



JEANNE HOFFMAN

Stirring up Certainties

JEANNE HOFFMAN

Stirring up Certainties

14 March – 16 April 2025

ER | 10 YEARS



Stirring up Certainties

Jeanne Hoffman's work inhabits liminal spaces; imaginary, fertile spaces where disparate realities and multiple viewpoints – from the recognisable to the ineffable – invade one another's terrain, producing sites for moments of insight.

In this new body of work, her paintings vibrate with an energy and tension more palpable than usual. Forms are more fissured, drawn marks complicate, colour floods; layer over layer in an unsettled palimpsest, creating a pictorial space of increased volatility. The spaces between – the liminal overlaps that engender fertile juxtapositions – have narrowed. Dualities appear more distinct, oscillation more rapid, equilibrium more elusive. Hoffman's 'temporary shelters for thoughts' are more fleeting than ever.

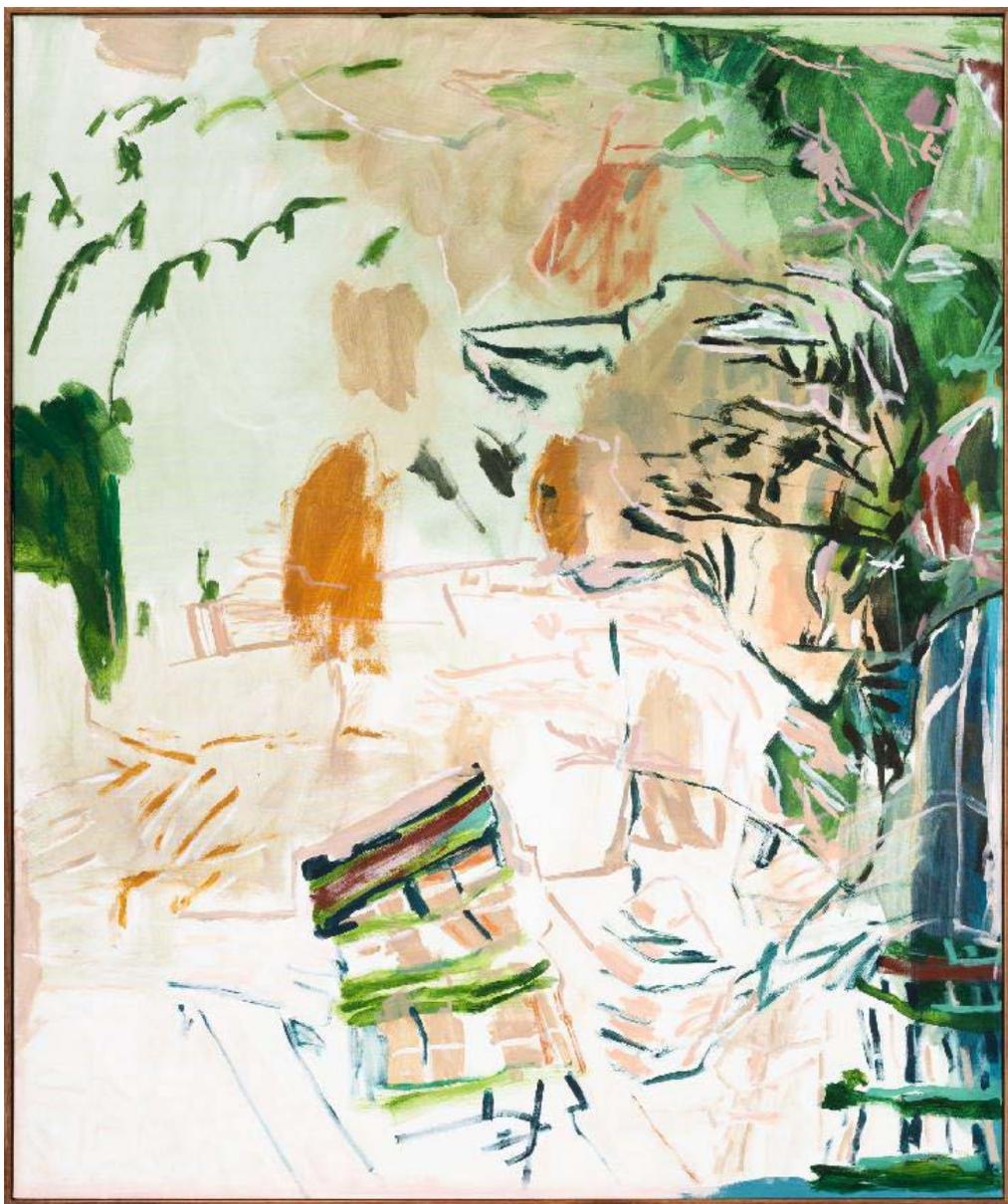
This restlessness speaks of an increased intensity in both creative process and context, a multifaceted context both political and personal, external and imaginary. Inevitably, then, the heightened antagonism and repetitive turmoil of our current socio-political and ecological landscapes surface in Hoffman's work, as she attempts to digest the mood of the time and to locate some sort of equilibrium – or respite. And glimpses of equilibrium – while elusive – do, indeed,

