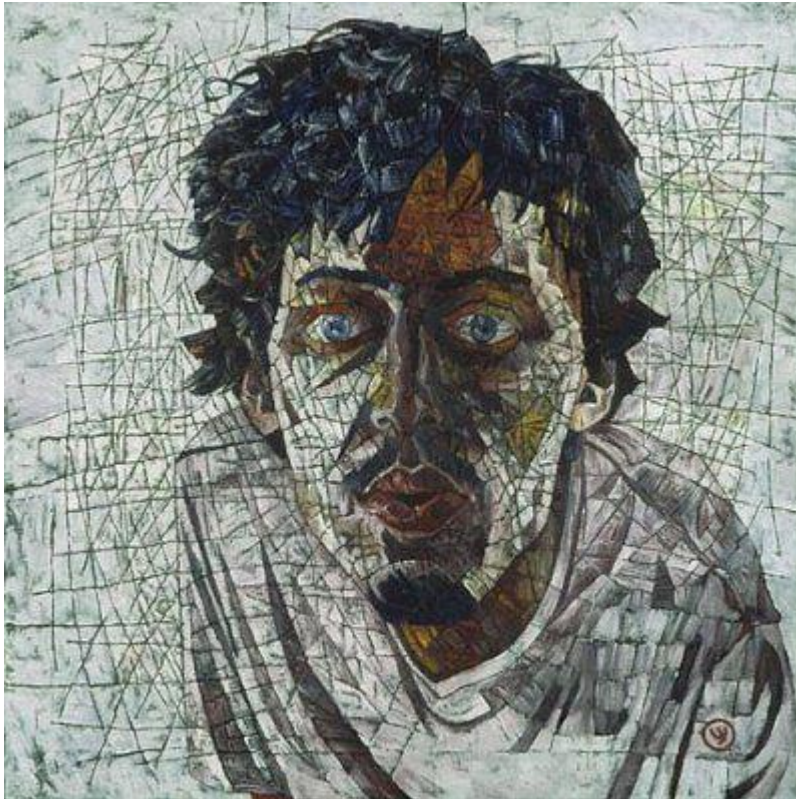


think

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"Dumb" (self portrait by the artist Jesse Littell)

Prague over the years has been known for producing some very inspired artists, and from the pool of expats that have resided here since the Velvet Revolution, two painters have really stood out for the work they've produced, inspired by the city of a thousand spires... Jesse Littell and Holly Spuck.

Think is happy to offer you some insights into the minds of these two talented artists... in words and with examples of their fine art.

The Eye of the Storm

"Jesse looks at the world in pieces; and then one piece at a time." - Holly

Crouched before the canvas, in the bleak light of dawn, he applies a meticulous stroke, precariously balancing the full weight of his hand on his pinky. His hand comes away. His head pulls back. He squints.

His brush dips in oil. His brush pulls at a lump of color.

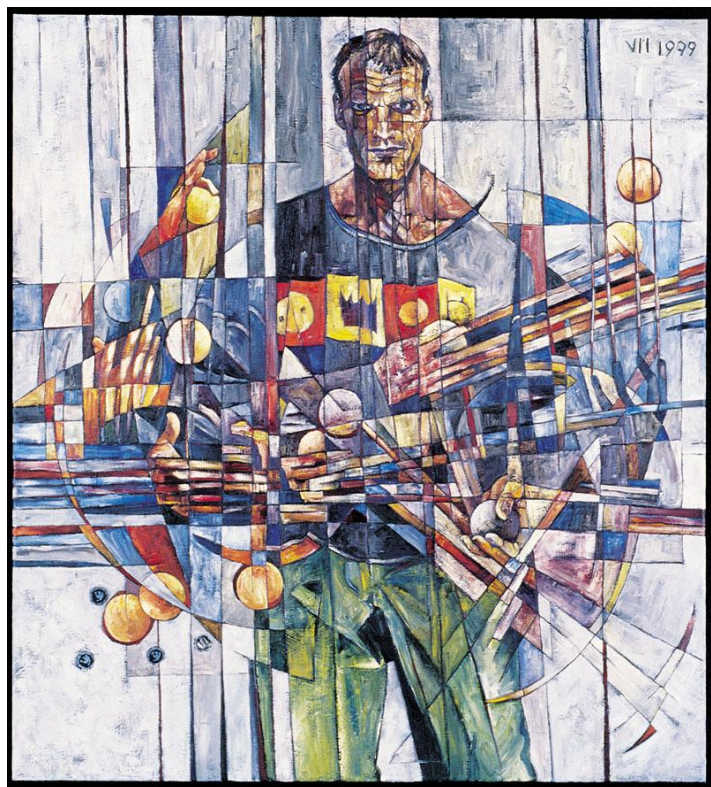
He emerges at a different corner of the painting, randomly selected, it might seem to the casual observer. The pattern repeats throughout the afternoon. A steady stream of visitors lounge, converse, and carry on amidst the flickering detritus amassed on the walls and the shelves and the tables around him. Jesse is the eye of the storm.

The sun goes down. He stands. He changes the CD that has been on finite replay for hours. He turns on the light. He smokes a cigarette at the far end of the room. His eyes rarely leave the canvas.

He crouches. He hums and doesn't know he's humming. He talks. To it, to the brush, to the paint.

Conversation lingers in the air around him as if he were insulated from it, but he hears. He chimes in. He is not in a trance, but he is not altogether here either. The effect is what we have come to call "chicken bone, chicken bone, chicken bone."

The reference is to Pink Floyd's movie, *The Wall*. In it, Bob Geldoff's character has just gone completely ape-sh*t, and in the aftermath finds himself peacefully on the floor arranging the fragments of his destroyed hotel room, chicken carcass and all, into a meticulous collage.



CIRCUS, oil on canvas, 110 x 100 cm, 1999 (collection of Scott Johnson)



ENDGAME, oil on burlap, 120 x 80 cm, 1997 (collection of A. & S.Heberger)

Aside from "The End Game," (above) on permanent display at [U Malého Gléna](#), you won't be seeing any of Jesse Littell's work at any of the cafes, bars or clubs around town. But you might run into Jesse if he's in town.

To see more of his work on the World Wide Web, visit his site [No Such Paintings](#).

(<http://think.cz/en/100-art-design/814-profile-of-prague-artists-jesse-littell-and-holly-spuck>)