




1-8 July 2020

ISOLATION MASTERED

In support of today's artists

A Group Exhibition at JD Malat Gallery
featuring 25 UK-based Artists



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Selected Artists;

Edward Povey, Josef O'Connor, Mauro Perucchetti, Petros Chrisostomou, Judy Clarkson,
Richard Mensah, Graceland London, Mustafa Boga, Minjoo Kim, Andrew Litten, Ian Rayer-
Smith, Lauren Carter-Bridges, Catherine Hyland, Rory Kee, Marcus Dove, Niki Usagi,
Mohamed Mohamed, Samantha Parfitt, Marina Gonzalez, Isabel Bonafé, Kojo Marfo,
Soimadou Ali Ibrahim, Harriet White, Wesley George, John Ayscough

JD MALAT
GALLERY

A word from Jean-David Malat, owner and founder of JD Malat Gallery

These past few months have been some of the most challenging that we have experienced as a society. I wanted to come up with an idea that would support artists in this difficult time. I thought the isolation period enforced by Covid-19 was the ideal opportunity to encourage artists to produce work. I aimed to give artists an opportunity to showcase their artwork and decided to host a competition; Isolation Mastered was born. By inviting artists from all over the country to submit their artwork, I felt like I was giving people something to look forward to and an initiative to engage in.

I called upon a committee of trustworthy individuals from the art world to help me choose the best artists from the participants. I was so honoured that Simon de Pury, art dealer, Gavin Rossdale, art collector and musician, Dylan Jones, GQ editor and author of several books, Dr David Bellingham, art historian, author and director at Sotheby's Institute of Art, Gavin Turk, one of the original YBA's and our own artists Robert Montgomery and Katrin Fridriks, agreed to participate in the project.

I am delighted that we received over 1000 applications, and the artists you see in this exhibition are the choice of the experienced committee, without whom we would not have been able to select such an incredible and diverse selection of artists. The standard was exceptionally high, which goes to show that even in times of struggle, great art will always prevail.

All proceeds from this exhibition go to the artists directly, which is the most sincere way of realising my initial ambition, to support artists during times of need.

Thank you to all the artists who applied, those who have taken part, the committee and my team at JD Malat Gallery. You know who you are...

I hope you enjoy seeing this exhibition as much as we did putting it together.

Jean-David Malat





Edward Povey

Edward Povey (b.1951) is a London-born painter who takes an intimate and vulnerable approach to painting. For decades his paintings were psychological and darkly personal akin to the works of Stanley Spencer, however his recent paintings, are more invasively emotional. They are founded on extensive periods of writing and evolution and the building of small interior stage sets replete with models. These life-size dioramas are then built into a Cubist perspective and worked towards typically dim and sensual scenes in which his figures appear as sleepwalkers, in a reverent distraction around tea tables suggesting a contemporized Raphael.

