

**RUCHES
D GRECIA**
P I N T U R A S

ERNESTO VILLANUEVA





Love is the cause of the unity of all things.

Aristotle

*Love is the longing for the whole, it is the desire
to possess goodness and beauty eternally.*

Plato

Painting Project in Progress

Title: "Four Ways of Loving"

Theoretical Introduction:

Thousands of years ago, the ancient Greeks had already clearly defined four categories or types of love. They called them: *Eros*, *Storgé*, *Philia*, and *Ágapé*.

Eros represented passionate love and the impulsive intensity of lovers at the beginning of a relationship, where sexual attraction is a determining factor. Shakespeare portrayed it perfectly in *Romeo and Juliet*. Energy and emotional volatility are key components, and it is often fleeting in nature.

Storgé refers to fraternal, committed forms of love, where loyalty is fundamental. Its essence is asexual and can exist between equals, including the bond between a person and a pet. Virginia Woolf, in her novel *Flush: A Biography*, beautifully illustrates this quiet form of love through the relationship with her dog.

Philia spoke to the kindness and sincerity of love between friends; a simple, human affection for one's fellow beings. Respect and solidarity are the cornerstones of this form of love. However, drama is not absent, and it often generates existential contradictions. Goethe, in his world-renowned *Faust*, offers a metaphor of a wise man bargaining with the devil and ultimately dying after experiencing the pleasure of goodness.

Ágapé was regarded as the purest form of love, where the well-being of the beloved becomes the central concern of the lover. It is not driven by the pursuit of pleasure and is marked by complete selflessness. The Russian writer Ivan Bunin paid tribute to this form of love in his story *Mitia's Love*, in which the protagonist chooses to end his life rather than accept rejection or cause harm to the one he loves.

Technical Description:

The ultimate goal is to complete four paintings, all of the same size: 160 x 120 cm. Each piece will be a final representation of one of the Greek concepts or stages of love.

The work will be carried out simultaneously across all four pieces, following the steps below:

Step 1: Creation of four primary sketches to define the rhythm and composition of each piece.

Step 2: Development of the four sketches outlining the areas of color, integrated with the composition and final lines.

Step 3: Execution of four originals on high-weight paper, focusing on the exploration of color, using the pastel technique.

Step 4: Painting of the four final artworks on canvas, using acrylic paint.

End of Process:

A set of four artworks, each accompanied by its preliminary sketches and documented intermediate stages. It is my intention to inscribe the words *Eros*, *Storgé*, *Philia*, and *Ágapé* on the front of their respective pieces. On the back, the following inscription will appear:

**Summer in My Garden Series /
Four Ways of Loving**

Düsseldorf. April / 2025.

Malprojekt in Entwicklung

Titel: "Vier Arten zu lieben"

Theoretische Einführung:

Die alten Griechen hatten bereits vor Jahrtausenden vier Kategorien bzw. Formen der Liebe klar definiert: Sie nannten sie *Eros*, *Storgé*, *Philia* und *Ágapé* nannten.

Eros repräsentierte die leidenschaftliche Liebe und die gesamte Impulsivität der ersten Verliebtheit, bei der sexuelle Anziehung entscheidend ist. Shakespeare beschreibt dieses perfekt in „Romeo und Julia“. Energie und Intensität sind wesentliche emotionale Bestandteile dieser Liebe, die oft nur von kurzer Dauer ist.

Storgé bezeichnete die treue, brüderliche und verbindliche Liebe, bei der Loyalität im Mittelpunkt steht. Diese Liebe ist asexuell und kann zwischen Menschen gleichermaßen wie zwischen Mensch und (Haus-) Tier existieren. Virginia Woolf veranschaulicht in ihrem Roman „Flush: Eine Biographie“ diese Art der stillen Zuneigung, die sie ihrem Hund entgegenbrachte.

Philia bezog sich auf die Freundschaft, die einfache, menschliche Liebe zum Nächsten. Respekt und Solidarität bilden die Grundlage dieser Beziehung, doch das Drama bleibt nicht aus und kann existenzielle Widersprüche hervorrufen. Goethe schenkt uns in „Faust“ eine Metapher für einen Gelehrten, der mit dem Teufel verhandelt und stirbt, nachdem er das Glück der Güte erlebt hat.

