



CHRISTOPHER MOLLER

GALLERY

DIVERSITY WITHIN UNITY - ALDO BALDING





INTRODUCTION

by Christopher Moller

We are thrilled to be hosting the anticipated exhibition "Diversity Within Unity" by the talented artist Aldo Balding. Our connection with Balding dates from 2007 when Jaco Claassen and I established the gallery. Over the years and several exhibitions, we have had the privilege of working closely with Balding and developing a personal friendship with both him and his wife Sarah.

What has always amazed me is the captivating storytelling narrative present in Balding's artwork. He possesses a remarkable ability to create scenarios that intrigue viewers and prompt them to unravel the mysteries within. One of the ultimate examples of this narrative prowess is Leonardo da Vinci's iconic masterpiece, the "Mona Lisa." For centuries, scholars have debated the enigmatic smile of the subject, emphasising the magical and mysterious nature of body language. It is ingrained in our human nature to decipher the scenarios we encounter, whether in art or social situations. This instinct can be traced back to our primal fight-or-flight instincts from ancient times. Studies have shown that when we meet someone for the first time, we form impressions within the first seven seconds of interaction. Even more fascinating is the fact that 66% of all communication is non-verbal, while only 34% is verbal.

This reminds me of a humorous yet wise proverb, 'The one who knows much says little. An understanding person remains calm. Even fools who keep quiet are thought to be wise, if they keep their mouths shut, they are smart.' The essence of Balding's work lies in the unspoken narrative, and it is instinctive for the human brain to connect the dots and discern the underlying story. Our minds create scenarios that reflect our own perspectives, and that is the magic of Aldo Balding—he tantalises us with his intriguing scenarios.

Balding's paintings also exhibit a strong technical element, which is evident in the title "Diversity Within Unity." He skilfully combines diverse scenes, such as the vibrant interior of a nightclub or a serene street view, harmoniously by carefully selecting what to include and omit within each composition. This artistic approach can be traced back to his early days as an illustrator. While many artists create intricate and busy works that reflect the intensity of their personalities, Balding focuses on simplifying the scene and highlighting the essential elements that hold significance to him.

Colour also plays a prominent role in Balding's artwork, particularly in achieving unity of colour. Unity of colour refers to the cohesive and harmonious arrangement of colours within a painting, creating a sense of balance, harmony, and overall visual unity.

Colours have the power to evoke emotions and convey meaning in a painting. When colours are unified, they create a sense of order and prevent the painting from appearing disjointed or chaotic. Balding meticulously selects and organises colours to establish a visual unity that guides the viewer's eye smoothly across the composition.

The concept of a painting being impactful from a distance while revealing intricate brushwork up close showcases the technique employed by artists to create an overall impression or effect when viewed from afar, while also highlighting the skill and craftsmanship in the brushwork when observed up close. When viewed from a distance, Balding's paintings capture attention and communicate a strong visual impact. The composition, colour palette, and overall design harmoniously come together to create a captivating image. Balding strategically arranges elements, employs various brush techniques, and plays with light and shadow to achieve a visually striking and harmonious composition. This intentional arrangement ensures that the painting is visually appealing and leaves a lasting impression when viewed from a distance, drawing the viewer into its captivating world.

However, upon closer inspection, the individual brushstrokes become more apparent, showcasing Balding's mastery and attention to detail. These brushstrokes may appear loose, expressive, or even abstract, adding a unique texture that allows viewers to appreciate the artist's hand and technique. The simplicity of the brushwork up close provides an intimate experience with the artwork.

During a lunch with Aldo and Sarah in Spain last year, over a glass or two of Apéro, Aldo agreed to paint four of his largest works to date. To ensure the perfect composition, he started by painting smaller studies, meticulously examining their arrangement. Once satisfied, he recreated these works on a grand scale, utilising larger brushstrokes and canvases. The result is truly breathtaking, as the scenes are intensified, giving birth to four striking artworks. We warmly invite you to join us on this captivating and immersive journey and new chapter into the world of Aldo Balding's remarkable artwork.





