

NEW RELEASE

## Oliver Jordan Portraits Band / Volume II

Edited by Ralf-P. Seippel

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**Composition, rhythm, color – portraits of musicians by one of the most important European portraitists of our time**

Oliver Jordan is considered to be one of the most important European portraitists of our time. After *Portraits Volume I* (Kehrer 2020) which focuses on the themes of fine art, philosophy, and literature, this *Volume II* is devoted exclusively to music. With over 100 portraits of musicians, it gives an insight into the variety of his musical preferences: Iggy Pop, Ludwig van Beethoven, Mille Petrozza, Richard Wagner, Jimi Hendrix, John Coltrane, Kurt Weill, David Bowie, B. B. King, Patti Smith, Billie Holiday, Bob Dylan, Jim Morrison, The Rolling Stones, and many others

*Painting as revolt* has been Oliver Jordan's maxim since the beginning, his constant companion and his absolute elixir of life are classical music, blues, jazz and rock'n'roll. Bringing music and painting together is a natural process for Jordan. Music and painting become a Gesamtkunstwerk. Over the last five decades, Jordan has developed his own style, which finds its literary equivalent in the term "hermeneutic humanity" and defines the painter's attitude to the world.

This volume demonstrates both the importance of the painterly portrait and the influence of music in shaping society. In the accompanying texts, light is shed on Jordan's special painting technique, for that which, after a highly complex painting process, appears to be perceptible on the pictorial surface with regard to the person portrayed testifies to a breathtaking and paradoxical balancing act between abstraction and figuration, which is all but unique in contemporary painting.

From the *Summary* by **Ralf-P. Seippel**:

*From an art historical perspective your pictures are visual evidence of the interpretative theory of the iconic developed by Max Imdahl because in them the recognising view and the seeing view are converted into an identifying view. With regard to music, your portrait painting conciliates harmony and disharmony, converts timbres into different shades, imparts rhythm through gesture, flow and movement. The conductor's baton becomes a painter's palette-knife in your hands; hard, metallic rock music becomes a pictorial engraving, contemporary witnesses become timeless. All your protagonists have one thing in common, however. The individuals chosen by you – whether they are philosophers, literary figures, visual artists, actors, composers or musicians – have intellectual and artistic biographies that stand for rebellion, insurgency, change, renewal, and, ultimately, for the creation of a more humane world.*

*In and with your portraits you preserve the individuals and their works, just as you hold up a mirror to us, the viewers. In the ideal case, the picture and the viewer enter a mutual dialogue, which in your portraits is expanded by those portrayed as well as their work.*

### Exhibition

Galerie Seippel, Cologne, Germany  
02. 03. – 31. 08. 2022

### Book presentation

Galerie Seippel, Cologne, Germany  
Friday 24.06., 6–10 pm, and Saturday, 25.06., 12–3 pm

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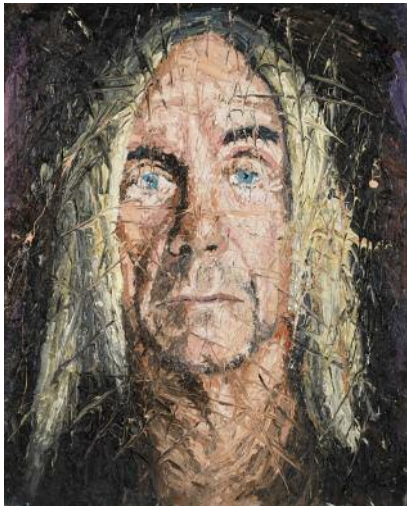
## Press images



01\_Miles Davis, 2021  
Oil on canvas, 160 × 250 cm. Owned by the artist



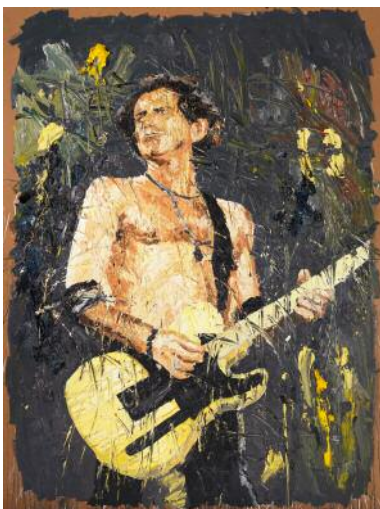
02\_Jim Morrison 2016/17  
Oil on canvas, 170 x 120 cm. Private collection



03\_Iggy Pop, 2020  
Oil on canvas, 105 × 85 cm. Private collection



04\_Bob Dylan, 2017,  
Oil on canvas, 105 × 85 cm. Private collection Cologne



05\_Keith Richards, 2014  
Oil on cardboard, 280 × 210 cm. Owned by the artist



06\_Amy Winehouse, 2018  
Oil on canvas, 120 × 100 cm. Owned by the artist



07\_David Bowie, 2016  
Oil on canvas, 105 × 85 cm. Private collection Wiesbaden



08\_Lemmy Kilmister, Motörhead, 2010  
Oil on cardboard, 220 × 150 cm. Private collection



09\_Maria Callas, 2004  
Oil on cardboard, 133 × 103 cm. Private collection Essen



10\_Anne-Sophie Mutter, 2006  
Oil on canvas, 162 × 228 cm. Private collection Saarland



11\_Kent Nagano, 2002  
Oil on canvas, 228 × 162 cm, Collection Konzerthaus Dortmund –  
Philharmonie für Westfalen



12\_Atelier Port Blanc  
Summer 2014