

'Summer's Blood'

For immediate release
22/11/22

Cuckoo Gallery presents an exhibition of works by painter, Hermione Shaw

December 3rd, 2022 - March 1st, 2023

The title of the show, which shares its name with one of the exhibited paintings, derives from the poem "Blackberry Picking" by Seamus Heaney. An allegory for loss of innocence and passing of youth, the poem explores the childhood joy of hunting for, and eating blackberries. The berry's 'flesh was sweet like thickened wine: summer's blood was in it'. The children hoard their 'cache', and the berries subsequently rot, 'the sweet flesh would turn sour'. The paintings curated in this show sit in the space between the sweet and the rot; a toe in each. They explore the intense and transient experience of youth, within a twilight state of both agony and ecstasy, love and pain.

Hermione (b. 1998) is a painter from West Sussex, working in South East London. Her subject matter draws on a continuous exploration of intimate personal memory, punctuated with literary and cultural references. For Shaw, figurative painting offers a sense of control through which a complex web of emotional and physical states; experiences and relationships can be navigated and reimagined. The female form, often a focus of her paintings, becomes a landscape in which themes of friendship, love, grief and loss are explored.

Hermione Shaw graduated from Goldsmiths in 2020 with a BA in Fine Art, and the Neville Burston Prize for Painting. Recent group exhibitions include 'Showing You Mine' at LIMBO Gallery in London



'Summer's Blood', Oil on canvas, H160cm X W200cm

PV 2pm - 6pm, December 3rd

Cuckoo Gallery
191 Northdown Road
Margate
CT9 2PA

Contact details for further information

ig: @hermioneshaw
e: 11shawh@gmail.com
w: <https://hermioneshaw.pb.gallery>
no: 07776096734

ig: @cuckoogallerycom
e: info@cuckoo-gallery.com
w: www.cuckoo-gallery.com
no. 07813266371