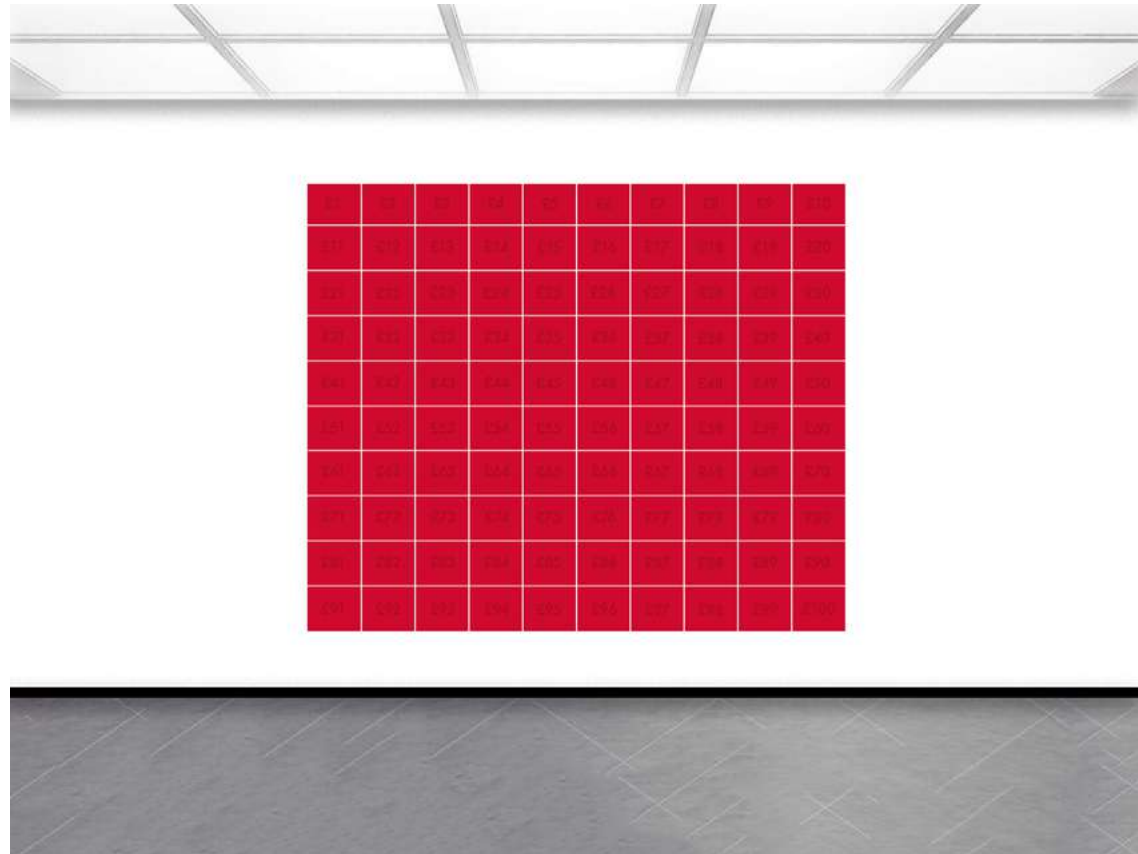
"Social isolation brought me the quietness and disconnection that is ideal for painting, however it was infected with an underlying fear for the lives of us all. *Fundamental* was designed before the virus appeared and finished during the shutdown, suggesting a subconscious anticipation of future events which is a counterpart of artists' intuition. In this painting the androgynous figures hold their kindergarten writing exercises, returning to long-forgotten basics in the face of mortal threats." - Edward Povey

***Fundamental*, 2020**

Oil and graphite on linen

137 x 137cm

Price available on request



Josef O'Connor

Josef O'Connor (b.1990) is a London based artist whose practice explores various constructs relating to value and interrogating the space between life and art, as a vehicle for social change. *Face Valued* emerged from this period of social isolation by inviting a digital audience to watch as London-based artist, Josef O'Connor, painted 100 canvases over a period of seven days with a value ranging between £1 and £100, before selling them each for 'Face Value' and donating the proceeds to The Soup Kitchen.

The canvases are already sold, but he will create one more canvas which will be open to bids.

***Face Valued*, 2020**
Donated



Mauro Perucchetti

Mauro Perucchetti (b. 1949). *Love Serum* is a social comment on our current pandemic. Perucchetti imagined a vaccine that could inoculate the entire world with Love and good health. Perucchetti believes that finding a cure with a vaccine and a message is what the world needs, 'as life is precious'.

Love Serum

Polished stainless steel, acrylic and urethane resin, on granite base
186 x 143 x 80 cm Edition of 6
Price available on request



Petros Chrisostomou

Petros Chrisostomou (b. 1981) photographs small-scale, every day, objects in architectural models that he constructs himself, which he dramatically arranges by employing lighting and staging conventions of the theatre. With the alteration of scale and reversal of the relation between object and environment, between imaginary and real space, his photographs challenge the viewer's visual certainties. The illusionary effect he achieves highlights the artist's playful approach, which fluctuates between mimicry of the real world and construction of a surrealistic reality. In his photographs, the exuberant assemblage of objects in luxurious interiors – create paradoxical still lives that parody the traditional memento mori style of the genre.

