

An abstract painting featuring a dense composition of overlapping geometric shapes and textured brushstrokes. The color palette is dominated by various shades of red, from deep maroon and burgundy to bright, vibrant reds. Interspersed among the reds are patches of purple, magenta, and some cooler tones like teal, green, and blue. The overall effect is one of rich, layered color and complex, non-representational forms. The texture of the paint is visible, with some areas appearing more saturated and others more blended.

PENELOPE STUTTERHEIME

*HEARTH*



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9 June – 8 July 2023



## PENELOPE STUTTERHEIME

### *HEARTH*

Everard Read London is pleased to present an exhibition of new oil paintings by South African artist, Penelope Stutterheime.

Stutterheime describes *Hearth* as ‘the inner fire that resides in us; the fire of purpose and meaning, the source of sustenance to see one through difficult times – a window that offers light and hope.’

These new works capture the essence of Stutterheime’s long-standing preoccupation with depicting inner landscapes. Drawing inspiration from dreams and the unconscious, her layered and textured paintings use impasto and a masterful facility with colour to create her hypnotic, abstract works.

The artist responds intuitively to her surroundings and events in her life, seeking to convey a state of mind rather than any particular reality. She describes pouring herself, her emotions and feelings, through rather than into a work. The process seems to be deeply cathartic, with the act of repeatedly applying oil paint to the canvas, serving as a meditative process for subconsciously working through emotions. Only once completed does the artist have some sense of what the work embodies.

‘The work reveals a slow unfolding, of finding my voice, my dance, my melody,’ says Stutterheime. ‘It is nourished by intense feeling and emotion contained on a white canvas, to be felt, to be experienced, to be read from the place where no words yet lie. The texture and essence of my work comes from layering – layers of paint and layers of consciousness. This is a critical part of my process of distillation and getting

closer to the nature of what a particular work is going to be. The painting manifests my process – a dialogue of application and response; a play of intention and being willed by the brush.’

Stutterheime’s is an organic practice, steeped in the desire to both control and simultaneously release. Edges and boundaries ebb and flow on the canvas through both intuitive responses and painstaking application of layers. On the one hand, Stutterheime finds herself letting go of ‘preconceived thoughts of what must happen’ and thus takes ‘a risk for a conclusion’. But equally, there is an active pushing by the artist of the materiality of the oil paint, ‘forcing and continuing, until something emerges’.

For Stutterheime, the dance between colour and shape is ultimately a desire to find ‘resolution of form and sensation’. Referring to the experiential quality of the paintings, Stutterheime’s intention is to lead herself and the viewer to the possibility of consciously moving through different states and into the present moment.

In this new body of work, the active negotiation of process, testing boundaries and the limitations of paint itself is evident. The works – bright, exuberant and lyrically colourful, as well as paler works in softer hues – epitomise this journey, the heavy layering of surfaces, restraining of colour and a diffusion of frequency.

This is Stutterheime’s third solo presentation with Everard Read London.



