

CV MARTIN SULLIVAN



Martin Sullivan was born in Luzern in 1963, and from the age of 18, he embarked on a lifelong journey dedicated to art. His artistic pursuits encompass a wide range of creative roles, including artist, illustrator, stage designer, designer, and illustrator. While a considerable portion of his body of work has been commissioned, it has always been of paramount importance to him to cultivate his own distinct artistic vision.

His formative education (3 years) at the School of art in Bern served as a gateway to the realm of art, historical wisdom, and the ever-evolving landscape of contemporary art. At the tender age of 20, Martin was granted the extraordinary opportunity to craft commissioned art for postage stamps on a global scale, collaborating with the WWF (World Wildlife Fund). This endeavor demanded the utmost precision, unfettered creativity, and an unwavering commitment to artistic excellence.

Over the course of his artistic journey, Martin has been privileged to undertake commissioned projects spanning books, art prints, posters, puzzles, as well as delving into the realm of stage design and exhibition curation. These richly diverse experiences have empowered him to explore a multitude of facets within the realm of art.

One of the most influential figures in Martin's life was his friend and Mentor HR Giger, an Oscar-winning luminary and a profound artistic influencer of the contemporary era. The collaboration with Giger led Martin to uncharted artistic dimensions. Giger himself had the privilege of being mentored by the legendary Salvador Dali, and Martin carries the torch of this artistic legacy with deep gratitude.

In 1998, Martin embarked on a transformative journey with his family, relocating to Charleston, SC, for a three-year sojourn. The USA held realism in art in high esteem, and the impact of this period, marked by galleries, art enthusiasts, exhibitions, and an enriched knowledge base, left an indelible imprint on Martin's artistic expression. He honed various techniques and seamlessly incorporated contemporary elements into his work. Despite regularly gracing galleries and exhibitions with his presence, Martin's artistic path consistently circled back to the realm of commissioned art. For him, the primary focus has always been on infusing empathy into his works, transcending the realm of self-presentation.

Photorealism/Hyperrealism, a captivating genre of art, often finds itself shrouded in misconceptions. It is frequently reduced to a mere display of technical prowess and precision. However, like any form of visual art, Martin's objective has been to communicate, provoke thought, and breathe life into vivid visualizations. Every masterpiece begins with a spark of inspiration. Much akin to the creative philosophies of expressionism and impressionism, Martin draws inspiration from the tapestry of dreams, the world that surrounds us, the dialogues we engage in, and the inner sanctum of our thoughts.

The execution of photorealistic painting, on the other hand, demands years of tireless practice in the realm of painting, coupled with an extraordinary grasp of the nuances of light and shadow, dimensionality, and perspective. Patience, too, becomes a virtue, as weeks or even months are devoted to the meticulous creation of a single masterpiece. Martin's brand of photorealism transcends the mere replication of a photograph; it encapsulates the essence of the content in a photorealistic manner.

The viewer is inexorably drawn into the enchantment of Martin's creations, whether by virtue of their intrinsic content, the painstakingly crafted details, or the interplay of light and shadow. His artworks aspire to not only mirror but also to inspire. Martin finds profound gratitude in the ability to devote his life to the realm of art.

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Artistic skills:

- Abstract art
- Contemporary art
- Photorealismus / Hyperrealismus
- Illustration
- Theater Set Design
- Product Design

Techniques:

- Oil
- Acrylic
- Airbrush
- Watercolor
- Street Art

Selected commissions:

- ESA European Space Agency
- WWF World Wildlife Fund
- Red Bull Austria
- BOEING Seattle
- VHS Museum of Transport
- Moët & Chandon
- Maxon Motors
- Wizard & Genius
- Ravensburger
- Swiss Air Force

Selected Exhibitions:

- 2020 Exhibition "Mars" permanently "Museum VHS" Switzerland
- 2019 Solo Exhibition at the PGA Orlando, USA
- 2010 Solo Exhibition Urs Aebi Gallerie Hergiswil "VBP", Switzerland
- 2008 Solo Exhibition in Istanbul, rep. by Red Bull, Turkey
- 2007 Solo Exhibition in Budapest, rep. by Red Bull, Hungary
- 2007 Solo Exhibition in Porto, rep. by Red Bull, Portugal
- 2007 Solo Exhibition in San Diego, rep. by Red Bull, USA
- 2002 Group Exhibition at the NY Stationary Show in New York, USA
- 1999 Exhibition Waterfront Gallery, Charleston, USA
- 1999 Group Exhibition Charleston Artist Guild, USA
- 1999 Group Exhibition Francis Marion in Charleston, USA
- 1999 Solo Exhibition Federal Gallery Mt. Pleasant, USA
- 1998 Solo Exhibition Demetre-Charleston, USA
- 1991 Group Exhibition space - spring basel (bale), Switzerland

website: www.martinsullivan.ch

instagram: [martin.sullivan.art](https://www.instagram.com/martin.sullivan.art)