Wasted Youth,

Framed Archival Colour Photography, diasec mounted, aluminium, plexiglass
150 x 120 cm

Price available on request



Judy Clarkson

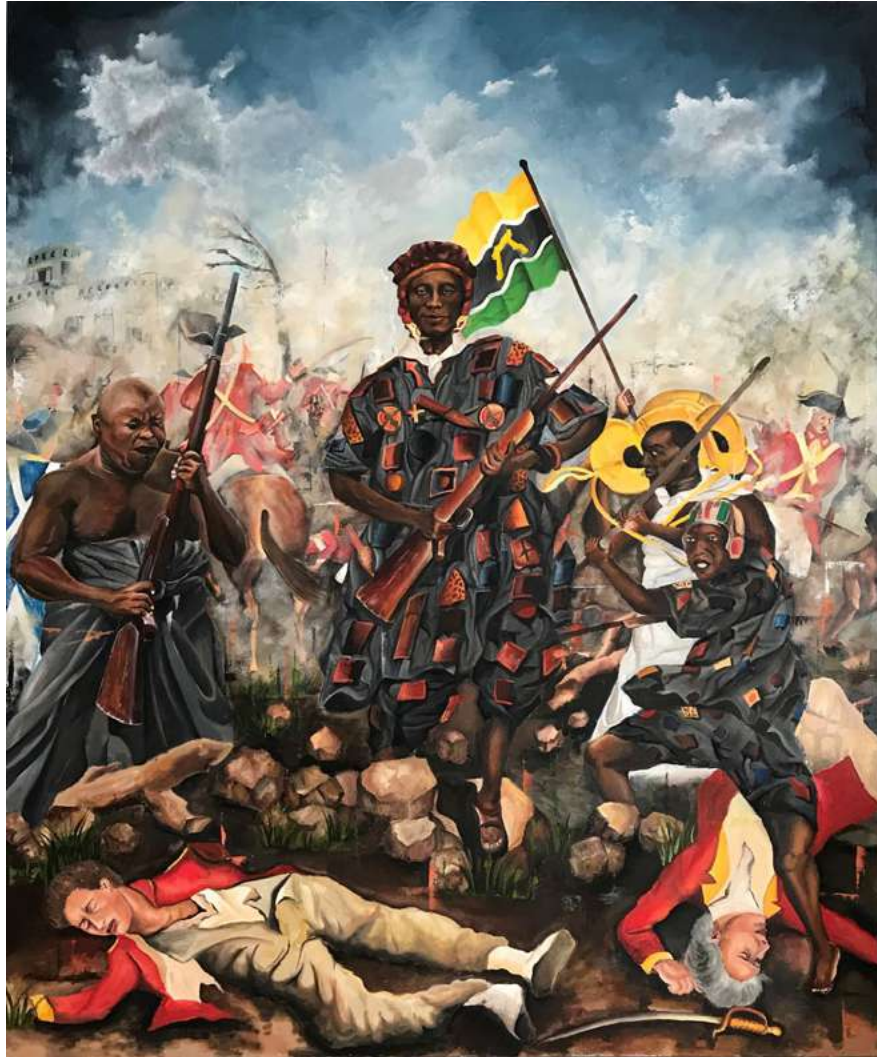
Judy Clarkson (b. 1964) was born in Harrogate, North York. Her practice revolves around the human figure, both working from life and from photos. Of particular interest is the tension between the tightrope we walk through the seemingly ordinary and everyday world, and the abyss of the unknown beneath our feet. This piece was painted during the lockdown, and explores the enforced self-examination of the isolation regime. As Clarkson says, 'we are currently forced to adapt to truly strange circumstances. This can be an experience of enrichment, or of existential crisis, depending on the individual.'

Ilona with Cake, 2020

Oil on canvas

101 x 76 cm

Price available on request



Richard Mensah

Richard Mensah (b. 1978) is a London-based artist and takes inspiration from his African heritage, childhood memories and everyday happenings. *Yaa Asantewaa*, draws upon the composition of Eugène Delacroix's *Liberty Leading the People*, 1830. Here Mensah depicts the Queen Mother of Ejisu, Yaa Asantewaa leading the Ashanti rebellion in 1900 against British colonialism to defend the Golden stool in the Ashanti Empire (now part of modern-day Ghana).

