

[We Are Family](#) , (circa 2013) by [Monstrinho](#)  
Gouache on Paper - Main Subject: Abstract



**Item Number**  
1325695808

**Retail Value**  
\$350

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**Dimensions (As Shown)**  
12W x 9H Inches  
30.48W x 22.86H cm

**Medium**  
Gouache on Paper

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## About Monstrinho

Born in Queens in 1976 and raised on Long Island, New York, his love for comic books and cartoons was the root from which his creativity began to sprout. During childhood, Monstrinho began creating his own characters and storylines. After laying his eyes on graffiti art, he gradually began using it as a means for storytelling.

His works encapsulate the feeling of complete freedom. Each piece is fantasy-driven and explodes with color, creating its own little world free from the rules and limitations of everyday life. Each painting consists of characters that Monstrinho creates from his emotional experiences, personal encounters or elements of nature. They illustrate the boundlessness of the creative mind.

## Gouache on Paper

Gouache paint is similar to watercolor but modified to make it an opaque painting medium (non-transparent). A binding agent, usually gum arabic, is present, just as in watercolor. Gouache differs from watercolor in that the particles are larger, the ratio of pigment to water is much higher, and an additional, inert, white pigment such as chalk is also present. This makes gouache heavier and more opaque, with greater reflective qualities. Gouache generally dries to a different value than it appears when wet (lighter tones generally dry darker,

while darker tones tend to dry lighter), which can make it difficult to match colors over multiple painting sessions. Its quick coverage and total hiding power mean that gouache lends itself to more direct painting techniques than watercolor. "En plein air" paintings take advantage of this, as do works of J.M.W. Turner and Victor Lensner. It is used most consistently by commercial artists for works such as posters, illustrations, comics, and for other design work. For example, comics illustrators like Alex Ross use mostly gouache for their work. Industrial Designer and Visual Futurist Syd Mead also works primarily in gouache. Most 20th-century animations used it to create an opaque color on a cel with watercolor paint used for backgrounds, and gouache as "poster paint" is desirable for its speed and durability.

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