

Jacco Olivier

Perpetuum



Painting and video art converge in the work of Jacco Olivier (NL, 1972). The Dutch artist commenced his career in painting on a large scale. Yet, to better understand what he was doing, he started taking pictures of parts of his painting and assembled these to create an animation – a story of the painted object. Ever since, Olivier has been painting mostly in small format, to subsequently photograph individual images and render new animations on his computer. The result is sometimes a monumental projection and sometimes a small film projected on the wall.

His *Perpetuum*, for example, is a film of a man acrobatically jumping in perpetuity. Originally, the video was projected onto a lighthouse on the Dutch island of Schiermonnikoog. The work is now also available in a smaller edition to be projected on a wall at home. This edition will be premiered at Art Rotterdam 2023 in the booth of Galerie Ron Mandos.

The jumping figure in *Perpetuum* is a portrait of a liberated figure, someone who has the courage to leap into the unknown. The work evokes a sense of simplicity and unambiguity. It is a work that people can easily remember and relate to.

Art historically speaking, *Perpetuum* functions as an opposite to an earlier work by Jacco Olivier. This video, *Momentum*, shows a man on a spring-board, doubting whether or not to jump. It symbolizes how we can feel trapped inside and have trouble making choices.

Image left: Jacco Olivier, *Perpetuum*, Light House Schiermonnikoog, 2022

Image right: Jacco Olivier, *Perpetuum* (video still), Animation, 1:37 min, 2022