



Damien Hirst Depictions

PRESS RELEASE

17.09.2026



HENI Releases *Depictions*, a New Collection of Works by Damien Hirst

HENI releases *Depictions* by Damien Hirst, a collection of colourful, playful and highly detailed paintings which centre on the artist's much-loved butterfly motif. The paintings are available by application exclusively on HENI Primary from 17 September until 17:00 BST on 30 September 2026.

The artworks are paint, oil ink and paper on canvas. The works come in five sizes, 98 x 98 cm, 128.5 x 128.5 cm, 159 x 159 cm, 195 x 195 cm and 221 x 221 cm (framed). Each painting is titled and hand-signed by Damien Hirst on the verso.

In *Depictions* Damien Hirst continues his decades-long exploration of the butterfly motif. These newly released works feature an enlarged butterfly against a single-toned backdrop of butterfly wings which are arranged into intricate patterns. Each painting takes its title from the Latin name of the butterfly species at its centre.

Since the beginning of his career, Hirst has explored the versatility of the butterfly motif within his work, an image he describes as a "universal trigger" for themes such as love, beauty, mortality and religion. The *Depictions* paintings reference this history of the butterfly within Hirst's work by combining his scientific, full-bodied presentation of the butterfly with his later practice of

organising wings into kaleidoscopic patterns.

"The 'Depictions' started after I had been making gothic patterns from butterfly wings and then more contemporary colourful patterns. The 'Kaleidoscope' paintings, and like a lot of my stuff, it's a Victorian thing, as they started making tea trays with patterns of butterflies under glass. I took it a few steps further and thought could I make images of butterflies on bright colours using only wings of butterflies and make some of them bigger than tea trays and they look amazing. I love how painting is often about the looking close and looking from a distance to see the artist's hand somehow revealed, and these defy this. This series and other recent butterfly paintings I've experimented with using oil colours and inks and been making high resolution images of butterfly wings, this has resulted in making new vegan paintings! As the world turns and evolves, the art evolves and keeps evolving. Whatever next? I'm back to the 'River Paintings'." – Damien Hirst

The *Depictions* works are on display at HENI Gallery until 30 September 2026. Admission to the gallery is free.

HENI Gallery

Exhibition dates: 17–30 September 2026

Opening hours: Monday to Friday, 10am–6pm

Address: 6–10 Lexington Street, London W1F 0LB, United Kingdom

MEDIA ENQUIRIES:

Erica Bolton, Bolton & Quinn

Mobile: +44 (0)7711 698186

Email: erica@boltonquinn.com

PRESS IMAGES:

[Download Press Images](#)

HENI PRIMARY:

heni.com/primary



Damien Hirst

Damien Hirst (b. 1965) was born in Bristol, England, and lives and works in London, Devon and Gloucestershire, England. Collections include Museo d'Arte Contemporanea Donnaregina, Naples, Italy; Museum Brandhorst, Munich; Museum für Moderne Kunst, Frankfurt am Main, Germany; Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam; Centro de Arte Dos de Mayo, Madrid; Tate, London; Israel Museum, Jerusalem; Astrup Fearnley Museet, Oslo; Gallery of Modern Art, Glasgow, Scotland; National Centre for Contemporary Arts, Moscow; Museum of Modern Art, New York; Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington, D.C.; Art Institute of Chicago; The Broad, Los Angeles; Museo Jumex, Mexico City; and 21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art, Kanazawa, Japan.

Exhibitions include *Cornucopia*, Oceanographic Museum of Monaco (2010); Tate Modern, London (2012); *Relics*, Qatar Museums Authority, Al Riwaq (2013); *Signification (Hope, Immortality and Death in Paris, Now and Then)*, Deyrolle, Paris (2014); Astrup Fearnley Museet, Oslo (2015); *The Last Supper*, National Gallery of Art, Washington D.C. (2016); *Treasures from the Wreck of the Unbelievable*, Palazzo Grassi and Punta della Dogana, Venice (2017); *Damien Hirst at Houghton Hall: Colour Space Paintings and Outdoor Sculptures*, Houghton Hall, Norfolk, England (2019); *Mental Escapology*, St. Moritz, Switzerland (2021); *Cherry Blossoms*, Fondation Cartier, Paris (2021); *Archaeology Now*, Galleria Borghese, Rome (2021); *The Weight of Things*, MUCA, Munich (2023–2024); and *To Live Forever (For a While)*, Museo Jumex, Mexico City (2024). Hirst received the Turner Prize in 1995.



