

Supporters

2017

Oil, acrylic and spray paint on canvas

150cm x 182cm

Epp has declared *Supporters* to be his Brexit painting. The image consists of an abstract, flattened mash of England football supporters with their middle fingers raised in defiance against the EU. One supporter is disguised under a Flag of England balaclava and, to the bottom right of him, another football fan wears a bucket hat with "England" scrawled across its front. The flickering metal from a supporter's gold chain and another's chunky gold rings are the only realism elements within the painting. Tattooed across one football hooligan's arm reads "Divide et Impera". Translating to: "divide and rule", the tattoo epitomises the jingoist views of the crowd. Swirls of blue confetti fall down across the painting, released in celebration of the Brexit vote. *Supporters* is an emblem of a fraught moment in time in the UK's political history. It acts as a summation of Britain as a divided nation and reflects in overt terms the reaction of the Brexit supporters on the day the vote was revealed. The viewer can clearly envision the shouting and chanting echoing from the crowd within the painting. Voices, who on that day, had finally been heard.