

The large, bold canvases of Lebanese artist and designer Pierre Koukjian portray artists, politicians and world leaders, drawing attention to the saturation of their images in the media. Blurring the lines between popular culture and art, he examines in acute detail the character traits that made his subjects famous: politicians such as Lebanon's Hassan Nasrallah and Walid Jumblatt exhibit staunch defiance; Iraqi architect Zaha Hadid and celebrated Lebanese songstress Fairouz display their fierce brand of femininity; and pop-stars Haifa Wehbe and Elissa exude an overt sexuality. Thoroughly tongue in cheek, Koukjian balances the physicality of his subject with the legend behind their fame.

Born in Beirut in 1962, Pierre Koukjian lives and works in Geneva and Phuket. An internationally renowned jeweller and watch designer, he launched his deLaCour atelier in 2002. Solo exhibitions include Ayyam Gallery Beirut (2010).