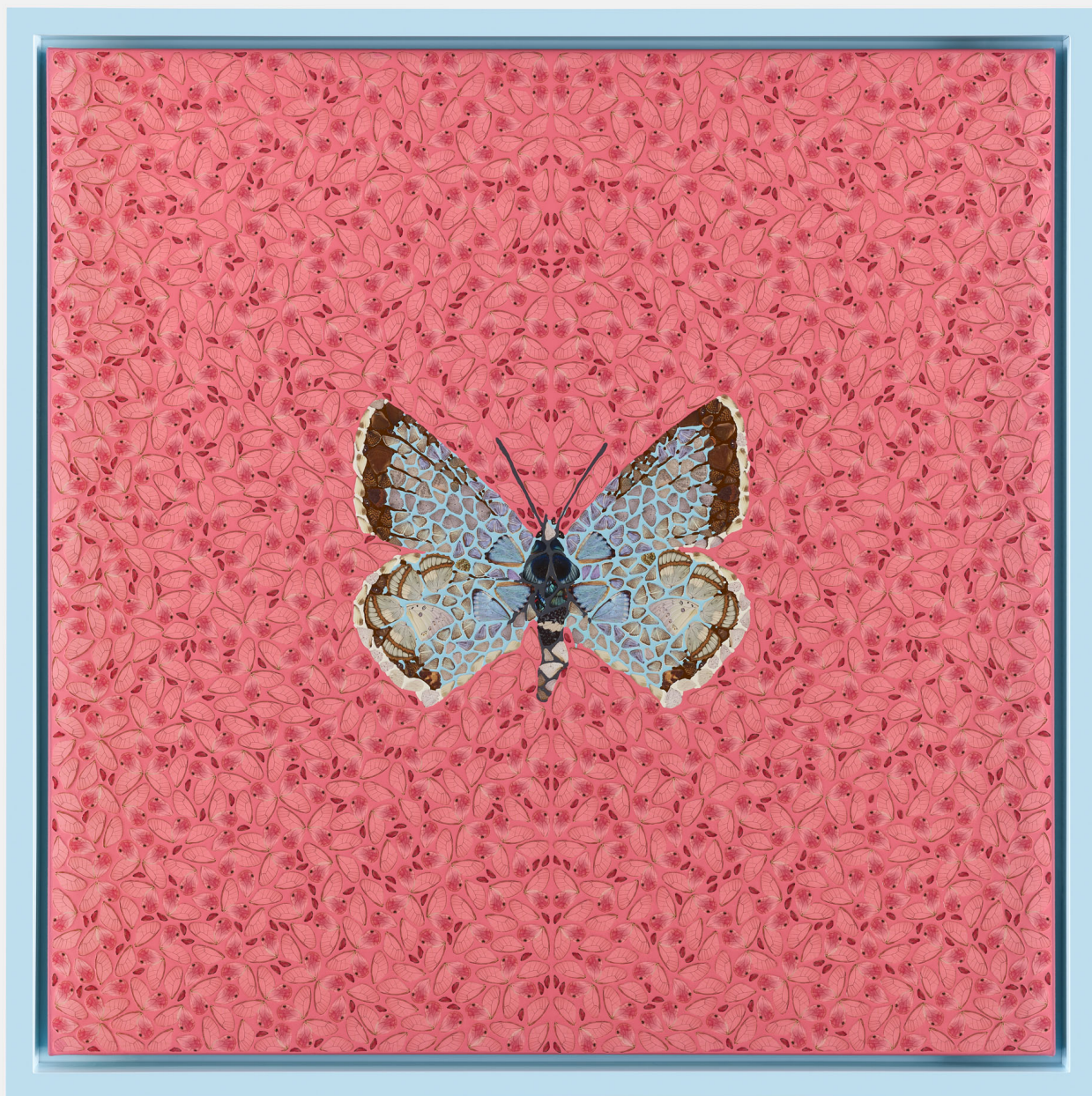
Damien Hirst

Appias Sabina, 2024

Paint, oil ink, paper on canvas

98 x 98 cm (framed)



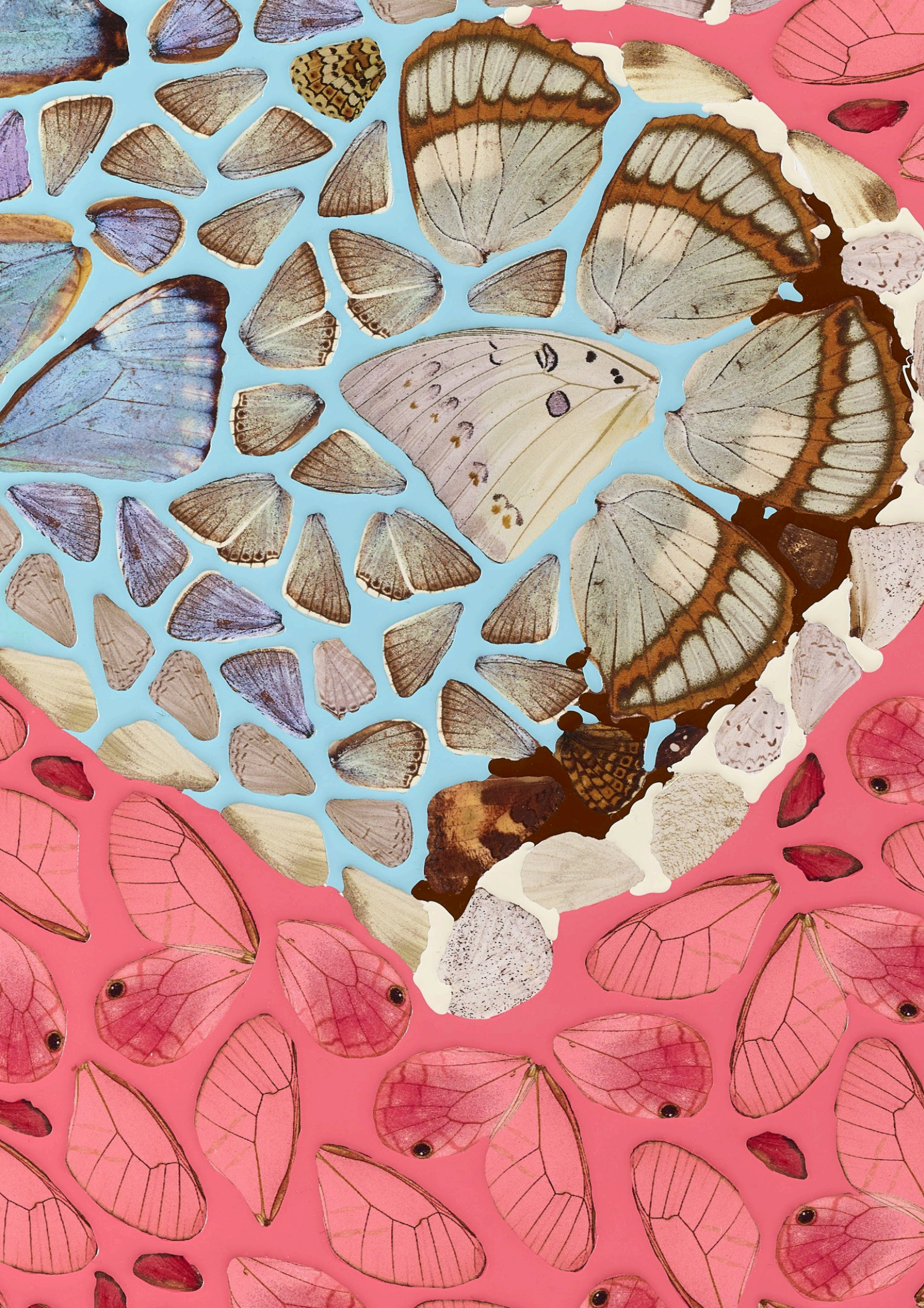


Damien Hirst

Polyommatus Icarus, 2024

Paint, oil ink, paper on canvas

98 x 98 cm (framed)



