OPEN MIND ART SPACE

CONSCIENCE MILAN TIFF

JANUARY 15 - FEBRUARY 12, 2022

OPENING RECEPTION: SATURDAY, JANUARY 15, 5-9 PM

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11631 SANTA MONICA BLVD. LOS ANGELES, CA 90025

GALLERY HOURS: THUR - SAT, 11AM - 5PM OR BY APPOINTMENT



Milan Tiff, Planet X, 2020, acrylic on canvas, 48 x 48 in. (122 x 122 cm)

Open Mind Art Space is pleased to present *Conscience*, featuring new paintings by returning artist, Milan Tiff. An opening reception will be held for the artist on Saturday, January 15th from 5:00 PM - 9:00 PM, with music provided by Nothing 2 See Hear Productions. *Conscience* will be on view from January 15 - February 12, 2022. Gallery hours are Thursdays - Saturdays, 11:00 AM - 5:00 PM, or by appointment. Proof of COVID-19 vaccination will be required to enter the gallery and masks must be worn while inside the gallery.

Influenced by historic and current events, Milan Tiff's semi-abstract acrylic paintings are catalysts for dialogue about the state of the world. In his 2018 solo exhibition with the gallery, titled *Awakening*, Tiff's powerful graphic paintings illustrated an imminent awakening of the collective human consciousness, conjuring up a universal feeling of discontentment in response to issues impacting modern society and echoing humanity's plea for positive change. In 2020, his piece *Race in America* was featured in one of the gallery's window exhibitions during the height of the pandemic and in response to the Black Lives Matter movement, bringing attention to the intersectionality experienced by himself as a black man and by other people of color in America.

In his upcoming solo exhibition, *Conscience*, Tiff returns with new work that further explore the issues that hinder the positive progression of human kind and inspire introspection about the moral self. Several paintings in the exhibition, such as *The State of America*, *The N-Word* and *Pull Over*, ignite commentary about race and racism with strong symbolism and text. Tiff's observations of existing realities are contrasted by his wonderment of the unknown, beyond our world. His works, *Global Warming* and *Planet X*, depict imagery related to the cosmos and extraterrestrial life, underscoring the vastness of the universe and existence beyond our human experience. These reflections on reality, both ethical and existential, act as our conscience, compelling us to expand our collective and individual consciousness for the betterment of all.

Milan Tiff (b. 1949, Shaker Heights, Ohio) studied at The Cleveland Institute of Art, Miami University of Ohio, and UCLA. Tiff was severely disabled due to Polio until the age of ten but overcame his disability by training as a runner and eventually became an international champion track and field Hall of Fame athlete earning several national and international medals and world record titles. Influenced by his artistic family, Tiff relied on art as a way to cope with his disability during his youth and continued his art practice through his athletic career to the present. His experience studying medical illustration and art restoration influenced his masterful style of painting with surgical precision to achieve the crisp graphic quality seen in each of his works. Inspired by historical events over the past several decades, Tiff often makes his art about politics, religion, and science. Milan's paintings are in private collections worldwide.