appear, if just for the briefest of moments on the most precarious of pivots.

These fleeting respites are suggested in the paintings' visible forms as well as the lyrical responses in between. References to the natural environment urge the viewer to pay attention, to pay heed, to allow for a shift of gaze and perspective that wandering through a landscape so naturally enables. Lantern-shaped impressions, buoy-like, emerge and retreat as peripheral vestiges, portable vessels that invite the exploration of new possibilities and encounters, however uncertain. Paradoxically, uncertainty itself offers refuge; it engenders movement, and change and possibility. And even between the most antithetical of poles, there is a longing for equilibrium, for reset, whether by connection or collision, union or implosion.

As such, the body of work points to an equilibrium not yet realised – but no less real. It is the insight that emerges in hindsight, the perspective granted outside the human limits of 'now'. It is a reverberated suggestion of deep, geological time – where vast oscillations cycle beyond our language of space and time, and it is echoed in the very nature of the creative process, where meaning is made in the making.





Think Like a Forest

acrylic on canvas

120 x 100 cm

47 1/8 x 39 1/4 in.

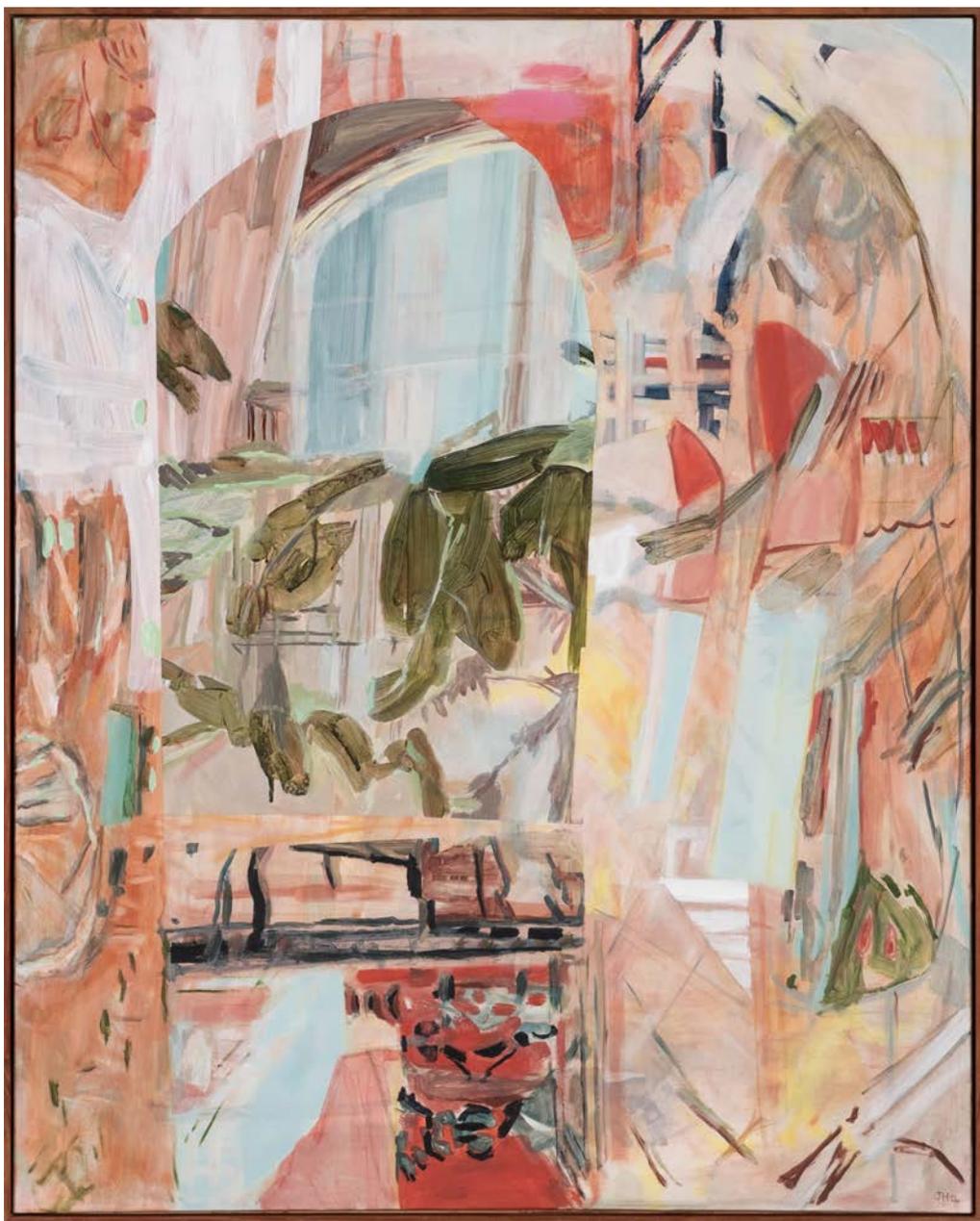


*Wonderfully, You Don't Even See it
Until it is Right Underfoot*

acrylic on canvas

60 x 50 cm

23 1/2 x 19 5/8 in.



To Wander and be Distracted

acrylic on canvas

100 x 80 cm

39 ¹/₄ x 31 ³/₈ in.





Good Questions Return II

acrylic on canvas

100 x 80 cm

39 ¹/₄ x 31 ³/₈ in.