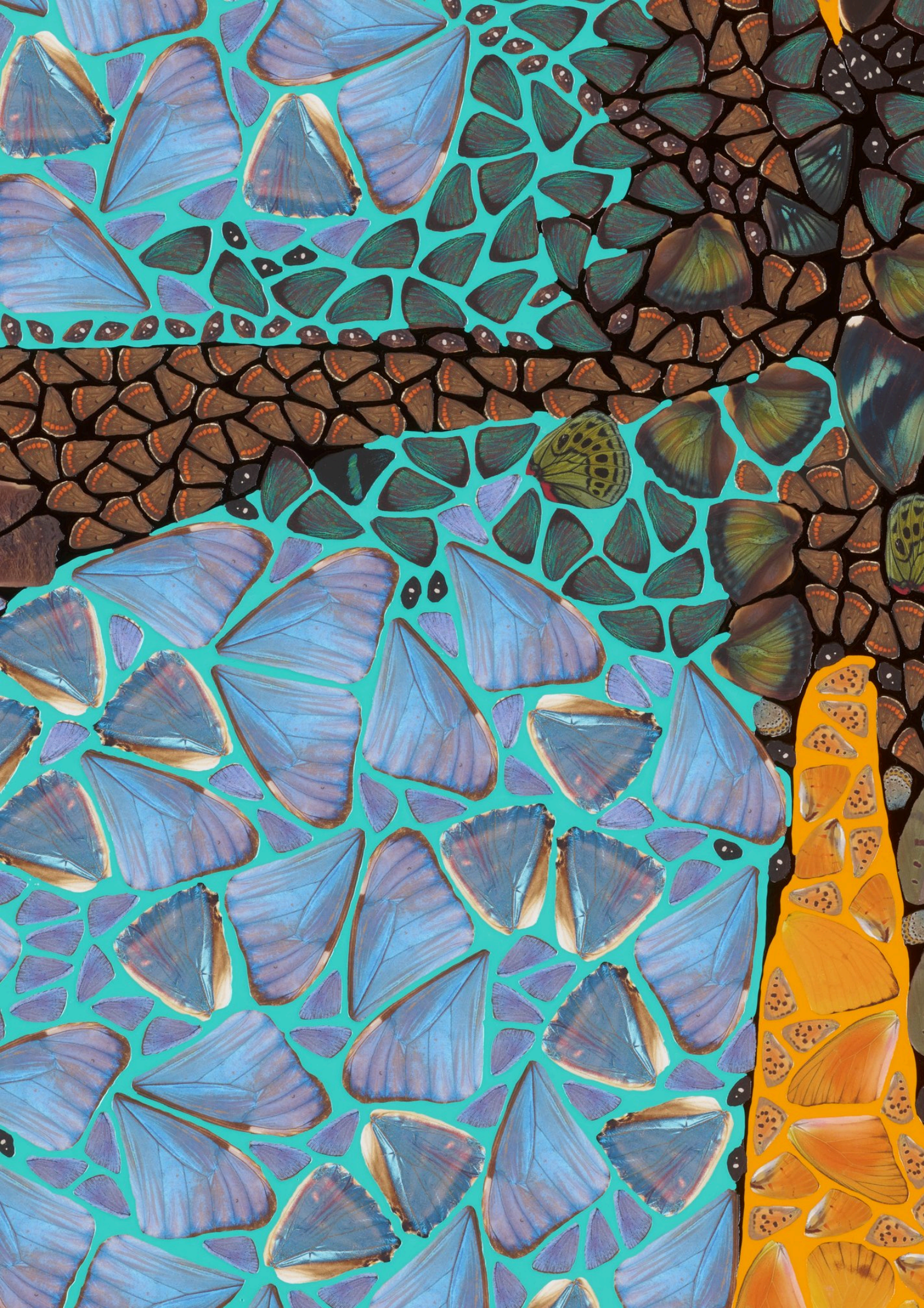


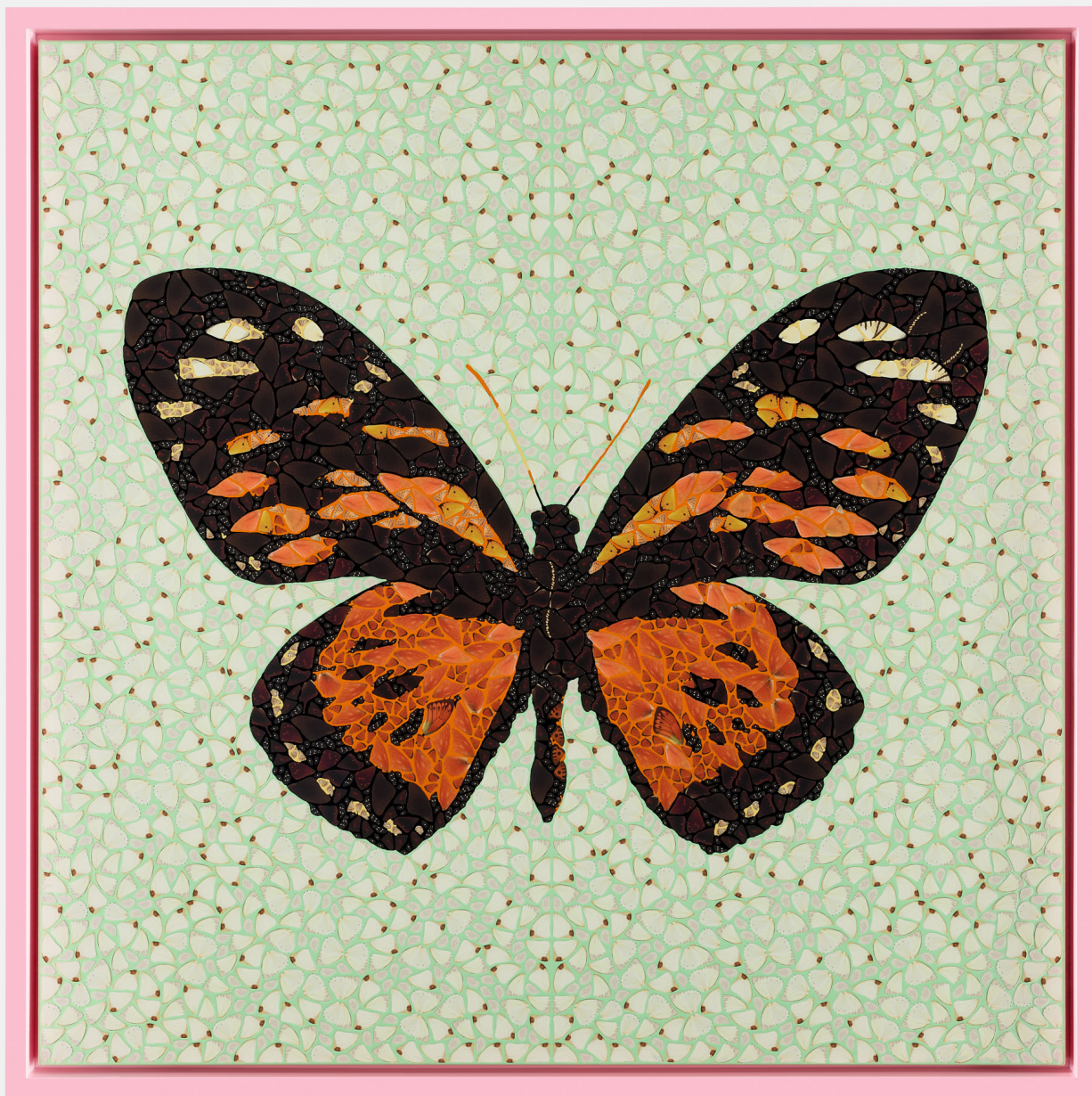
Damien Hirst

Papilio Pericles, 2024

Paint, oil ink, paper on canvas

128.5 x 128.5 cm (framed)





Damien Hirst

