

MIKE KATENDE

London, United Kingdom

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ARTIST BIOGRAPHY

Mike Katende is a London-based contemporary artist known for his hyperrealistic and conceptual pencil drawings. Drawing since the age of three, he developed his practice through portraiture before expanding into symbolic works exploring spirituality, consciousness, technology, and the human condition. Influenced by the surrealist traditions of Salvador Dalí and Vladimir Kush, his work combines technical precision with philosophical storytelling. Mike was featured on BBC Three's "Life Through My Lens," which showcased his distinctive approach to drawing and visual storytelling.

ARTIST STATEMENT

My practice combines technical realism with conceptual storytelling, creating works that examine modern identity, digital culture, and humanity's relationship with the divine. Influenced by the visionary surrealism of Salvador Dalí and Vladimir Kush, I use symbolism and dreamlike imagery to transform philosophical and spiritual ideas into visual narratives that invite reflection on truth, perception, and the nature of human existence.

SELECTED WORKS

2026

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Graphite on paper

Conceptual surrealism exploring spiritual disconnection, technological idolatry, and modern consciousness.

2023

KNOWLEDGE://CORRUPTED

Graphite on paper

A symbolic exploration of temptation, pride, and humanity's pursuit of knowledge detached from divine wisdom.

2022

THE EPILOGUE (Water Study)

Coloured pencil on paper

A technical study combining multiple references to challenge the rendering of flowing water, skin texture, and light.

EXHIBITIONS & OPEN CALLS

TBC

VIRTUAL GALLERY

<https://visit.virtualartgallery.com/mikefineartist>

PUBLICATIONS & FEATURES

2026

Circle Foundation for the Arts – Featured Artist

Artist Close Up Magazine

2016

Artist Review

<https://thecritblog.wordpress.com/2016/09/20/artist-review-mikesfineartist-joc306-quickcrit/>

2013

BBC Three Hidden Talent

"Life Through My Lens"

Directed by Joelle David

2013

Amor Magazine UK

Published by Shellon Rodney & Ruby Mae Moore

MEDIUMS

- Graphite Drawing
- Coloured Pencil
- Works on Paper

STYLES & APPROACHES

- Hyperrealism
- Conceptual Art
- Symbolic Surrealism
- Contemporary Drawing

THEMES EXPLORED

- Spirituality
 - Consciousness
 - Technology & Digital Culture
 - Faith & the Human Condition
 - Identity
 - Temptation, Redemption & Divine Truth
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WEBSITE & SOCIALS

Website:

www.mikefineartist.co.uk

Instagram:

@mikefineartist

TikTok:

@mikefineartist