



# ABANDONED GARDEN

OPENING 1 MARCH

5PM - 9PM

1 MARCH - 22 MAY 2018

179 BUTTENGRACHT  
GARDENS, CAPE TOWN

w 021 4220327

ALET SWARTS, JACOBUS KLOPPERS, LEILA FANNER, TANYA STERNBERG  
NATASHA BARNES, SUE GREEFF, ROSEMARY JOYNT

## **A b a n d o n e d   G a r d e n**

For the Autumn exhibition at Eclectica Design and Art, we return to the earth all its offerings. The artists exhibiting work on this new group show have been tasked with exploring notions of interaction with nature and its surrounding environments. Particularly topical in this time of disaster and crisis, the work sets up points of wonder and space for questioning our impact and relation to the natural world. The exhibition explores both the solace and the fear we experience in our world – on the one hand it offers safety, remedies, calming landscapes but can also bare witness and catalyze vast disasters.

The work of Jacobus Kloppers meditates on how we interact, impact, explore, affect the worlds we exist within and how our mediums of working can alter according to our interaction with them. His paintings in subject are calm and serene while his painterly technique conveys a calling for deeper interaction and time. Rosemary Joynt confronts landscape through abstraction, using vivid colour and hazy textures while Alet Swarts's hyperreal/surreal artworks juxtapose the manmade with the natural and converse on the interaction afforded.

If we think of the world as an integrated network of billions of organisms, what relationship can be created or developed when pairings of chemical and pigment articulate questions about nature or organic processes. In Sue Greeff's work, she conceives artworks that reflect on birth, life, death, and our histories in parallel and mirroring her previous training in midwifery. Tanya Sternberg's work grapples with colour, form and texture – illuminating geographical and topographical intricacies and imagining an extended potential for new explorations.

When creating the theme for this exhibition, we have thought about those who have come before, artists and makers who have previously confronted these topics. We proposed the question of how can the new work interact and build on our understanding of nature, the soul and our lived experiences. When looking at the work of Natasha Barnes we are afforded the possibility to consider: are dreamscapes a kind of nature? In this way, it is evident that the abandoned garden can, in fact, be understood as a kind of introspection. Similarly, in Leila Fanner's artworks, notions of escape and murals expand from the canvas. Perhaps the dreamscapes we explore can offer a symbiotic process of exploration and learning, translating across lucidity and rest?

Contemporary art surfaces amidst a series of contradictions and questions that in turn allow a viewer to travel a path of exploring, introspection and thought that might lead toward new awareness. During times of crisis, celebration, warning and exploration art can offer a place to ruminate, reimagine and consider new ideas that are illustrated. In this sense, perhaps art can therefore be a social tool, to draw us back to what has been forgotten, compromised and ignored. With this exhibition, Eclectica Design and Art presents a carefully selected series of work by 7 contemporary artists that push, question and drive home a reminder of the gardens we have abandoned, imagined, wandered through or have yet to find.

- **Clare Patrick**

**A g r o u p   e x h i b i t i o n**

**F e a t u r i n g :**

**A l e t   S w a r t s**

**N a t a s h a   B a r n e s**

**J a c o b u s   K l o p p e r s**

**L e i l a   F a n n e r**

**R o s e m a r y   J o y n t**

**S u e   G r e e f f**

**T a n y a   S t e r n b e r g**

## **A l e t   S w a r t s**

Alet Swarts is a Cape Town based painter. She studied Fine Art at L'Academie des Beaux Arts de Meuron in Neuchâtel in Switzerland, and received a BA Fine Arts in Information Design at the University of Pretoria.

Swarts's work has been widely exhibited including a solo show in Pretoria. Her work engages with the concept of momentary consciousness; the moment when an idea is made sense of through the juxtaposition of multiple ideas in the mind. The works are filled with metaphorical images, textures and patterns, sometimes out of context, to suggest ambiguity. They are painted with meditative precision and intensity, as a contradiction to the lightness and fleetingness of the moments they represent.



Alet Swarts  
Invisibles and Unsayables  
Acrylic on canvas  
15 x 15 cm



Alet Swarts  
Life is (just) a story  
Acrylic on canvas  
15 x 15 cm



Alet Swarts  
Waiting for time and space to intervene  
Acrylic on canvas  
60 x 60 cm

## **N a t a s h a   B a r n e s**

Natasha Barnes, born in 1969, is one of South Africa's most celebrated Abstract artists.

Natasha's paintings take inspiration found in her travels and her love for the rich African images surrounding her life, this can be seen in Indian Summer as there is an expression of freedom and unhindered exploration in the painting. Her experience is transferred onto canvas in a myriad of expressive brush stroke and harmony of colour. Natasha's paintings are abstract in that her creative process is to absorb the sensation of her physical experience then transfer to the canvas without looking at the subject.