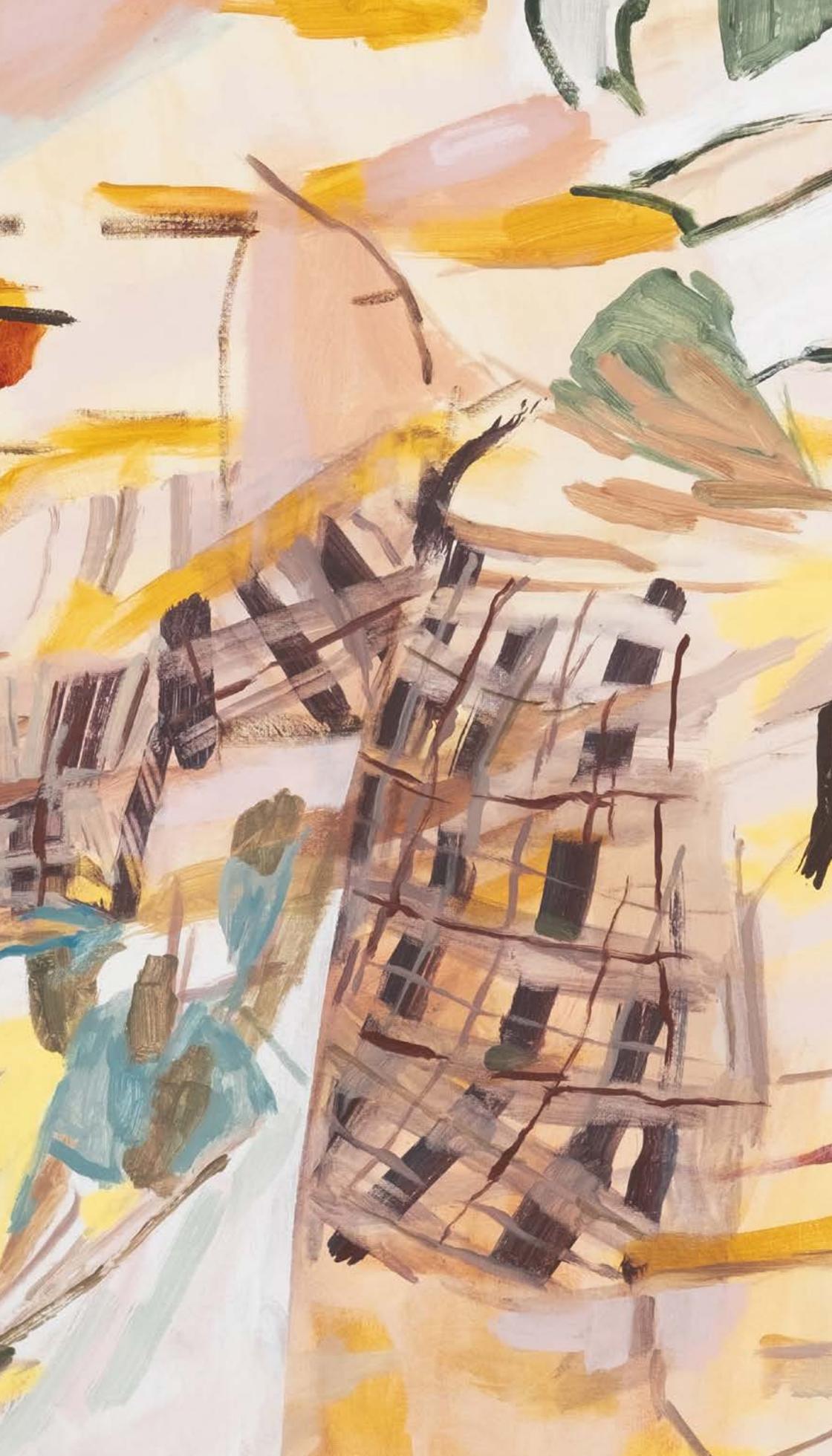


A Long Wind, Carrying Bird Calls

acrylic on canvas

80 x 60 cm

31³/₈ x 23¹/₂ in.





Now a Landscape, Now a Room

acrylic on canvas

120 x 100 cm

47 ¹/₈ x 39 ¹/₄ in.



Standing Against the Sky

acrylic on canvas

60 x 50 cm

23 1/2 x 19 5/8 in.