VIA AUGUSTA, GIRONA
Oil on canvas 146 X 97 cm (57.5 x
38.2inches)
Sold

VALBONNE
Oil on canvas 146 X 97 cm (57.5 x
38.2inches)
GBP 12,000 excl S.A vat



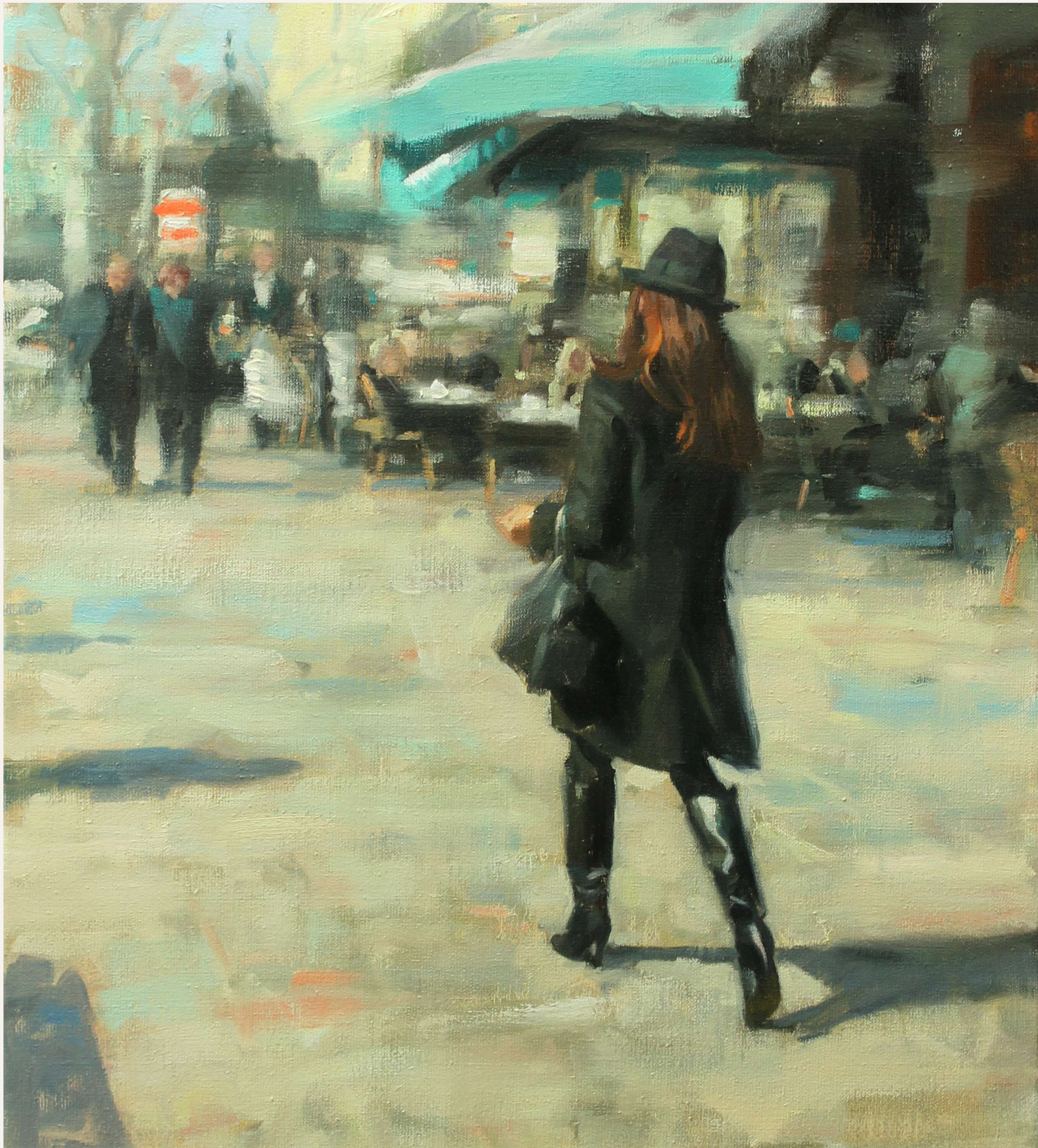




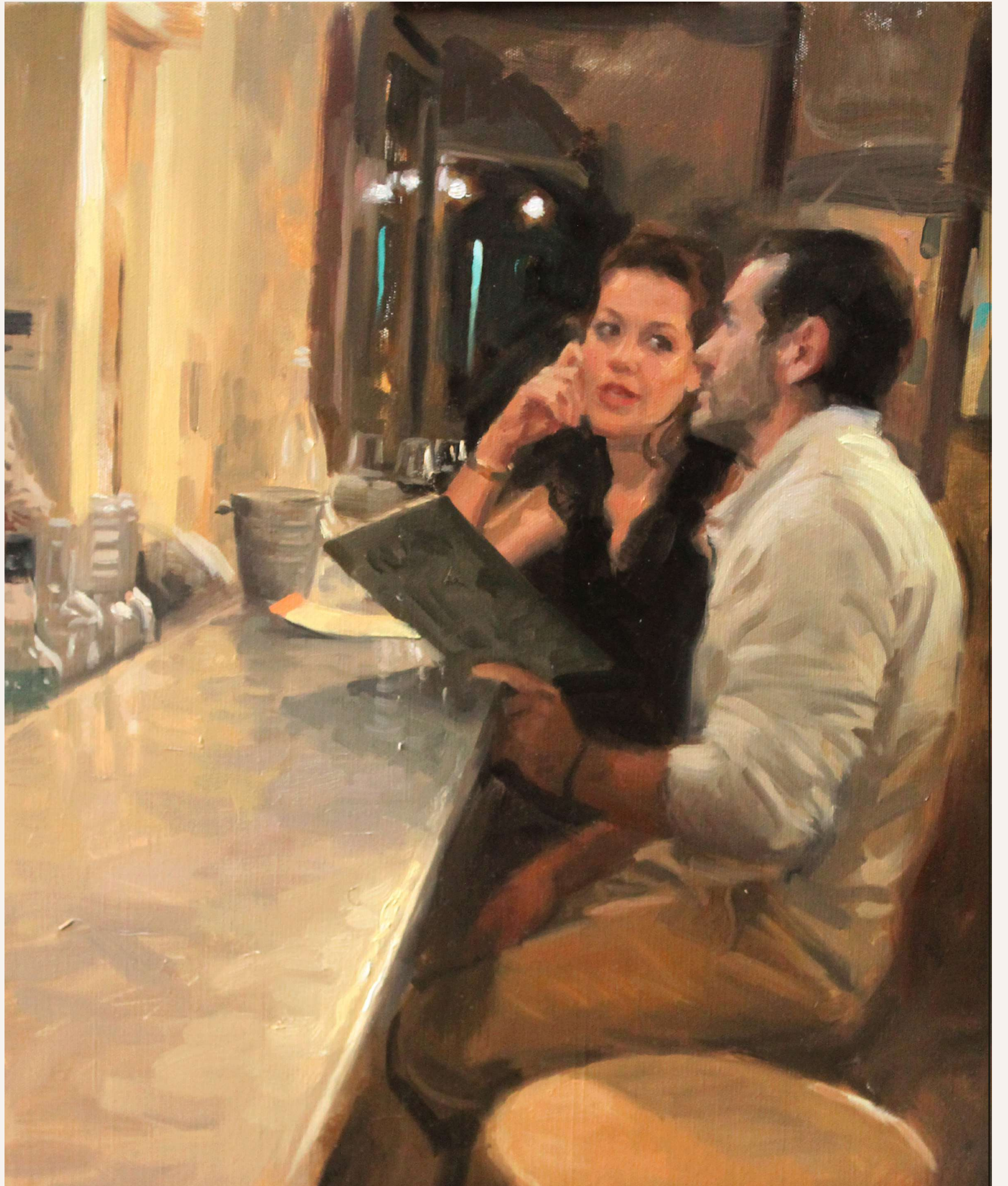
KITCHEN, DOMAINE D'AUDABIAC
Oil on canvas 146 X 97 cm (57.5 x
38.2inches)
GBP 12,000 excl S.A vat

