

DESIGN DECODED 2021 : ART EXHIBITION



*Decrypt your  
visual creativity*

# DESIGN DECODED 2021 : ART EXHIBITION



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## JM Abad

### Plein Air Gone Wrong

I named the piece, "Plein Air Gone Wrong" for capturing an artist's perspective who's doing a Plein air painting in the midst of the wilderness which is seldom touched by sunlight, but with a twist. This artist loves painting nature/wild, not as the main subject but only as a background for his favourite subject, his ideal woman. It turned out that the woman in the painting is the image of the woman who managed to escape from the canvas installed in the artist's easel. I couldn't tell if it is just his hallucination but it would be more interesting if we view it as a miraculous or magical event where a painting was brought to life. But by what, by whom, or how? Maybe by his undying desire towards this mysterious woman.

I can say that this is parallel with my current situation, knowing that I am the artist behind this piece. The woman in the painting is a real person who I consider as my favourite muse for my works, for some reason. It may be because I enjoy painting her features and anatomy or the fact that I am still clinging to the memories that we once shared. From all my work that she is included in, this one seems like a work of farewell. You cannot see it unless you read this, the story behind the 5 significant elements. First, the woman that I introduced earlier, you see the dripping paint at the bottom part of her dress, it signifies that she is not real, she isn't literally, but even

inside this piece, she is portrayed as a painting or an idea. Second, the easel and the canvas which are almost hidden on the shady part of the painting is the portal that the woman used to present herself in the real world. Third, is the light source that is aligned towards the woman, it is from the path where she's going, the path where she could accompany me, where we can walk together, as a muse and an artist. Fourth, the other light source, located in the background. It signifies freedom; freedom from the idea of her, the continuation of the journey where she is no longer there, the reality in contrast to the woman which is just nothing but an Idea. Fifth, the way towards the light, it seemed dark but a better view is ahead of this path, the light. This might be a farewell for us (the artist and the muse) if I choose the path towards the light in the background.

That is how I decode my creative process. I do feel more motivated when my works are rooted personally, though it should be a part of every artwork, I have to escape from this kind of notion that all my work must be personal for me to function as a person as well as an artist. I see myself being stuck with this idea, the idea of her. I have to step out of this cage knowing that creativity is massively broad. To live as an artist in this world, we must be open to explore for more.



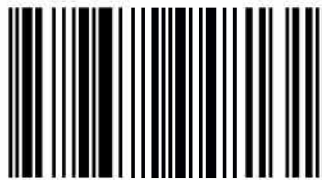
**JON MC ANDREI ABAD**  
Plein Air Gone Wrong

Oil on canvas panel  
16 "x 20 "  
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