*Hearth XIII*  
oil on canvas  
135 x 150 cm

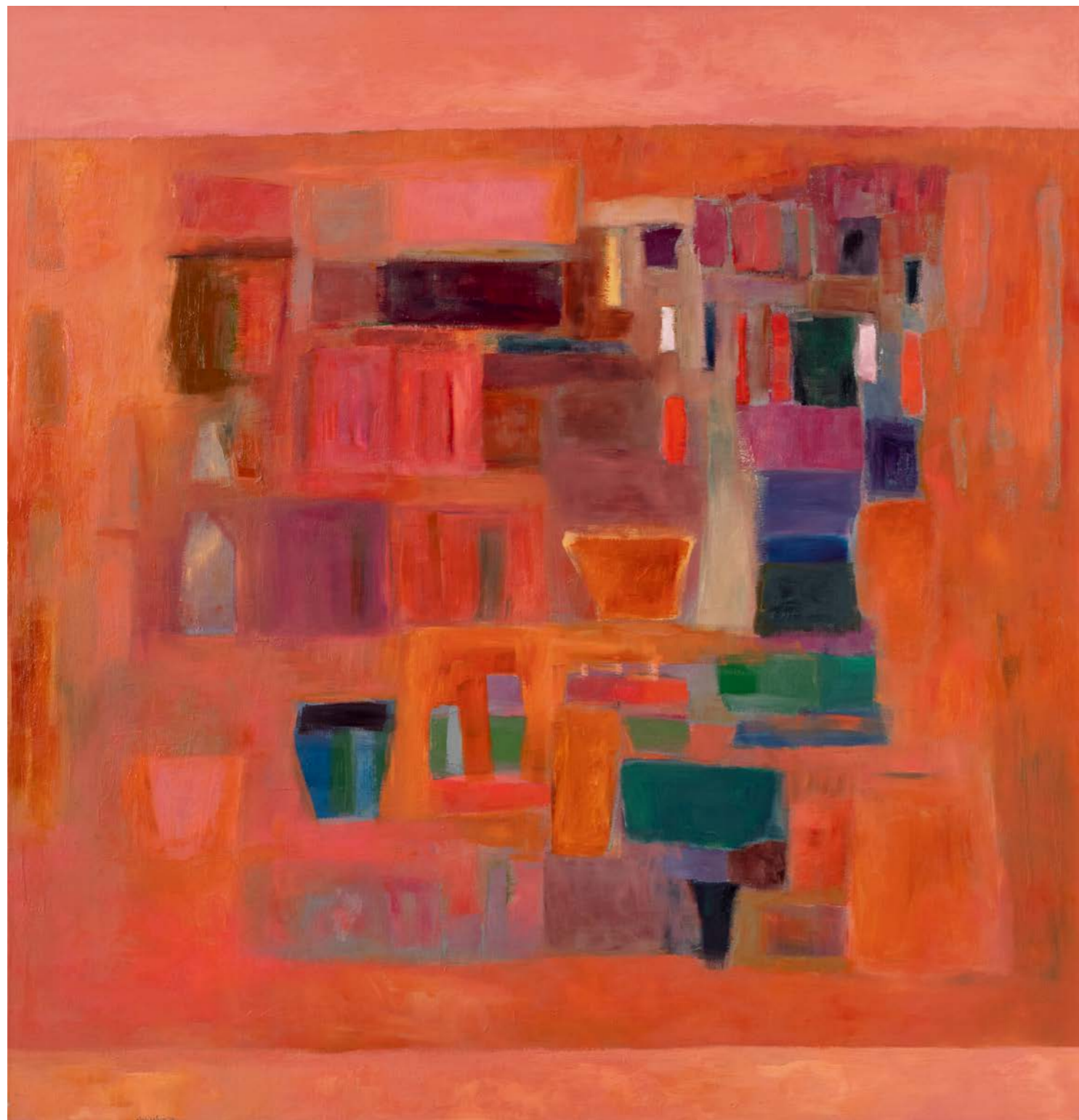


*Hearth XII*  
oil on canvas  
135 x 150 cm

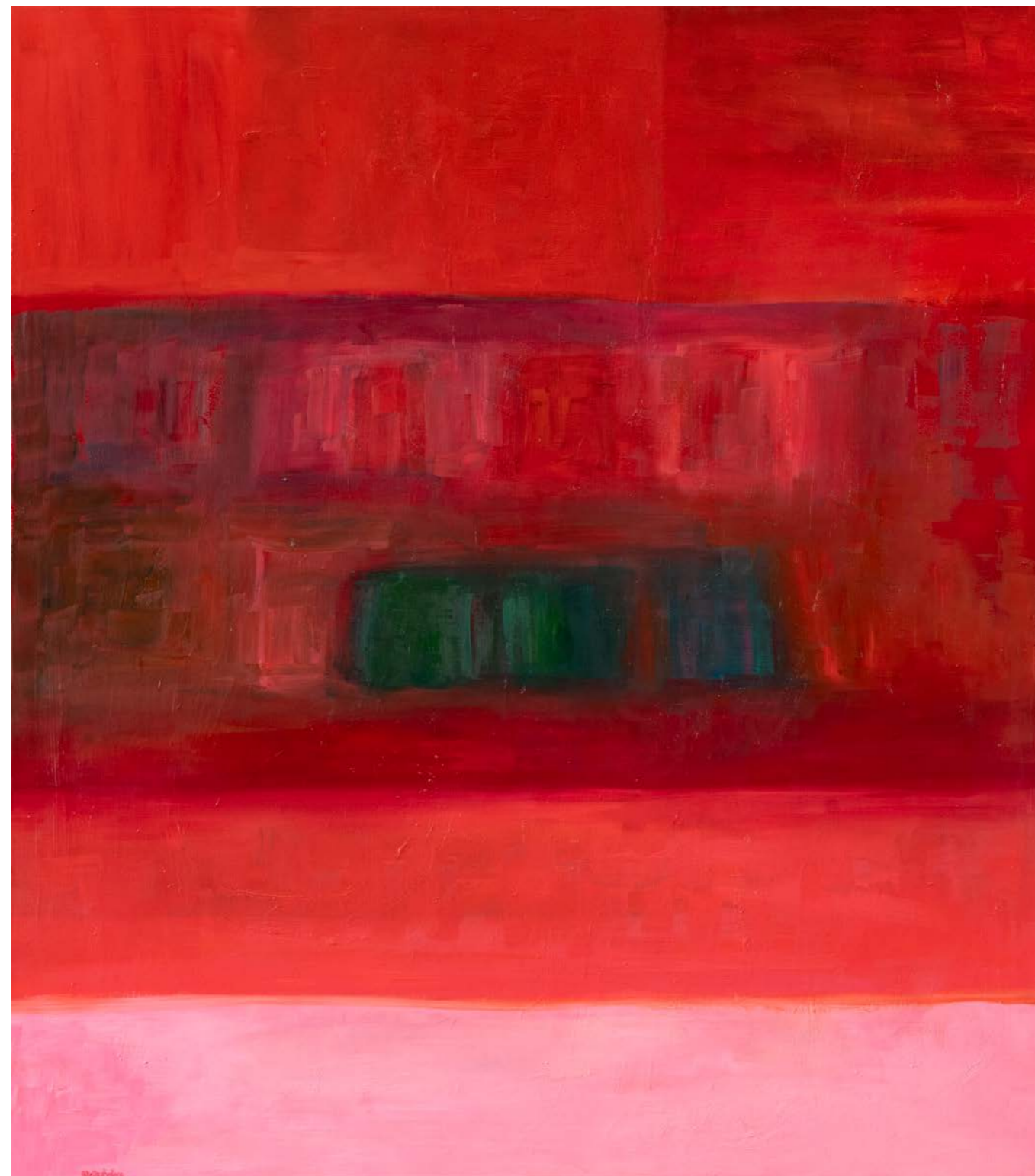


