

Land Lines
Zarina Keyani

'Space is organised
by a series of compelling elements
we call landscape'

Keyani 2016

Introduction

Keyani 's abstract paintings are a comment on contemporary space and cultural history, particularly that relating to landscape. On canvas and paper these notions are condensed into colour line and movement. On closer inspection recognisable landscape elements that are usually kept at the periphery of vision are brought forward, questioning what we see and what we understand.

Although not representational in the sense that a particular scene has been copied down in paint faithfully, the work does represent a part of the wider space we occupy. As all paintings are an abstract of a larger vista or view, the paintings are an alternative perspective of that view.

Aesthetically, the abstracts are reminiscent of printed works made using a print press. Chance and random interest normally only achieved in printmaking is evident. This is often the motive or goal, to create a painting that appears easy and random and as quick as printmaking when in reality the painting has been laboured on over many months.

Keyani has extensively studied and researched creative processes including painting and print-making over many years, and paints in all mediums. The work lies within the traditions of Rothko, Richter and Scully where paint is layered in ways to achieve various colour and tonal perspectives.

Signature work including Keyani's watercolours and oil paintings together with new work have been collated for this exhibition and are presented in this catalogue.

J D Francis

Land Lines

For a landscape to function as such, there needs to be at least three basic elements; sky, horizon/middle ground and foreground. Without these the view ceases to be landscape. Our visual language however will accept any of these three as landscape. For instance imagery of sky alone will be included in the overall landscape understanding.

When abstracting and minimising elements of the landscape the huge vista must become less huge and more humble. Hence just an element of colour from the sky denotes sky in abstract language. The understanding of sky is translated through the colours and light used in the imagery.

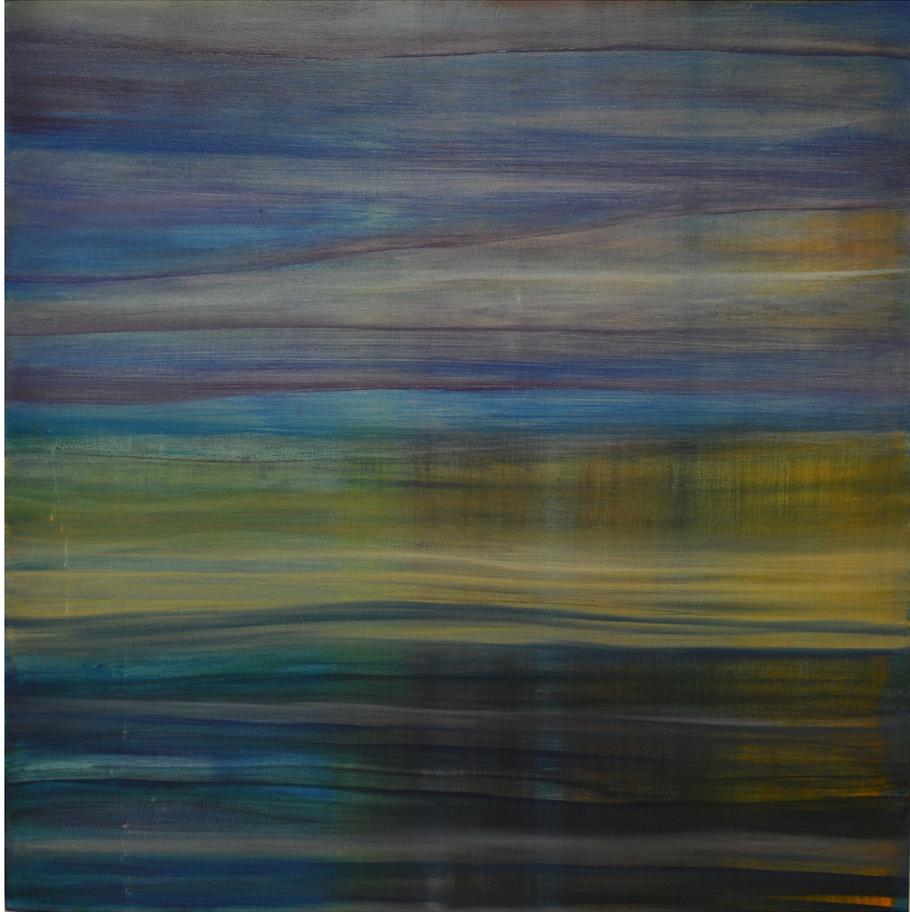
In the same way, and in the paintings, line and colour is used to denote landscape elements. They not only represent horizontals and the horizon but verticals that are either constructed or natural. These lines intersect and cross and create a depth and perspective which mirror that found in the landscape.

