

MY PRACTICE

The paintings you see here are an amalgamation of two bodies of work. The most recent titled, 'Peace In the Middle', are the pieces displayed on the edges of the stand.

The paintings in the centre are from a 2019 collection titled, 'Coming Alive', which were generated from odd and often distorted creatures that came streaming to mind as soon as the pencil hit the paper after my daily meditation. I used this exercise as a way to focus my brain and never imagined I would bring them to life in my paintings until I gave birth to my first son at the end of 2017. These creatures are filled with all the same fears, passions and flaws as anybody else.

Ironically whilst, 'Coming Alive' was on display, bursting full of movement and colour my mother sadly passed away, followed closely by lockdown. 'Peace In the Middle', was a cathartic response to this experience. I was compelled to work small scale using a more earthy colour pallet while repetitively mark making.

My work evolves alongside my emotional journey which might be unremarkable but my response to it is visceral. I would like people to sense joy and a playfulness within my work and titles, which comes from enjoying this process.

Whilst I am influenced by The COBRA movement and masters such as Miro and Klee, it was the writings of Jung, Watts and Pinkola Estes that pulled me away from my job in Interior architecture, towards a life of self discovery through the ritual of creating art.

I work with layers of plaster because this process and the artworks themselves then have a sense of the primitive, giving the feel of pictograms or petroglyphs in ancient caves. I make marks into the plaster, forcing myself to be spontaneous as the final layer dries rapidly. The medium dictates that I'm not too precious which allows me to let the piece take on its own life.

I have been working in Edinburgh for the past 8 years following a previous 6 years of exhibiting and living in London. I gained my Masters from Edinburgh College of Art then came up with and co- directed, the internationally acclaimed project, 'The Graffiti Project', at Kelburn Castle, Scotland. The artists urged me to focus solely on my artistic practice, which I have done since early 2008.

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