KITCHEN AT CHATEAU GUDANES
Oil on canvas 146 X 97 cm (57.5 x
38.2inches)
GBP 12,000 excl S.A vat





LES DEUX MAGOTS
Oil on canvas
65 x 55cm (26 x 22 inches)
Sold



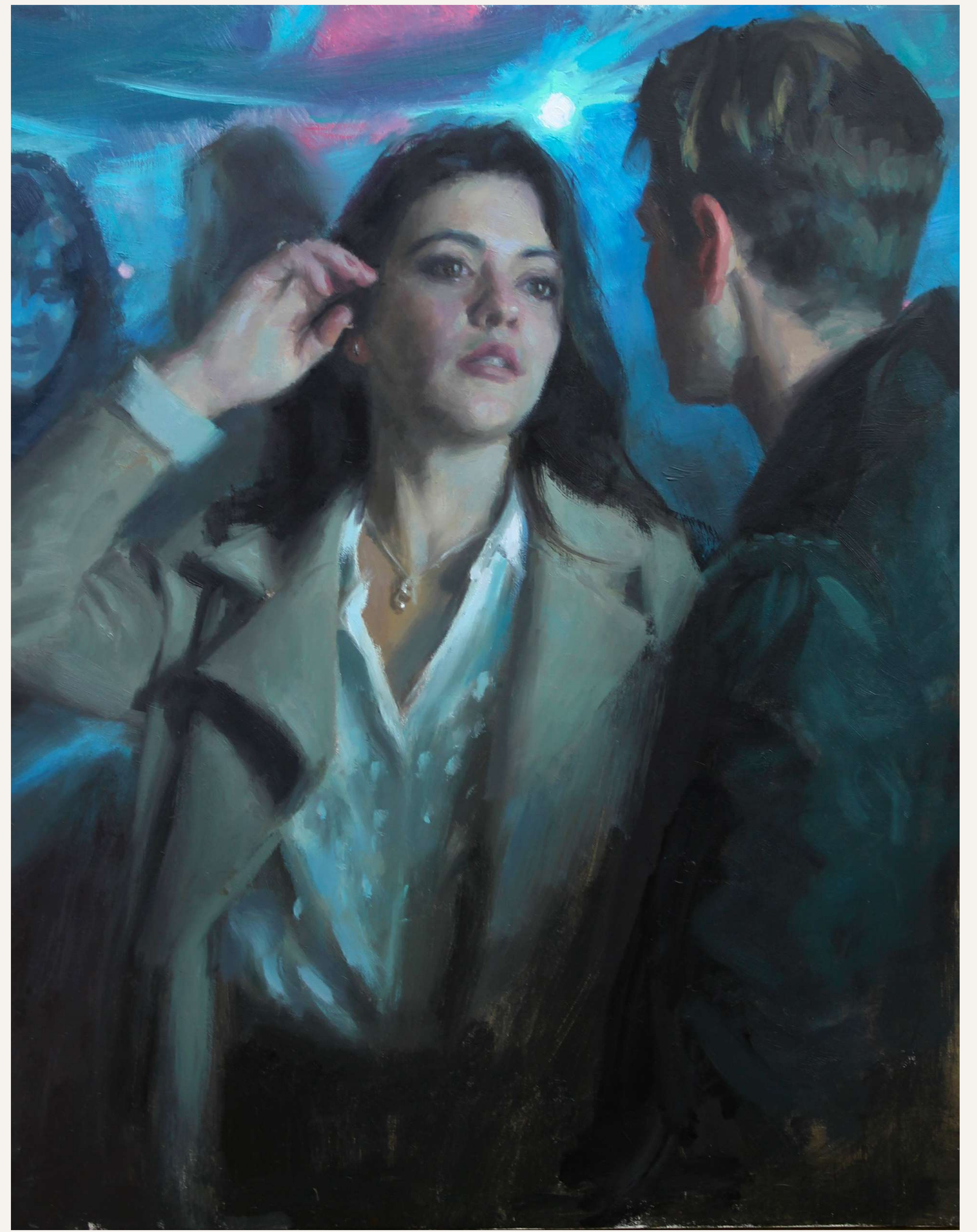
HALOGEN PASSAGE
oil on canvas
60 X 50CM (24 x 20 inches)
GBP 4,000 excl S.A vat