With the abstract there is a certain amount of understanding that the participant artist or viewer must employ. This is where perhaps the cultural history of people come in. We know collectively certain things as they are part of our everyday existence. Although there are many cultures and peoples of the world there is still amongst humanity a shared opinion in some aspects of our visual and emotional lives. Together with our own individual peculiarities, an interactive self sufficiency is provided with each piece of work. It allows the individual to read whatever they understand in the work, be it a collective knowledge or an individual understanding or a bit of both.

(Zarina Keyani 2016)

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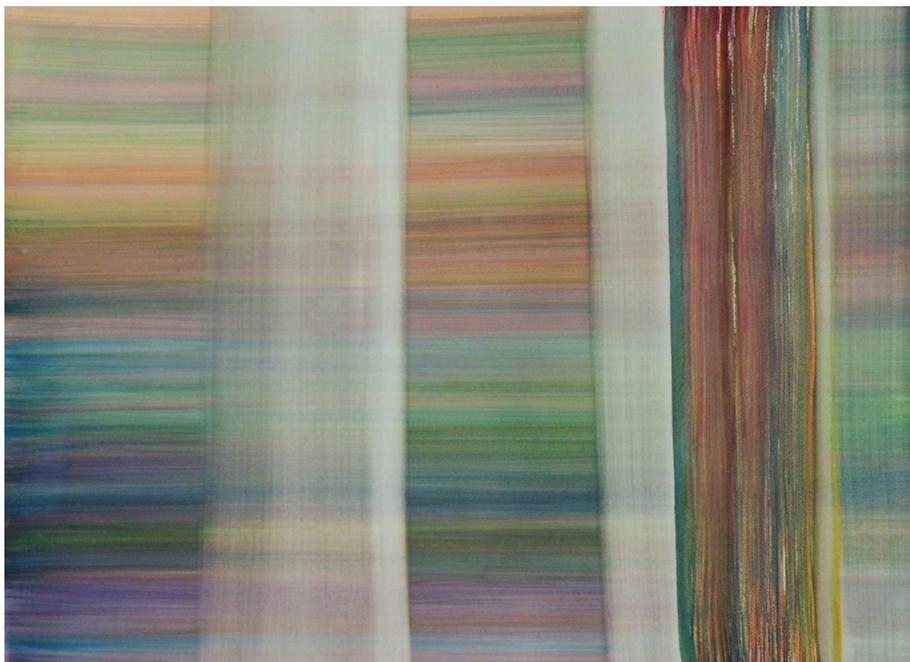
'Uraq'
Oil on Canvas
100cmx100cm