Her name is known in galleries across London, Paris and New York. Her paintings show a display of organic expressions and freedom while illustrating a sensitivity of colour and tonal relationships.

“Every painting a door to travel through, a simple reflection of what is happening in my mind. Some days are quiet – some days are abstract.” - Natasha Barnes



Natasha Barnes  
Secret Garden  
Acrylic on canvas  
150 x 150 cm



Natasha Barnes  
Turn a new leaf Acrylic  
on canvas  
130 x 130 cm



Natasha Barnes  
Between the Blossom  
Acrylic on canvas  
160 x 160 cm



Natasha Barnes  
Inner Garden  
Acrylic on canvas  
130 x 130 cm

## **J a c o b u s   K l o p p e r s**

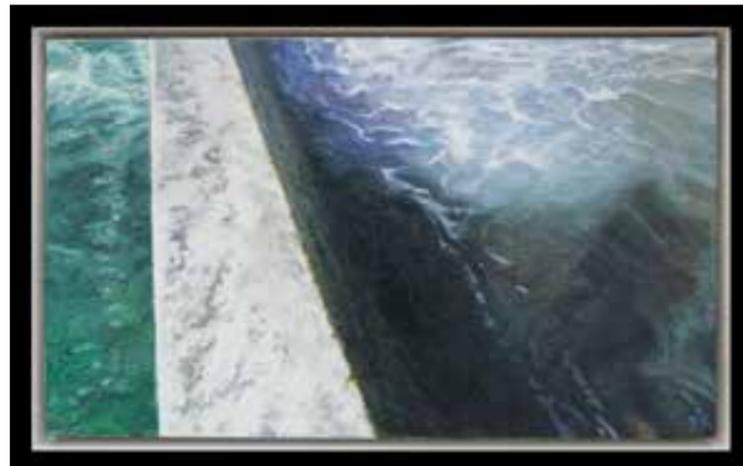
Jacobus Kloppers was born on 13 June 1959, in Nelspruit, Mpumalanga. He has held numerous solo exhibitions of his paintings and has exhibited around South Africa. His work is housed in numerous important collections. The body of work he presents mediates notions of periphery and perimeter, meditating on space as the embodiment of both presence and absence. With a strong recurrence of bodies of water in his work, the technical realism he incorporates along with his thick brushwork leads to a kind of abstracted exploration of movement, form and points of confluence. Art is always best viewed in person, physically standing within its proximity. Jacobus Kloppers's maelstrom of paint and pigment, form and texture is no exception and as such, we look forward to welcoming you into our gallery!



Jacobus Kloppers  
Dyk II, 2017  
Oil on canvas  
30 x 30 cm



Jacobus Kloppers  
Inspoel I, 2016  
Oil on canvas  
30 x 30 cm



Jacobus Kloppers  
Sluit II, 2017  
Oil on canvas  
30 x 50 cm



Jacobus Kloppers  
Palmietrivier I, 2017  
Oil on canvas  
30 x 30 cm



Jacobus Kloppers  
Dyk II (B), 2017  
Oil on canvas  
20 x 20 cm



Jacobus Kloppers  
Saamval, 2016  
Oil on canvas  
30 x 30 cm



Jacobus Kloppers  
Totem II, 2016  
Oil on canvas  
30 x 30 cm



Jacobus Kloppers  
Sonval, 2016  
Oil on canvas  
30 x 30 cm



Jacobus Kloppers  
Dyk I (B), 2016  
Oil on canvas  
20 x 20 cm



Jacobus Kloppers  
Soutwal, 2018  
Oil on canvas  
60 x 100 cm

Jacobus Kloppers  
Sluit I, 2017  
Oil on canvas  
30 x 50 cm



## **L e i l a F a n n e r**

An abstract and figurative artist, whose work is influenced by mid-century modern styles, abstract expressionism and spiritual folk art of the world. Born in California to a South African artist and an African American musician, She was raised in South Africa and currently works from her studio in Riebeeck West.

Leila is both a figurative and an abstract painter. Her creative inspiration is interwoven with dreams and personal dream symbols. Using the natural world as her subject, she explores her relationship with the material realm from both a metaphysical and spiritual viewpoint.

After her studies at the Johannesburg National School of the Arts, she took private tuition in both graphic design and watercolour painting, holding her first exhibition 'Faux Masters' at the age of 23. Her work has appeared in British Vogue Gallery 2015. Her most recent exhibitions were 'Solo Studio's' in the Riebeeck Valley in July 2016 and 'Flowers In Art' exhibition at the Castle of Good Hope as well as 'Unify' at Aity Gallery in Franschoek in September 2016. Leila's art is in private collections in South Africa, Germany, France, Kenya, England and the USA.