*Hearth XIV*  
oil on canvas  
130 x 125 cm





*Hearth I*  
oil on canvas  
130 x 125 cm



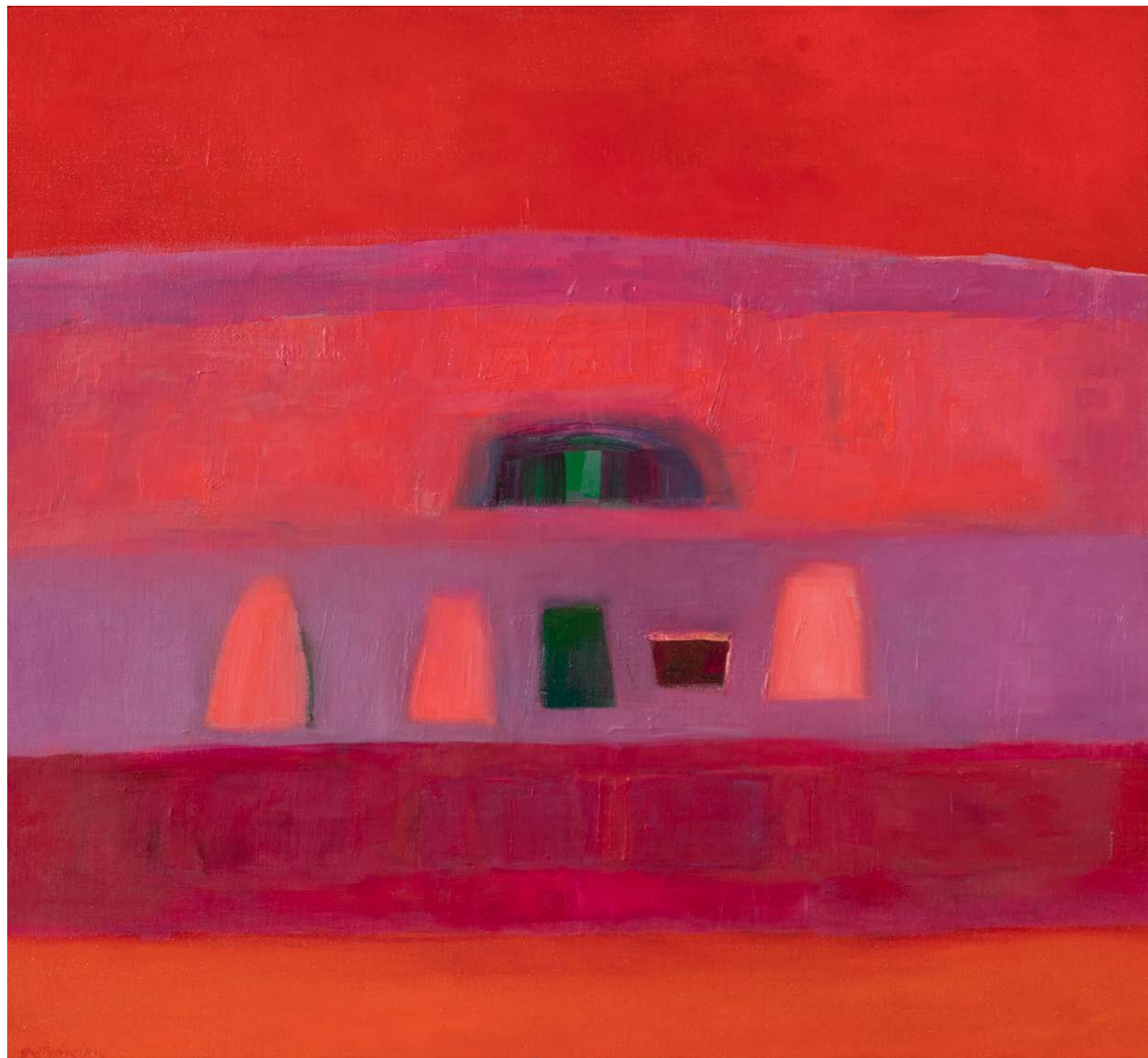
*Hearth VI*  
oil on canvas  
90 x 80 cm