'Untitled Landscape'
Watercolour on Paper
27x18cm



'Dale Dyke Rest'
Oil on Board
31x23cm

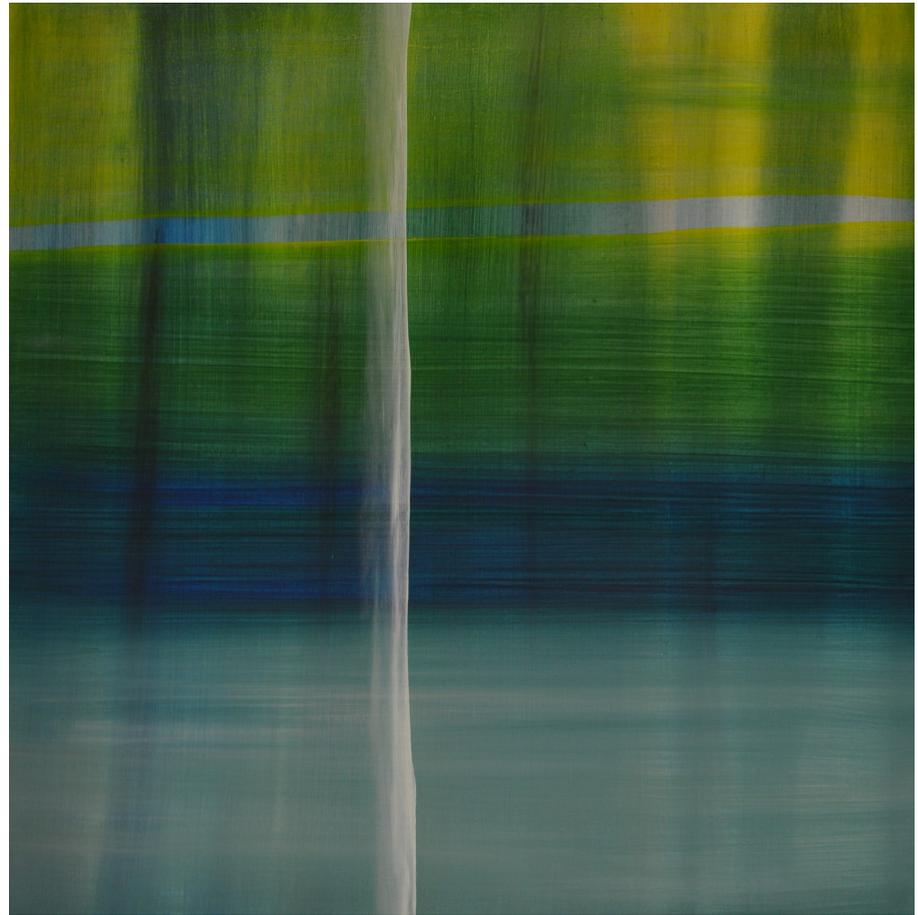


'Untitled Landscape'

