

VIRGINIA VERRAN

Arusha Gallery | info@arushagallery.com | 0131 557 1412

ARTISTS STATEMENT

'In both the drawings and paintings there is an intuitive and immediate response to materials, incorporating chance and accident and very consciously controlled, repetitive patterning to create complex and detailed sites for contemplation. There are graphic signs and symbols that work at a percussive abstract level sitting on the surface of the work which can sometimes add a celebratory or a dark undertone. Light is the most important ingredient and revealing it by erasure, in the paintings, rather than imposing it is the method employed. There are different requirements and preoccupations in the paintings where the image is sought through rubbing back wet layers of pigment, sometimes gently and sometimes vigorously, to reveal a human presence but this is tempered by fluid washes and applied patterns sitting on the surface, weaving in and out and across the surface area. This searching for a palpable warmth (that I consider to be human) and one that encapsulates light has always been a fundamental preoccupation when painting. It is a very different concern to that of the drawings where a larger terrain of compacted, layered space is implied utilising graphic lines, collage, and sometimes additional small canvas additions, incorporating signs and symbols of boundaries, hills, islands, little bombs, tiny buildings, chequered fields, overhead threats.

The words 'elegiac anxiety' were coined by a friend, a few years ago, in relation to my work as a whole and this has reverberated and remained relevant to what I feel represents its essential nature, along with occasional moments of levity, silliness even, where tiny heads or pairs of spectacles appear at the bottom of the canvas or paper, intruding into and perhaps gently undermining or mocking the dominant theme.'

EDUCATION

1983-1984

Chelsea College of Art, London , MA

1980-1983

Winchester School of Art , BA

SOLO SHOWS

2015

Wall drawing in association with the publication of : Anchor : a book about 'out-line' in drawing, edited by Joe Graham, RIBA, London

2013

Centre For Recent Drawing (C4RD) Londo

2020

Paintings 1995-2000, Gallery Fine, London

1999

Paintings 1990-1999 (retrospective), Henie-Onstad Kunstsenter, Oslo Norway

1997

New Paintings, Newlyn Gallery, Cornwall

1995-6

New Paintings, Francis Graham-Dixon Gallery, London

1993

New Paintings, Francis Graham-Dixon Gallery, London

1990

New Work, Francis Graham-Dixon Gallery, London

**GROUP
EXHIBITIONS**

1988

Paintings, Francis Graham-Dixon Gallery, London

1986

City Artists Gallery, London

2019

Clyde Hopkins and Friends, Linden Hall Studio, Deal, Kent

All that the Rain Promises and More, Edinburgh Art Festival, Arusha Gallery, Edinburgh

2018/19

Small is Beautiful, Flowers Gallery, London

Rules of Freedom, Collyer Bristow, London

2018

John Moores Painting Prize Exhibition, Walker Gallery, Liverpool

2017

Show Us yer Smalls, Vout O Reenees, London

Phoenix, Grenfell Auction, Vout O Reenees, London

From the South, Virginia Verran and David Oates, Wakayama, Japan

2016

Small is Beautiful, Flowers Gallery, London

As Wide as the Space Between Walls, The Tannery Project Space, London

Tim Sayer Bequest, Hepworth Gallery, Wakefield

Complicity, Collyer Bristow, London

Observations, Falmouth University curated by Ginny Button, Falmouth

Lost for Words, Falmouth University, curated by Lucy Willow and Mercedes Kemp

At the Edge of Printing, Royal Academy, Keepers House, London

The British Society of Self Deprecation. Part 1 : British Drawing, Charlie Dutton Gallery, Beijing

2015

Small is Beautiful, Flowers Gallery, London

Eureka! Art Pavillion, London

Salad, L'Escargot, London

Royal Academy Summer Show, London

Autocatalytic Future Games, No Format Gallery, curated by Playpaint, London

2013

Small is Beautiful, Flowers Gallery, London

Atomic, Transition Gallery, London

Hey Narcissus, Studio 1:1 Gallery, London

Unknown Sitter, Charlie Dutton Gallery, London

Discernible, Zeitgeist Art Projects, London

First Come, First Served, Lion and Lamb Gallery, London

Collectible: ZAP art projects

2012-13

Marmite Painting Prize 2012/13 on tour, Drawing Room/Tannery2013 /Plymouth/
Cambridge/Glasgow/ Manchester

2012

Collectible, ZAP art projects, London

Royal Academy Summer Show, London

Anschlussel : artists from Berlin and London, C4RD, London

