

MIDLIFE CRISES

SOLO EXHIBITION OF DANIEL BORG 03 - 28 JULY 2021

The Mill - Art, Culture and Crafts Centre Part of the SPRING Artistic Programme by the Gabriel Caruana Foundation

> www.danielborg.art @superloveeee www.gabrielcaruanafoundation.org

Midlife Crisis Solo Exhibition of Daniel Borg

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The Gabriel Caruana Foundation (GCF) was founded in 2016 and is the natural progression of a lifetime that Gabriel Caruana (1929 - 2018) dedicated to contemporary art. The Foundation is a non-profit making organization that manages the artistic programme of The Mill, promotes emerging and established contemporary artists, and collaborates with individuals and organisations. The Foundation is a registered voluntary organisation (VO1236) and has been registered with the Commissioner of Voluntary Organisations since April 2016. It is also supported by Arts Council Malta through the Investment in Cultural Organisations Fund 2020-2022. The Foundation has an ongoing collaboration agreement with Fondazzjoni Kreattivita'. Since April 2021, the Gabriel Caruana Foundation has been an associate member of the Trans Europe Halles, a European wide network of cultural organisations.

The SPRING Artistic Programme by the Gabriel Caruana Foundation has been developed to support early career contemporary artists. Supporting artists and collectives by exhibiting at The Mill has been a core principle of the Foundation and of Gabriel and Mary Rose Caruana, the founders of The Mill – Art, Culture and Crafts Centre. Since 2017, the Gabriel Caruana Foundation has supported emerging artists by dedicating its exhibition space for solo exhibitions at The Mill. The process is varied and goes beyond

simply supporting the set-up of an artistic showcase. The Foundation strives to support emerging artists and collectives in various ways through curation, concept and project development, funding and sponsor support, sales of artworks, marketing and internationalisation. This support has organically grown into SPRING, a programme that conceptually ties in with the notion of creating a platform for the promotion of work by emerging artists and collectives. This enables them to kickstart or further expose their work and artistic career giving them the space to investigate and intervene. The SPRING programme is now two-pronged. We offer an annual month-long solo exhibition and collective exhibitions throughout the year. The collaborating artists are also contributing towards the Foundation by dedicating some of their time to be actively involved in running the Foundation and The Mill.

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CURATORIAL NOTE

BY ELYSE TONNA

Midlife Crisis is an introspective exhibition of works by Daniel Borg which shifts focus from extraordinary realities to ordinary experiences through an entire exploration of the self. The visual instances presented in this exhibition, portray reflective elements, which, in the context of a midlife crisis, bring to the forefront the artist's concern with age visà-vis artistic production. The exhibition conveys an amalgamation of consequences following a process of rediscovery, through a series of images unveiling aspects of the mundane.

The artist captures melancholic instances transmitting a quasi-universal and timeless atmosphere, lacking contextual references. This body of work is generally autobiographical, related to places, friends, thoughts, emotions and experiences which linger in the mind of the artist. The introspective musings probe and uncover aspects related to boredom. The latter is a subjective phenomenon conveying moments of uncertainty, generally having meaningless connotations. According to Heidegger, boredom challenges thoughts and emotions, it is a way of understanding our existence. For Nietzsche, boredom is the "unpleasant calm which precedes creative acts".

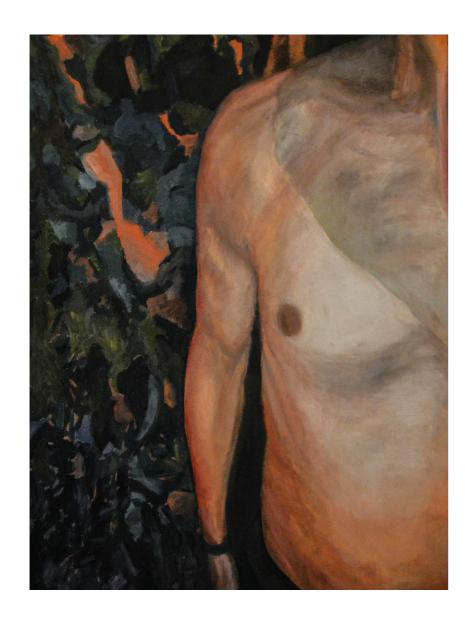
This phenomenon, as with a midlife crisis, is generally associated with lengthy periods of time characterised by a general feeling of loss and emptiness. On the other hand, a certain duality exists which triggers existential reflections, generally resulting in the generation of new meaning and realisations. In line with Borg's personal experiences over the past year, this collection of paintings projects the artist to a new trajectory, away from the world of music and into the world of painting. The latter has allowed the artist to tap into his subconscious, delving into a world of curiosity and interpretation, a means of escape.