Watercolour

70x51cm

'Ygdrassil
Oil on Linen
100x100cm





'Eden Landscape 1'
Oil on Canvas
15x15cm



'Untitled Landscape'
Watercolour on Paper
27x18cm

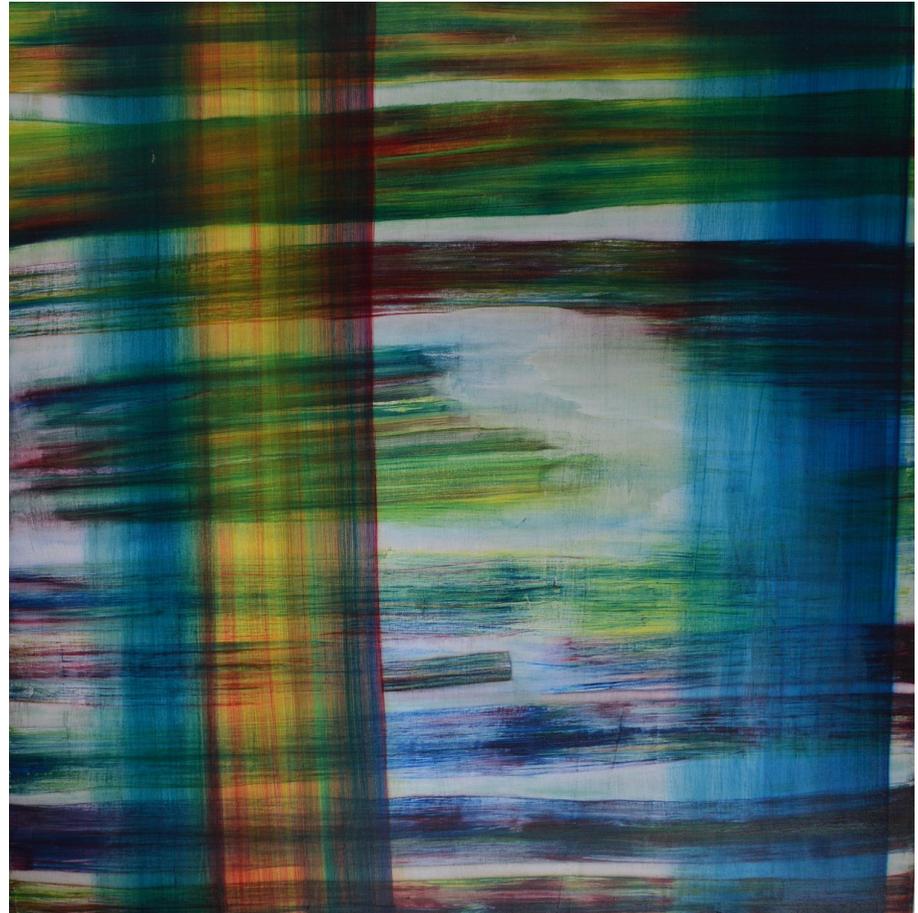


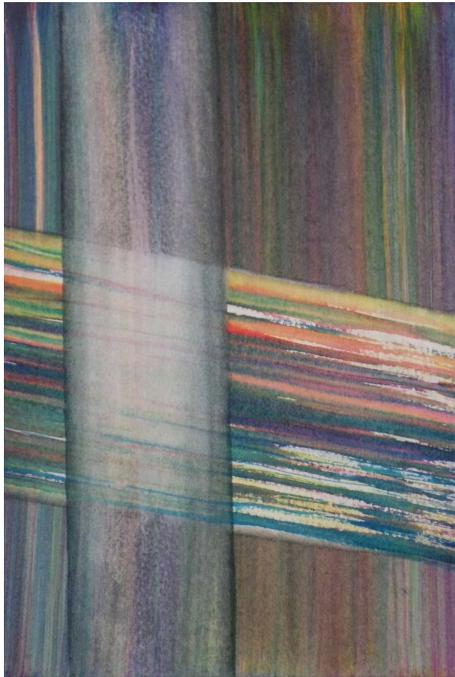
'Untitled Landscape'
Watercolour on Paper
70x51cm

'Untitled Landscape'
Watercolour on Paper
30x21cm

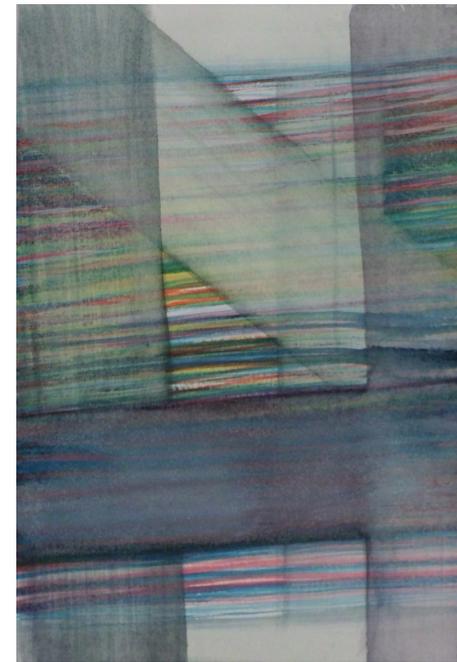


'Cedar Forest'
Oil on Canvas
100x100cm





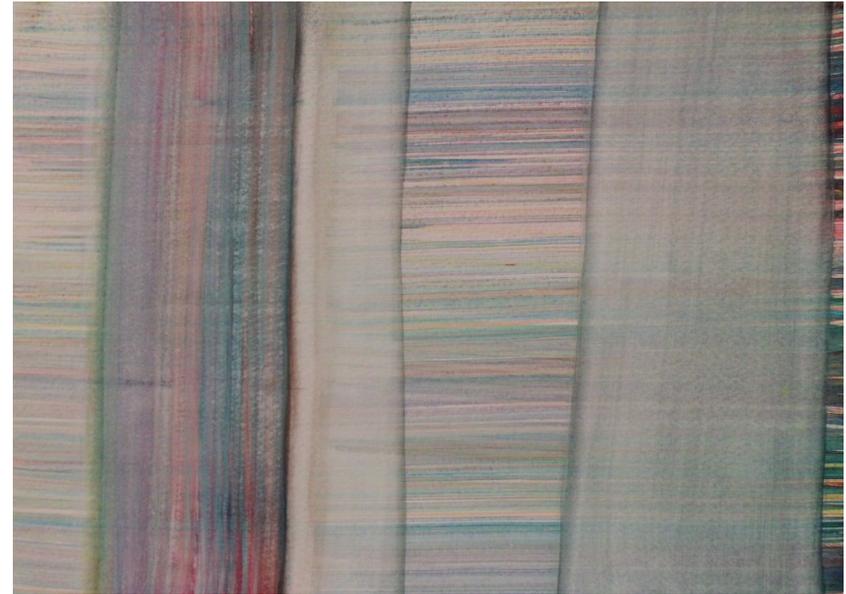
'Untitled Landscape'
Watercolour on Paper
21x30cm



