

Jason Young

Jason Young (he/him/his) is a queer, neurodivergent (AuDHD) mixed-media artist. His work explores the intersections between painting and drawing, art and psychology, self and other.

This work is deeply personal for Jason. It draws inspiration from his identity and lived experience while documenting his quest for connection and healing — both personally and collectively. Through art, Jason seeks to heal himself and inspire others on their healing journey.

Since 2020, Jason has created abstract portraits and figures (from life) of the queer people he met. These paintings attempt to interpret the subject's identity by transcribing the physical and psychic space between the artist and the subject through intuitive mark-making and color. Using the energy of the moment and the intimacy between himself and the sitter, Jason seeks to find new ways of conveying identities, emotions, and narratives through art.

For most of 2023, Jason explored the relationship with self through self-portraits and double self-portraits and figures. Throughout 2024, Jason developed a body of work for the Hammock Residency. His project, 'Young Jason: Emotional Archeology', was a biography of the inner child that examined family narratives, generational trauma, the Father wound, and attachment. In short, Jason translated photographs and memories into paintings while exploring his lived experience with mental health, trauma, and disability.

To date, Jason has participated in three group shows; the Queer Art Festival: Community Show 2021 at the SUM gallery, The Vancouver Outsider Arts Festival 2021 at the Roundhouse Community Center, and the Inverted Pyramid Series: Intend To Upend at the James Black Gallery in August 2022. In Spring 2024, Jason had his debut solo show, titled 'Relational /Reflexive' at POMO Arts in Port Moody.

For VOAF 2024, Jason will present a selection of works from all phases of his practice over the last four years.