

Bright Days Are Here

There is a gap between Arik Miranda's titles and his art. This gap is crucial for grasping Miranda's endeavors. This gap is inherent to the beauty of the work and its wisdom. Miranda's titles suggest narrative, while the work itself bares the very minimal intervention - one that barely leaves its marks on the paper, and all together avoids "story telling" conventions. In other words, Miranda's work flirts, first and for most, with the notion of **time**. It playfully and carefully establishes time code's binaries, only to pull the rug under the very same establishment.

Joseph

"Bright Days Are Here" is an optimistic celebration with a certain naiveté assumption (use either naive assumptions or better yet, just naiveté) attached to it; one that encapsulates a sense of prophecy - a blessed prophecy. But not quite like Joseph, there's no room for "seven bad years" in Miranda's title. One might call it **Utopia**.

"Bright Days Are Here", not singular but rather plural; "days", many of them, not less -- are here. And as in utopia there's also an imbedded temporal and logical paradox, a conflict of time and place which prevents it from being: these upcoming "Days" (future tense) "are here" **now** (present tense). And so Miranda's prophecy seems to be elusive.

Stripes Gown

Joseph, "the special one", loved dearly by his father, was given a stripes gown - a gown which differentiate him from his brothers. These stripes were Joseph's trademark. Metaphorically speaking, Miranda deconstructs Joseph's gown. Each stripe becomes a line; each line is broken into smaller fragments. Then they are woven into new forms, into new images. The lines curve into moon's shape, or maybe the sun? They become trees -- blooming ones, but also ones that allude to gallows. Landscapes, with bare minimum articulation, surfaces -- they're there, but hardly seen. Miranda's pictorial language is made out of syllables which refuse to turn into full comprehensive sentences. Rather, they take their chances with a distilled experience that manages to tell so much with so few words.

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