

LORIENTE LOTZ

*Bearing Witness*



# LORIENNE LOTZ

*Bearing Witness*

30 May – 28 June 2025

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## BEARING WITNESS

*The true focus of revolutionary change is never the oppressive situations we seek to escape, but that piece of the oppressor which is planted deep within each of us.*

– Audre Lorde

*If reason ruled, would history even exist?*

– Ryszard Kapuściński

*Bearing Witness*, a new collection of paintings by South African artist, Lorianne Lotz, speaks to the spaces in between, it speaks to our paradoxes, it speaks to both tenderness and brutality, and to our humour and terror.

Throughout her artistic practice, Lotz has explored oppression as a central theme, with the absurdity of the human condition forming the broader framework of her work. Her paintings intricately intertwine the political with the personal, reflecting the complexities and contradictions of our existence.

For Lotz, the world around us mirrors the deep shadows within us – the personal struggles we face with the imbalances, duplicities, and forces that shape our nature. As she explains, 'The struggle to find equilibrium between opposing forces, whether in the socio-political realm or within myself, becomes the narrative that fuels my work.' Ultimately, Lotz acknowledges that there is no escaping our true selves or the

ironies that arise from our deepest narratives.

Idiomatic expressions – rich in absurdity and vivid imagery – often serve as the starting point for her work. She describes these expressions brought to her attention by an unseen force, almost with prescience or foreknowledge, as they align with both world events and personal experiences, deepening the meaning of the work and guiding its completion.

For Lotz, referencing art history within her work reveals the reverberations through time, connecting the past to the present while highlighting the timeless nature of human emotions and conflicts. These polarities mirror her working process, where she navigates the delicate balance between abstraction and figuration. The discordant placement of images is a tool she uses to expose inherent paradoxes and evoke universal pathos. As she describes it, 'It becomes a dance, a hovering, where contradictions are questioned, and there is a search for interconnectedness and lyricism.'

In a world rife with devastating conflicts that reflect the wars within, Lotz says, 'I continue to challenge my artistic process by giving authority to the pressing questions of our time and to the horror and beauty of our very humanness'.

This is Lorianne Lotz's second solo exhibition with the London gallery.