*Hearth III*  
oil on canvas  
80 x 160 cm





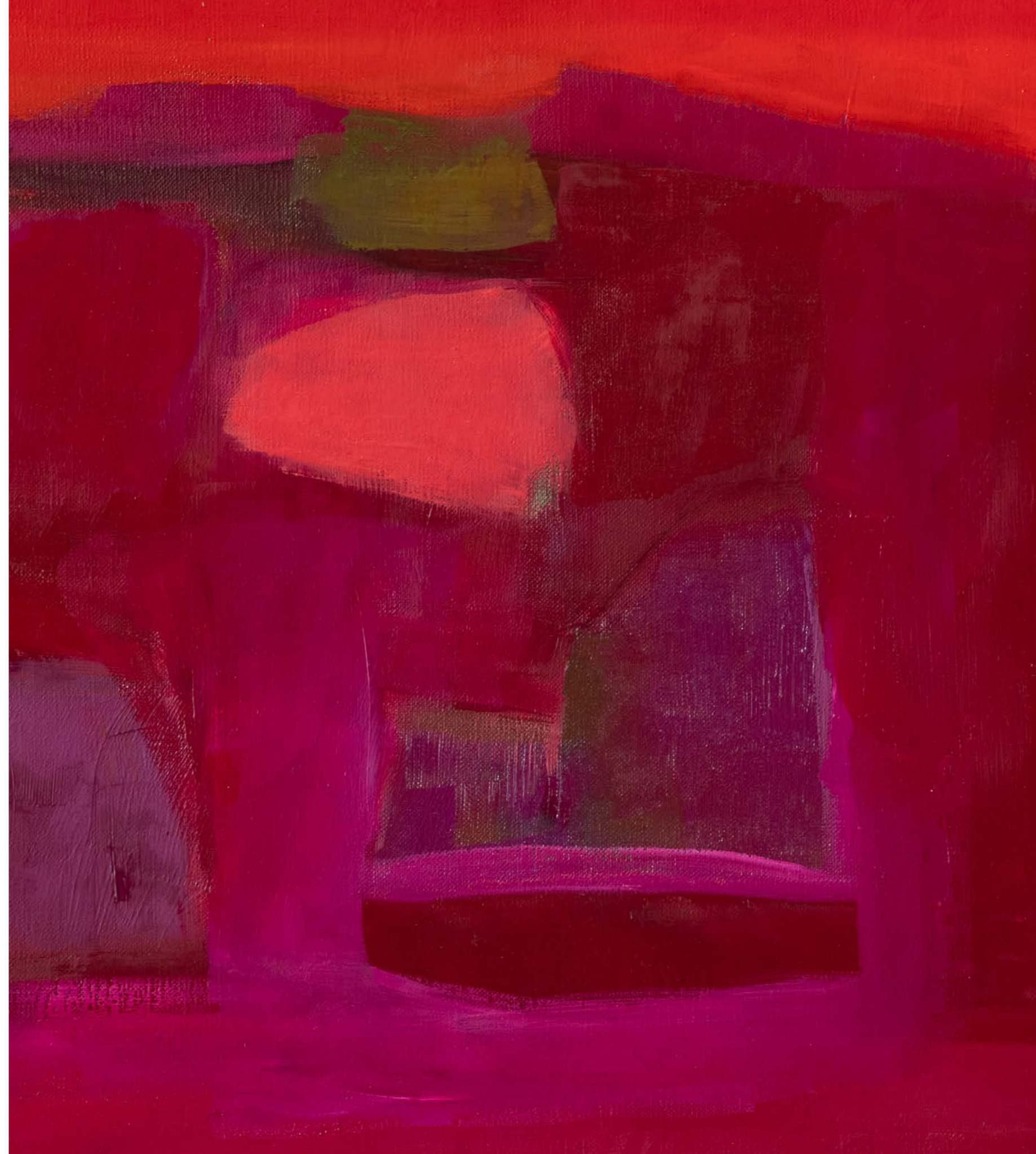
*Hearth XI*  
oil on canvas  
55 x 60 cm