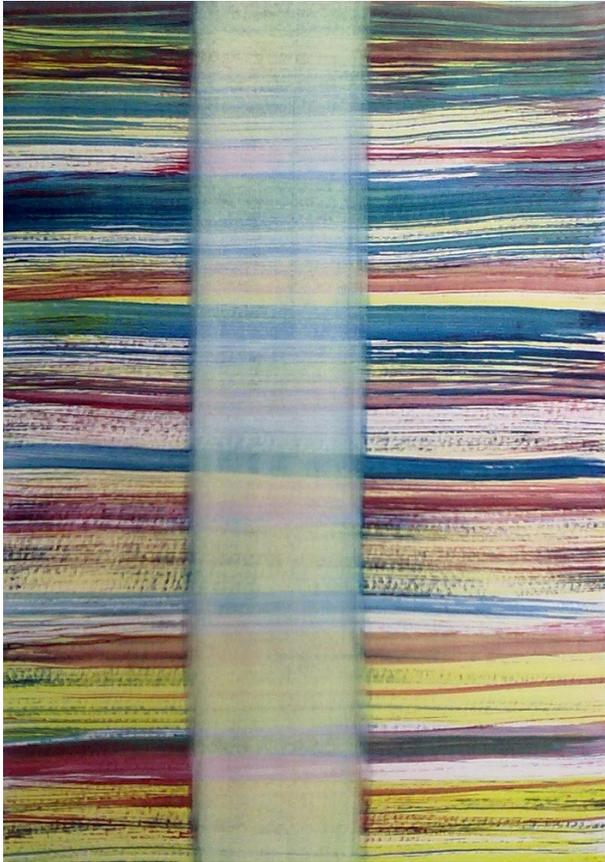
'Untitled Landscape'
Watercolour on Paper
21x30cm



'Ashford Lake'
Oil on Canvas
15x15cm



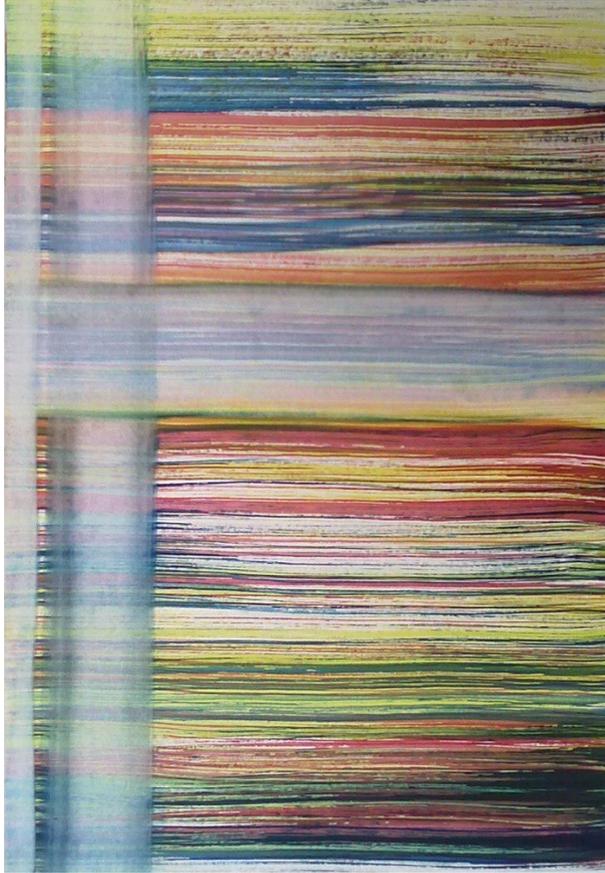
'Untitled Landscape'
Watercolour on Paper
30x21cm



