



# KATIE LINDSAY GALLERY

## ‘Into The Mystic’ New Paintings by Ross Miley

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WED 23RD NOVEMBER – WED 11TH JANUARY 2023

The Katie Lindsay Gallery is delighted to present Ross Miley’s first solo show. Ross Miley is from Greyabbey and graduated from Manchester School of Art with first Class honours in 2022. This series of new paintings relate to his move back home from Manchester to a studio in Carrowdore, the Ards Peninsula, Northern Ireland. Miley explains how these paintings are not of any particular landscape but influenced by being in the surrounding landscapes and the changing seasons.

Miley often paints with music playing in the background. He’s spoken about inspiration from tracks like Radiohead’s *Weird Fishes/Arpeggi* and there is a link to an industrial , ‘punk aesthetic’ in some of his colour choices; the petrol blues, candy pinks and neon oranges. There is a softness too; looking at colours through a veil.

The title of this show is borrowed from the famous Van Morrison track ; ‘Into the Mystic’. In an interview, Van Morrison recalled how *“that song is kind of funny because when it came time to send the lyrics in WB Music, I couldn’t figure out what to send them. Because really the song has two sets of lyrics. For example, there’s ‘I was born before the wind’ and ‘I was borne before the wind,’ and also ‘Also younger than the sun, Ere the bonny boat was one’...*

There is a draw, for Miley too, to the “sounds” words make, in place of their meanings, as he explores ‘writing’ for its artistic form and expresses “feelings ” rather than recording any particular place.

Like another of his heroes, Cy Twombly, the American abstract expressionist, Miley’s paintings linger at a threshold between words and the things they describe... The key thing being “words not making sense” – he trips over himself, perhaps consciously and evokes feelings (where words fall short) like passion, vulnerability and bliss.



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### Artist Statement

*My painting is about time and change; it investigates the ever-changing conditions and contexts of life.*

*With a focus on the impermanence of feeling and emotion I aim to explore how these ideas are volatile and can be in a constant state of transformation. These ideas are reflected through the interaction of colour and subconscious, gestural and intuitive mark making, which foregrounds movement, stillness, contradiction and tension.*

*Coming back from Manchester to the rurality of Ireland my work has begun to respond to feelings of happiness, sadness, isolation, calmness, loneliness and scepticism. These emotions are conveyed through a process of building up and scrapping back paint as-well-as careful consideration into how each colour interacts with each other.*

*My practise is an emotional response to my surroundings and is intended to evoke an emotional response from the viewer.*

**Ross Miley**

### Exhibitions

Bellotto: Views from a Fortress – Manchester Art Gallery 2021/22

Manchester Academy of Fine Arts Exhibition – Stockport War Memorial Art Gallery 2022

### Awards

MAFA Painting Prize 2022

### Education

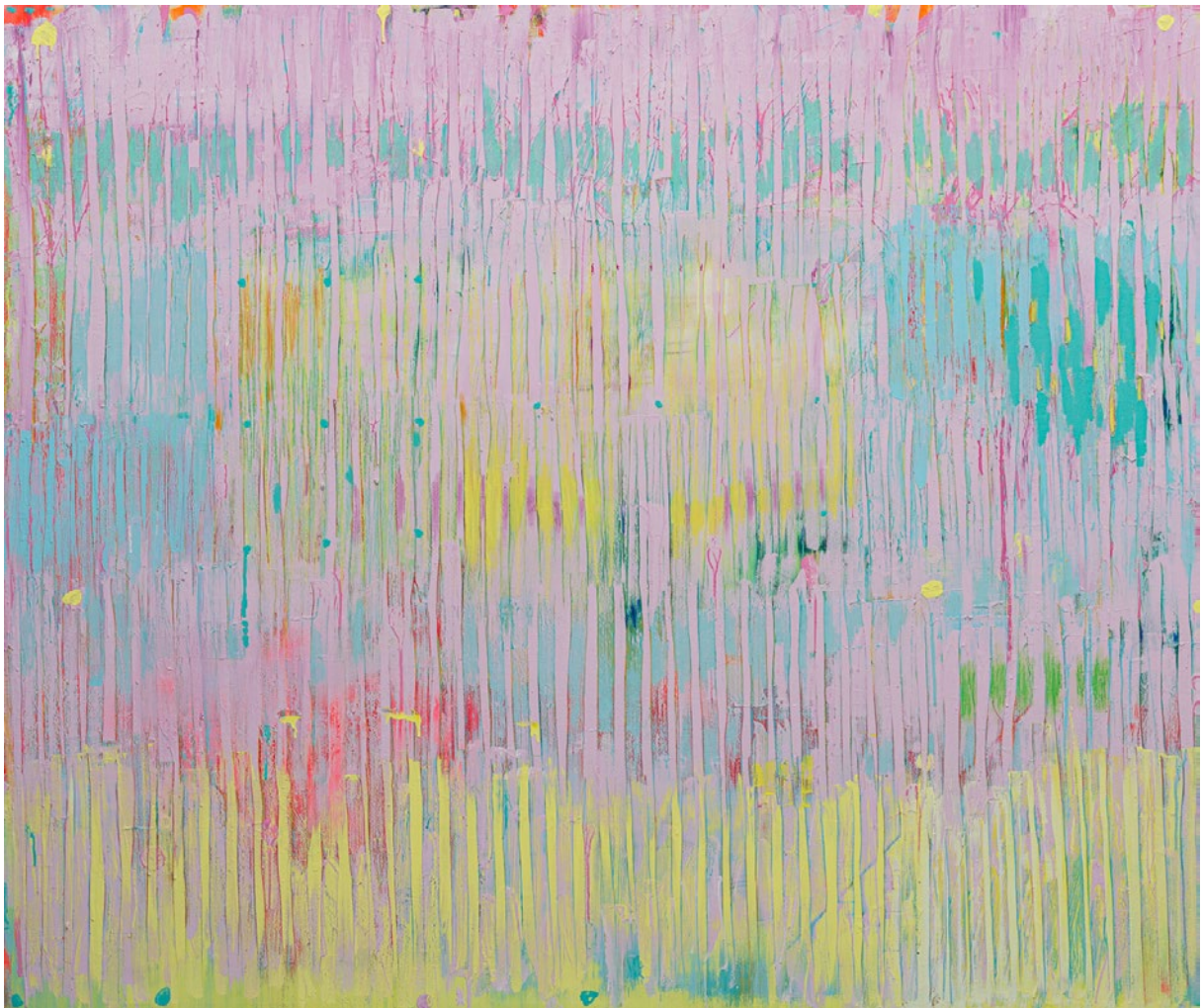
Bachelor of Fine Arts – First Class Honours