*Hearth IX*  
oil on canvas  
55 x 60 cm



*Hearth X*  
oil on canvas  
55 x 60 cm

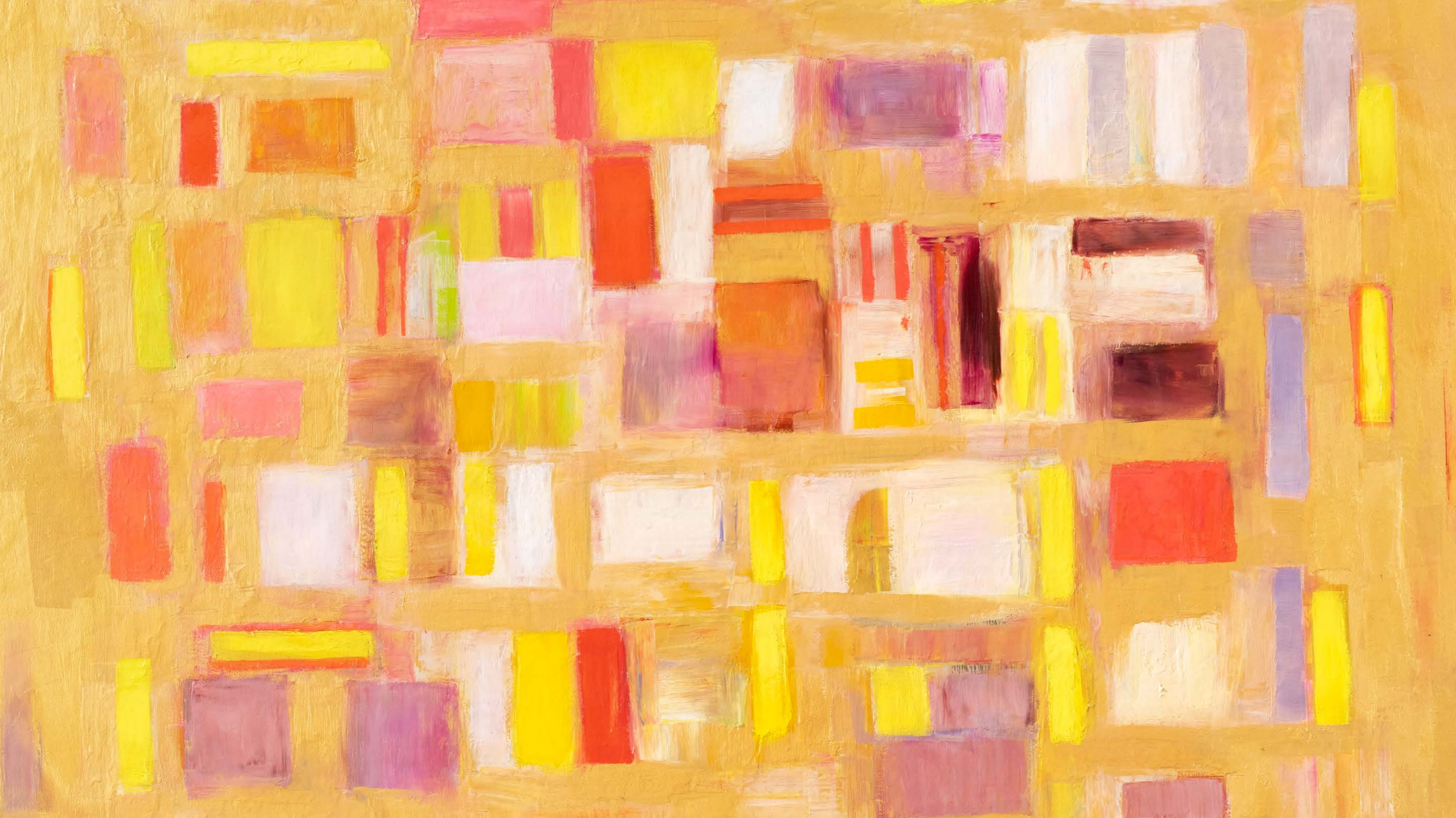




*Hearth IV*  
oil on canvas  
140 x 140 cm



