

Patrick MOYA



Self portrait, 2009

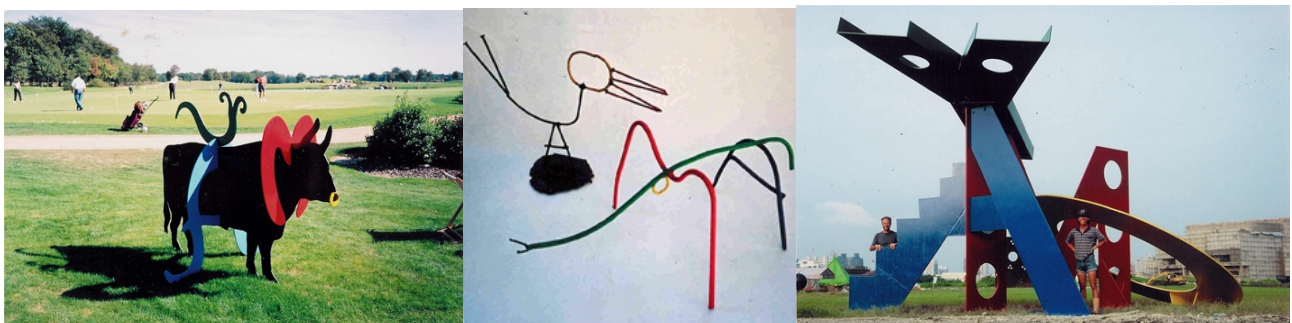
**Patrick MOYA. Artist, lives and works in Nice, south of the France
... and in Second Life.**

From big steel sculptures erected in Asia to little ceramic's beds made in Italy, from brushes to computer, from techno nights to murals in a catholic chapel, from contemporary to digital art, Patrick Moya is everywhere. With always the same and single excuse : his name and his image.

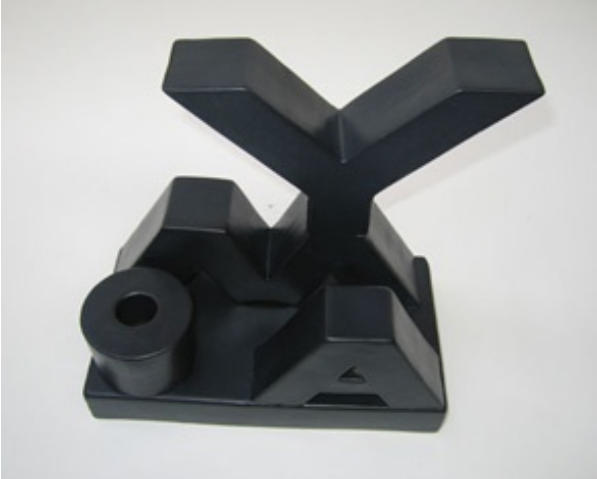
Paintings ...



Sculptures ...



Ceramics ...



Various things ...



Digital art ...



And an island in Second Life ...



PATRICK MOYA



Born in 1955 in Troyes - east of France - Patrick Moya is an artist who lives in Nice, French Riviera.

After studying Fine Art at "Villa Arson", he became for ten years a nude model - his "narcissic period".

Then, like an "artistic Narcisse", he is since years declining the theme of himself.

Saying that "signature is art", he begins to play with the 4 letters of his name - M - O - Y - A - and using them on all supports, paintings, monumental sculptures, installations, performances, 3D movies ...and even in the realistic fresco on the walls of a catholic chapel.

In 1996, he give life to a little comics'creature, between caricature of himself, sort of Pinochio-manga, modern representation of the self-portrait ; a matter to ask questions about the name, the place, the signature of the artist in our world of global communication.

And pretty soon, his little "moya" will be surrounded by an almost human bestiary.

Since 1985, he works also on computer (the first MO5), then he created digital images and 3D movies ... untill he discovers Second Life.

Now, Patrick Moya lives between First and Second Life : he is today the owner of an island in Second Life, which is an submersive global art work.

The creator is finally became a creature with the name of his avatar, Moya Janus, which receives the visitors into his universe.

Is Moya « one of the great pioneers of the digital universe" as said by the critic Mario Gerosa, a specialist in virtual worlds and editor in chief of AD magazine Italy ?

Gerosa has organized in Florence (Italy), the first major exhibition about « Art in Second Life », under the title "Rinascimento Virtuale".

This exhibition last until January 2009 in the museum of Anthropology of the City of the Renaissance, where an entire room was devoted to the "Moya civilization", highlighting the rich life of a complete artist, able to pass without transition from traditional painting on the walls of a catholic chapel to its reproduction in a 3D virtual world, where he lives a "second life" of a creature playing to be an Artist !



Patrick MOYA CV

Born in Troyes (east of the France) in 1955, Patrick MOYA arrives in Nice (French Riviera) in 1970, where he is still living until today.

NICE

It was in Nice where he study art, in Nice that he created the magazine "the Reptile style" (comics strips years 1977-78), in Nice that he was a nude model for Fine Arts, before beginning his work truly in the early 80.