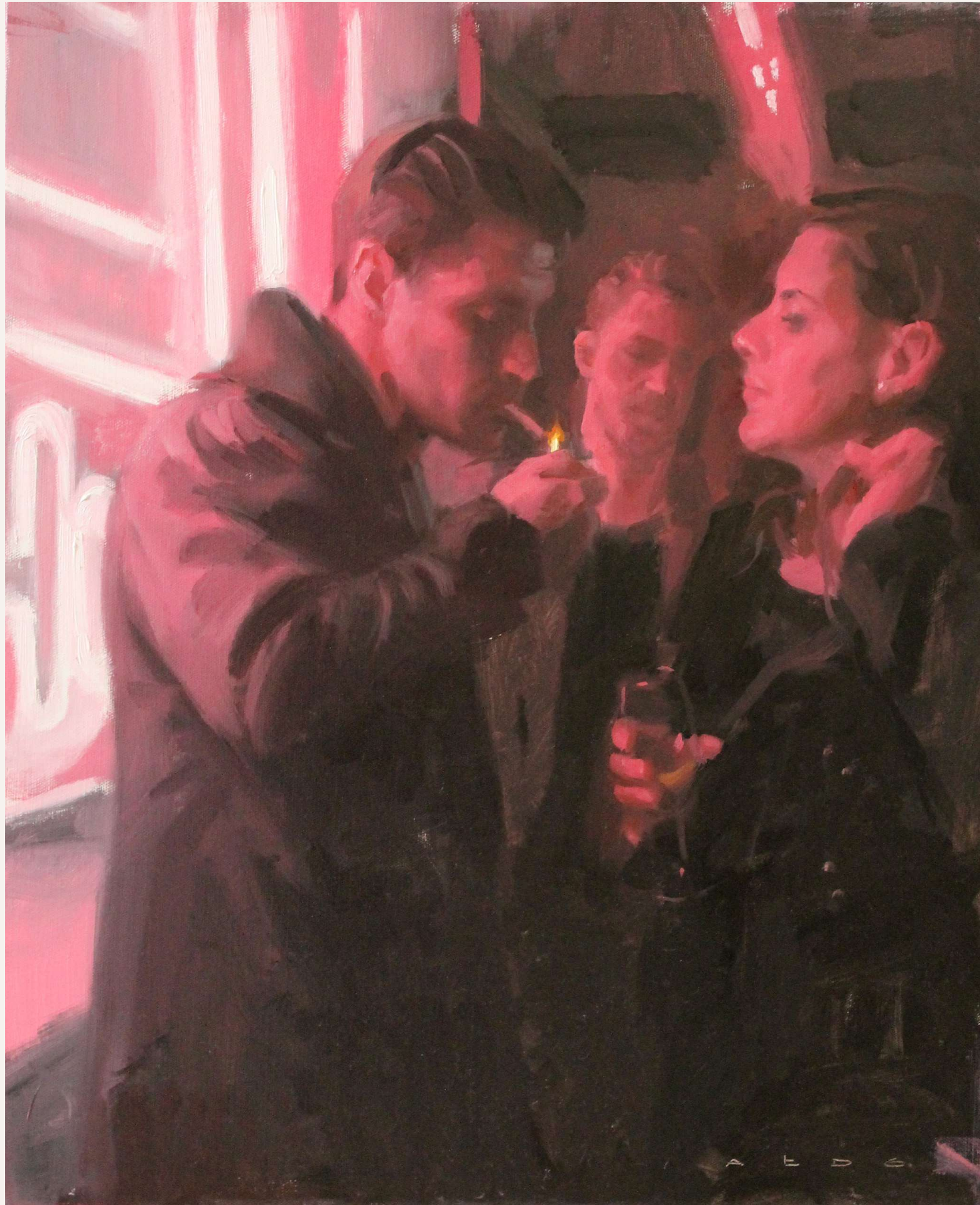
BRETTOS
oil on canvas
50 x 40cm (20 x 16 inches)
Sold



