It offers a study of the contemporary mind, in a century oversaturated with writing that espouses convincing argument upon convincing argument. Writing that attempts to pin the world down and to hold it in some logical form, only to be over-ridden momentarily by the next, equally convincing text, one that criss-crosses back over what seemed to be facts, to present a new and compelling paradigm of knowledge.

Whilst books are a common theme in Biviano's work, this series leans away from the analogy of books as an embodiment of time and how we spend it, and offers a deeper insight into his own inner workings as a father, teacher and artist; workings that – through his engagement with books and texts – ask existential questions and muse on political conclusions.

Biviano is compelled by a Faustian quest for some kind of truth in a world that, in his words, is getting a bit ugly. Have we given up our humanity for an endless indulgence in the insatiable pleasures of knowledge? And why, if we can produce so much knowledge, has nothing essentially changed amongst our species for over 10,000 years? In a world dominated by the rhetoric of opinion, do we understand the genesis of the ideas and beliefs we hold? Do we understand their formations and carry their nuances? Or is it a case of the more we know the less we understand?

The prismatic assemblages of literary works presented in each painting are mirrored in Biviano's eclectic list of aesthetic influences. This body of work asks the viewer not just to look, but to see. The familiar and well-rehearsed forms of Seventeenth Century still life painting collide here, with markings reminiscent of John Brack's 'marching' pencil works. In the push and pull between foreground and background – surface and depth – the rough brushwork of John Percival meets the flat grunge of skateboard graphics. The splashy colours of De Kooning's mid-career abstractions are infiltrated by the simplicity of Edo period Japanese printmaking. Just like the books in question, and the garish talismans that crown them, each aesthetic genre alludes to an equally compelling world-view; visual metaphors for the perspectives we constantly seek to make sense of the wild world in which we live.

Roslyn Orlando
Independent Arts Writer

Biviano completed a Master of Fine Art from Monash University in 2014. An art instructor by day, he maintains a tireless dedication to his practice. Biviano was a finalist in the inaugural Evelyn Chapman Art Award at S.H. Ervin Gallery (2018) and the Eutick Memorial Still Life Award (2018). He was also a finalist in the renowned Arthur Guy Memorial Prize for Painting (2015), the Paul Guest Prize for Drawing (2014) and the Belle Arti, Chapman and Bailey Art Award (2010). His work features in the collections of Artbank and the Latrobe University Museum of Art and many private collections in Australia, the USA and the UK.