After Claude Fournet, director of museums in Nice, who organize his first exhibition, "Canvas for 50 francs", many other curators in the town will show his first works : the Mossa Gallery ("Narcissus", 1984), the Forum Gallery (1985), the Marine Gallery (1987) and the Villa Arson ("Y", 1987)...

Since the beginning, MOYA participates at all the "movements" seeking to make "move" Nice, especially "Verbes d'Etat", in the 80's and "la Galerie du Lundi" in the 90's. MOYA has never been an accursed artist in Nice, on the contrary: he has been and is still supported by most of the important gallery in "Nice": Frederic Ballester in Cannes, Lola Gassin, the creator of the Art Fair "Art Jonction International", (at the beginning of the 90's). And finally, Ferrero Gallery, the well knowed specialist of "Ecole de Nice" Movement, with first Jean Ferrero in 1998, and then Guillaume Aral since 2003.

In 1996, Moya has the honors of the MAMAC, where he presented large canvases and sculptures, in particular a black steel "bull" decorated with the 4 letters of MOYA, and will remain for a long time on the roof of the MAMAC.

ITALY

Since 1987, MOYA is often in Italy a country where he feels good, like at home, and where he mage a lot of exhibitions : "The occupazioni del burattino" at the Museum of Modern Art in Bologna and "Moya-Pinocchio," the gallery Alice, at Ravenna(1988), and also the Galeria "Dei Tribunali" Bologna (1992), the Fair of Contemporary Art at Bari (1994), the gallery Armetro at Savona(1999), and yet the "Granteatrino Casa di Pulcinella" Bari (2002), the gallery vintage at Spotorno and GC Art Gallery of Bordighera(2003), the Casa Victor Hugo Avellino (2004)...

In 2005, he was the artist chosen for the inauguration of the "Year of France", by the "Alliances Françaises" : in Bologna, has been presented for the first time its "ABC", which will then make a tour across Italy (Bari, Pordenone, Pisa, Biella, Livorno, Genoa, Rimini, San Marino...)

ASIA

Since 1991, when he participates in Taiwan to its first symposium OF sculptures, MOYA loves Asia. DURING two months, with two assistants and an interpreter, he made two huge sculptures in live, just with the 4 letters of his name After the symposium, he could make a two-week trip across China, discovering Asia, where he feels very quickly at home, just like in Italy: "Make exhibition in HongKong, Taiwan, Japan, Korea is always a joy , even greater than to go to New York or Paris", he said.

From Asia, MOYA retains colors, and for example chinese opera masks - he will use them, reinterpreted, in a series of "Masks for the Moya Opera" (1994).

And as Asia also appreciates him, MOYA returns often expose in Hong Kong (CCDC et Alliance Française, 1994; Visual Art Center in 2000, Muse Gallery in 2001 and Dorset House in 2002); Taiwan, where he created an monumental sculpture, "calligraphy of Narcissus", for the Museum of Modern Art in Kaoshiung (1995) or " The presence of Narcissus ", for the international festival of sculptures in Kaoshiung, (2002). In 2002, a gallery of Busan in Korea, Baek Dong Art Center, organizes a retrospective, under the title "Holidays of Art."

ALL AROUND

But Moya has throughout these years carried his colourful world both in London ("Shadow of the Model", Interim Art Gallery) and Paris (Gallery Ghislain Mollet Vieville, 1988, then "Cour Carrée" Gallery, 2005) at Barcelona (Palais Marc, 1989), in the USA - Chicago (Sangamon Gallery, 1992 and The Cairo, 1993), New York (Vision Gallery in Brooklyn, 1998) - but also Germany - Hamburg (Hamburg Messe, 1995) and Viersen (gallery Roosen, 1996)... More recently, he painted his "Bestiary" on the cows of the Cow Parade (Monaco, Paris and Marseille, 2005-2006-2007) and invented the character of "Dolly", a little "sheep" that has become the mascot of the teckno-gay parties named Dolly Party.

When he returned to Nice, Moya is increasingly in demand by the Faculty of Medicine, where he painted murals (1999), a Bank, which commissioned an ABC (2003), by the Princess Grace hospital in Monaco where he made a wall frescoes with digital images mixed with acrylic classical paintings (2006) or by Princess Stephanie her-self, for an exhibition during the World Circus Festiva (Monaco, January 2007 and 2008).

Now large retrospective exhibitions succeed : Arsenal at Metz (2003), the Chantrerie at Cahors (August 2004), the Chateau de Valrose in Nice ("Moya in search of universals", December 2004), the "Grande Arche de La Defense" in Paris (September 2006) or Carre d'Art de Nimes (December 2006).

But that's not all. Never stopping and devoting his life to Art, Patrick Moya make also group exhibitions, happenings, paintings in live on dresses or on giant canvas (10 meters long or more !). And we must not forget the Moya Chapel, in the moutains behind Nice, where he paints during four years, a wall frescoe about the life of St John the Baptist, using only his self-portraits : a not very "catholic" chapel !

DIGITAL LIFE

Since many years, nearby the painting, he also directed digital movies for each exhibition, in which he reinvents his universe, which is entering since then in the virtual world.

