



Shem, b 1984 is a British-born self-taught, often abstract, contemporary, expressionist painter.

He started creating images as a child, making comic books with his older brother, Sahla. His childhood images were born out of the need to make sense of an unconventional upbringing, including a sometimes-difficult nomadic lifestyle in London. The highlight of his early childhood years was Rastafarian schooling in Tottenham, rich in sensory experience. This creation of images continued in secret until he self-staged his first solo show, *A Discounted World At Full Price (But Dreams Are Free)*, in disused premises in London in 2019.

Shem's style has continued to develop as a 'chaotic expressionist' also described by some as a journalist painter. In June 2020, he exhibited *We Are In The Future*, a painted billboard in Old Street, curated by Outside the Zone. He had his second solo show, *When The Sun Falls Out The Sky*, at the Hoxton Gallery, Shoreditch, London, in November 2020.

Without losing his sense of urgency, he has been working at a range of scales, including the same whole wall on Dereham Place in Shoreditch, twice; once in collaboration with Mr. Doodle - Rock Paper Wizards - in May 2021, and solo *All The Things We Dream Of Can Become More Than A Dream* - currently February - March 2024

His third solo show, *Fine Art*, was held in South Kensington, London, in March 2022. Featuring a whole collection of work made across two studios in Dalston, Hackney. Shem's first Asia solo show, *The Loser Wins*, opened at Space Fountain gallery, Seoul in May 2023 and ran until August 2023. Since then he has featured in two more exhibitions in Seoul, namely:

Mess, a new Art Fair in Seoul that ran between January 29 and February 2, 2024 and until February 29, 2024 at Venue: 2F, Main Store (Myeongdong), LOTTE Department Store, Seoul.

Shem held his fourth UK solo show, *Art School*, at The Margate School in Margate, Kent, between 6 and 27 October 2023. It featured new canvases and works painted on familiar and found objects in a range of sizes.

Shem hosted a dinner with HUGO BOSS UK which included a one night solo show of his paintings at the ICA in London on December 6, 2023. This was to launch the start of their collaboration, so far including a Christmas campaign featuring 4 Christmas card designs and wrapping paper and a limited collaboration on wrapping paper for Valentine's Day 14 February, 2024.

Shem's work is in numerous private collections around the world from Seoul to San Francisco.

Group shows

London

Feel The Fear Everything Comes to Pass, OTZ, Group Show Soho - March 2020

Art Unmasked - Global Radio Make Some Noise Foundation - Westfield Shepherd's Bush - October 2022
- October 2023

Public Art

London

We Are In The Future - OTZ, Billboard Old Street - June 2020

Rock Paper Wizards - Dereham Place, Shoreditch - June 2021

Art Unmasked - Global Radio Make Some Noise Foundation - Westfield Shepherd's Bush - October 2022
- October 2023

All The Things We Dream Of Can Become More Than A Dream - Dereham Place, Shoreditch - February -
March 2024

Solo shows

London

A Discounted World At Full Price (But Dreams Are Free) - Self-staged Clapham - 2019

When The Sun Falls Out the Sky - Hoxton Gallery - November 2020

Fine Art - Thurloe Place South Kensington - March 2022

Art School, The Margate School, Margate, Kent. October 6 - 27, 2023

HUGO X SHEM dinner at the ICA London, December 6, 2023

Asia

The Loser Wins - Space Fountain Gallery Seoul May - August 2023

Main Store (Myeongdong), LOTTE Department Store, Seoul January 05 - February 29, 2024

Auctions

Art on A Postcard - November 2021

Art on A Postcard - November 2022

Koestler Arts - Postcards from Prison - May 2023

Art Unmasked - Global Radio Make Some Noise Foundation - 9 November 2023

Art Fairs

Art Fair Tokyo March 10 - March 12, 2023 with Mr Doodle at Pearl Lam Gallery

Mess Art Fair Seoul 29/01/2024 - 02/02/2024 with Space Fountain Gallery

Commercial Partnerships

HUGO BOSS UK

6 December 2023 - present day