Yaa Asantewaa, 2020

Oil on canvas

120 x 100 cm

Price available on request



Graceland London

Graceland London (b. 1992) is a London-based artist best known for combining a brave and bold use of colour with fine art elements in her vibrant illustrations and paintings focused on depicting human challenges. She strongly believes that her artwork will be a source of pleasure and entertainment for viewers, as it incorporates stunning colour with symbols and quotes full of hidden and double meanings. The engaging narratives that she creates will allow viewers to take their mind off daily issues by bringing together a rich combination of colour, fun, lightheartedness and narrative.

***Cwarantine*, 2020**

Oil and graphite on canvas

152.4 x 121.92 cm

Price available on request



Mustafa Boga

Mustafa Boga (b. 1981) is from Turkey and currently works in the UK. He is interested in the boundaries that separate the viewing of events as a witness and his desire to tell stories. His work is a way of narrating his background both emotionally and culturally. His work is inspired by family history, childhood memories and personal experiences. The work deals directly with the timeless subjects of gender, national identity, militarism, masculinity and sexuality.

Days into Nights, 2020

Free hand machine embroidery on textile

76 x 94 cm

Price available on request



Minjoo Kim

Minjoo Kim (b. 1985), is a London-based painter from South Korea. Her practice is about meditating her personal relationship with cultural contradictions and current social issues mostly from a perspective of an East Asian woman. The ideas are usually demonstrated by the surrealistic narratives that she creates.

Full Moon Party, 2019

Acrylic on canvas

90 x 150 cm

Price available on request



Andrew Litten

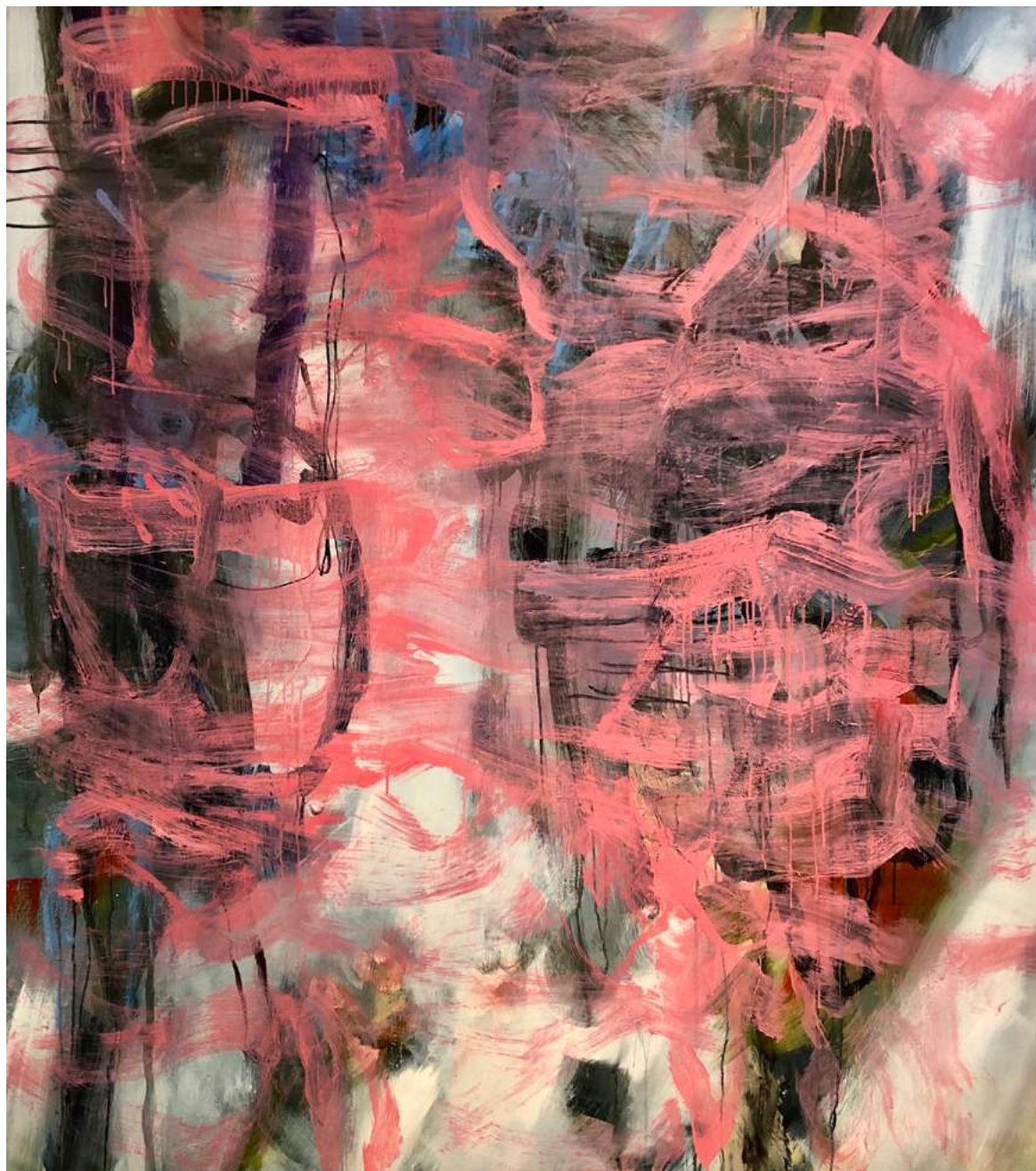
Andrew Litten (b. 1970) is a Cornwall-based artist who explores humanistic themes such as social alienation, love, sensuality, fear, anger, loss, ageing, addiction, paranoia and other identity disturbance. His dynamic and gestural figurative paintings express a strong interest in the universal complexity of everyday existence.