*Hearth V*  
oil on canvas  
95 x 100 cm





*Hearth VIII*  
oil on canvas  
85 x 90 cm



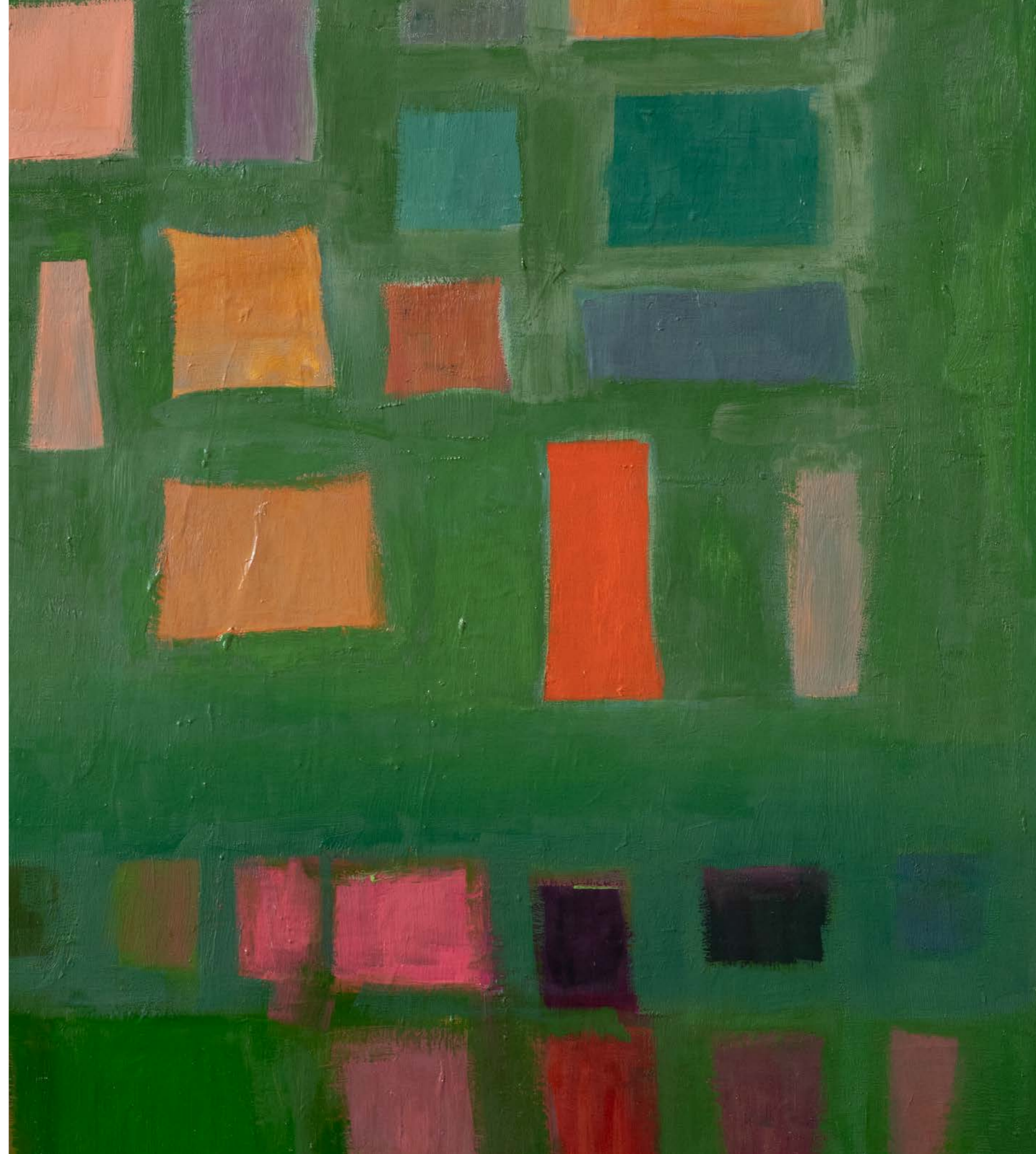
*Hearth XV*  
oil on canvas  
130 x 120 cm



