

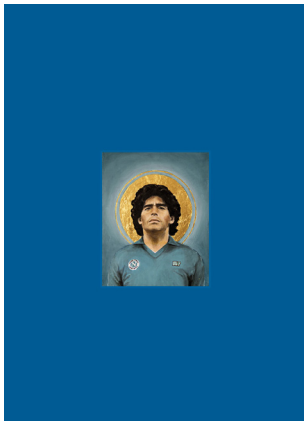
# Edition Patrick Frey

## Press Release

David Diehl

*ICONS*

*A Directory of Canonisations around the Turn of the Millennium*



Since the late 1990s David Diehl's work has explored the sociopolitical implications of pop-culture phenomena and their specific para-religious function. *ICONS* tells the story of a series of over seventy paintings (2013-2020) that thematically play on the pitch that in recent decades the Church has increasingly had to cede to football. Sócrates, Zidane, Andrés Escobar... Each haloed portrait tells a story of its own, but the fate of Diehl's over-the-top iconographic rendering of – who else! – Diego Maradona takes the cake. After its release from the Zürich studio in which it was created, the image has now come *home* to Naples, where, in its myriad reproduced forms in connection with Maradona's death, it has morphed from a referential tongue-in-cheek artwork to an object of real religious veneration: an icon.

With a photo series by Alessandro Tione.

With texts by Asif Kapadia, Andrés Montenegro, Mämä Sykora in English.

David Diehl (b. 1976, Aarau, Switzerland) is a Zürich-based multimedia artist and illustrator who produces (often extensive) conceptual series that may be open-ended in terms of theme or subject matter, or, in the case of projects commissioned by publisher or editors, narrowly circumscribed. Much of his pre-2020 work is about football and religion, plants and mountains, and the magic of the trivial.

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With texts by Asif Kapadia, Andrés Montenegro, Mämä Sykora

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