Papilio Zagreus, 2024

Paint, oil ink, paper on canvas

128.5 x 128.5 cm (framed)





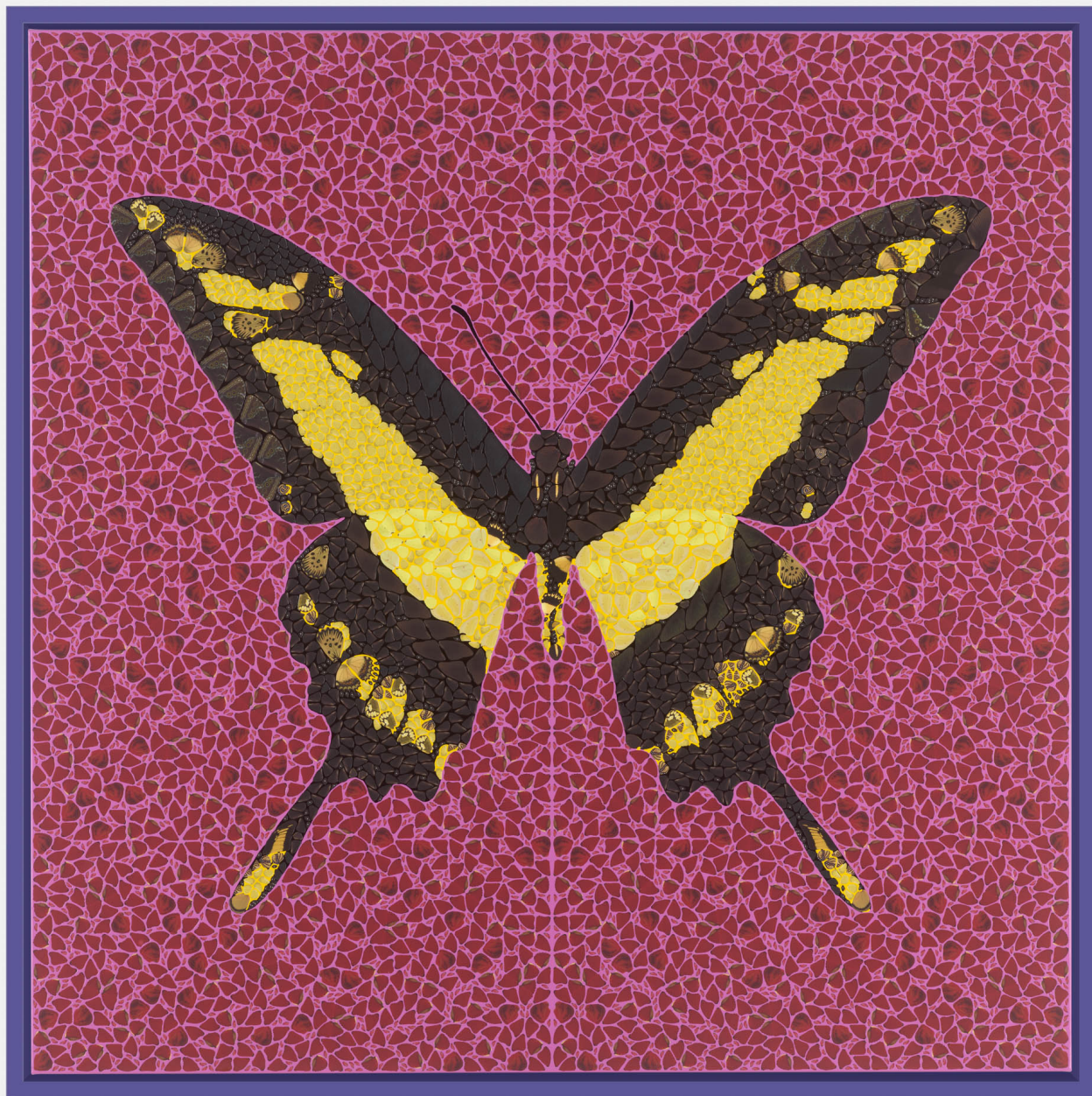
Damien Hirst

Callicore P., 2024

Paint, oil ink, paper on canvas

159 x 159 cm (framed)





