



Alcantara, 2006. Oil on canvas 112 x 122 cm

PIPPA BLAKE *QUEST*

27 May - 17 June 2017

Private view Friday 26 May, 6-8pm

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Pippa Blake in her studio,
photographed by
Dan Stevens, 2016

Touched by the pathos of humanity in the world we inhabit, here is a body of work deeply felt and observed. 'Yearning' is a word that resonates with nomadic artist Pippa Blake, and it's not hard to see why when you see her soulful, touching paintings. Her work often lingers in the darkness, as small pools of light appear and illuminate or ignite a curiosity about her chosen subject. Blake is constantly searching as she investigates and explores her vision of the world.

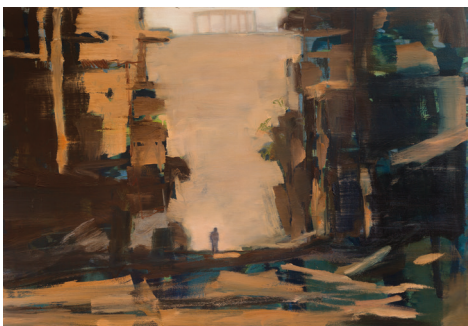
Quest, seems an apt title for her solo show, which takes a look at a body of work from the last ten years. Her subjects are inspired by dramatic geographical and natural features; from gorges and wastelands to figures glimpsed. Her enigmatic paintings evoke a sense of mystery and mood and for her they "are outer expressions of her inner feelings".



If there is gentle rain it falls upon contaminated ground, 2012 Oil on panel, 61 x 66 cm



*Turbines, 2011
Oil on panel, 33 x 40 cm*



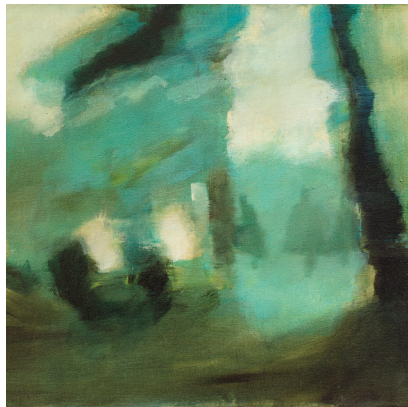
*No-one waiting for me, 2013
Oil on canvas, 137 x 183 cm*

Blake's work is immensely atmospheric, perhaps melancholic but there is something always exquisite in the moment or scene that she captures – a soulfulness. Her work is able to suspend us in a place where reflection and stillness can happen. “I have always felt deeply. Light and dark is integral to my work. I look to the horizon and am fascinated by what could be beyond”.

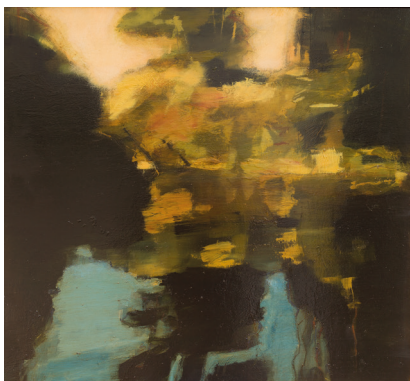
Many of her pieces are observed from a distance, often on travels – in cars, aboard planes, on walks – the world Blake shares with us is one that is seen to be going on about us but one in which we only watch, peripheral, not disrupting, hidden.



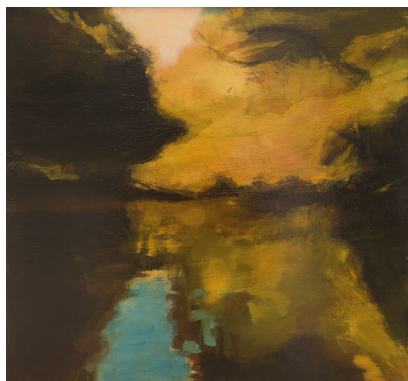
There was a sudden stillness 2010.
Oil on canvas 52 x 52 cms



The Domain 2010.
Oil on canvas 46 x 51 cms



In the end was my beginning III, 2010.
Oil on canvas 52 x 52 cms



In the end was my beginning I, 2010.
Oil on canvas 52 x 52 cms



Across the Neva 2010.
Oil on aluminium 56 x 56 cms



The Road to Taupo, 2013.
Oil on canvas 46 x 46 cms



Paradise, 2014 Oil on canvas 122 x 102 cm



Our sentence a life sentence, 2014. Oil on canvas 153 x 127 cm

Work made while Artist in Residence at Chichester Festival Theatre, 2014



LAX Aerial, 2016. Oil on canvas, 102 x 122 cm

Recent travels have led to the creation of her newest series *Flightpath*. She comments that so often “we zoom past the world but for me, when I’m in the air, I am acutely aware that there is a whole world down there and people getting on with their lives and dramas”. The poignancy of this thought, and the unknown circumstances or conditions of the people below, are what she feels moved by and is expressing when she paints.

Paintings from the past 10 years will be on show for the duration of the exhibition and viewable by appointment thereafter.

CANDIDA
STEVENS
GALLERY

+44 (0)1243 528401
cs@candidastevens.com
www.candidastevens.com

12 Northgate
Chichester
West Sussex PO19 1BA