*Hearth II*  
oil on canvas  
80 x 160 cm



*Hearth VII*  
oil on canvas  
95 x 80 cm





## PENELOPE STUTTERHEIME

b. 1958, Cape Town, South Africa



Stutterheime's work is highly symbolic. Conveyed through colour and form, the images are a representation of transformation. Her paintings are a portrayal of her own inner spiritual process.

The daughter of a forester, Stutterheime developed her intense love for landscape as a child, growing up in Newlands Forest, Cape Town. She studied part-time with the (South African) artist

Simon Stone and the late Bill Ainslie, one of South Africa's finest abstractionists, but aside from this is largely self-taught.

Stutterheime lives and works in Cape Town. She has participated in solo and group exhibitions consistently over the past thirty-five years. Her paintings are included in private and corporate collections around the world.



## SELECTED EXHIBITIONS

- 2022** *Sanctuary*, Everard Read, Cape Town, South Africa  
Investec Cape Town Art Fair, Everard Read's booth, CTICC, Cape Town, South Africa
- 2021** *Oasis*, Everard Read galleries, South Africa  
*Spring Show*, Everard Read, Johannesburg, South Africa  
*Transitory Terrain*, Everard Read, London, UK
- 2020** *Summer*, Everard Read, Cape Town, South Africa  
*Still*, online exhibition, Everard Read, UK and South Africa  
*Staring Straight to the Future*, online exhibition, Everard Read, UK and South Africa
- 2019** *Mapping the Interior*, Everard Read, London, UK  
*Mapping*, Solo show, Everard Read, Cape Town, South Africa  
*Winter*, Everard Read, Cape Town, South Africa  
*Summer*, Everard Read, Cape Town, South Africa
- 2018** *Summer*, Everard Read, Cape Town, South Africa
- 2017** *Winter Collection*, Everard Read, Cape Town, South Africa  
*Cubicle Series*, Everard Read, Cape Town, South Africa
- 2016** *Opening Gallery Exhibition*, Everard Read London, London, UK  
*Winter Collection*, Group Show, Everard Read Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa
- 2015** *The Yearning*, Everard Read, Cape Town, South Africa  
*Summer Exhibition*, Everard Read, Cape Town, South Africa  
*Winter Exhibition*, Everard Read, Cape Town, South Africa
- 2013** *A Sense of Place*, Everard Read, Cape Town, South Africa
- 2012** *Winter Show*, Everard Read, Cape Town, South Africa  
*Small Works*, Everard Read, Cape Town, South Africa  
*Love Poem*, solo show, Myerson Fine Art, London, UK
- 2011** *Exhale*, solo show, Myerson Fine Art, London, UK  
15th Anniversary, group show, Everard Read, Cape Town, South Africa
- 2010** *New Works*, solo show, Everard Read, Cape Town, South Africa  
*Rose Korber Art Salon*, group show, South Africa
- 2009** *Rising Up*, Myerson Fine Art, London, UK
- 2008** *A Way Through*, Everard Read, Cape Town, South Africa
- 2007** *Solo exhibition* with iArt, Cape Town, South Africa
- 2005** *Art London* with Myerson Fine Art, London, UK  
Solo exhibition with Myerson Fine Art, London, UK
- 2000–2007** Rose Korber Salon
- 2005 & 2006** Group exhibitions with Rose Korber at Grande Provence, South Africa
- 2001** Group show, Everard Read Cape Town, South Africa