Ágapé galt als die reinste Form der Liebe, da das Wohl des geliebten Menschen über alles andere gestellt wird. Diese Liebe ist nicht auf die Suche nach Vergnügen ausgerichtet und ist bereit, alles für den anderen zu geben. Der russische Schriftsteller Iwan Bunin schuf in seiner Erzählung „Mitjas Liebe“ ein Denkmal für diese Männer, deren Hauptfigur es vorzieht, sein Leben zu beenden, anstatt die Ablehnung hinzunehmen oder seiner Geliebten Schaden zuzufügen.

Technische Beschreibung:

Das Endziel besteht darin, vier Gemälde anzufertigen, alle von gleicher Größe (160 x 120 cm). Jedes Gemälde soll den abschließenden Ausdruck eines Stadiums oder Konzepts der Liebe gemäß der griechischen Auffassung darstellen.

Die Arbeiten werden für alle vier Werke gleichzeitig durchgeführt, wobei die folgenden Schritte beachtet werden:

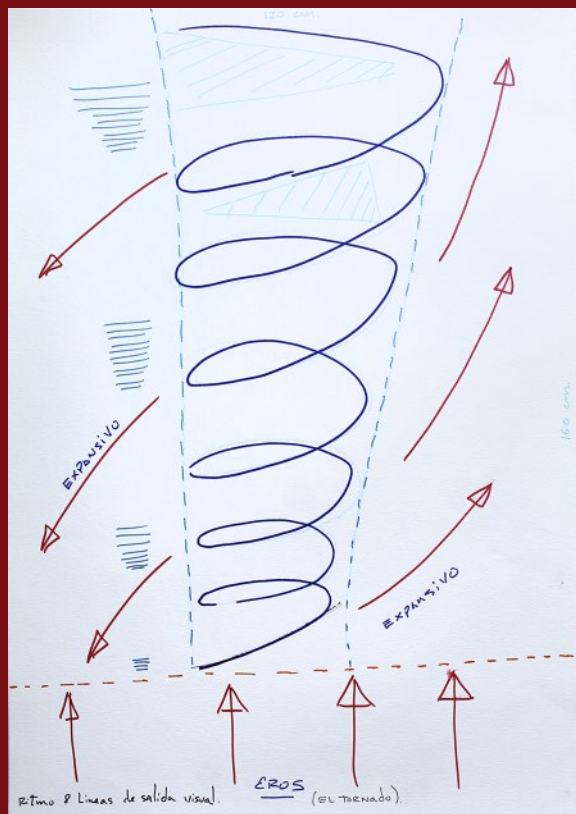
- 1:** Anfertigung von vier Vorzeichnungen zur Festlegung von Rhythmus und Komposition der Werke.
- 2:** Erstellung von vier Skizzen zur Abgrenzung der Farbbereiche, die in die Komposition und die abschließenden Linien integriert werden.
- 3:** Erstellung von vier Originalen auf schwerem Papier, um die Farbstudien zu vertiefen. Hierbei wird Pastelltechnik verwendet.
- 4:** Fertigstellung der vier Gemälde auf Leinwand mit Acrylfarbe.

Prozessabschluss:

Ein Satz von vier Werken, jeder mit den dokumentierten Skizzen und Zwischenstadien. Beabsichtigt wird, auf der Vorderseite die Worte *Eros*, *Storgé*, *Philia* und *Ágapé* anzubringen, jeweils passend zum Namen des entsprechenden Gemäldes. Auf der Rückseite wird zu lesen sein:

**Serie Summer in my Garden /
Vier Arten zu lieben**

Düsseldorf. April / 2025.