The only game in town
oil on Belgian linen
137 x 167.5 cm
\$11,000



Become what you are

oil on Belgian linen

91.5 x 76 cm

\$6,000



Art is long, and life short

oil on Belgian linen

101.5 x 91.5 cm

\$7,200



Hast du etwas Zeit für mich

oil on Belgian linen

91.5 x 76 cm

\$6,000



Fat music for fat people
oil on Belgian linen
91.5 x 76 cm
\$6,000



When luck runs out
oil on Belgian linen
91.5 x 76 cm
\$6,000



The Hidden Persuaders

oil on Belgian linen

101.5 x 91.5 cm

\$7,200



Each new day
oil on Belgian linen
91.5 x 76 cm
\$6,000



Poetry of the romantics

oil on Belgian linen

91.5 x 76 cm

\$6,000



The Monuments of Mars

oil on Belgian linen

91 x 76 cm

\$6,000



We are not alone
oil on Belgian linen
101.5 x 91.5 cm
\$7,200



The heart is a lonely hunter

oil on Belgian linen

91 x 76 cm

\$6,000



Even my sure things fall through
oil on Belgian linen
137 x 183 cm
\$12,000



We are setting sail to a place on a map from which no one has ever returned

oil on Belgian linen

91 x 76 cm

\$6,000



In the Darkness on the Edge of Town

oil on Belgian linen

91 x 76 cm

\$6,000



If It Wasn't For The Coffee, I'd Have No Identifiable Personality Whatsoever

oil on Belgian linen

91 x 76 cm

\$6,000



Exercises in colour association 35 - Butter Scotch Latte

oil on Belgian linen

40.5 x 28 cm

\$2,500

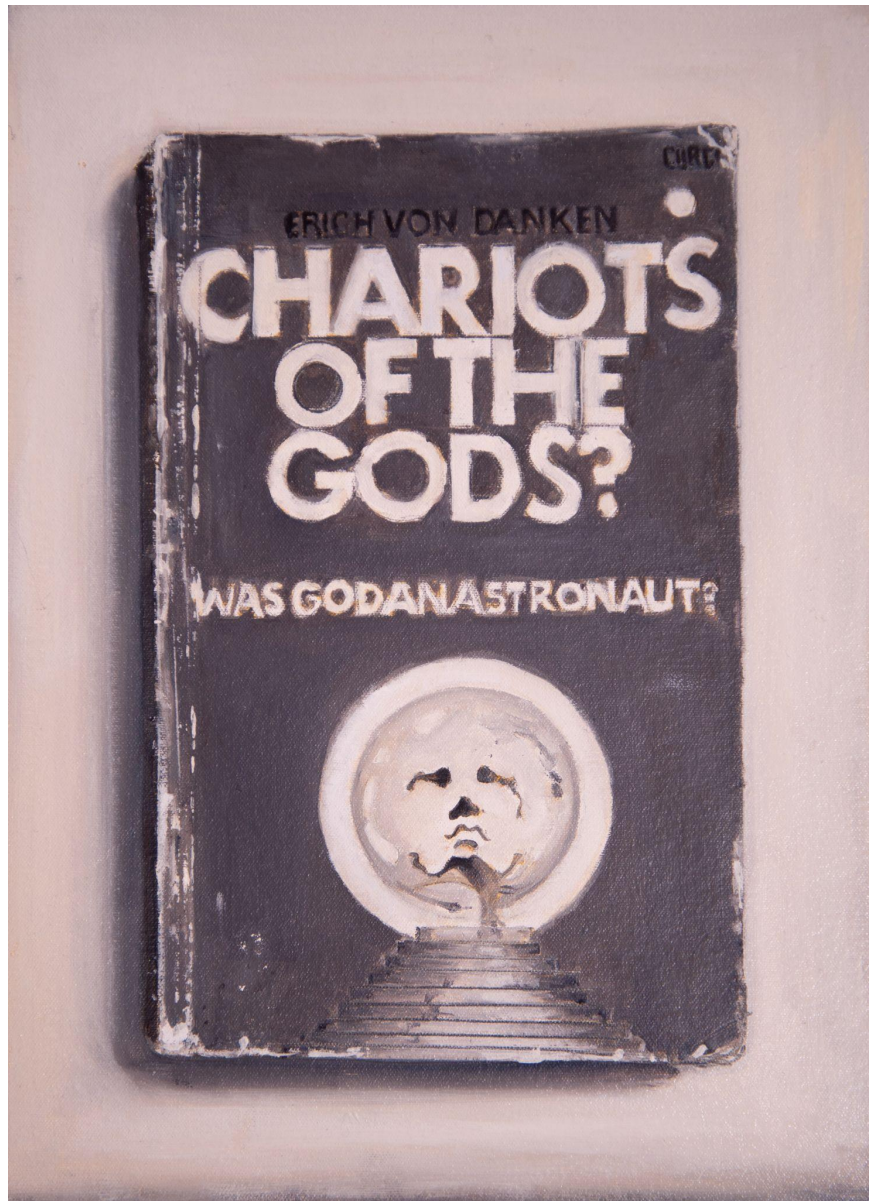


Chariots of the Gods

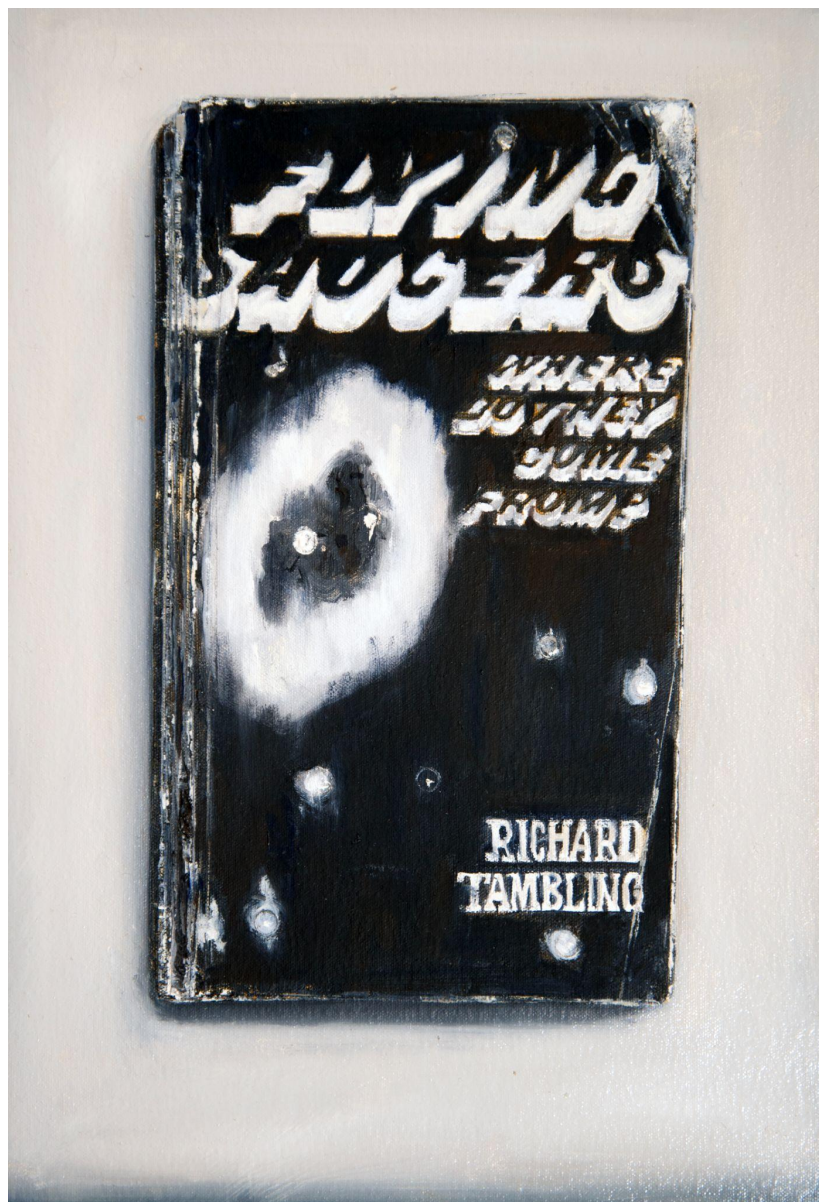
oil on canvas

40.5 x 28.5 cm

\$2,500



Flying Saucers
oil on canvas
40.5 x 28 cm
\$2,500



The UFO Experience

oil on canvas

40.5 x 28 cm

\$2,500

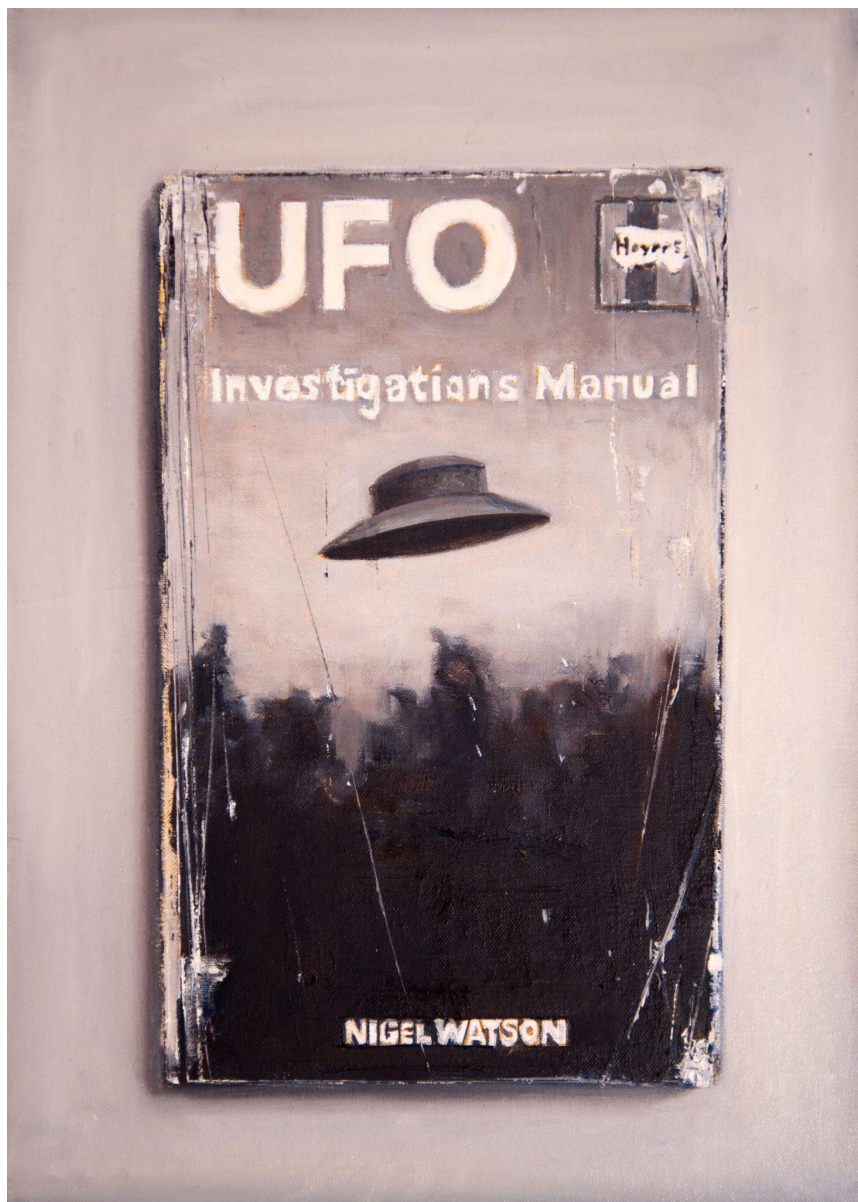


UFO Investigations Manual

oil on canvas

40.5 x 28.5 cm

\$2,500





FABRIZIO BIVIANO

Born 1976, Melbourne, Australia

EDUCATION

2014	Master of Fine Art, Monash University, Melbourne, VIC
1998	Bachelor of Teaching (Art), University of Melbourne, VIC
1996	Bachelor of Art (Visual), Deakin University, Melbourne, VIC