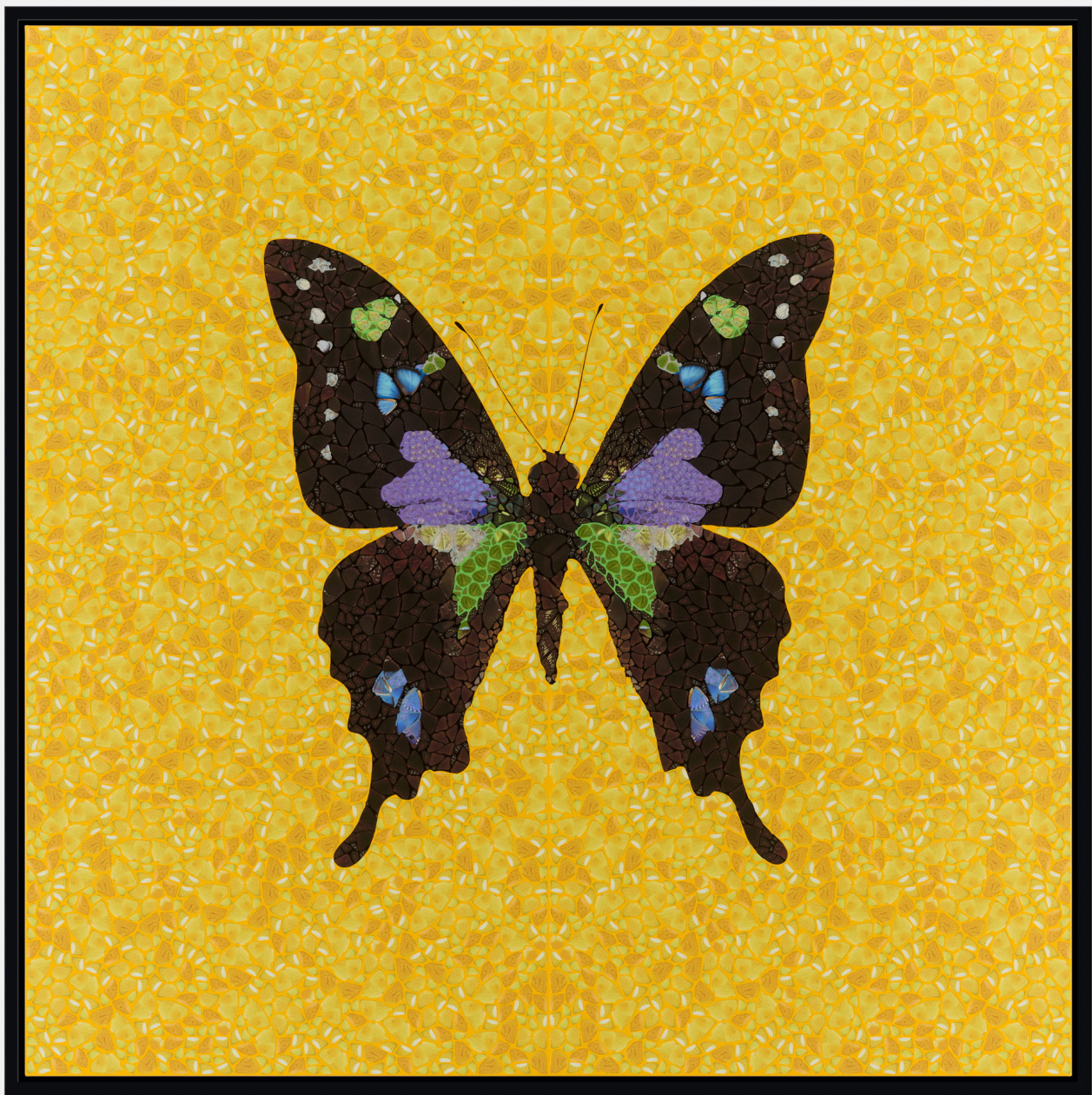
Damien Hirst

Papilio Thoas, 2024

Paint, oil ink, paper on canvas

159 x 159 cm (framed)





