

Finn Johnson

PROFILE

I am a young female painter, specialising in large scale abstract expressionist oil paintings. I have a studio in which I dedicate a lot of my time; developing my practice, experimenting and selling my work. My practice is based around my own psychological and emotive states. Reacting to this fundamental human condition through the medium of abstract expressionism is really a way for me to explain, and work through my states of mind. Although this seems like an introverted practice, I am fuelled by emotional connections between people and enjoy learning about others. Which in turn influences my practice, new experiences and connections only enhance my inspiration.

In my final year at City and Guilds, I was the recipient of the Freelands Foundation Painting Prize (2022) that awards the top ten painters from over fifty UK art schools with a prize in recognition of their work. Described by Freelands juror Matt Price, the prize represents an opportunity “to discover the work of some of the most promising painters at art schools around the UK at such an exciting time for British painting”.

EXPERIENCE

FREELANDS FOUNDATION PAINTING PRIZE, LONDON — 2022

Alongside ten other graduating students, the Freelands foundation awards the top painters from art schools in the UK. The award brings together the eleven winners in an exhibition - runs 6th October-20th November 2022, Chalk Farm.

CITY & GUILDS OF LONDON ART SCHOOL BA DEGREE SHOW — 2022

I featured four large scale oil paintings in my final year degree show. I sold two out of the four during the night of the private view. As well as being in the show, I had a hand in curating my own display and the handling and installation of these works. The exhibition was held at City & Guilds of London Art School, Kennington - 28th June -3rd July.

CITY & GUILDS OF LONDON ART SCHOOL INTERIM SHOW — 2021

An exhibition for first and second year students of CGLAS to present a wide variety of final pieces from the past year in a show held at AMP studios, Old Kent Road 9th - 11th August 2021. It was a student run exhibition with funding from the art school. I had two large scale oil paintings in the show, and held one of the curation and installation roles during organisation.

ROYAL ACADEMY A-LEVEL SUMMER EXHIBITION ONLINE — 2018

Each year the RA puts together an online exhibition from young and emerging artists aged 16-18 and still in education. My clay sculpture work was featured in the 2018 online exhibition.

CHARITY FUND-RAISING — 2015-PRESENT

My youngest sister is severely disabled. She has a debilitating neurological disorder called Rett Syndrome. Together with my family we have raised over £100k for charity *Reverse Rett* through a variety of means.

EDUCATION

City & Guilds Of London Art School - Kennington, London, 2019-2022 - Degree in Fine Art (2.1)

Central Saint Martins (UAL) - Archway, London - 2018-2019 - Foundation year in Art and Design, specialising in sculpture.

Cheadle Hulme School - Stockport, Greater Manchester - 2004-2018 - A level, Art (A*), English Literature (A*), English language (A).

SKILLS

From my time in art school, I have learnt to build, stretch and prime all my canvases, ranging from sizes of up to three meters. I am familiar with power tools, and can work at a good pace. I have had various experiences that have taught me how to hang and properly display work in a professional setting. I have a vast knowledge of different mediums from paint, primers and sculptural materials, as I have years worth of experience experimenting and learning about these specific materials.

My degree also consisted of an art history module in which I wrote various essays about artists such as Michel Nedjar, Joan Miró, Salvador Dalí and Dante Alighieri. As well as learning about a lot of other artists, movements etc. from both contemporary and historical art.

HOBBIES AND INTERESTS

Photography, life drawing and modelling, natural world, wild swimming, gardening, coastlines, reading.

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