*Bearing witness*  
oil and charcoal on canvas  
150 x 130 cm





*Troubled waters*  
oil and charcoal on canvas  
140.5 x 110 cm



*Mouth full of teeth*  
oil and charcoal on canvas  
60 x 45 cm





*An ace up her sleeve*  
oil and charcoal on canvas  
130 x 150 cm





*Lay down your arms*  
oil and charcoal on canvas  
100 x 120 cm



*A most beastly madness*  
oil and charcoal on canvas  
130 x 130 cm

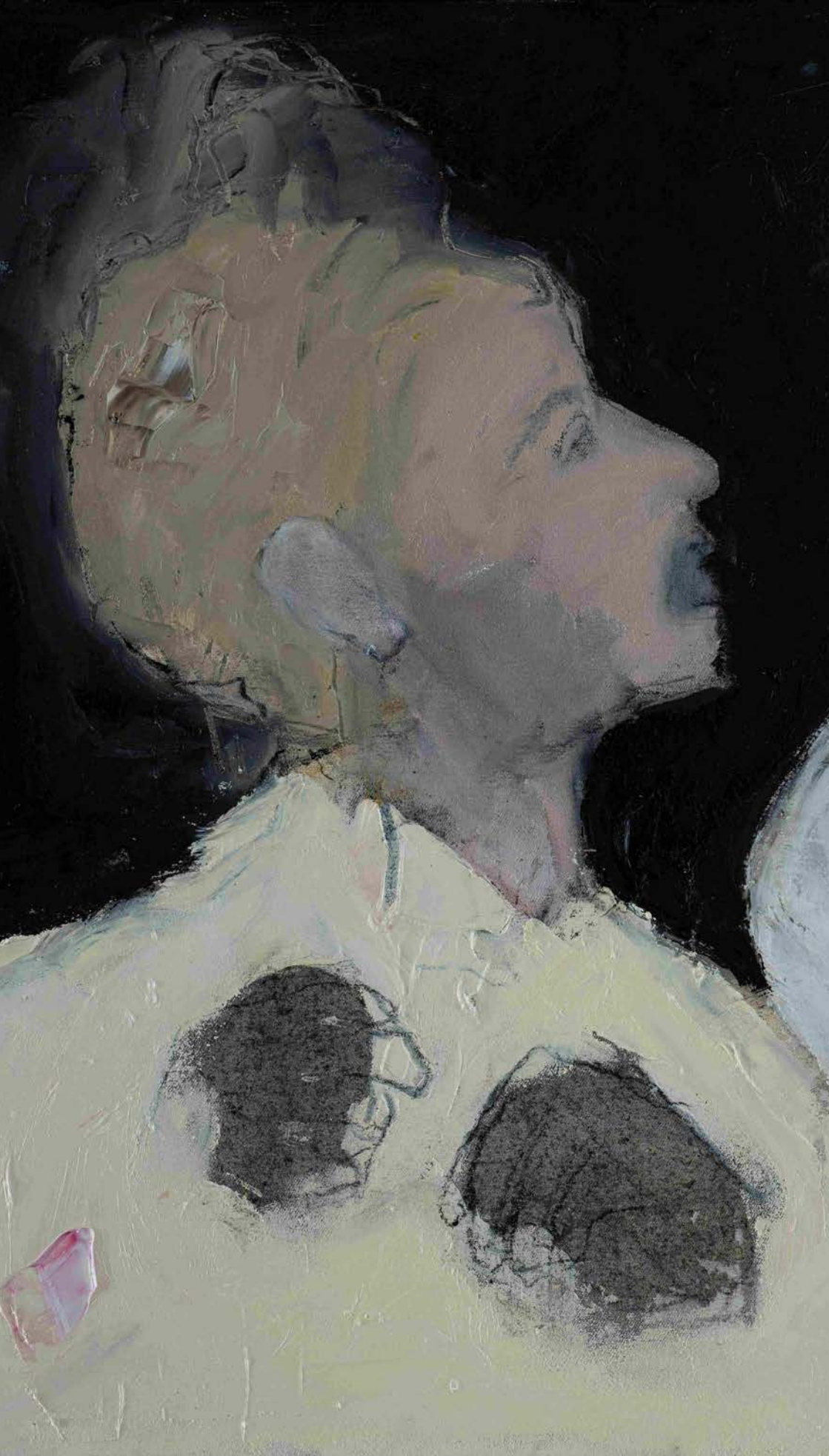


*What lies beneath*  
oil and charcoal on canvas  
130 x 130 cm





*She was hoping for a prince*  
oil and charcoal on canvas  
50 x 60 cm







*Eating crow II*  
oil and charcoal on canvas  
90 x 90 cm





*The elephant in the room*  
oil and charcoal on canvas  
46 x 36 cm



*Cat's got his tongue*  
oil and charcoal on canvas  
60 x 50 cm



*Heart on her sleeve*  
oil and charcoal on canvas  
90 x 90 cm



*Sheepish*

oil and charcoal on canvas

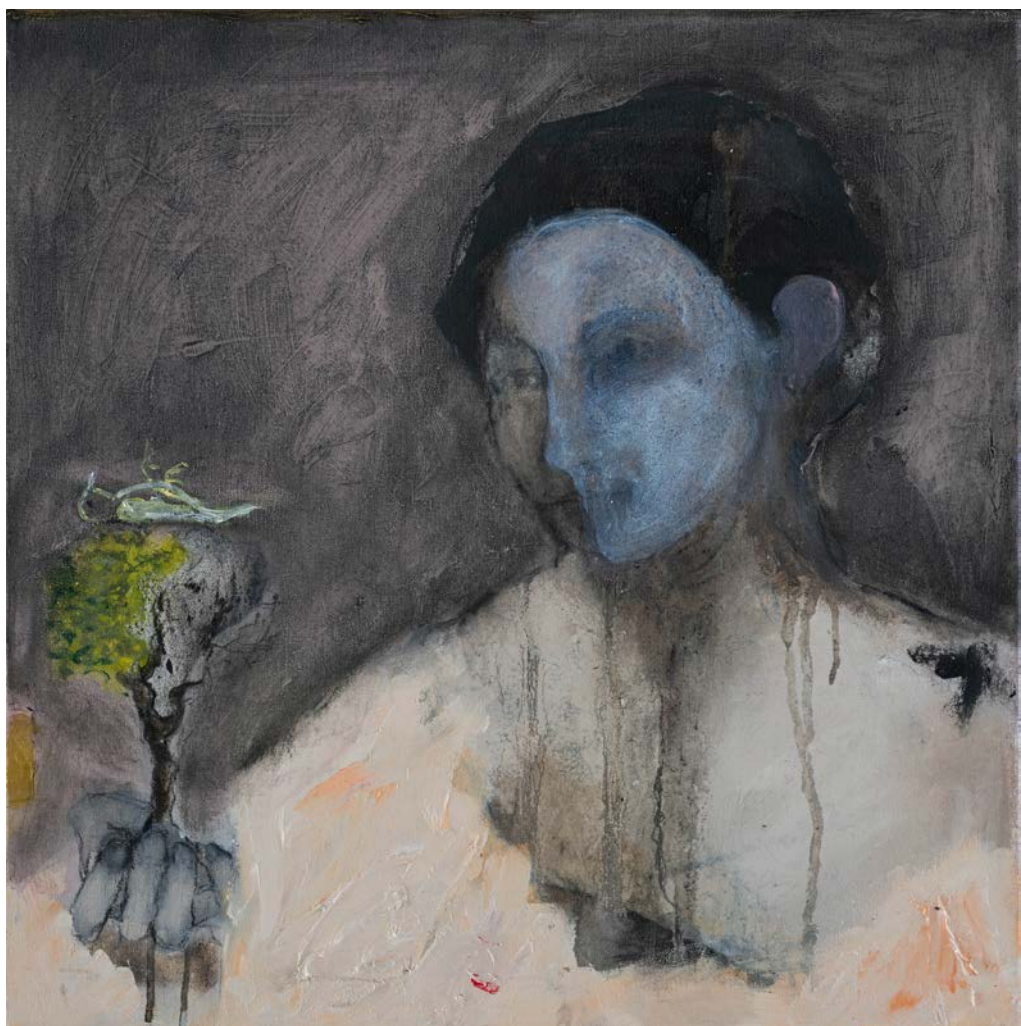
90 x 90 cm



*Unbecoming*

oil and charcoal on canvas

60 x 45 cm



*How lonely her sorrow*  
oil and charcoal on canvas  
50 x 50 cm





*Loose lips sink ships*  
oil and charcoal on canvas  
50 x 50 cm





*Blowing his own trumpet*  
oil and charcoal on canvas  
50 x 50 cm

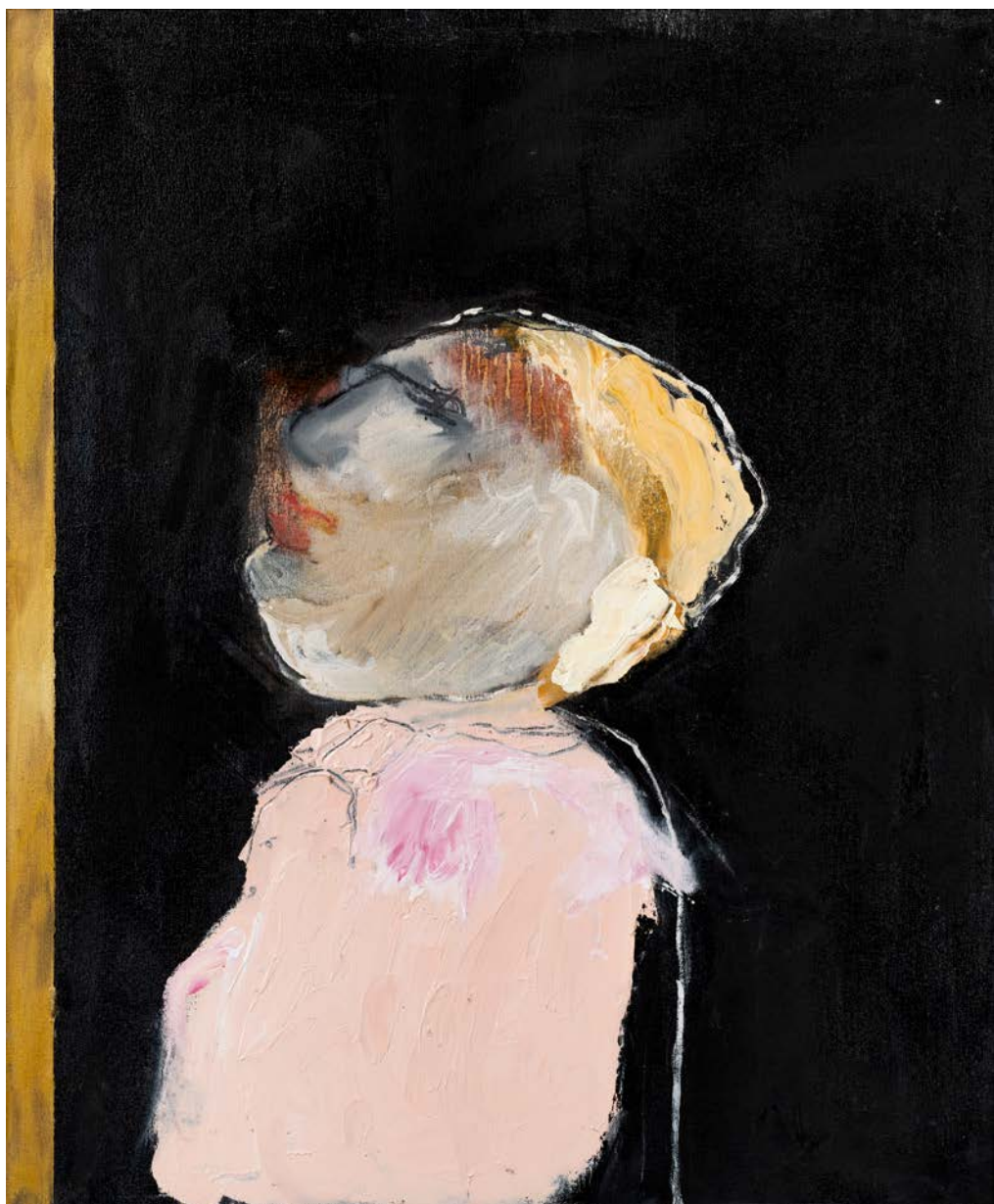




*Tee-totaller*

oil and charcoal on canvas

60 x 45 cm



*Lip service*  