PINK AND GREY
oil on canvas
60 x 50cm (24 x 20 inches)
GBP 4,000 excl S.A vat



CYANISM
oil on canvas
60 x 50cm (24 x 20 inches)
GBP 4,000 excl S.A vat



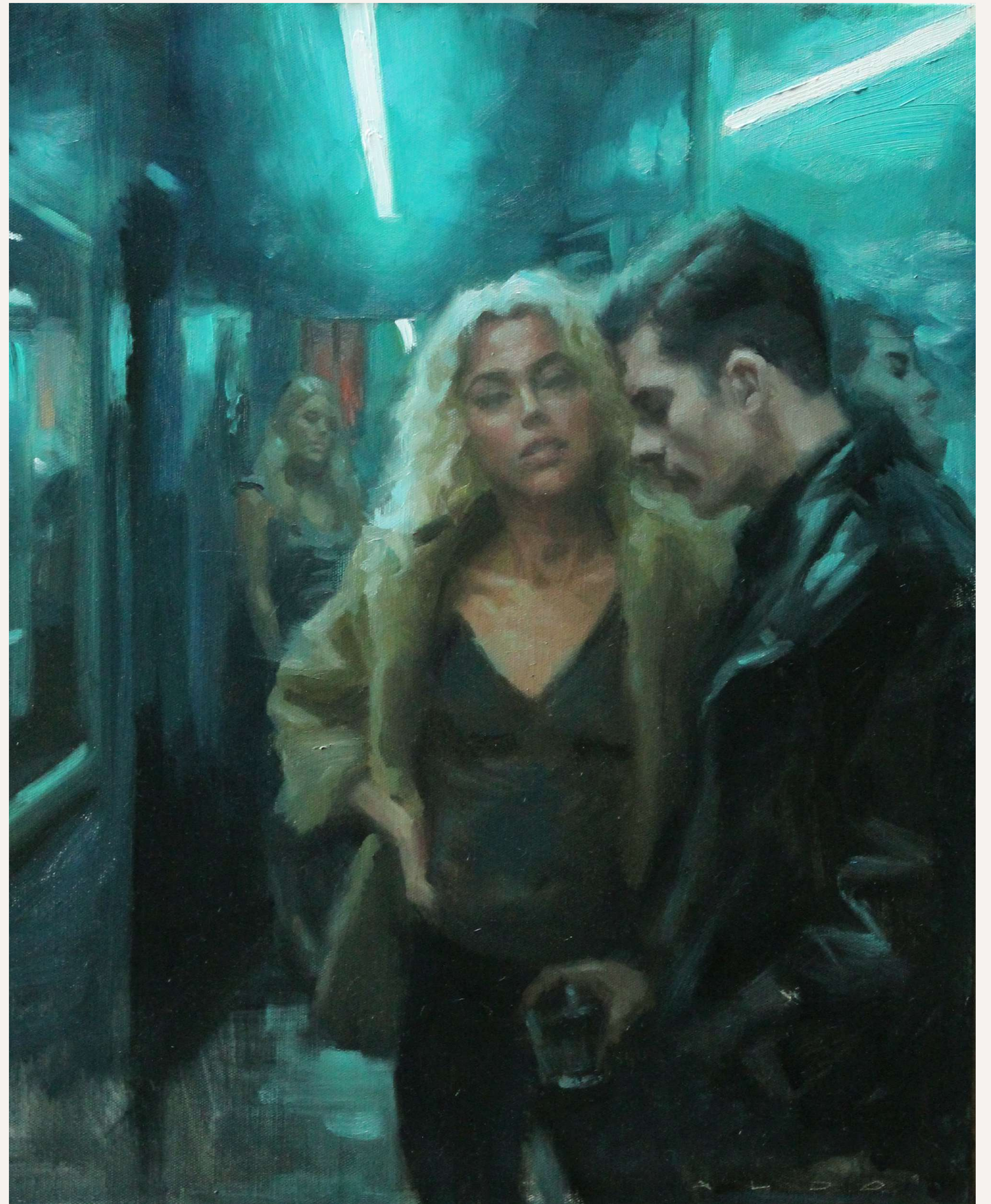
NEON ROSE
oil on canvas
60 x 50cm (24 x 20 inches)
GBP 4,000 excl S.A vat



