

Redrawing boundaries, making peace and our longing for victory

Artist's work created during lockdown illustrates where we currently are in the pandemic



Jess de Zilva, 'Perimeter', oil on linen, 75 x85cm



Jess de Zilva, 'A departure', oil on linen, 75 x85cm



The artist in her North London studio

The restrictions have been lifted but Covid19 is still here. With the Delta variant sweeping through the country causing a steep increase in infections, a 'pingdemic' telling people to isolate at home, what was referred to as freedom makes us once again think about our boundaries and our understanding of freedom, peace and victory.

Two paintings 'Perimeter' and 'A departure' created by artist Jess de Zilva during lockdown illustrate for the second time in this pandemic where we are, right now.

'Perimeter' refers to its use in security for protection. It questions where we draw boundaries, how far we go to protect ourselves, our loved ones and others. What happens when the perimeter is penetrated? The pandemic has highlighted that everybody's actions and non-actions affect everyone else.

'A departure' is symbolic for moving timidly from a devastated and restricted place into an unknown future. The figure holds up two fingers and the artist leaves us wondering if the sign is for victory, for a peace and a freedom that needs to be re-established, or all of the above.

Jess de Zilva takes our confusion and doubts, then mirrors them back at us as painted stories. "I created these paintings last year in response to the chaotic life and hopes of that moment in time. I didn't expect them to become quite so relevant again now"

Jess de Zilva studied fine art at Camberwell College of Arts and the Sarum Studio in Salisbury. Her work is currently shortlisted for the *Sequested Prize* and on show at the Kato Wong gallery.

Notes to Editors:

Jess de Zilva Fine Artist

Education

Camberwell College of Arts (BA Hons) Fine Art.

Sarum Studio, Atelier of Fine Art.

Awards

-Currently shortlisted for the Sequestered Prize

-Kulturstiftung Liechtenstein, 'Werkbeitrag' award 2019

-Atelier Rom Residency (department for culture Liechtenstein & St.Gallen, Switzerland) 2018

Exhibitions (active since 2004)

-*Something from Nothing*, online exhibition, Kato Wong Gallery (closes 30st July)

-*Prelude*, ArtCan online exhibition (2021)

-*Encounters*, D-Contemporary, Mayfair. (2019)

-*SWA 155th Annual Exhibition*, Mall Galleries (2016)

-*Double Feature 7: Paul Braunsteiner und Jess de Zilva*, The Room, Vienna (2016)

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<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1ZRpl4syU5YF8vm2NCnSW3zFoDWhlGhzL?usp=sharing>



www.artcan.org.uk

<https://www.kulturstiftung.li/>

<https://www.thesequestedprize.com/>

<https://www.katowonggallery.com>