And today, with the avatar name of moya janus, he lives half of his time IN Second Life, where he built first a Moya Museum, then buy an entire island, gives it his name (Moya Island) and make of it an global artistic work.





“Patrick Moya on his island”
by Florence Canarelli, journalist and critic,
author of 2 books about Moya

-“I must return to my art studio,I have a vernissage in Second Life”

What is Moya meaning ?

Is it about his old beautiful house in Nice or his virtual factory ?

Is he becoming crazy, since he bought an island made of pixels for 1600 real dollars and 300 dollars monthly charges? If his interlocutor doesn't understand, Patrick Moya does, who juggles from one universe to another, from RL (Real Life) to SL (Second Life), in the same way that he has always played with different media, from brushes to computer, from pseudo-naive paintings filled with animals to 3D movies or giant steel sculptures.

A day in the life of a web 3D artist

Awaked at dawn, before drinking his coffee, Patrick Moya turns on his computer to increase the radar which gives the names of all avatars spent on his island during the night, direct from Japan, Denmark or USA. Eating his breakfast above the keyboard, ignoring crumbs falling inside, for fear of missing a few minutes of his "second life", his double moya janus is going to say hello to some students of Fine Arts in Venice, which prepares the (true!) Biennale of Architecture in the virtual workshop that he had installed on the south-east shore. As he must sell a few paintings under pressure from his gallerist, he goes upstairs, into his studio of the first floor in RL, to start some work of commande. During the time that the painting is drying, he return down stairs, to visit in SL a new place of exhibition, for example, the Island of "Doctor Muglerstein" designed by Thierry Mugler, who has proposed to Moya a (virtual) artist's residence.

Shortly before noon, Moya gives his appointment in RL, just before the ritual lunch in his favorite restaurant, where he invites a journalist, an entrepreneur looking for ideas, a curator or representative of a major bank interested in a demonstration of Second Life.

The lunch hours are the only moments devoted to his private life, whereupon he returns in Second Life, and, depending on the mood of the moment, he decide to build a new Moya Museum, a Moya Hospital, or a Moya Shop. When he didn't dig a dizzying abyss in the cliff of the Old Moya Town, to impress the visitors.

Then, under the stroke of inspiration, he goes back in his studio, trying to make the pictorial representation of his avatar, or to add his painted animals on a digital image coming from Second Life...

These mixed works, combining real and virtual reality, will be a basis for future exhibitions in RL. And during this time, as he is afraid to miss a crucial meeting in SL, he connects in wifi his note-book, while continuing to paint.

After the ritual 4 hours pm coffee (real this one), he come back in his second life to create some new virtual sculptures.

Playing with the specific "scripts" of SL - by which we can give attributes of flexibility or rotation to forms chosen - he continues his work of the RL : declining the 4 letters of his name, M-O-Y-A, or his fetish themes like wings, masks and self-portraits.

When the night comes, Moya is preparing to "go to eat at his mother's home", the only opportunity for him to watch a bit TV and learn something about the real world - before returning quickly to participate in the intense night life of SL.

Thus, his double, moya janus, is present at a vernissage, a concert, a high-level conference about the e-paper... When he is not responding to a live interview since SL via his avatar : this is happening recently for a swiss radio, DBC, pioneer of the web-radio !

Sometimes, Moya lets his avatar dancing in a "rave" of SL, and go back in RL to finish a giant 4 meters long canvas for a "Dolly Party", while listening to streaming music of a DJ in live from Zurich.

And before shutting down the computer, he returns on his island to meet visitors and offers them a guided tour by car... Even if he does not have his driving licence in RL. At two o'clock in the morning, Moya goes up stairs for the last time ... to go to bed, leaving with regret his exciting second life.

The guide of the Moya island in Second Life

To continue the illusion of a new world to visit, Patrick Moya wrote a Tourist Guide of his island, which tells in details the history of the establishment of Moya in Second Life. He explains, for example, the construction of the old village of Moya overlooking the sea, with, on the top, the Moya Chapel (a copy of the Saint John the Baptist Chapel painted by Moya in Clans, a little village near Nice) or the Moya Club, which hosts the famous evenings techno "Dolly Party" whose Moya drew the mascot. In addition to many Moya museums, the Guide also lists the "Biennale di Moya" (inspired from the real Biennale of Venice), or the various Moya shops, where nothing is for sale but are used to exhibit works made by Moya on the themes of fashion, optical, lingerie or wines. The same is true for the Moya Hospital or the Moya pharmacy. To enter the Moya Land, you dont need visa or identity papers, but you could make a "Moya Tour" by car in the presence of the artist. The Moya island : a dream state !



SOME IMAGES BY MOYA



New paintings, "Moya at Gulliver" (2009)



Classical Moya "mosaic" (2007)



The Moya alphabet, 26 paintings (details)



The Dolly of Moya (2005)



The Moya Circus (painting for the Monte-Carlo Circus world festival, 2008)



The complete Moya Universe, 2007



MORE ABOUT MOYA

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Presse release : <http://fcanarelli.free.fr/patrickmoya-presse.htm>

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- Le guide touristique de l'île Moya (Ciais, 2008)



Moya at work !