EROS / Sketches / Mixed technique on cardboard / 59 x 42 cm / 2025



EROS / Study of color / Pastel on cardboard / 76 x 56 cm / 2025



EROS / Acrylic on canvas / 160 x 120 cm / 2025



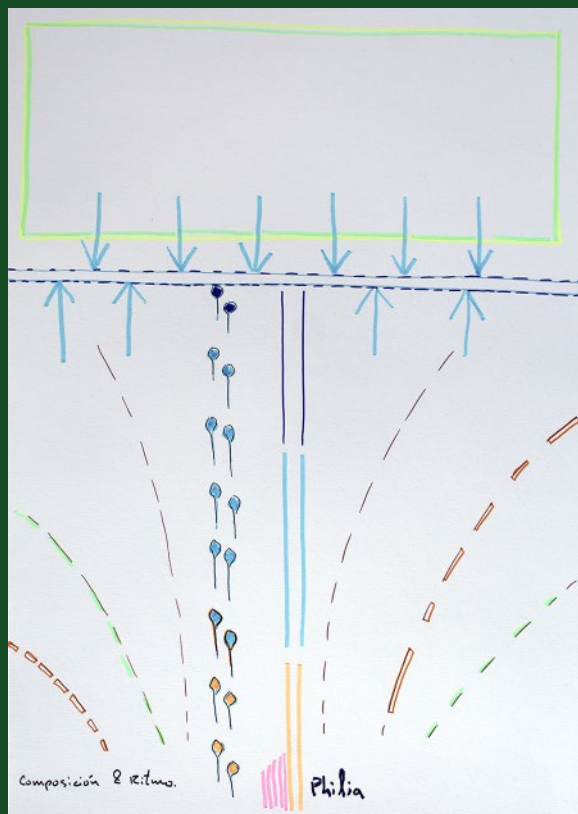
STORGÉ / Sketches / Mixed technique on cardboard / 59 x 42 cm / 2025



STORGÉ / Study of color / Pastel on cardboard / 76 x 56 cm / 2025



STORGÉ / Acrylic on canvas / 160 x 120 cm / 2025



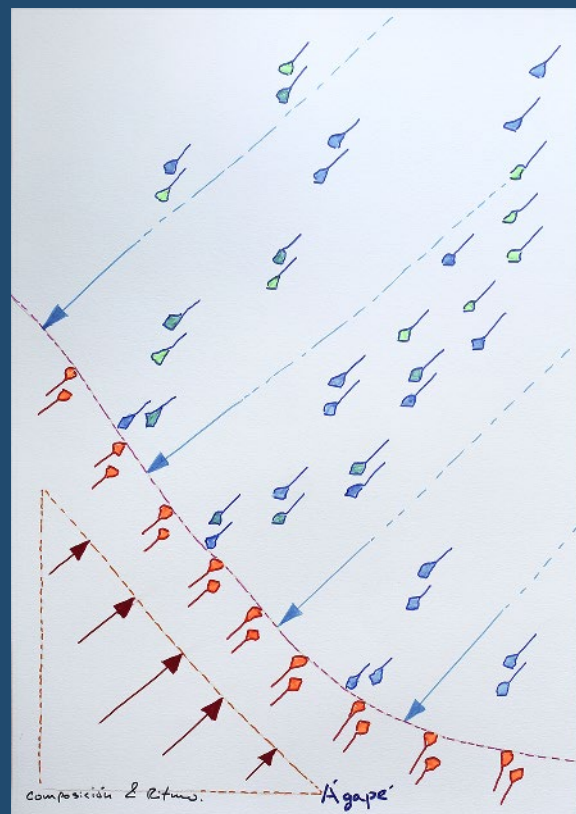
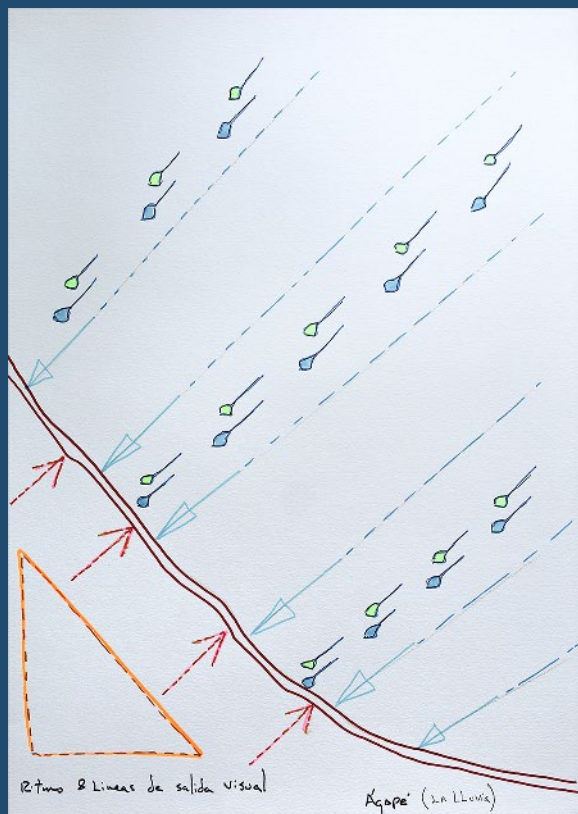
PHILIA / Sketches / Mixed technique on cardboard / 59 x 42 cm / 2025