Silvester Oil on canvas, 80 x 60 cms 2020

Sonnenallee Oil on canvas, 50 x 60 cms 2020





Unititled 2 Oil on canvas, 70 x 100 cms 2021

Self-Portrait Oil on canvas, 20 x 30 cms 2021





Tür Oil on canvas, 40 x 50 cms 2021

The Pier Oil on canvas, 100 x 70 cms 2020





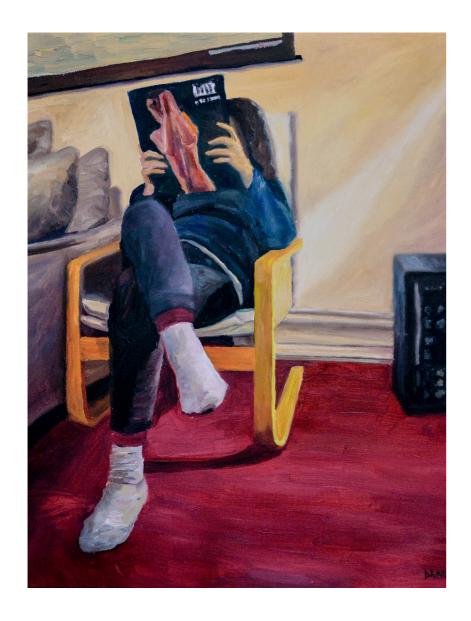
Birthday 1 Oil on canvas, 40 x 50 cms 2021

Birthday 2 Oil on canvas, 40 x 50 cms 2021





Friends in Car Oil on canvas, 100 x 70 cms 2020 Untitled 3
Oil on canvas, 60 x 60 cms
2020





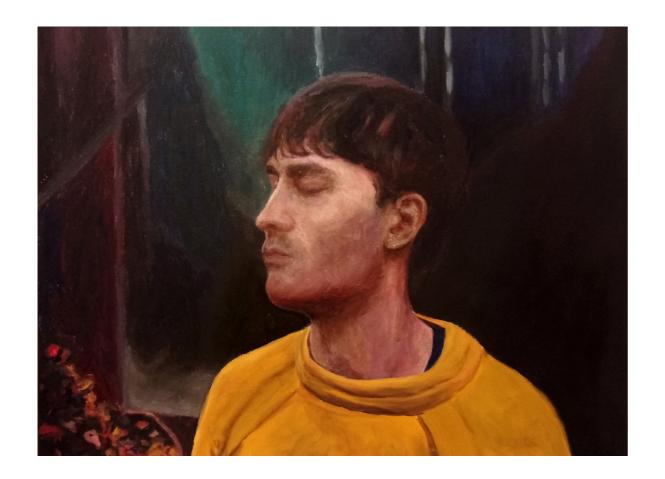
Record
Oil on canvas, 50 x 60 cms
2021

Australia Oil on canvas, 50 x 60 cms 2020





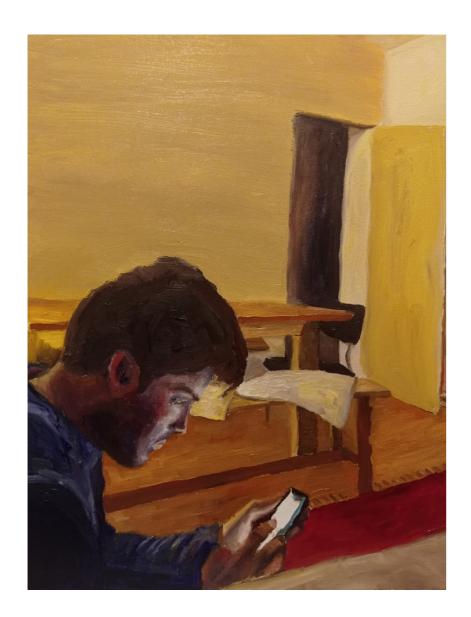
Green Room Oil on linen, 80 x 60 cms 2020 The Jump Oil on canvas, 100 x 80 cms 2020





