

‘THINGS WE DO’, 5-22 MAY 2022, LIECHTENSTEIN

A SOLO EXHIBITION BY JESS DE ZILVA

**London based artist Jess de Zilva is presenting a solo exhibition in Liechtenstein of work created since the 2020 lockdown. ‘Things We Do’ brings together a series of paintings that delve deep into the emotions many of us navigated during the pandemic. The exhibition highlights the emotional chaos and confusion brought on by the unforeseen times in which we found ourselves but concludes with a second part to the exhibition focusing on the rite of spring, from which optimism and hope arise.**

The exhibition comprises of seventeen oil paintings, including a triptych, as well as fifteen miniatures. Most of the artworks are being shown for the first time. De Zilva is a realist painter often painting portraits using classical painting methods and techniques but bringing traditional portraiture into unconventional scenes. ‘Things We Do’ brings us on a journey reliving the constraints, rituals, social restrictions, isolation and more complex emotional states that we all experienced during lockdown, but then emerging with renewed optimism.

*“The paintings of this exhibition are a visual record of the past two years in illustrating what we went through mentally. Different parts of humanity came to the surface at different moments in times and so did our love, fears, beliefs, hurt and hatred, isolation, emptiness, confusion, the list goes on. As we take our first steps out of the pandemic, the exhibition finishes in a symbolic spring with daffodils, jumping and exploring figures, wonder, hope and resolve”.*

De Zilva’s paintings depict real people yet are not about specific individuals – they reflect what could be any of us. She combines figures’ poses and expressions with backdrops and symbolic objects to create thought-provoking allegories. Newly relevant objects such as masks, hand sanitiser, tissues and washing powder appear in her paintings, like a contemporary still life but are combined with the more unexpected, such as marbles and a crystal ball. The candle is a commonly recurring object throughout the exhibition, representing hope and light at the end of tunnel.

‘Things We Do’ runs from 5-22 May at Pfrundbauten, Eschen, Heragass 2, in Liechtenstein. It is de Zilva’s second international solo show. All works are for sale.

De Zilva is a London based painter of psychological allegories. She studied Fine Art at Camberwell College of Arts in 2001 and later in 2015, focused on portrait painting at the Sarum Studio, Atelier of Fine Art, Salisbury, under the tutelage of Nicholas Beer. De Zilva’s studio is located in North London.

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For more information, images or to speak to Jess, get in touch:

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