PHILIA / Study of color / Pastel on cardboard / 76 x 56 cm / 2025



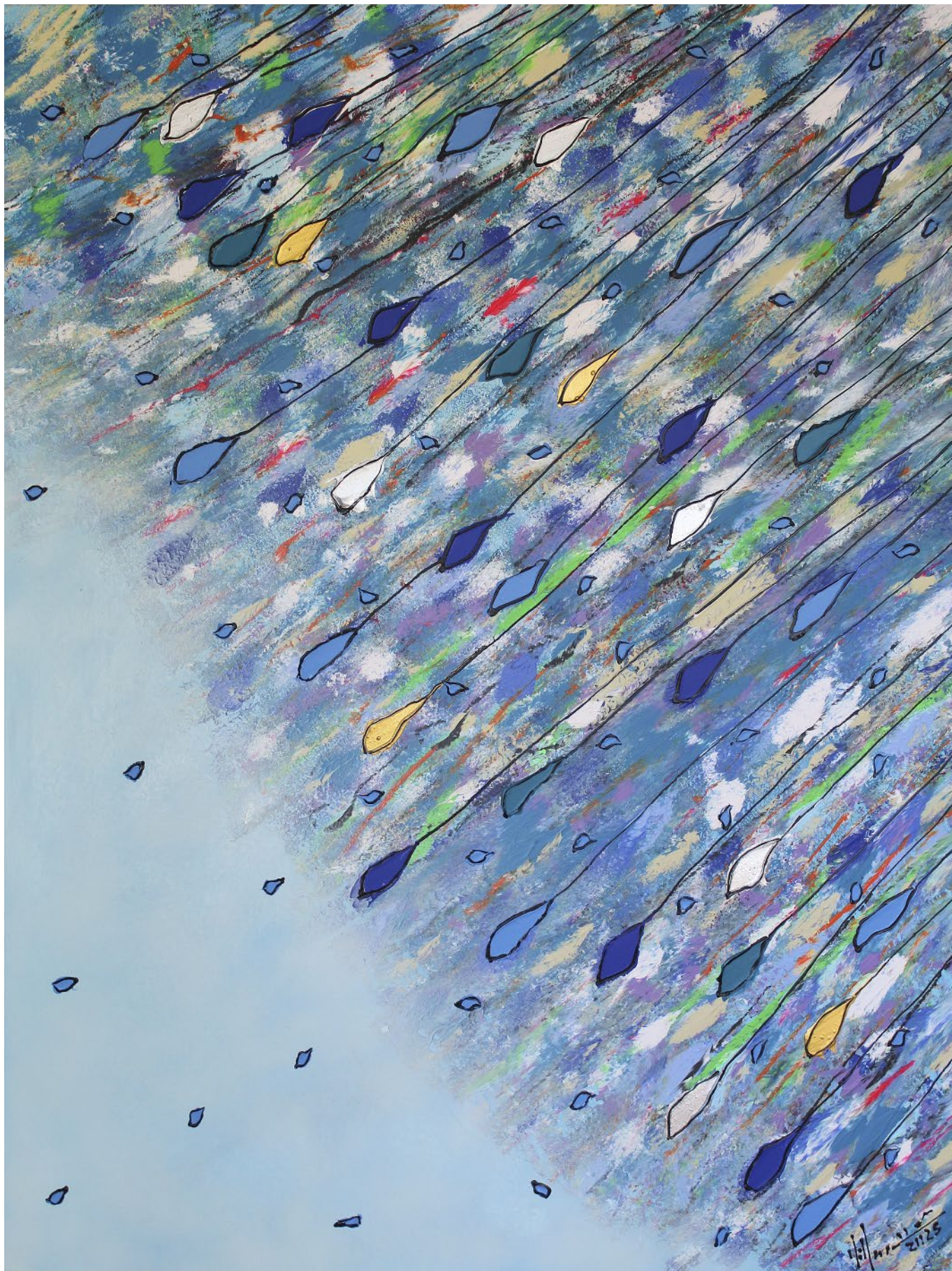
PHILIA / Acrylic on canvas / 160 x 120 cm / 2025



ÁGAPÉ / Sketches / Mixed technique on cardboard / 59 x 42 cm / 2025



ÁGAPÉ / Study of color / Pastel on cardboard / 76 x 56 cm / 2025



ÁGAPÉ / Acrylic on canvas / 160 x 120 cm / 2025



Proyecto de Pintura en desarrollo. Título: “Cuatro maneras de amar”

Introducción teórica:

Los griegos hace miles de años, ya tenían bien definidas cuatro categorías o tipos de amor, les llamaban: *Eros*, *Storgé*, *Philia* y *Ágapé*.