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**Lucid**

180 x 150cm

Acrylic, Oil, Chalk and Spray paint on canvas

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**Time**

120 x 90 cm

Acrylic and spray paint on canvas



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**Closer**

120 x 90 cm

*Acrylic and chalk on canvas*

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**Afterglow**

60 x 60 cm

Acrylic and spray paint on canvas

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**Interlude**

60 x 60cm

*Acrylic and Chalk on canvas*



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**Fading Away**

120 x 90 cm

*Acrylic and spray paint on canvas*

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**Changes**

120 x 90 cm

Acrylic on canvas



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**Blossom**  
180 x 150 cm  
*Acrylic and oil on canvas*

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**Floating point**  
120 x 90 cm  
*Acrylic on canvas*



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**You're Not Alone**

60 x 60 cm

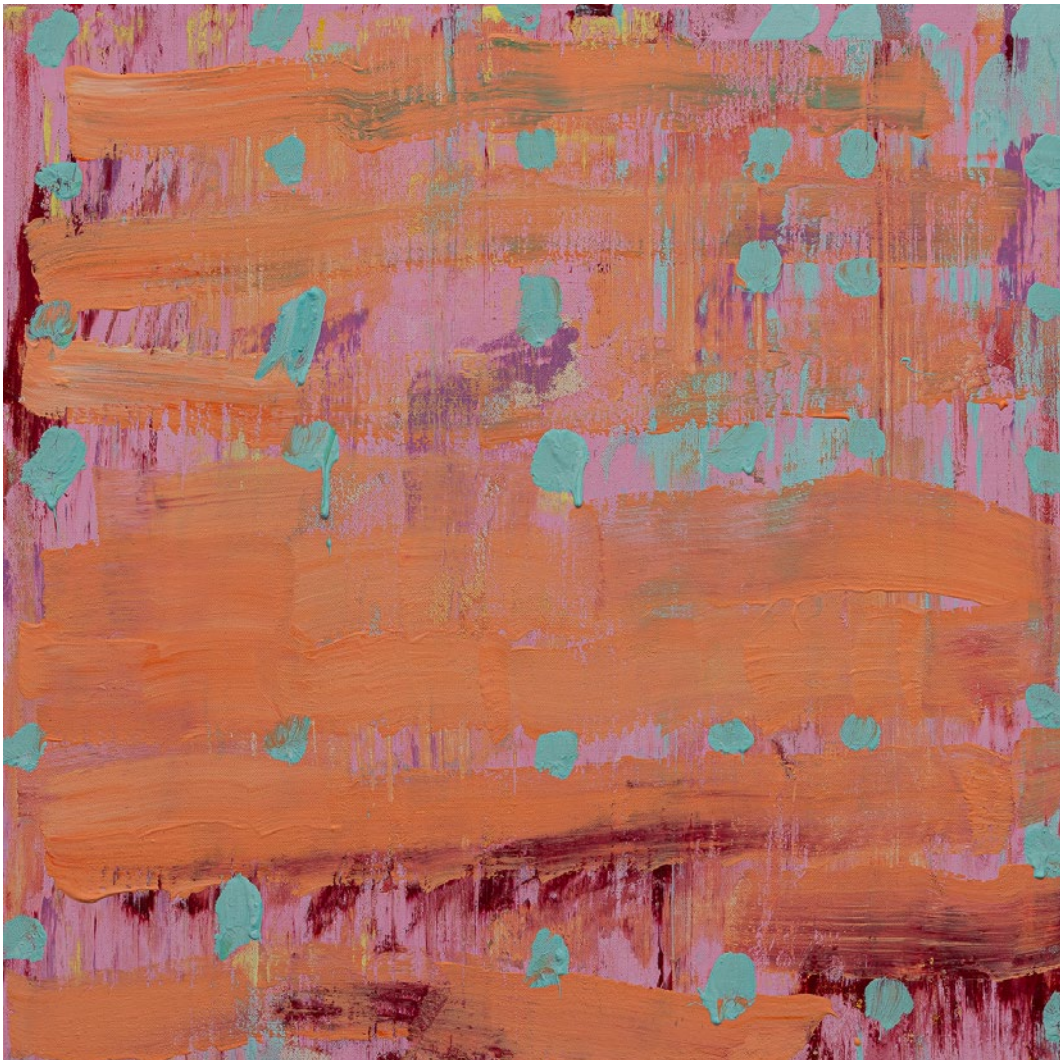
Acrylic and chalk on canvas

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**Dancing light**  
60 x 60 cm  
*Acrylic on canvas*



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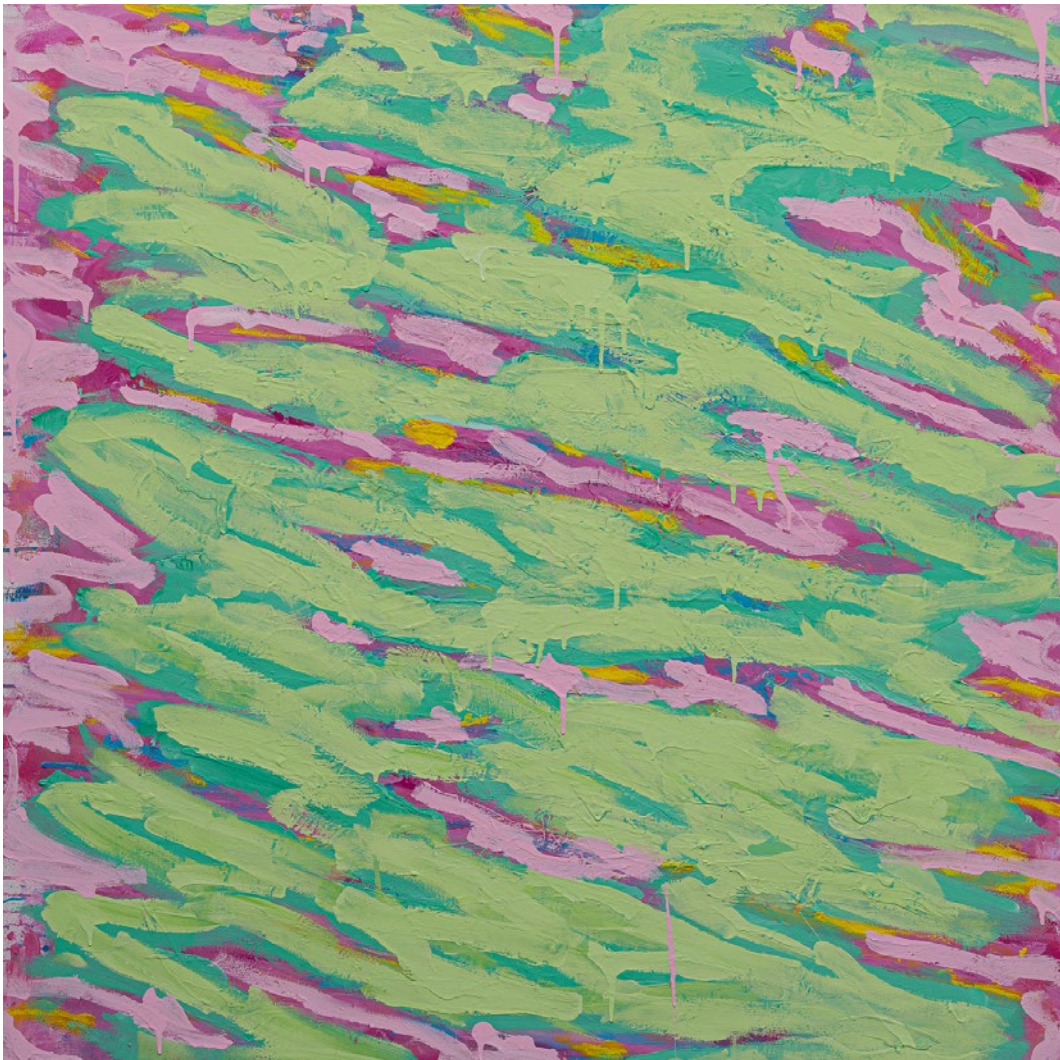
**Untitled (Pink)**  
120 x 90 cm  
*Acrylic on canvas*

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**Untitled (Green & Pink)**

100 x 100 cm

Acrylic on canvas



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**Untitled (Yellow Clouds)**

100 x 100 cm

Acrylic on canvas

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**Untitled (Framed)**

A2

Work on paper

*\*pictured behind glass*



