

18/09/2022

Meakin + Parsons

In Partnership with Hannah Payne

16 North Parade Avenue, Oxford OX2 6LX | mandp.art

Press Release



Meakin + Parsons, in partnership with Hannah Payne, announces a forthcoming solo exhibition of new paintings by British contemporary artist, Eleanor May Watson, *Vibrant Life*, opening at gallery on Oxford's North Parade Avenue, from 5th October – 29th October 2022.

Eleanor May Watson (b. 1990) graduated with a Masters in Fine Art, at City & Guilds of London Art School in 2019, following a year at The Royal Drawing School, and after gaining a First Class BA (Hons) in Fine Art Painting at Wimbledon College of Art. Working primarily in oil paint, watercolour, and monotype printmaking, the artist now lives and works in Kent. Her recent paintings capture moments of light passing across objects within intimate scenes of domestic interiors.

Vibrant Life includes a series of brand-new paintings presented for the first time at Meakin + Parsons in Oxford. Beginning with found images from still life, art history, and opulent stately interiors, unassuming scenes are made sublime through the artists' delicate and intuitive touch. Whilst referencing the genre of still life, Watson's paintings hover somewhere between realism and abstraction, investigating interior spaces with suggested absences that are laden with narrative possibility.

The title of the exhibition encapsulates a kind of intensity of lived experience that relates to the artists energetic use of colour and gestural marks; There is a fecundity or ripeness to the works which reflect a significant period of time for the artist.

"As the content of my work has become more personal and inward looking the process of painting has become more urgent, allowing for the world of the picture to have space to expand and develop as I make it.

It is important for me to move between medium and scales, I think it is to do with invention and reinvention. The world of a small painting relates to but works entirely differently to that of a large piece. Watercolour pushed me to explore chance; oil paint enables me to experience colour and gesture more vividly." (Eleanor May Watson, 2022)

mandp.art

Notes to Editors

Eleanor May Watson | Vibrant Life
Exhibition at Meakin + Parsons | Oxford Curated by Hannah Payne
5th October – 29th October 2022
Private View: Friday 7th October 6 – 8pm

Gallery open times :Tuesday – Friday 10 – 6 pm, Saturdays 10 – 4 pm. (Sunday - Monday, closed.)
Location: Meakin + Parsons In Partnership with Hannah Payne, 16 North Parade Avenue, Oxford, OX2 6LX

Contacts:
Hannah Payne - hannah@theartfive.com / 07883300278/ theartfive.com
Ben Parsons - ben@mandp.art / 07432 801 256

Image: Eleanor May Watson pictured in her studio. Image courtesy of the Artist.

About Eleanor May Watson

Contemporary artist Eleanor May Watson lives and works in Kent. Watson works primarily in oil paint, watercolour and monotype printmaking. Her recent paintings, monotypes and mixed-media pieces capture moments of light passing across objects within interiors and domestic scenes. Eleanor May Watson studied for a Masters in Fine Art, City and Guilds of London Art School (Distinction) in 2018-19 after completing *The Drawing Year*, The Royal Drawing School in 2015 -16, and a BA Fine Art Painting (First Class Honours) at Wimbledon College of Art, 2009 -12. Recent residencies include ACS City and Guilds of London Art School Studio Prize, 2019, Slaughterhaus Print Prize, 2019 , The Royal Drawing School Dumfries House Residency, 2018. Her work is included in public collections including Dumfries House Collection, Jonathan Vickers Fine Art Award, University of the Arts London.

About Meakin + Parsons

Meakin and Parsons opened a new gallery in North Oxford in February 2022, expanding on their space in West Oxfordshire established by Ben Parsons and Lucy Meakin in 2018, to exhibit Modern and Contemporary Art. The new space marks an exciting new phase for the gallery and sees the addition of a new Partner: Hannah Payne of The Art Five, presenting emerging contemporary artists as part of the gallery programme of exhibitions. Lucy Meakin continues to lead their advisory service, helping private clients with building and managing their collections, and Ben Parsons focus is on the modern and contemporary programme alongside the gallery's strong secondary market activity. More information available on request.
mandp.art