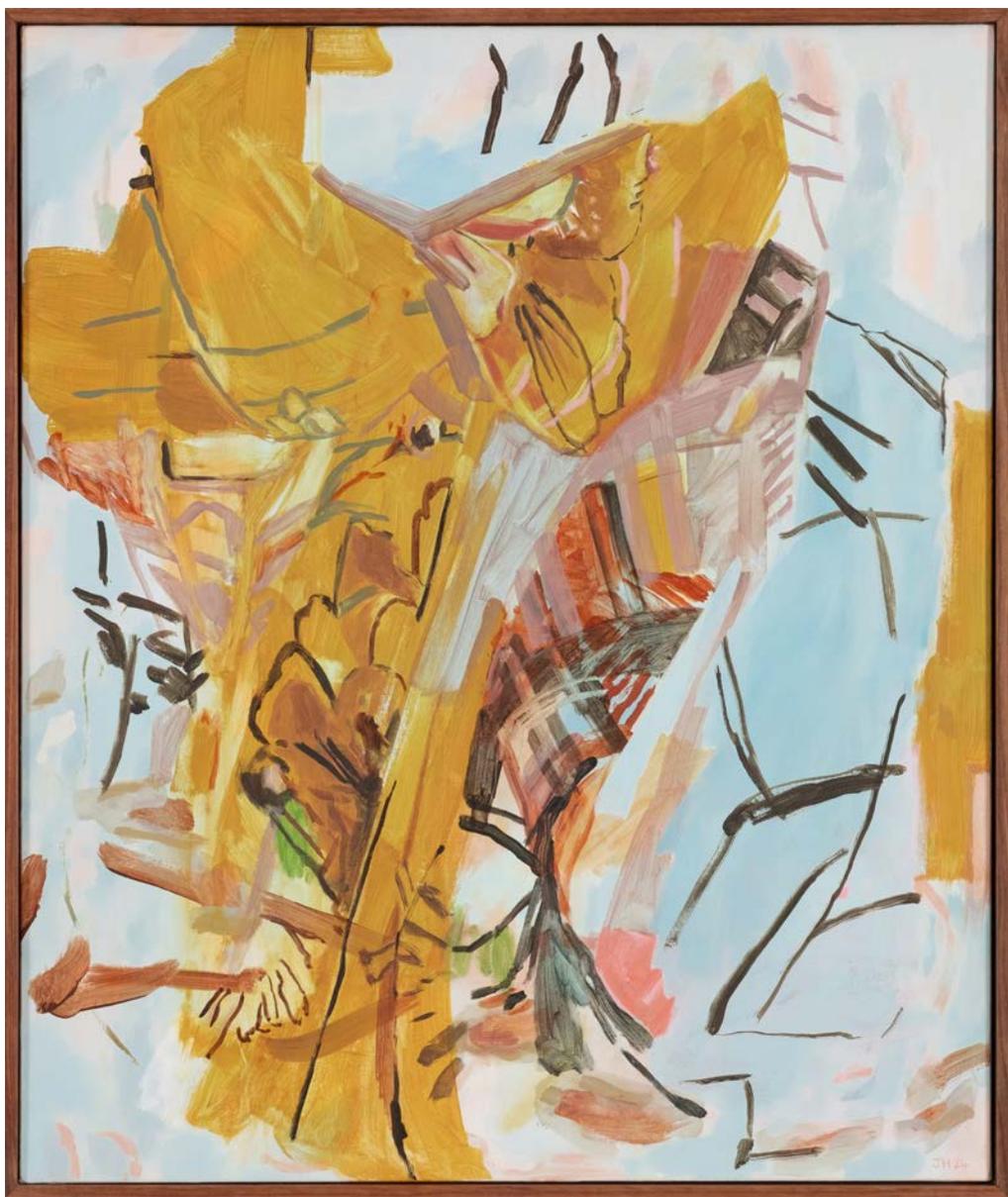


*But You Will End Up Exactly Where
You Could Not Have Imagined*

acrylic on canvas

80 x 60 cm

31 ³/₈ x 23 ¹/₂ in.



Whispered Sun
acrylic on canvas
60 x 50 cm
23 1/2 x 19 5/8 in.



Vast Misunderstood Country

acrylic on canvas

100 x 120 cm

39 ¹/₄ x 47 ¹/₈ in.

