AGUSTI PUIG

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Title: Home aspirat Year: 2008 Technique: Mixed media on canvas Measure: 330 x 660 cm Location: Can Framis Museum



This artwork is entitled Home aspirat (Aspired man) and was made by the artist Agustí Puig in 2008.

This work is part of the artist's more informalist trend, and is made using the **technique called grattage** (a French word meaning to scrape or scratch) on two layers of acrylic paint: black and white. The key to this technique lies in the specific drying time of the **acrylic paint**, that should not be too long nor too short. It is important to note that the work is made in

a horizontal plane (placed on the ground) and it does not seek to be technically perfect.

There are footprints and marks made by the paint pots, which would indicate a direct influence from the Antoni Tàpies' creative work. It is a large-scale artwork created on a base of three canvases, which is known as a TRIPTYCH. The artist's aim is to achieve a scratched relief with a sharp object ona wet surface. In this case, the artist first paints the background in white, then paints in black on top of that. Straight away, while the dark paint is still wet, he draws (scratches) on it using a sharp object. The result is that in the places where he scratches the white background paint is revealed, thus achieving a relief effect. If we touch it with our hands, we can feel that it is not a smooth surface.

How about having a go at the grattage method!



Materials:

You need a base, such as a piece of card, tempera paint or coloured wax crayons, a pencil or any sharp object to scratch the surface.

Let's go!

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