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Eleanor Moreton, *Hibernia - Gathering*, 2021, oil on canvas, 140 x 190 cm

Winter*Flower*, Eleanor Moreton

Private View

16th November 2021, 6 - 8 PM

17 - 24 November 2021

46 Great Titchfield Street, London, W1W 7QA

Arusha Gallery is delighted to present *WinterFlower* by Eleanor Moreton, opening on the 16th of November in London.

The show features over 20 new works, centred on a wintry landscape. “Hibernia”, a term meaning “land of winter” features heavily in the titles of these pieces, recalling Moreton’s months spent in Lockdown last year.

“During the winter months of 2020 to 21, I took some walks in Epping Forest, which is within the 5 permitted Lockdown miles from my home. They were mostly grey and wet walks, though for a short time they were icy and snowy too. It was a lovely time to get acquainted with the forest and it became the backdrop to my thoughts.”

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In these paintings, a family goes about their daily life, and children play in a peaceful, pensieve manner, surrounded by the flora and fauna of the woods. Eleanor's work recalls the idea of a post war nuclear family, much like that of her parents' generation, where in the wake of the disruption and heartbreak of the war there was an innate desire to return to normality, serenity and suburban life.

The works expand on this, and project a sort of circling back to nature reminiscent of the 70s. At this time there was a desire to break down the rigidity of the nuclear family, which was seen to be in direct opposition to nature, favouring a return to a more holistic meshing of human and natural spheres. This is denoted by the focus on the woods, and the plant and animal life which can be found in this habitat, coexisting peacefully with the family who reside there.

In a way, our experiences of the last year have found a resonance with this, as we all have come full circle, and been forced to come back to connect more strongly not only with home life, but the nature around us in the wake of the Lockdown.

“The family is back in the wood, its members are going about their tasks. It's a winter wood, so less accommodating and more reflective. It is a family like my own birth family, with a son and a daughter, of a similar era to my own. The painting titles are both nouns and verbs: *Dwelling, Being, Clearing, Building*, reflecting Heidegger's ideas about the intrinsic 'making' nature of human beings.”

Eleanor Moreton is a London-based painter who has participated in group and solo shows internationally. With a resume listing Chelsea College of Art (MA Painting), Exeter College of Art (BA Painting) and the University of Central England as alma maters, it was at the latter that Moreton undertook postgraduate study in the History and Theory of Art.

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For further information including review, interview and images requests please contact info@arushagallery.com / 0131 557 1412

Arusha Gallery

Arusha Gallery is a contemporary art gallery with its main premises in Edinburgh's historic New Town. Opening in 2013, Arusha runs an annual programme of exhibitions, events and fairs, both nationally and internationally, with regular collaborations with guest artists, curators, festivals and institutions.