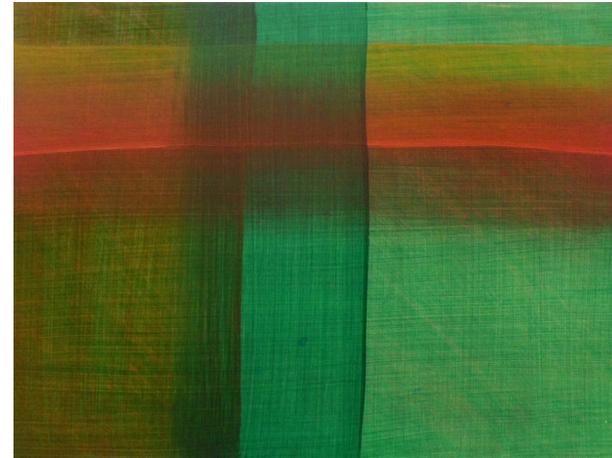
"Untitled Landscape"
Watercolour on Paper
34x29cm



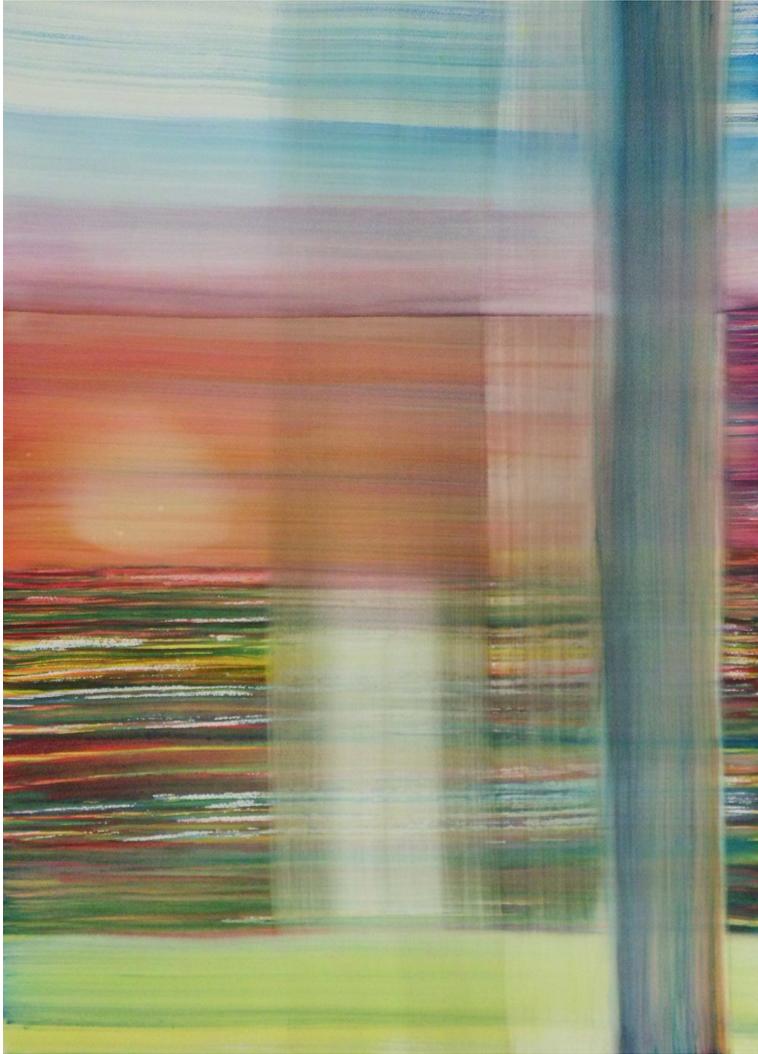
'Cedar Forest II'
Oil on Canvas
15x15cm



'Untitled Landscape'
Watercolour on Paper
34x29cm



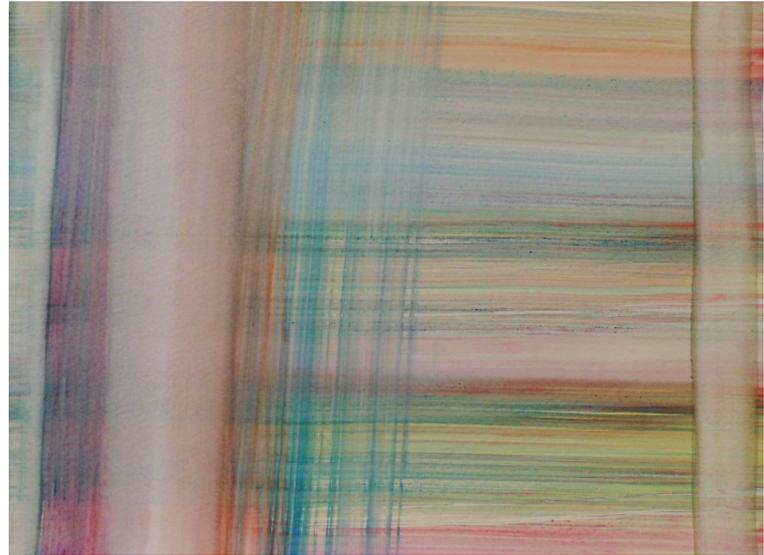
'Derwent Moors'
Oil on Board
31x23cm



'Untitled Landscape'
Watercolour on Paper
51x70cm



'Untitled Landscape'
Watercolour on Paper
30x21cm



'Untitled Landscape'
Watercolour on Paper
30x21cm



'Untitled Landscape'
Acrylic on Board
21x9cm



'Untitled Landscape'
Acrylic on Board
21x9cm



'Untitled Landscape'
Watercolour on Paper
56x76cm



'Eden Landscape'

Oil on Canvas

15x15cm



'Eden Landscape '

Oil on Canvas

15x15cm



'Untitled Landscape'
Watercolour on Paper
34x29cm

Exhibitions

2016

Love Art – RBSA, Birmingham (Feb)

Spring Exhibition - Sara Priesler Gallery – The Custard Factory (Jan-Feb)

2015

#CustardContemporary – The Custard Factory, Birmingham (Dec)

Sara Priesler Gallery - The Custard Factory (on-going exhibitions through 2015)

Junction Festival - Wolverhampton (June-July)

Perspectives on Structure - The Lakeside Gallery, Birmingham (June)

Rational grid, Geometric Exhibition - The Lakeside Gallery, Birmingham (April)

Love Art, Buy Art, Make Art - RBSA Birmingham (9th-21st Feb)

The Winter Show - The Campden Gallery, Campden, Gloucestershire (Feb)

2014

Friends Reunited - The RBSA, Birmingham

The Unites states of Art - The Lakeside Gallery, The Custard Factory, Digbeth