Isolation (With Intent), 2020

Mixed media on canvas

50 x 50 cm

Price available on request



Ian Rayer-Smith

Ian Rayer-Smith (b. 1970) uses paint to explore new forms which will ultimately carry emotional weight. He tries not to recreate an image, but use an image as a reference point by which to move from one painting to the next. He is influenced by the Abstract Expressionists, for their emotional rawness and mark making, and by the Renaissance, for composition, light and movement. Using these movements as a basis for inspiration, he then layers influences from contemporary culture and his own personal experience.

Covering our very ideal dreams, 2020

Acrylic on wooden panel

180 x 160 cm.

Price available on request



Lauren Carter-Bridges

Lauren Carter-Bridges (b. 1984) is a Northern artist who explores the issues surrounding mental health as well as their importance and effects. This piece explores isolation and the 'unavoidable' self-scrutinization forced upon everyone during the lockdown period. She considers this piece a moment of 'truth telling'.

Déjà Vécu, 2020

Oil on aluminium panel

66 x 76.2 cm

Price available on request



Catherine Hyland

Catherine Hyland (b. 1985) is a London-based artist. Her photography centres around people and their connection to the land they inhabit. Primarily landscape based, her work is rooted in notions of fabricated memory, grids, enclosures and national identity. Her large format images depict humanity's attempts – some more effective than others – to tame its environment.

Contemporary Pilgrims, 2020

Archival inkjet print, photography
101.6 x 127 x cm 7 cm border
Price available on request



Rory Kee

Rory Kee (b. 1952) painted Lillian, a lady who has been an NHS nurse for over 40 years. Rory Kee states: 'Studies for this portrait were completed at Lillian's home after returning from a long shift at the hospital. Social distancing made this an interesting experience with Lillian just inside the house, while I observed her from the garden. Standing there in her doorway, she asked me how she should pose. But her natural stance was already perfect. Quintessentially Lillian, her pose and facial expression capture her resilience and her warmth – the qualities I have most admired in the thousands of NHS and key workers keeping the country going throughout the COVID19 crisis. Through this portrait I wanted to put a human face to the these men and women, immortalising an everyday hero in the way that a king or politician would have been immortalised in paint in years past.'

Lillian, 2020

Egg tempera
39 x 50 cm
Gifted



Marcus Dove

Marcus Dove utilizes pyrotechnics and materials that undergo exothermic reactions in order to address an engaging and continuously recorded process of creation via destruction. He creates work influenced by a wide array of topics which range from the celebration of the female form and psychological aspects within modern relationships via his abstract figurative paintings. His most recent involves pigment being scorched and sealed into the canvas by the use of smoke grenades.