oil and charcoal on canvas  
mounted on board  
60 x 50 cm





## LORIANNE LOTZ

b. 1954 Bulawayo, Zimbabwe

Born in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe, Lorraine Lotz currently lives in Cape Town. She completed a post-graduate Diploma in Fine Art at Michaelis UCT (2013) and was awarded a Sasol New Signatures Merit Award (2014). Lotz studied in the 1980s under Bill Ainslie at the Johannesburg Art Foundation. Since 2008, the annual intensive Rosenclaire workshops in Italy and South Africa (run by duo Rose Shakinovsky and Claire Gavronsky) as well as the Astar process and painting sessions with Lindy Solomon are influences which have been instrumental in forging Lotz's deeply intuitive material process and awareness of a formal language. Her work is held locally and internationally in private collections.





## SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2024** *No Angels*, Everard Read, Cape Town, South Africa
- 2023** *Thinking out Loud*, Everard Read, London, UK
- 2021** *Bated Breath*, Everard Read, Cape Town, South Africa
- 2019** *Stru's Bob*, Everard Read, Cape Town, South Africa
- 2014** *Not Written in Stone*, Commune.1, Cape Town, South Africa  
*More than a pinch of salt*, Youngblood, Cape Town, South Africa

## SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2024** *Matter Matters | Artists and Their Media*, Everard Read, London, UK  
*Winter Collection*, Everard Read, Franschhoek, South Africa