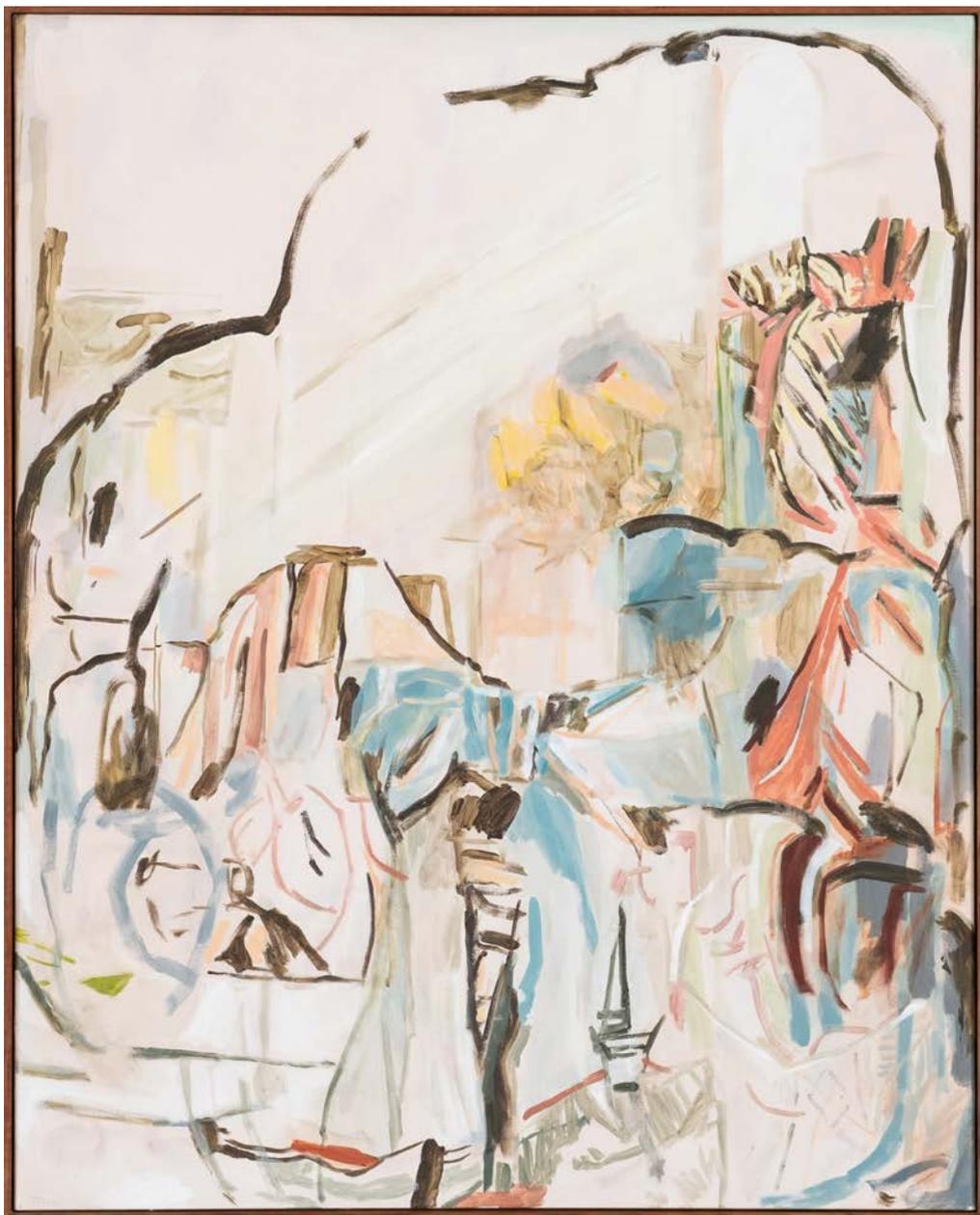


The Sea Rushes Home

acrylic on canvas

80 x 100 cm

31³/₈ x 39¹/₄ in.



Think Like a Mountain

acrylic on canvas

100 x 80 cm

39 ¹/₄ x 31 ³/₈ in.



When at Last we Drift Loose II

acrylic on canvas

100 x 120 cm

39 ¹/₄ x 47 ¹/₈ in.



In Which Enchantment is Practiced

acrylic on canvas

80 x 60 cm

31³/₈ x 23¹/₂ in.



