

## Jozza

Jozza was born in Hidrolandia, a small town situated in central Brazil. The son of an art teacher, his talent and affection for art was realized at an early age. Influenced by his mother throughout his early childhood, Jozza developed his artistic abilities and won his first art contest at the age of seven. As he grew older Jozza began to support the family business working at his father's lumber store. Constantly stimulated by his environment and drawing inspiration from his surroundings, Jozza further explored his artistic ambition and began sculpting with wood.

In 1996 Jozza relocated his family to Miami, Florida to pursue his great passion for art. Upon arriving Jozza took a job at a local restaurant on historic Lincoln Road, home to numerous art galleries, including the gallery of Brazilian born South Florida icon Romero Britto. Working in such proximity to the Romero Britto gallery, an encounter with the artist seemed inevitable if not predestined. The two eventually did meet and cultivated a friendship. Realizing his raw artistic talent Britto invited Jozza to study under him in his studio. Jozza accepted the apprenticeship and over the two years that followed he refined his techniques and creative output.

Through his playful themes and crisp lines, Jozza interjects a sense of energy and movement into the static and contemplative world of hard-edge painting. Inspired by urban scenes and popular culture, his abstract impression of life is simplified and pronounced by sharp contours, precise lines and opposition of color. Jozza's work is unmistakably modern, bold and colorful. From the time of his first exhibition in early 2000, Jozza has achieved international acclaim and widespread success. Jozza's artwork has been featured in the New York ArtExpo as well as major motion pictures such as *Transporter II* directed by Louis Leterrier.

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