

# WALT

Fine Artist / Acrylic & Mixed Media / Pretoria, South Africa

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## ARTIST BIO

Walt Viviers is a South African fine artist and lifelong creative, based in Pretoria, working in acrylic and mixed media. A soul shaped by art, design, and technology, his practice sits at the intersection of realism and Pop Art, drawing inspiration from Chinese brushstroke traditions and the visual storytelling techniques of sequential art.

His work explores the tension between the poetry and the music of the artwork: images that read with clarity and confidence from a distance, yet reveal bold, expressive brushstrokes and his unmistakable touch up close. Drawing on subjects ranging from the iconic to the unexpected, Walt bridges the worlds of fine art and popular culture, rendering them with energy, intention, and a distinctly South African perspective.

Walt exhibited actively throughout his twenties before stepping back from the art world around 2011 to focus on his career. In 2020, during the COVID-19 pandemic, he returned to painting with renewed purpose and has been working consistently ever since.

Art runs in the Viviers family across generations, and Walt is part of a creative lineage that continues to grow. His daughter has inherited that same impulse to create, carrying the tradition forward in her own right.

Walt's works are held in private collections. He is represented on Saatchi Art and welcomes commissions and gallery enquiries.

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## ARTIST STATEMENT

I am a South African fine artist and lifelong creative working in acrylic and mixed media. For me, making art is therapy; I create to express myself, and in doing so I also find myself. Faith, family, and creativity sit at the core of everything I make.

I've always painted what catches my eye and won't let go. That image that sits somewhere between the real and the heightened, the everyday seen in a way that somehow feels like a sign.

My work draws from the Realist and Pop traditions, but my influences reach further. Chinese brushwork taught me about economy and intention, how a single mark can carry weight and direction, as well as a fascination with Rembrandt's use of light. Sequential art taught me about pacing and visual narrative, how one image leads the eye into the next. I bring all of these sensibilities into paintings that are, on the surface, still and singular.

I stepped away from showing work in galleries for about a decade, but coming back to painting during the pandemic reminded me why it matters. Some things you can put down for a while and pick up again and find they've been waiting for you, and never really left.

Making art is something my family has done for generations, and I see that same instinct in my daughter. It tells me this isn't just what I do; it's who we are.

Being self-taught and guided by my family has shaped how I see things. I didn't just learn the rules first. I also learned their philosophies, which means I've had to figure out what actually matters to me: presence. Paintings that hold their own in a room, that reward the time you give them (for both the creator and the observer).



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