

Galerie Daniel Templon

Paris

**JULIAN SCHNABEL**

*ART REVIEW ASIA*, 17 mars 2017

## ArtReview ArtReview Asia



*Julian Schnabel, Untitled (BEZ), 2011, mixed media, 160 x 109 cm. © the artist.  
Courtesy Galerie Daniel Templon, Paris*

**Julian Schnabel**, Galerie Templon, Paris, 11 March – 13 May

Staying on the spiritual path but leaving Hong Kong for a moment (for who can truly say they left Hong Kong in March), **Julian Schnabel** will be displaying his "Shiva Paintings" at Paris's Galerie Templon (the Impasse Beaubourg space, to be precise). The paintings begin with an inkjet print of Shiva, cross-legged, sitting on his tiger skin by the Ganges. Schnabel then garlands, smears and otherwise decorates the image with swoops and splatters of colourful oil paint. If Shiva on his tiger skin is often read as the victory of the spiritual over the animal, then Schnabel's typically forceful daubs (suitably serpentine or fluvial) appear to bring those animal instincts right back into play. Along with Schnabel's Brooklyn-based Yoga teacher Eddie Stern (also guru to the likes of Madonna, Gwyneth Paltrow and Russell Brand), for whom a number of works in this 2007 series are titled. And there you have it, Shiva as only Schnabel can see him: power, tranquillity, some heavy paint and a light drizzle of celebrity sauce. Of course, at the time he made these works, Schnabel was at the peak of his powers, picking up the best director award for *The Diving Bell and the Butterfly* at the Cannes Film Festival. On the evidence of these paintings, that success is down to the fact that the big man was sitting very uncomfortably during that time, although ultimately everything's yogic to him: 'Painting is like breathing to me,' he hissed at Linda Yablonsky back in 2008. 'It's what I do all the time.'