

2025 — Peintre singulier et engagé

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Marc Renard: painting as a total experience and awareness of the world

Marc Renard develops a singular body of work in which pictorial matter dialogues with light, transparency and meaning. By exploiting the unprecedented properties of polyester canvas, he goes beyond the traditional limits of painting. His front-and-back technique — using both the front and reverse of the canvas — proposes a reading in depth, where the surface becomes a membrane, a threshold of passage between opacity and clarity, form and vibration. This dual approach renews our way of looking and places his gesture within a deeply conceptual contemporary abstraction.

His use of fluorescent paint, far from any superficiality, reveals a demanding reflection on colour as an autonomous phenomenon, at once light, matter and language. Renard thus belongs to a lineage of artists for whom colour does not merely represent: it is itself subject, rhythm and tension.

What his works make visible, however, goes beyond the strictly formal framework. They vibrate with a sincere commitment in the face of the major ecological issues of our time. In his most recent creations, Renard incorporates the paths of global air traffic, inscribing them as visual and symbolic motifs of the human footprint on the planet. These lines, borrowed from flight maps, become both abstract calligraphy and a warning signal, merging aesthetics and climate urgency. Through them, the artist makes the invisible visible: the disturbing density of our movements and their consequences for our environment.

Without ever yielding to the ease of a direct message, Marc Renard succeeds in articulating a body of work that combines plastic power, technical innovation and critical depth. Through his approach, he transforms painting into a space of experience and awareness, where the viewer is invited to see, feel and think. By combining formal rigour with contemporary lucidity, Marc Renard undoubtedly establishes himself as a significant figure of his time, capable of giving abstraction a poetic, political and universal scope.

Marc Renard, a decisive contemporary Belgian painter, is represented by the galleries Marc Minjauw (BE), Jean-Luc Richard (Paris-Chicago) and Isy Brachot (BE).

These works are held internationally in numerous collections and institutions.

Marc Minjauw, May 2025