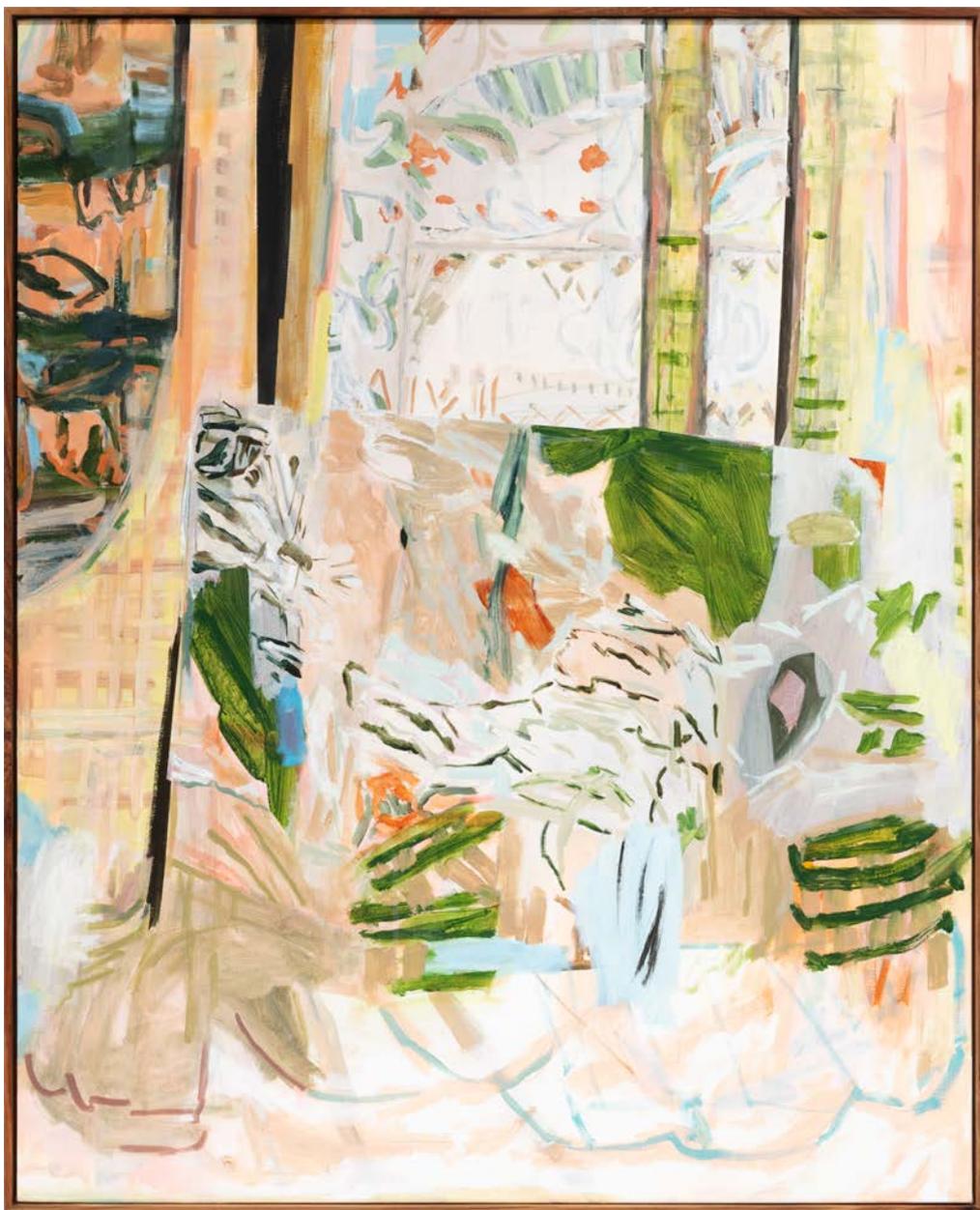


Unravelling Certainties

acrylic on canvas

80 x 100 cm

31³/₈ x 39¹/₄ in.



A Vibration of Everyday Things

acrylic on canvas

100 x 80 cm

39 ¹/₄ x 31 ³/₈ in.





JEANNE HOFFMAN

b. 1978, Cape Town, South Africa

Working across diverse mediums and far-flung geographies, artist Jeanne Hoffman revels in the spaces between things. Paintings, drawings and ceramic objects function as dwelling points – ‘temporary shelters for thoughts – as she explores the emotional and socio-cultural dimensions of place’. Hoffman says: ‘There is a direct correlation between travelling across a landscape and the path of a graphic mark that transforms a blank page into an imaginary space.’ ‘Drawing’ translates then not only to three-dimensional artistic

mediums and physical space, but also to a larger ‘stage’. Referential forms are assembled in relation with one another, creating movement, dialogue and meaning on the fringes of delineation.

Hoffman has held numerous solo and group shows, both locally and abroad, and has participated in residencies in Belgium, the Netherlands, Finland and South Africa. She is featured in the first edition of *Clay Formes*, a survey of contemporary clay from South Africa, pushed to its highest form of sculptural expression.