Eros, representaba el amor pasional y toda la impulsividad de los amantes que comienzan, donde la atracción sexual es determinante. Shakespeare lo describe a la perfección en *Romeo y Julieta*. La energía y la violencia, son componentes emocionales muy importantes y suele ser efímero.

Storgé, apunta a los amores fraternales, y comprometidos, dónde la lealtad es fundamental. Su esencia es asexual, y puede ser perfectamente posible entre una persona y su igual, e incluso una mascota. Virginia Woolf, en su novela “*Flash*, una biografía”, grafica este tipo de amor tranquilo, por su perro.

Philia, refería a la bondad del amor entre amigos, al amor simple y humano por el prójimo. El respeto y la solidaridad son la base de estas personas. Sin embargo, el drama no deja de estar presente, y suele generar contradicciones existenciales. Goethe, en su mundialmente conocido “*Fausto*”, nos regala una metáfora de un sabio negociando con el diablo, y muriendo al sentir el placer de la bondad.

Ágapé, era considerado el amor más puro, pues el bienestar de la persona amada, era la prioridad del ser. No les mueve la búsqueda del placer, y están dispuestos a todo por el otro. El escritor ruso Iván Bunin, dejó una obra homenaje a estos hombres en su relato, “*El amor de Mitia*”; pues su protagonista, prefiere quitarse la vida antes de aceptar el rechazo, o hacer daño a su amada.

Descripción técnica:

El objetivo final es llegar a la conclusión de 4 pinturas. Todas de igual tamaño. 160 x 120 cm. Cada una será la representación final de un estadio o concepto del amor, según los griegos.

El trabajo se llevará a cabo de forma conjunta para las 4 obras, atendiendo a los siguientes pasos.

Paso 1: Ejecución de 4 bocetos primarios, para delimitar el ritmo y la composición de las obras.

Paso 2: Ejecución de 4 bocetos demarcando las áreas de color integradas a la composición y a las líneas finales.

Paso 3: Ejecución de 4 originales en papel de alto gramaje, para profundizar en el estudio del color. Usando la técnica del pastel.

