



Pascal Lagesse

Humbert Lane, Curepipe, Mauritius

WhatsApp: (+230) 52517262

email: painter@pascallagesse.com

www.pascallagesse.com

Pascal
24



Happiness under the rain - 2026
Zafer Style painting in Acrylic on canvas
91 cm x 121 cm



Monkey eating a 62 million dollar banana - 2025
Zafer Style painting in Acrylic on canvas
91 cm x 121 cm



House in Crève-Coeur - 2025
Zafer Style painting in Acrylic on canvas
76 cm x 51 cm



The yellow house - 2026
Zafer Style painting in Acrylic on canvas
91 cm x 121 cm



The last rays - 2025
Zafer Style painting in Acrylic on canvas
91 cm x 91 cm



A dodo's dream - 2026
Zafer Style painting in Acrylic on canvas
91 cm x 121 cm



The chicken boat - 2025
Zafer Style painting in Acrylic on canvas
91 cm x 91 cm



Ready? Wow! - 2026
Zafer Style painting in Acrylic on canvas
91 cm x 91 cm



Who am I?

My name is Pascal Lagesse, and I am a Mauritian artist. In 1986, at eighteen, I began following established Mauritian painters around the island, watching and learning from them. I never attended art school, though I studied Graphic Design. For many years my work stayed fairly classical, until I started developing a style of my own in 2003.

That shift came after a long period of depression and a diagnosis of bipolar disorder. I went looking for a way of painting that would be less stressful and, at the same time, therapeutic. What emerged was a bright, colourful style, and I gave it a Mauritian Creole name: Zafer. In Creole, the word “zafer” is what you say when you have forgotten or never knew the name of something, the equivalent of “thing” in English. Since I had no name for what I had created, I simply called it Zafer.

The style's effect on my mental health became one of the main reasons I kept going. I found that the bright colours and the repetition of shapes eased my anxiety and brightened my days.

Since 2003, I have carried the style from small works on paper to large paintings on canvas, and it keeps evolving year after year. My first solo exhibition, fifty Zafer paintings, opened in 2022 at the Caudan Arts Centre in Mauritius.

In 2017, the Zafer style entered the Mauritian art curriculum for Grade 7, and it is now taught in schools across the island.

What is the Zafer style?

The Origins

The Zafer style began to emerge around 2003, after years of exploring colour, geometry and different mediums, from oil and watercolour to charcoal and engravings. My graphic design background gave me a strong sense of composition and balance. The first Zafer works were small works on paper in poster colours before evolving into large paintings in oils then acrylic on canvas.

Colour and Geometry

The Zafer style is characterised by bold colours and repeated geometric forms. These elements structure the painting, guide the eye and transform reality into something more poetic. The repetition is also meditative for me, helping me create harmony from chaos. I deliberately use vibrant colours to express emotion, optimism and joy rather than simply reproduce reality.

Influences

Van Gogh inspires my emotional intensity and expressive strokes, which I translate into geometric forms. Hundertwasser influenced my love of colour and flowing shapes, while Australian Aboriginal art introduced me to the power of dots, repetition and layered motifs. Above all, my island, Mauritius, remains a constant source of inspiration.

Philosophy

Zafer was born from a personal need to transform negative emotions into something positive. Painting in this style allows me to turn chaos into a calmer, brighter world. My work transforms darkness into hope, beauty and optimism.



My first Zafer style painting in 2003

Artist Statement

I paint beauty and positivity. In a world overcrowded with depressing news, I want my art to convey colour, warmth and a reason for hope. Laying down colour and pattern is a way of finding order within chaos, of taking what feels heavy in my everyday mental state and building something positive to fight it.

Artist CV

Pascal Lagesse, born on 7 of August 1968 in Mauritius.

I am a self-taught artist with a diploma in Graphic Design from the Durban University of Technology (1989-1991)

WhatsApp: (+230) 52517262

Email: painter@pascallagesse.com

Website: <https://www.pascallagesse.com>

Honours and Distinctions

I was made Commander of the Order of the Star and Key of the Indian Ocean (CSK) in 2019 by the Republic of Mauritius for significant contribution to the Arts.

Public Engagement

Ambassador for the Hidden Disabilities Sunflower in Mauritius, raising awareness and understanding of non-visible disabilities. (since 2025)

Zafer style art published in the Mauritius Institute of Education Art and Design books for Grade 7.

Market References

Listed in "La Côte des peintres" (Akoun), the French painters' rating guide, since July 2026.

Solo Exhibitions

- 2025 Hennessy Park Hotel, Cybercity, Mauritius.
- 2022 Caudan Arts Centre, Port Louis, Mauritius.
- 2014 Audi Auditorium - Réduit, Mauritius.
- 2006 Caudan Waterfront, Port Louis, Mauritius.
- 2002 Galerie Du Coin De Mire, Grand Baie, Mauritius.
- 2000 City Hall, Curepipe, Mauritius.
- 1998 Mauritius Union, Port Louis, Mauritius.
- 1996 Galerie Max Boulé, Rose Hill, Mauritius.

Group Exhibitions

- 2026
Um Bando de dodôs chegou a Porto Alegre - Porto Alegre, Brazil.
Uncorked - Cascavelle, Mauritius.
Samudra Exhibition - Caudan Arts Centre, Port Louis, Mauritius.
Salon de Mai - MGI Moka, Mauritius.

- 2025
Terre d'Artistes - Caudan Arts Centre, Port Louis, Mauritius.

- 2024
Samudra Exhibition - Caudan Arts Centre, Port Louis, Mauritius.

- 2022
Art Conclave - Indira Gandhi Cultural Centre, Phoenix, Mauritius.
Samudra Exhibition - Caudan Arts Centre, Port Louis, Mauritius.
Salon de Mai - MGI Moka, Mauritius.

Theatre and Musicals

- 2026
J'oublie souvent qu'il n'est Zametrotar - Caudan Arts Centre, Port Louis, Mauritius. Animated versions of my painting projected on a 6m by 10m screen.