Marcus Dove states: 'Taking influence from broken relationships and isolation goes hand in hand with the pyrotechnics / smoke grenades I use to scorch abstract figures into the canvass; at first, there's a spark when the smoke grenade ignition is pulled, and just like the honeymoon period that follows it – plumes of intensity and vibrant colour. After a while the thick smoke mellows out before there's nothing new to give and it disperses, revealing the real person underneath, leaving behind a hazy memory of what once was and a feeling of loneliness.'

The Worst Lover You'll Ever Have, 2020

Pyrotechnics, smoke grenades

175 x 210 cm

Price available on request



Niki Usagi

Niki Usagi (b.1987) is a Hungarian born illustrator and visual artist living in London. During the lockdown she had the time and freedom to paint every day. This piece represents her thoughts and memories which helped her get through the lonely quarantine period.

Constant Tease, 2020

Acrylic on canvas

50.8 x 76.2 cm

Price available on request



Mohamed Mohamed

Mohamed Mohamed (b. 1989) explores print and production process. His creations are a result of meticulous planning and discipline, often taking several months to produce a single blueprint. This piece is made from 6277 pages of newsprint collected, cut and assembled during the lockdown period. The work is part of a sculpture series using found objects in London.

Old News, 2020

Newspaper and steel

60 x 41 x 61 cm

Price available on request



Samantha Parfitt

Samantha Parfitt focuses on the genre of still life and aims for simplicity and feelings of serenity in her paintings. She created this painting as a response to the panic buying at the beginning of the pandemic. These humble everyday objects had become so scarce and highly sought after she decided to elevate them and their status as such in a still life in the style of the old masters.

***Vanitas*, 2020**

Oil on paper

35 x 30 cm

Price available on request



Marina Gonzalez

Marina Gonzalez (b. 1986) was born in Spain and currently works in London. *Flora Waiting to Blossom* is a metaphorical piece that relates the current unprecedented times with mythological era. The olive branch is a symbol of hope and victory over these times we are currently living in, the confinement, the winter and the dark. This piece has many more secrets that Marina left to the viewer to unearth. Marina warmly invites the viewer to discover the many double entendre hidden in the art piece.

Flora Waiting to Blossom, 2020

Oil paint and gold leaf on canvas

115 x 90 cm

Price available on request



Isabel Bonafé

Isabel Bonafé (b. 1991) is an artist interested in the relationship between the materiality of the photographic image and the subjectivity of the viewer. She has broken with the notion of record and representation of photography creating an algorithmic-code (computer programming) that expands photography to generative and interactive art.

The Wait 2, 2020

Analogue photograph printed on
Fuji Matt Crystal Archive paper in
Dibond mounting
81 x 54 cm Edition of 5
Price available on request

The Wait 3, 2020

Analogue photograph printed on
Fuji Matt Crystal Archive paper in
Dibond mounting
81 x 54 cm Edition of 5
Price available on request



Kojo Marfo

Kojo Marfo (b. 1980) is a Ghanaian artist based in London. His pieces draw on his dreams and memories from childhood to explore how the human experience is driven by our universal efforts to come to terms with our heavenly desires, earthly necessities, and abysmal fears. He paints in this way, not only to pay respect to the visual memories of his childhood that were rooted in Akan cultural images but also because he wants the themes explored in the paintings to be more accessible to viewers. He states: 'In our world, where reality breathes life to so many divisions, an un-reality is needed to emphasize the universality of our human desires, needs, and fears and create an environment where we can better see that what drives us is what drives all humans. I feel that this separation from reality is needed to tackle our uncomfortable social, cultural and political realities and bond through our universal human experiences.'