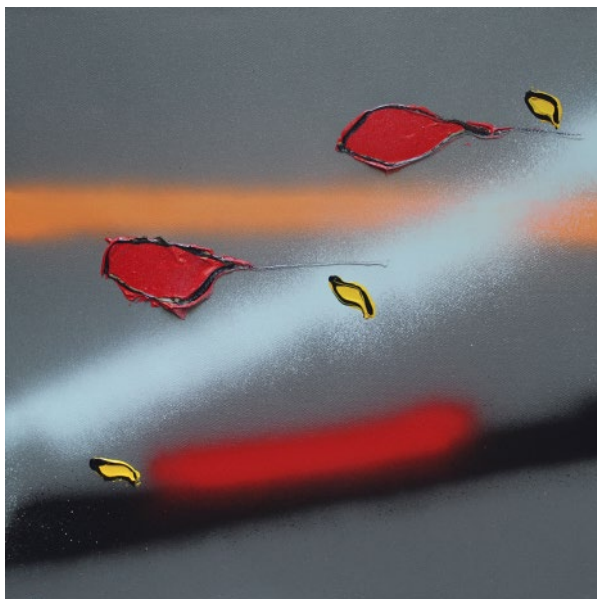
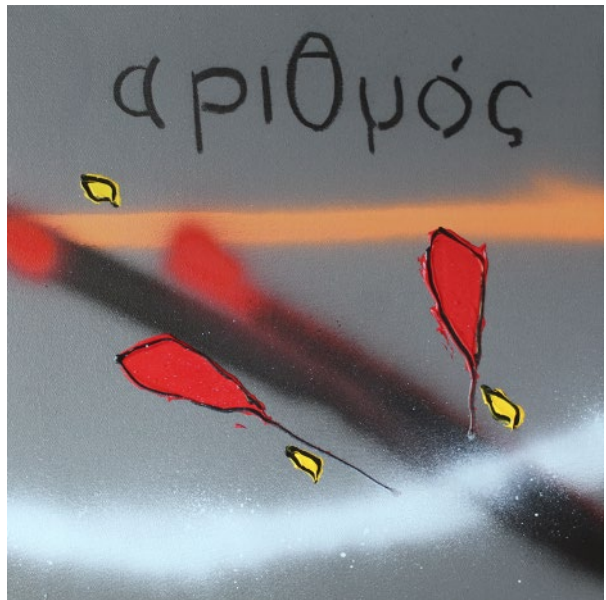
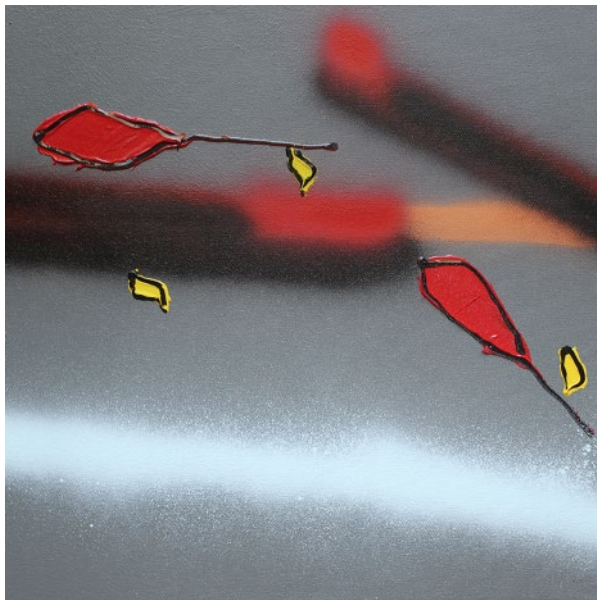
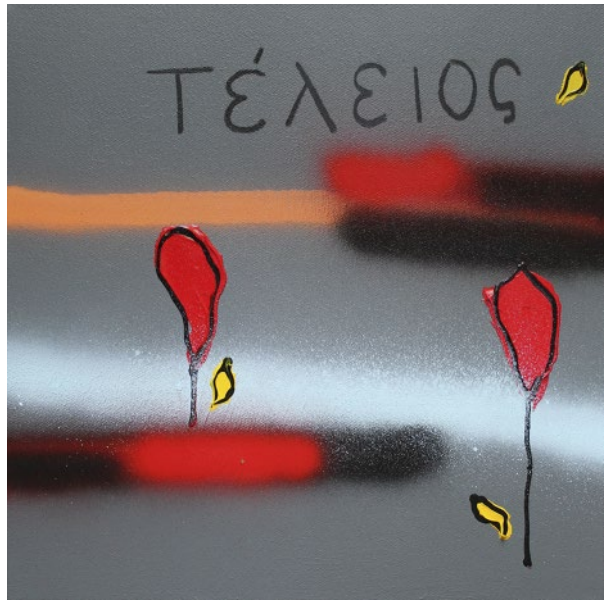
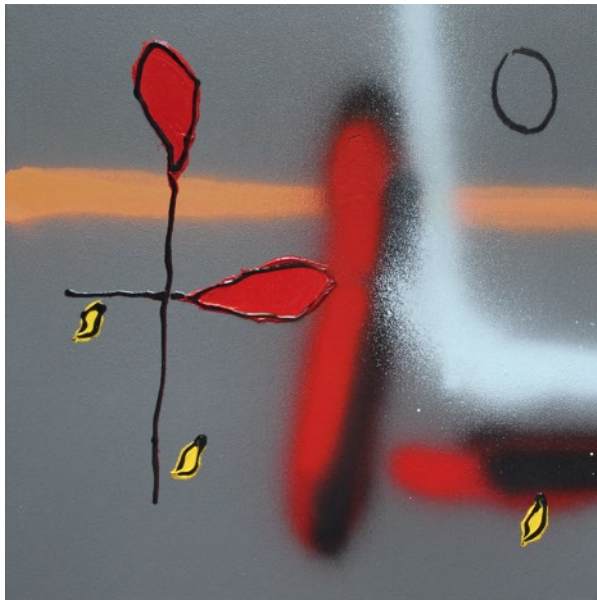
Paso 4: Ejecución de las 4 pinturas sobre canvas y con pintura acrílica.