Handwritten notes and sketches at the top of the page, including the word "dream" and some faint drawings.



6.4.2022

32 songs
7/10/21

dream
tomorrow

brave new world
sad and hopeful

4/2/23

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2024** *Raft*, Everard Read, Franschhoek, South Africa
- 2022** *Borrowed scenery*, Everard Read, Cape Town, South Africa
- 2021** *Dream window*, Salon 91, Cape Town, South Africa
- 2020** *To make a landscape fit in doors*, Salon 91, Cape Town, South Africa
- 2018** *Drift*, 99 Loop, Cape Town, South Africa
- 2017** *Mixed Metaphors*, 99 Loop, Cape Town, South Africa
- 2008** *Strange things travel with you*, WHATIFTHEWORLD, Cape Town, South Africa
- 2007** *Long words on a hot afternoon*, blank projects, Cape Town, South Africa

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2024** *Investec Cape Town Art Fair*, with Everard Read, Cape Town, South Africa
Summer Light, Everard Read, London, UK
- 2023** *Social Objects*, curated by Kombi NYC, Tiwa Select, New York, USA
What I Feel When I Think About The Cosmos, Everard Read, Franschhoek, South Africa
Remedy, Everard Read, Cape Town, South Africa
Investec Cape Town Art Fair, with Everard Read, Cape Town, South Africa
Good Vibrations, Knysna Fine Art, Knysna, South Africa
- 2022** *Open Plot*, curated by Reservoir Projects, THK Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa

