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The rhythmic, gestural figures in Richard Solstjärna's paintings are satiated with color and reverberate with a sweeping sense of movement. Arresting though ephemeral, these anthropomorphic abstractions represent humans in raw, visceral, elemental form, manifested in unique and transitory states of spiritual being. With a bold, primary palette, Solstjärna paints highly symbolic images that communicate emotion with fittingly spontaneous brushwork and unembellished composition. The vibrant reds and yellow of the figures represent the inner essence or energy of his subjects, while the contrasting blue hues of the background effectively depict the vastness of an external reality, as well as the infinite expanse of an individual's isolation and potential for creation. In a Zen-like, calligraphic style, Solstjärna paints images that portray both the universality of human emotion and the briefness and immediacy of those passions.

A former musician, Swedish artist Solstjärna has played with various rock groups and released several singles and albums. His affinity for music is apparent in the lyrical, instantaneous nature of his imagery. Early in his painting career, Solstjärna experimented with drawings inspired by music and came to his current style through the visual rhythms and harmonious compositions he discovered therein. Expressive, intrepid, and full of vigor, Solstjärna's work involve a type of imagery intelligible in both Eastern and Western artistic traditions, drawing upon abstract expressionism as much as the arts of calligraphy.

In the past decade, Solstjärna's work has been displayed in exhibitions in the Ukraine, Sweden, Switzerland, France, Spain, Austria, Italy and the U.S. He has also been selected to participate in numerous international jury-selected exhibitions throughout Europe. In 1998, his first solo exhibition included the performance of chamber music which he had written, and in recent years, Solstjärna has won several awards and distinctions in France and Italy. Born in Sweden, Solstjärna lived in Berlin for three years, but later returned to Sweden in 1993, at which time he began painting while simultaneously pursuing a career in music. In 1997, Solstjärna began to paint full time. He now works and lives in Malmö, Sweden.