Final de proceso:

Un conjunto de 4 obras, cada una con sus bocetos y estados intermedios documentados. Es mi intención incluir en el frente las palabras: *Eros*, *Storgé*, *Philia*, y *Ágapé*, respectivamente en cada obra homónima, al dorso podrá leerse:

**Serie Summer in my garden /
Cuatro maneras de amar**

Düsseldorf. Abril / 2025.



THE PERFECT NUMBER / Acrylic on canvas / Polyptych of 6 parts / 40 x 40 cm each one / 2025

Curriculum Vitae

Born in Havana, Cuba, on May 23, 1970.

Graduated from the José A. Echeverría Higher Polytechnic Institute in Engineering, Havana, Cuba, 1994.

RELEVANT EXHIBITIONS AND EVENT

1995 | **Solo Exhibitions:**

- *Bosquejos de Colores*. Mariano Rodríguez Gallery, Havana, Cuba.

1996 | **Solo Exhibitions:**

- *Color y Ciudad*, Guayasamín Foundation, Havana, Cuba.
- *Color Cubano*, Latin American Center of Lérida, Spain.

1997 | **Solo Exhibitions:**

- *Del Color a mi Fantasía*. Plaza Hotel and La Acacia Gallery, Havana, Cuba.
- *Winter auction*. Imago Gallery, Gran Teatro de La Habana, Cuba.

1998 | **Solo Exhibitions:**

- *Habana, ilusión del color*, Congress and Cultural Palace, Le Mans, France.
- *La Havane, une autre perspective*, Hotel du Rhône Gallery, Geneva, Switzerland.
- Spring exhibition and auction. Imago Gallery, Havana, Cuba.

1999 | **Solo Exhibitions:**

- *From the City-Perspectives on Havana*, ODC Gallery, San Francisco, USA.

2000 | **Solo Exhibitions:**

- *Laberintos en el Tiempo*, La Acacia Gallery, Havana, Cuba.
- *Retrospective Exhibition*, Renaissance Gallery, Zurich, Switzerland.

2001 | **Group Exhibitions:**

- *Palm Springs International Art Fair*, Palm Springs, California, USA.
- Group installation exhibition, Sol Art Gallery, Italy.
- ARCO Contemporary Art Fair, represented by La Acacia Gallery, Madrid, Spain.

2002 | **Solo Exhibitions:**

- *Los que viven arriba*, Cartago University College, Costa Rica.
- *La Sombra del Punto*, La Acacia Gallery, Havana, Cuba.

2003 | **Solo Exhibitions:**

- *Fiesta de Oficios*, collateral program 8th edition of the Havana Biennial, La Acacia Gallery, Havana, Cuba.

Group Exhibitions:

- ARCO Contemporary Art Fair, represented by La Acacia Gallery, Madrid, Spain.
- Toronto International Art Fair (TIAF), represented by La Acacia Gallery.

2004 | **Solo Exhibitions:**

- *Obras en pequeño formato*, Phillipe Calon Gallery, Luxembourg.

Group Exhibitions:

- Toronto International Art Fair (TIAF), represented by La Acacia Gallery, Canada.
- ARCO Contemporary Art Fair, represented by La Acacia Gallery, Madrid, Spain.

2005 | **Group Exhibitions:**

- *Cuban Art Showcase*, BellArte Gallery, Seoul, South Korea.
- Korea International Art Fair (KIAF), represented by BellArte Gallery, Seoul, South Korea.
- Manila International Fair (MANIF), represented by BellArte Gallery, Philippines.
- Toronto International Art Fair (TIAF), represented by La Acacia Gallery, Canada.

2006 | **Solo Exhibitions:**

- *Le Retour*, Congress and Cultural Palace, Le Mans, France.
- *Recent Artworks*, Foyer European, European Parliament, Luxembourg.
- *Depósito General*, collateral program, 9th edition of the Havana Biennial, La Acacia Gallery, Havana, Cuba.
- First Latin American Art Auction, Fernando Durán. Madrid, Spain.

2007 | **Solo Exhibitions:**

- *Un Camino hacia la Geometría*, Tribeca Gallery, Madrid, Spain.