Wilderness, 2020

Acrylic on canvas

120 x 150 cm

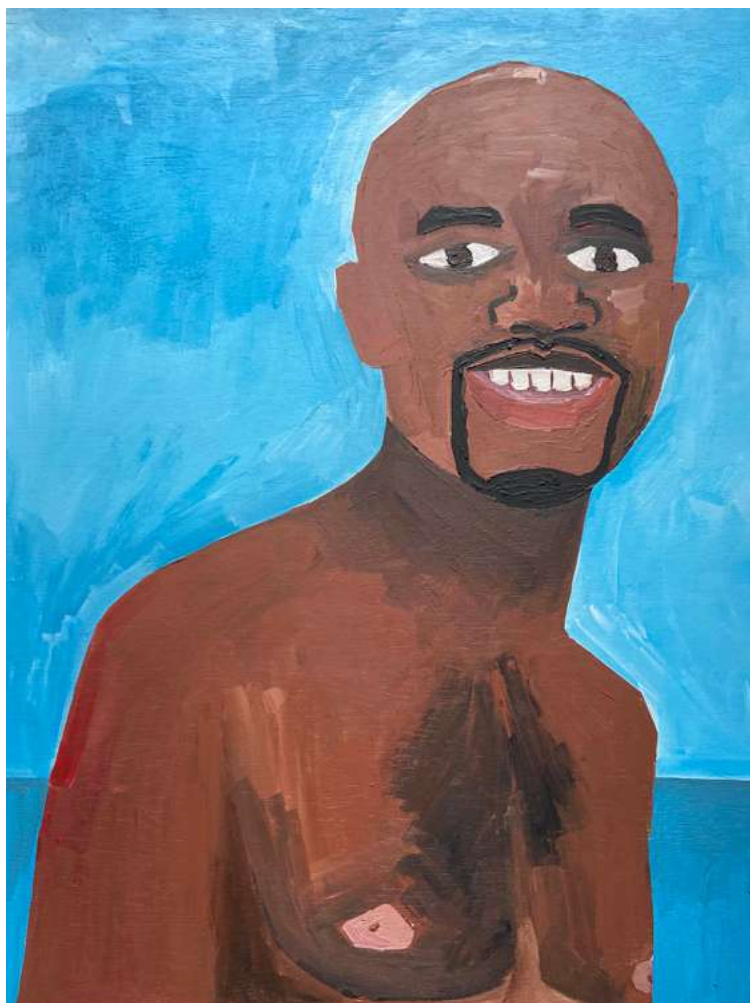
Price available on request

Redemption, 2020

Acrylic on canvas

120 x 150 cm

Price available on request



Soimadou Ali Ibrahim

Soimadou Ali Ibrahim (b. 1989) explores and re-examines family memories by representing intimate moments of life in Itsinkoudi, a remote village in the Comoros archipelago, where Ibrahim's parents, grandmother and most of his family still live. These artworks are adapted from archival photographs, pictures taken by the artist himself, memories, and imagination. They each portray the importance of family, of life itself and hope, illustrated by bold gestural strokes and bright colours inspired by his studies in graphic design and art. In essence, Ibrahim uses the practice of painting as a way to reconnect and engage with his roots.

Furaha (Joy), 2020

Acrylic on wood

40 x 50 cm

Price available on request

Momo's Uncle, 2020

Acrylic on wood

30 x 40 cm

Price available on request



Harriet White

Harriet White (b. 1980) is a contemporary realist painter living and working in Bristol, UK. Since lockdown she has embarked on a new body of work in response to the pandemic, specifically exploring the physical, aesthetic implications of isolation and the concept of the barrier, how it is shaping our experiences of our surroundings and each other.

Theresa, 2020

Oil on linen

70 x 70 cm

Donated. Part of the 'Portraits for NHS Heroes'



Wesley George

Wesley George (b. 2000) is a London-based artist who focuses on representing black and brown figures in an effort to highlight narratives that have yet to be projected. His style is formed by capturing the subject's spirit and story.

Untitled, 2020

Acrylic on canvas

70cm x 70cm

Price available on request

Untitled, 2020

Acrylic on canvas

40 x 30 cm



John Ayscough

John Ayscough (b. 1964) is an artist whose work engages with the many facets of contemporary life. *Ghost* is made from a pavement stone, taken from sites where homeless people often reside, which is then covered in gold leaf. It reflects concepts such as absence and presence as well as comments on the themes he often explores in his work such as social justice, inequality and politics.

***Ghost*, 2020**

Pavement stone and gold leaf

60 x 90 cm

Price available on request



Special Thanks:
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Committee, with members:
Simon de Pury
Dylan Jones
Robert Montgomery
David Bellingham
Gavin Rossdale
Jean-David Malat
Gavin Turk
Katrin Fridriks

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