AWARDS, GRANTS & RESIDENCIES

2024	Kings School Art Prize, Sydney, NSW, Finalist
2018	Evelyn Chapman Art Award, Sydney, NSW, Finalist Eutick Memorial Still Life Award, Wollongong, NSW, Finalist
2015	Arthur Guy Memorial Prize, VIC, Finalist
2014	Paul Guest Prize, VIC, Finalist (Collaboration with Dean Thompson)
2010	Belle Arti, Chapman and Bailey Art Award, Abbotsford, VIC, Finalist

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2024	'Salvage', Lennox St Gallery, Melbourne, VIC
2022	'Seven Keys to Distinction', Arthouse Gallery, Sydney, NSW 'Post-Influence', Metro Gallery, Melbourne, VIC
2020	'Positive Aspects of Negative Thinking', Arthouse Gallery, Sydney, NSW
2019	'Love Song Dedications', Arthouse Gallery, Sydney, NSW
2018	'Potemkin Still Life Blues', Arthouse Gallery, Sydney, NSW
2015	'Phillumunist: Places Other People Have Been', James Makin Gallery, Melbourne, VIC
2014	'Pink Sticker', Paradise Hills, Melbourne, VIC (Collaboration with Dean Thompson)
2013	'Stacks', James Makin Gallery, Melbourne, VIC
2011	'Still', Paradise Hills, Melbourne, VIC
2009	'Here', Shifted Gallery, Melbourne, VIC
2008	'Untitled', Shifted Gallery, Melbourne, VIC 'Wallpaper', Shifted Gallery, Melbourne, VIC

FABRIZIO BIVIANO

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2023 'Paper & Clay', Arthouse Gallery, Sydney, NSW
- 2022 'Flood Relief – Spread the Love', Arthouse Gallery, Sydney, NSW
'Summer', Arthouse Gallery, Sydney, NSW
- 2021 'Floating Land', Noosa Regional Gallery, QLD
'Summer Salon', Arthouse Gallery, Sydney, NSW
- 2020 'Arthouse Presents 2020', Arthouse Gallery, Sydney, NSW
'Summer', Arthouse Gallery, Sydney, NSW
- 2019 'Reflections of a Fading Sky', Arthouse Gallery, Sydney, NSW
'Love', Tweed Regional Gallery & Margaret Olley Art Centre, Murwillumbah, NSW
- 2018 'Summer Salon', Arthouse Gallery, Sydney, NSW
Arthouse Gallery at Sydney Contemporary Art Fair, Sydney, NSW
'The Way You Came', Arthouse Gallery, Sydney, NSW
'Vegetation Celebration', Court Tree Gallery, Brooklyn, USA
- 2017 'Works on Paper', Arthouse Gallery, Sydney, Australia
- 2015 'Other Side,' Counihan Gallery, Brunswick, VIC
James Makin Gallery at Sydney Contemporary Art Fair, Sydney, NSW
'Film Por Vida - Tokyo Show,' B Gallery, Shinjuku, Japan
- 2014 'End Review,' Court Tree Collective, Brooklyn, USA
'Leap Year,' Paradise Hills, Melbourne, VIC
'Either Side,' Curated by Michael Brennan, James Makin Gallery, Melbourne, VIC
'Group,' Whistler Village Art Gallery, Whistler, Canada
- 2013 'Studio Show,' Paradise Hills, Melbourne, VIC
- 2012 'Small Treats,' James Makin Gallery, Melbourne, VIC
'From Paradise,' James Makin Gallery, Melbourne, VIC
'Paradise Hills Studio Show,' Paradise Hills Melbourne, VIC
'Film Por Vida,' Book and Job Gallery, San Francisco, USA
'Trouble in Paradise,' Paradise Hills, Melbourne, VIC
'Phone-tics,' At the Vanishing Point Gallery, Sydney, NSW
'The Underdog,' Five walls Project Space, Melbourne, VIC
'Film Por Vida,' Rake Visningsrom, Trondondheim, Norway

FABRIZIO BIVIANO

2011	'Film Por Vida,' Wayward Gallery, London, UK
2010	'The Outsider,' Trocadero Art space, Footscray, VIC
2009	'Emulsion Stew,' Empire Seven Studios, San Jose, USA

SELECTED COLLECTIONS

Artbank

La Trobe University

ARTHOUSE GALLERY

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contact@arthousegallery.com.au
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