- 2008 | Solo Exhibitions:**
- *Geometría y Deseo*, Rubén Martínez Villena Gallery, Havana, Cuba.
- 2009 | Group Exhibitions:**
- *CubaFest*, Chameleon Nation Gallery, Kingston, Canada.
 - Contemporary Art Fair of Shanghai, represented by BellArte Gallery, China.
 - ArtBo Contemporary Art Fair, represented by Genesis Gallery, Bogotá, Colombia.
- 2010 | Solo Exhibitions:**
- *Verano en mi Jardín*, Los Frailes Gallery, Havana, Cuba.
- Group Exhibitions:**
- Auction and sale of untitled artwork from the *Broken Cities* series, in *Latin American Painting*, Sotheby's, New York, USA.
- 2011 | Solo Exhibitions:**
- *Summer in my Garden*, Rita Castellote Gallery, Madrid, Spain.
- 2012 | Solo Exhibitions:**
- *Summer in my Garden*, collateral program 11th edition of the Havana Biennial, Palacio de Lombillo, Cuba.
 - Museum of the Inquisition, Cartagena de Indias, Colombia.
 - Coro Hall, Santa Clara Hotel, Cartagena, Colombia.
- Group Exhibitions:**
- *Bola Viva*. Contemporary Cuban art touring museums and institutions in Colombia: La Aduana Gallery in Barranquilla, Museum of Modern Art in Cartagena, Zenu Museum in Montería, Bolivarian Museum in Santa Marta, and the Gabriel García Márquez Cultural Center in Bogotá, Colombia.
 - Auction and sale of the artworks *Radiografía Urbana* and *Summer in my Garden*, in *Latin American Painting*, Sotheby's, New York, USA.
- 2013 | Group Exhibitions:**
- *PULSE*, Contemporary Art Fair, represented by La Acacia Gallery, Miami, USA.
 - Auction and sale of the artwork *Los Caminos de la Vida*, in *Latin American Painting*, Sotheby's, New York, USA.
- 2014 | Solo Exhibitions:**
- *Summer in my Garden*, Different Gallery, London, UK.
- 2015 | Solo Exhibitions:**
- *Summer in my Garden*, David Bardía Gallery, Madrid, Spain.
- 2017 | Solo Exhibitions:**
- Mural *Tu Bishvat*, House of the Hebrew Community, Havana, Cuba.
- 2018 | Solo Exhibitions:**
- *Meeting Point*, National Theatre Gallery, Havana, Cuba.
- 2019 | Solo Exhibitions:**
- *Ciudad frente al Mar*. El Terral Hotel, collateral program 13th edition of the Havana Biennial, Cuba.
- Group Exhibitions:**
- *Ars longa, vita brevis*, Obispo Art Gallery, Tenerife, Spain.
 - *La Habana: imágenes de cinco siglos*. National Museum of Fine Arts, Cuba.
- 2020 | Group Exhibitions:**
- ... *para alzar el vuelo*, Adeje Cultural Center, Tenerife, Spain.
- 2021 | Group Exhibitions:**
- *Reparando Sueños*, Obispo Art Gallery, Adeje, Tenerife, Spain.
- 2022 | Group Exhibitions:**
- *Paisajes Internos*, Obispo Art Gallery, Adeje, Tenerife, Spain.
- 2024 | Solo Exhibition:**
- Last Garden, Same Summer, collateral program 15th edition of the Havana Biennial, Centro Cultural Padre Félix Varela, Cuba.
- 2025 | Solo Exhibition:**
- *Travesía*, Gallery of Modern Art (GOMA), Adeje, Tenerife, Spain.
 - *Segunda Isla*, Túnel del Arte Gallery, Santa Cruz de Tenerife, Spain.

Eros — Pasión — Tornado.

Storgé — Lealtad — Lucha de
iguales.

Philia — Amor
humano
Simple
Próximo — horizonte
Esperanza

Ágapé — Amor
Puro
desinteresado — Lluvia.
tusta, Limpia.

Sponsor

Frank Rudnick

General Coordination / Allgemeine Koordination

Marielmy Valdovino Hernández

Catalog Design / Katalog Design

Katia Hernández Baldassarri
Enrique Smith Soto

Photography / Fotografie

Ernesto Villanueva Morera

Artist's Personal Assistant / Persönlicher Assistant des Künstlers

Rafael Arango Correoso

Villanueva Studio Assistant / Assistant des Studios Villanueva

Roberto Valdés García

evillanueva23@yahoo.es

☎ +53 53437206

Marielmy Valdovino

Representative of the artist







Obispo Art Gallery

EDICIONES