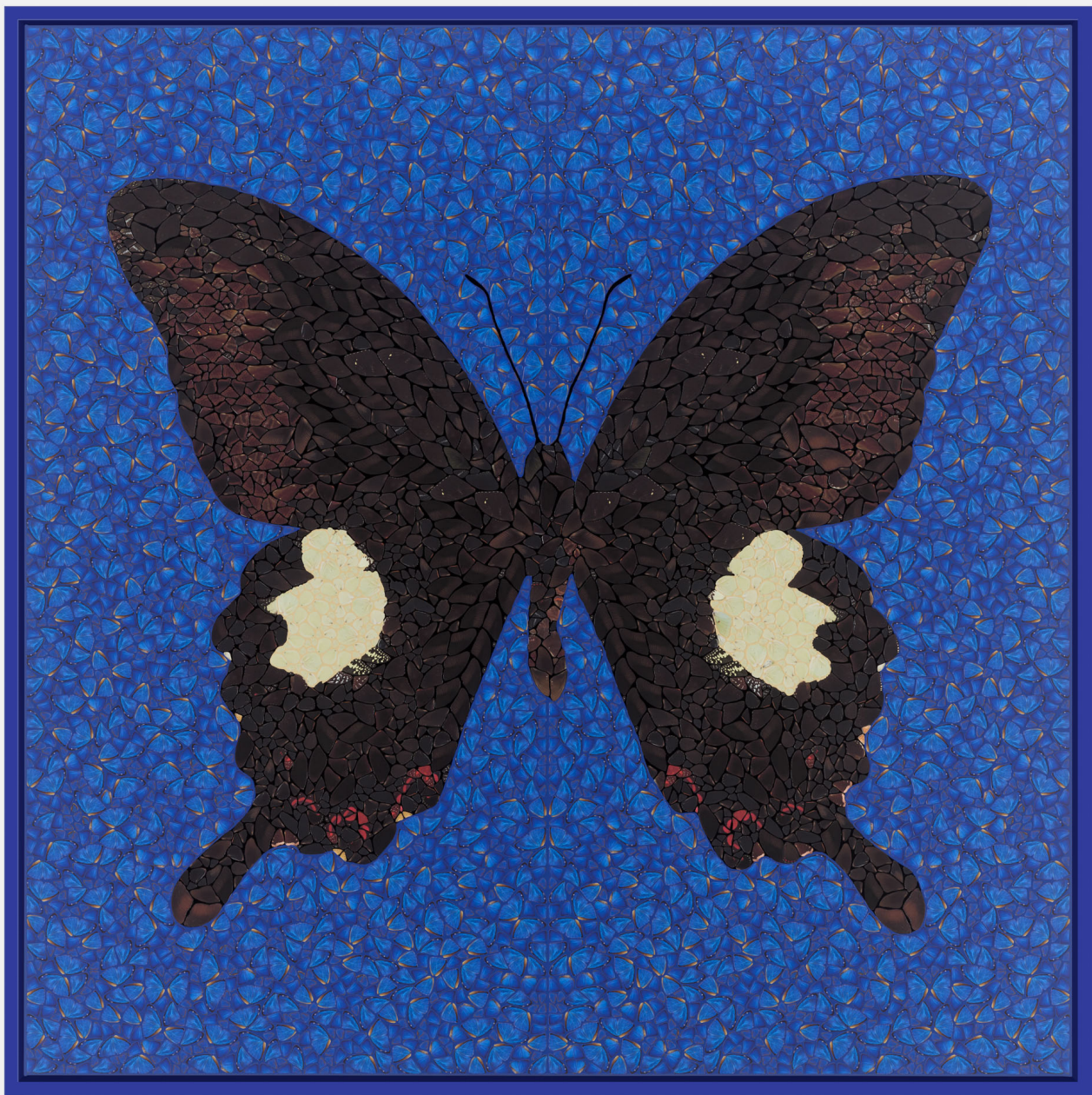
Damien Hirst

Graphium W., 2024

Paint, oil ink, paper on canvas

195 x 195 cm (framed)





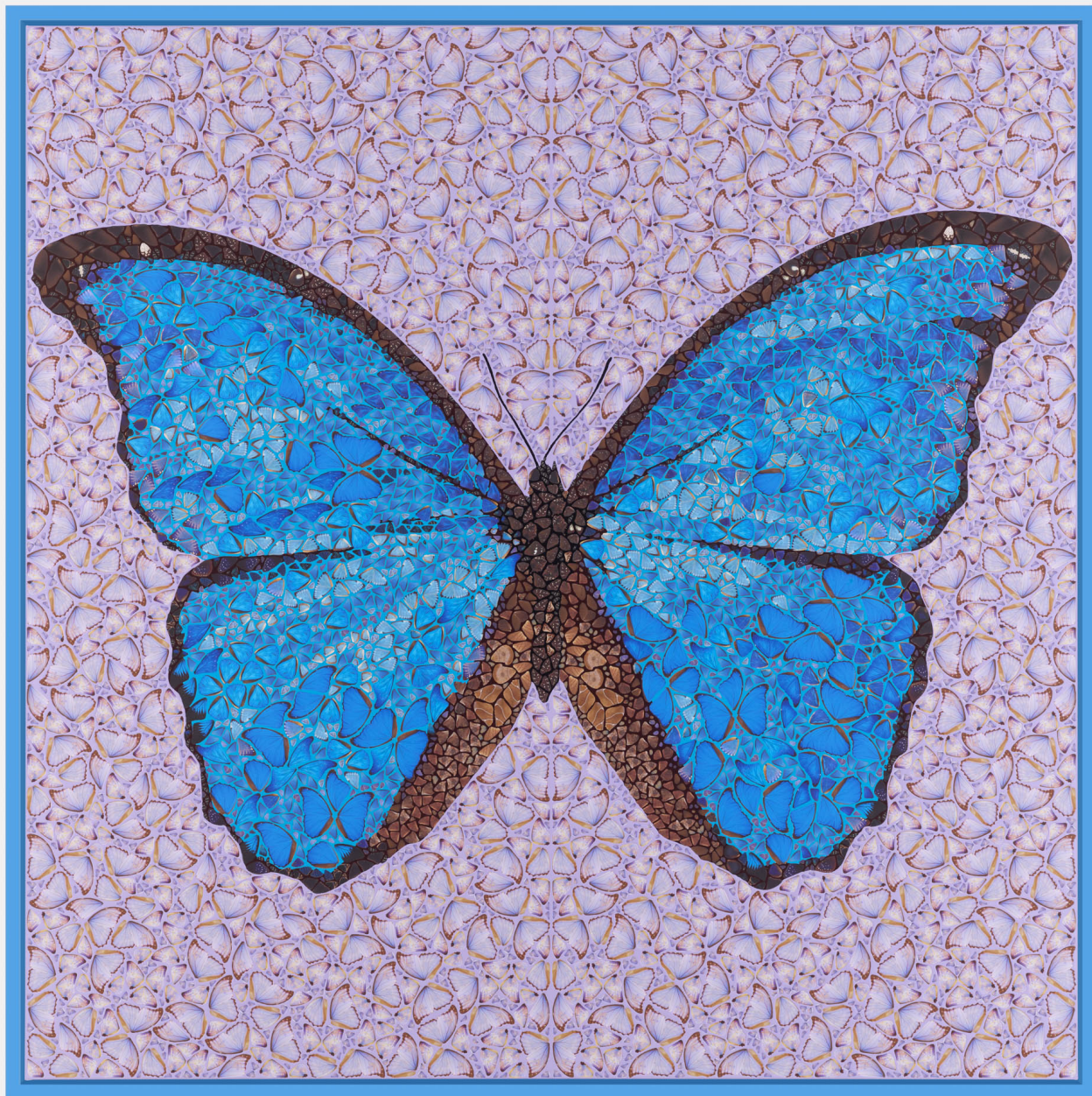
Damien Hirst

Papilio H., 2024

Paint, oil ink, paper on canvas

195 x 195 cm (framed)