Leila Fanner  
Pearl  
Acrylic and oil pastel  
121.5 x 123.5 cm



Leila Fanner  
After the Party  
Acrylic and oil pastel  
121.5 x 123.5 cm

## R o s e m a r y J o y n t

Johannesburg artist, Rosemary Joynt actively immerses herself in a n artistic journey to uncover intersecting relationships between abstraction and representation pertaining to nature. With considerable experience exhibiting with galleries such as Rust en Vrede and exposure at Turbine Art Fair, the artist has become known for the dream-like manner in which she captures the natural elements.

Similar to that of the subconscious, Rosemary embarks on an intuitive process of collecting fragments of images, interrogating their links to the physical and the spiritual. She approaches the canvas as a conceptual space, much like the human mind, where obscure patterns and chaotic relationships coincide to present subtle instances of order and harmony. She renders nature as a moving force through the bleeding of colour and the rippling of line as they mimic the fluctuating energy between earth and sky.



Rosemary Joynt  
This Disappearing World  
Oil on Canvas  
78 x 93 cm



Rosemary Joynt  
Flowers in December  
Oil on Canvas  
88 x 105 cm



Rosemary Joynt  
Colours Everywhere  
Oil on Canvas 7  
95 x 94 cm



Rosemary Joynt  
Pieces of the Summer Sky  
Oil on Canvas  
ø 81 cm

## **S u e G r e e f f**

Sue Greeff is a Cape Town based artist. In 2012 she began her studies at UCT's Michaelis School of Fine Art, where she later graduated as a painting major in 2015 with distinctions. Her practice is contemporary and conceptual, often based on ideas and experiences from her earlier careers in both the Medical and Interior Design worlds. Sue draws connections between seemingly unrelated ideas and visually explore these, to find and understand hidden relationships.

The work exhibited for *Verging Thresholds* is an exploration of femininity, reproduction and the body. Sue Greeff has drawn from her personal history as a midwife, pregnancies, births and the subsequent raising of her children. She has created evocative works, using latex as the predominant medium in the body of work. This conceptually ties into the focus of the work that not only speaks about sexuality but also alludes to the seductiveness of the largely 'veiled' industry of intimacy. The recurring image of the flower as a leitmotif is used to represent female biology with its seeds and stamens and to symbolise fertility and fecundity. The combination of works speaks of the commodification of the female Reproductive Body. With the growth of the in-vitro fertilization industry, banking of sperm and embryos, the demand for egg and sperm donors and the significance of heredity has resulted in the IVF industry being associated with commodification and test tube capitalists.



Sue Greeff  
Hand Maidens  
Oil on Canvas  
90 x 120 cm



Sue Greeff  
Mother I  
Ink on latex  
20 x 20 cm



Sue Greeff  
Tend My Garden,  
Ink on latex  
29 x 29 cm



Sue Greeff  
Mother II  
Ink on latex  
20 x 20 cm.



Sue Greeff  
Bride  
Ink on unprimed canvas  
90 x 60 cm



Sue Greeff  
Peta  
Ink on canvas  
15 x 15 cm



Sue Greeff  
Strawberry Moon  
Ink on latex  
122 x 88.5 cm.

## Tanya Sternberg

Tanya Sternberg was born in Durban in 1977. She studied graphic design at the Ogilvy & Mather Red and Yellow School of Advertising and Design. She moved to Australia where she worked for Time Inc across their publications. On return to Cape Town she started her own design agency called Ink Design.

Throughout her graphic design career she has painted at the Spencer Street Studio. She has exhibited at the NSA Gallery Durban, Spencer Street Review 2014 and received a commendation for her portrait at the Sanlam Portrait Award 2015. She currently sells privately.

Tanya has passionately painted with oil on canvas for the last 20 years and is currently exploring ink on paper. Her subject matter is broad and includes portrait, figurative and landscape works. She is currently working on a body of work that explores the intimate relationship between people. This work is made up of a series of ink and line drawings as well as very large-scale canvasses. Whilst the ink drawings are precise and contained, the paintings are large and overflowing. The scale of the paintings invite the viewer into a landscape of abstracted figures. There is a definite rhythm and fluidity within the paintings. The works questions how we move through space and time. The abstraction of the figures asks the question of what belongs to us and how do we merge into each other. At what point do we stop and start. Most importantly, how do we affect each other?

Tanya draws inspiration from her environment, the subtle interactions between people around her and above all her family. She currently resides in Cape Town with her husband and three children.



Tanya Sternberg  
Shaded Horizons  
Oil on canvas  
100 x 140 cm



Tanya Sternberg  
Pathways through Time  
Oil on canvas  
ø 50 cm



Tanya Sternberg  
Journey through  
Oil on canvas  
100 x 140 cm



Tanya Sternberg  
Aerial - Intersecting paths  
Oil on canvas  
60 x 60 cm



Tanya Sternberg  
Aerial - Passages through the Night  
Oil on canvas  
120 x 120 cm

Abandoned Garden: Group exhibition  
01 March 2018

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