

THE INWARD JOURNEY

By Alice Boyle

At 3 Bedfordbury Gallery, London WC2N 4BP
Running from the 15th - 21st May 2012
Open Daily from 10am - 8pm



Alice Boyle, artist, and co-ordinator of the world famous, 'Graffiti Project', at Kelburn Castle in Scotland 2006, is proud to launch her fourth solo show in London. The Booker Prize winner, Ben Okri, has chosen one of Alice's paintings to publicise the first stage adaptation of one of his stories, 'The Cosmic Destiny', to be performed at this year's Edinburgh's Fringe Festival.

Alice has asked five people of different interests to name each of her paintings, which are displayed anonymously next to each image within the exhibition. The paintings have been titled by: Christopher Balfour, former head of Christies Europe for 5 years, Dr Oliver Jackson, Elisa Segrave, the renowned author of, 'The Diary of a Breast', Ruby and Chilli Holt, sisters of ages 6 and 8, working together and Alice herself.

'It is a very simple concept, exploring the way different people see things, interpret symbols, colours and effects, and then sum them up in words. I don't think a title is of primary importance, but once a painting has spoken to you in some way, the title can often enhance your emotional attachment to it'.

'The Inward Journey', is a new collection of mixed media paintings, which are inspired by Alice's continuing interest in the power of myth and dreams, the use of textures and contrasts and the search for individual wholeness through religion, mythology and art.

Carl Gustav Jung once said that there were things in his dreams that came from somewhere beyond himself, 'The Collective Unconscious', which he claimed held the entire psychic heritage of mankind. Alice's practice explores this belief and questions the importance of myth to humankind in the demythologized world we now inhabit.

Alice loosely plans her paintings, letting them be experimental and surprising. She develops them through a multiple layering technique with plaster and acrylic and by creating areas of marked contrast. Her paintings are created in the image of how dreams are made; objects and images from the material world are mixed with the deepest desires and fears of the mind, entangled with elements from the subconscious.

'My work stresses the value of the human imagination, fantasy, and myth which I believe should not be seen as merely fictitious but taken seriously as a metaphor for reality'.

Alice Boyle was born in 1981 in Scotland and moved to London in 2007 after gaining a Masters from Edinburgh College of Art and a BA from The University of Wales Institute, Cardiff. She has had three solo exhibitions in London, at 54 The Gallery, Mayfair; Riverside Studios in Hammersmith and The Zetter Hotel in Farringdon, as well as exhibiting in group shows around Britain. In March 2006, she co-directed, 'The Graffiti Project', at Kelburn Castle in Scotland working with Brazilian artists Os Geneos, Nina and Nunca who prompted Alice to focus solely on her artistic practice, which she did in early 2008.

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