Yellow Jumper Oil on canvas, 50 x 40 cms 2020

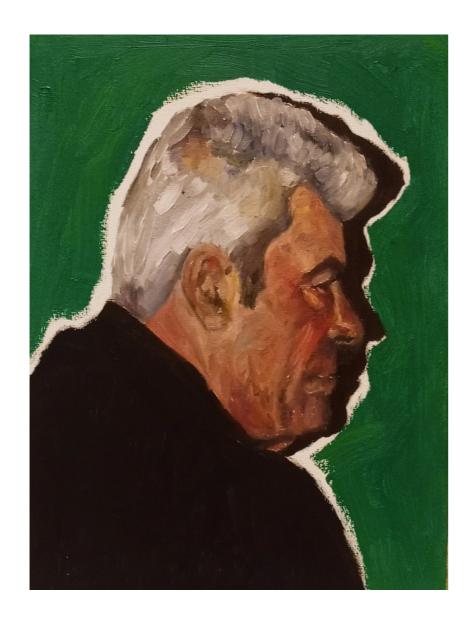
Lina Oil on canvas, 50 x 40 cms 2020

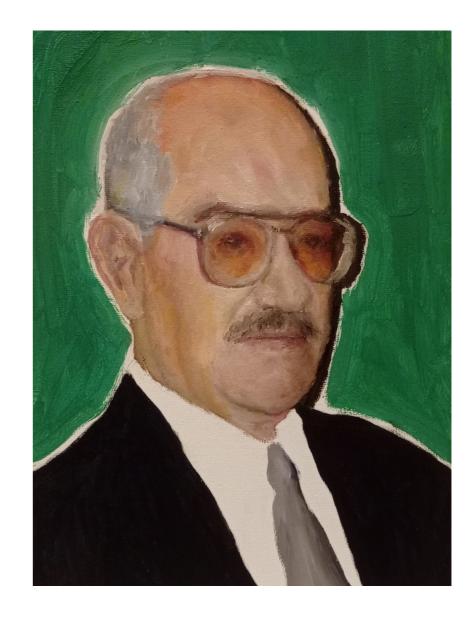




Distance Oil on canvas, 40 x 50 cms 2021

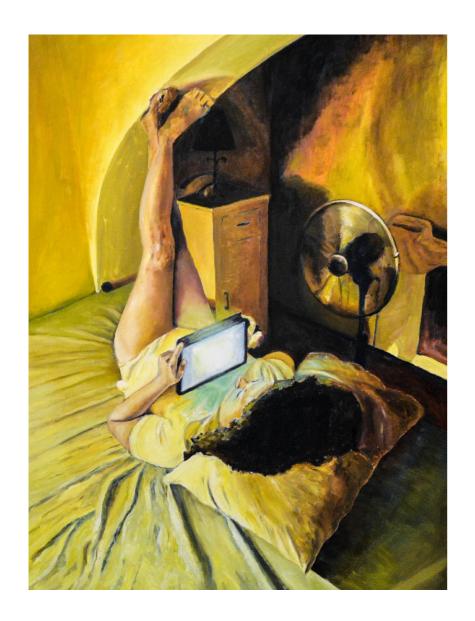
Far Away Oil on canvas, 100 x 70 cms 2020





Nannu Ċensu Oil on canvas, 20 x 30 cms 2021

Nannu Leli Oil on canvas, 20 x 30 cms 2021





Alex Oil on canvas, 70 x 100 cms 2020

Untitled 1 (Girl and Lamp)
Oil on canvas, 70 x 100 cms
2020



Gaze Oil on canvas, 70 x 100 cms 2020