Junction Festival - Wolverhampton Art Gallery on 24th May-21st June, Chapel Ash

Wolverhampton on 11th-13th July

Interlude - The Custard Factory, Birmingham

Figures In An Abstract Landscape - Brooke-Smith Planning, Birmingham

Custard tArt - The Custard Factory Birmingham

Artspace Dudley - Birdcage Walk, Dudley

Birmingham Now - RBSA Birmingham

2013

Conversations With Birmingham - 9 Brindley Place, Birmingham

Negotiating Heritage - Ragley Gallery, Alcester

Condition of Spirit - The Bond Company, Fazeley Street Birmingham

The Open Project - The MAC, Birmingham

The Artist - Edgbaston Birmingham

Creative Connections Group Show - Bilston Craft Gallery

Curating Curiosity - Ragley Hall

RBSA, Birmingham

2012

Monoblog winter issue, Online Magazine

The Sunday Times Watercolour Competition, Mall Galleries, London

The Neo Print Prize, Gallery 22, Bolton, Manchester

The Final Show, The Garage, Worcester University
(Behind the Scenes at The Final Show)

2011

United Colours Of Birmingham, Zellig, Birmingham

Anticurate - MAC, Birmingham

Ego Squared, Minerva Works, Birmingham

Worcester Workshop, Sansome Street, Worcester

2010

Menier Gallery, London

RBSA Gallery, Birmingham

CIB, Birmingham

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Zarina Keyani.

Daphne Francis Gallery
The Custard Factory
Birmingham
B9 4AA
T: 07707278398
E: info@DaphneFrancisGallery.com

www.DaphneFrancisGallery.com