- A pebble in the mouth*, curated by Maja Marx, Turbine Art Fair, Johannesburg, South Africa
Painter Painter!, Barnard Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa
Spring Awakening, Southern Guild, Cape Town, South Africa
The Phoenix Runway, curated by Reservoir Projects, WHATIFTHEWORLD Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa
- 2021** *Falling Awake*, curated by Reservoir Projects, The Fourth, Cape Town, South Africa
- 2020** *Shaping things*, SMAC, Stellenbosch, South Africa
Investec Cape Town Art Fair, with Salon 91, South Africa
A hazy shade of winter, Salon 91, Cape Town, South Africa
- 2019** *Wildflowers*, Salon 91, Cape Town, South Africa
Entropy, Salon 91, Cape Town, South Africa
Strange stuttering shapes, curated by Liza Grobler for Woordfees, Stellenbosch, South Africa
- 2018** *Investec Cape Town Art Fair*, with 99 Loop, South Africa
Back to the future III, SMAC, Cape Town, South Africa
- 2017** *Field*, Salon 91, Cape Town, South Africa
You Leave Me With This, No End, Johannesburg, South Africa
Out of nowhere, SMITH Studio, Cape Town, South Africa
Folly, SMITH Studio, Cape Town, South Africa



- 2016** *Clay/Ground*, Cavalli Estate, Stellenbosch, South Africa
From Whence They Came, SMITH and Kalashnikov, Cape Town, South Africa
- 2015** *Thinking Ultramarine*, UCT Centre for Curating the Archive, South Africa
Décor-Z, Spier Wine Estate, Yellowwoods Art, Stellenbosch, South Africa
- 2013** *Les oeuvres du Frans Masereel centrum (9th International Biennial Liege)*, l'Académie Royale des Beaux-Arts, Liege, Belgium
- 2009** *Constellations*, Stichting WEP, Groningen, Netherlands
- 2008** *Collage City/Kollaasikaupunki*, Vuojoki, Finland
- 2007** *Room-travel*, WHATIFTHEWORLD, Cape Town, South Africa
Common Ground, Lönnstrom Art Museum, Finland
Paper and me, AVA, Cape Town, South Africa
- 2006** *Choice Assorted*, WHATIFTHEWORLD, Cape Town, South Africa
Illustration Nation, WHATIFTHEWORLD, Cape Town, South Africa
- 2004** *Battersea Art Fair*, London, UK
ABSA L'Atelier Award Show, Cape & Johannesburg, South Africa
YDEsire, collaboration with Liza Grobler, Castle of Good Hope, Cape Town, South Africa
Gifted, curated by Andrew da Conceicao, art-b, Bellville, South Africa
- 2001** *Micro/Macro*, Canadian Printmaking Exchange, Toronto, Canada & Cape Town, South Africa
Vuleka Award Show, Bellville Arts Association, Bellville, South Africa
- 1999** *SASOL New Signatures Award Show*, Bellville Arts Association, Bellville, South Africa

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- 2023** *'Clay Formes: Contemporary Clay from South Africa'* by Olivia Barrell – Art Formes
- 2023** *'Painting now: Mia Chaplin, Jeanne Hoffman and Maja Marx'* by Sean O'toole (Artthrob)
- 2022** *'All artworks are vessels: 'Falling awake' by Reservoir'* by Isabella Kuijers (Artthrob)

RESIDENCIES

- 2023** Everard Read Leeu Estate, South Africa
- 2012** European Ceramic Work Centre – sundaymorning@EKWC, Netherlands
- 2011** European Ceramic Work Centre – sundaymorning@EKWC, Netherlands
- 2009** Koneen Saatio, Saari Mansion AIR, Finland
- 2008** Raumars AIR, Finland
Frans Masereel Centre AIR, Belgium
- 2007** Raumars AIR, Finland
Frans Masereel Centre AIR, Belgium
- 2006** Frans Masereel Centre AIR, Belgium

Established in 1913 | Modern and contemporary art from South Africa

Everard Read London | 80 Fulham Road | Chelsea, London SW3 6HR
+44 (0)20 7590 9991 | info@everardlondon.com | www.everardlondon.com

Opening hours: Monday to Thursday 10 am – 6 pm
Friday 10 am – 5 pm | Saturdays 12 pm – 4 pm

PHOTOGRAPHY CREDITS

Images courtesy of Matt Slater and Mike Hall

Artist portrait and studio photo credit: Mareli Esterhuizen and Ivana Maarschalk

ER | 100 YEARS