- 2023** *What I Feel When I Think About The Cosmos*, Everard Read, Franschhoek, South Africa  
*The Other's Warmth*, Everard Read, Cape Town, South Africa
- 2022** *Things I'd like to remember*, Everard Read, Cape Town, South Africa

- 2021** *Oasis*, 25th anniversary group show, Everard Read, Cape Town, South Africa
- 2020** *Still*, online group exhibition, Everard Read, South Africa & UK
- 2019** *Conversations with Irma*, UCT Irma Stern Museum, Cape Town, South Africa
- 2017** Cubicle Series, Everard Read, Cape Town, South Africa  
*Winter Collection*, Everard Read, Cape Town, South Africa
- 2016** *Rose Korber's Summer Salon*, Provenance Auction House, Cape Town, South Africa
- 2015** *Empire*, Everard Read, Cape Town, South Africa  
*Hamburg Affordable Art Fair*, with Youngblood, Hamburg, Germany  
*Art/Out of the Ordinary*, AVA, Cape Town, South Africa
- 2014** *Modern Painting*, Kalk Bay Modern, Cape Town, South Africa  
*Turbine Art Fair*, Johannesburg, South Africa
- 2013** *My Mother's Garden*, Arts on Main, Johannesburg, South Africa
- 2012** *Domestic Departures*, Kalk Bay Modern, Cape Town, South Africa

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

PHOTOGRAPHY CREDITS

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