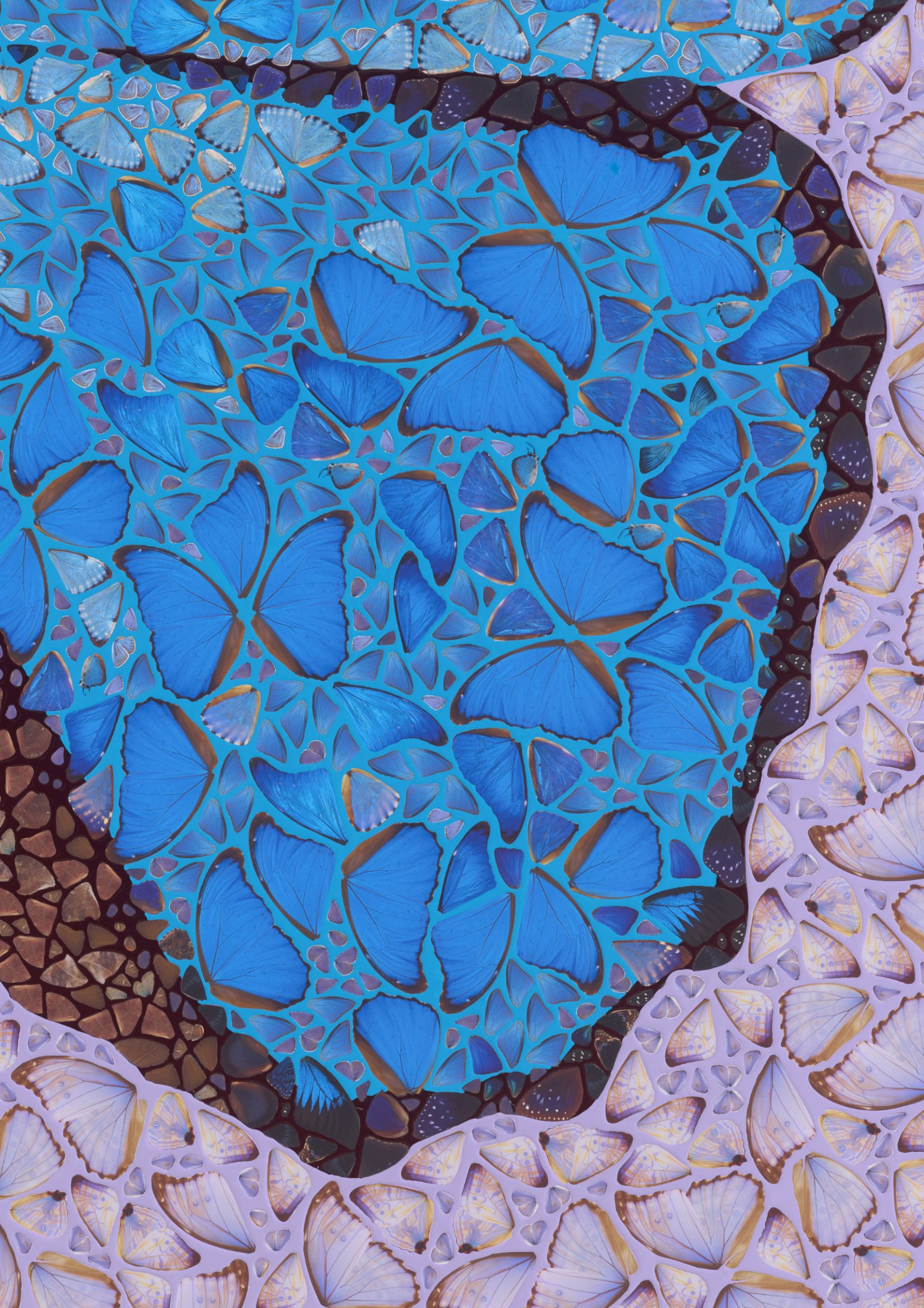


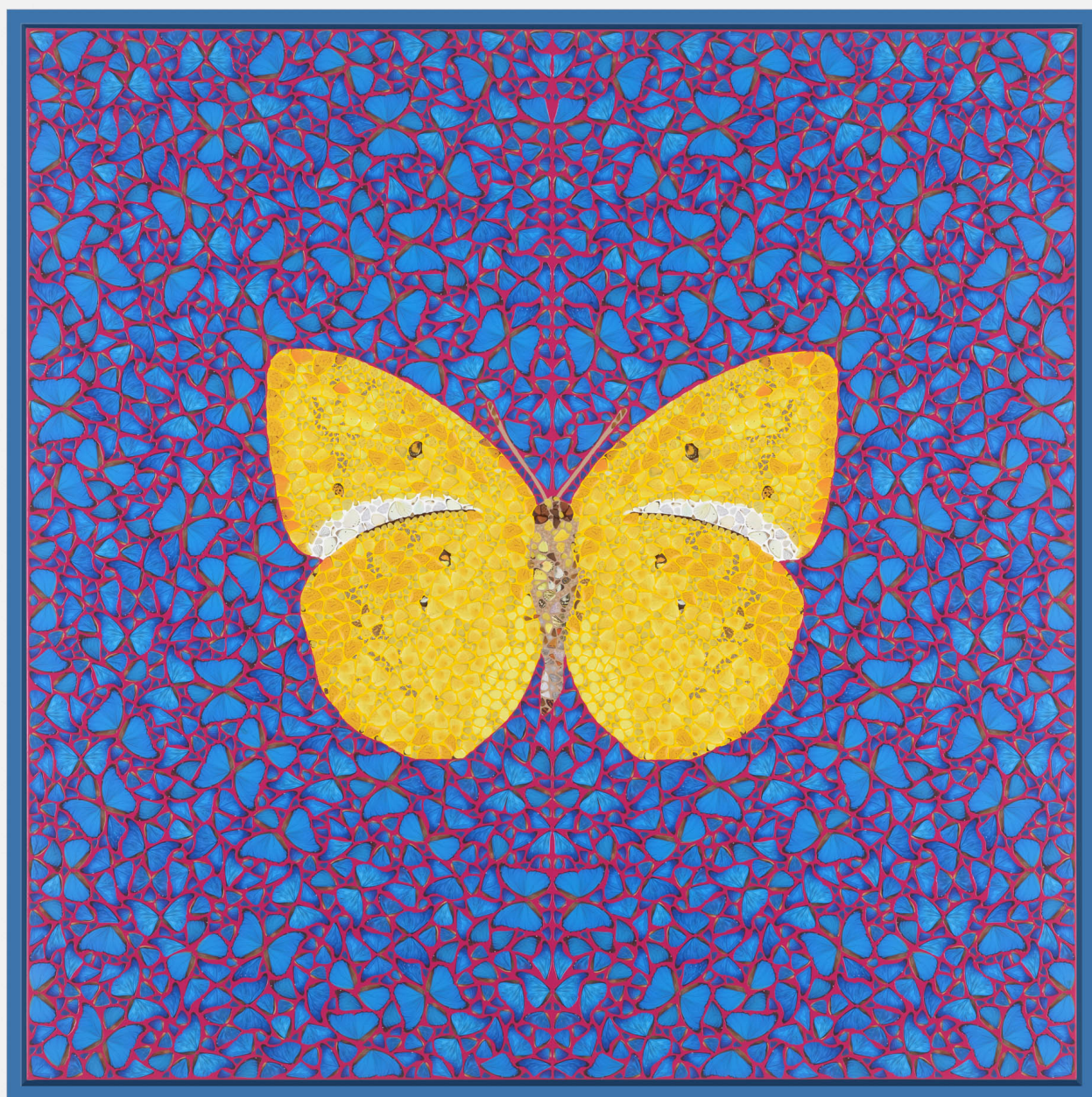
Damien Hirst

Morpho Didius, 2024

Paint, oil ink, paper on canvas

221 x 221 cm (framed)



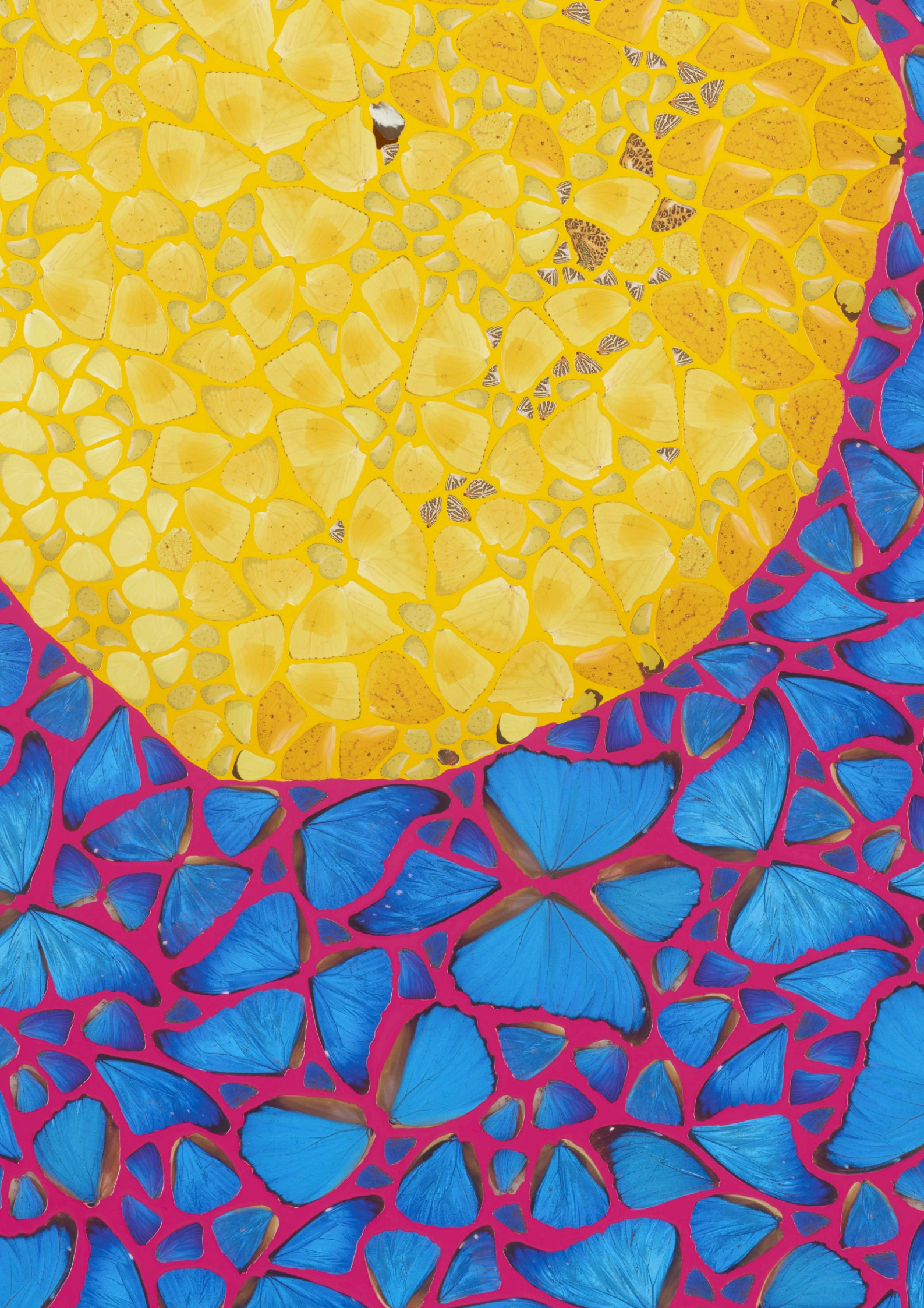


Damien Hirst

Catopsilia S., 2024

Paint, oil ink, paper on canvas

221 x 221 cm (framed)



About HENI

HENI works with world-leading artists and estates across various sectors including print-making, releases of original artworks, book publishing, films, exhibitions, news and research. Our mission is to make art accessible to everyone by giving people the chance to learn about and collect art.

heni.com

HENI Primary

HENI Primary enables artists to release original works of art on a dedicated digital platform, bringing the traditional fine-art experience online. The platform focuses on the primary sale of original artworks, which have traditionally been handled exclusively by galleries and directly by artists' studios.

heni.com/primary

To keep up to date with HENI, follow on **[Instagram](#)**, **[X](#)**, **[Discord](#)**, **[TikTok](#)** and **[YouTube](#)**.



HENI