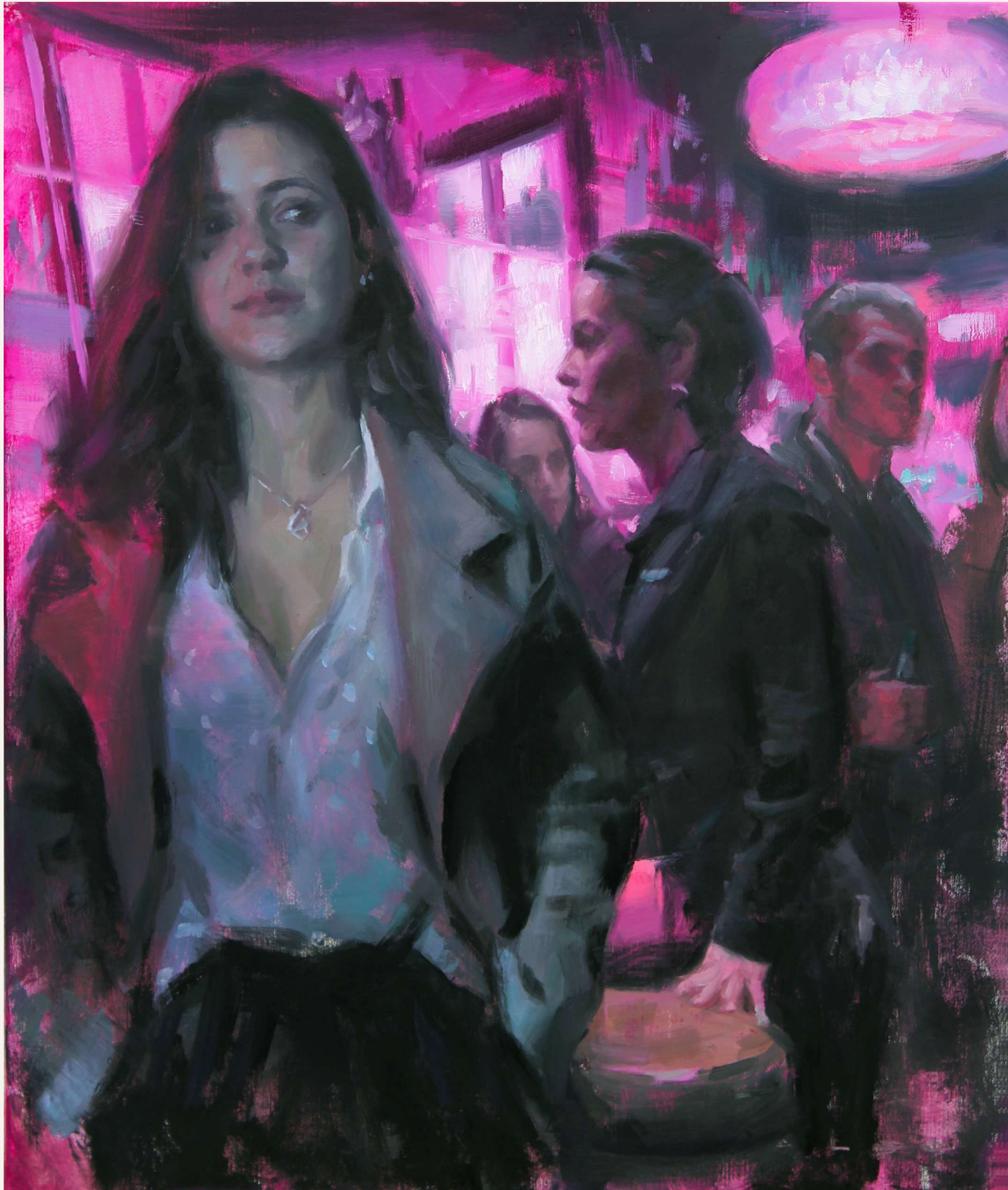
RED STREETS
oil on canvas
60 x 50cm (24 x 20 inches)
GBP 4,000 excl S.A vat



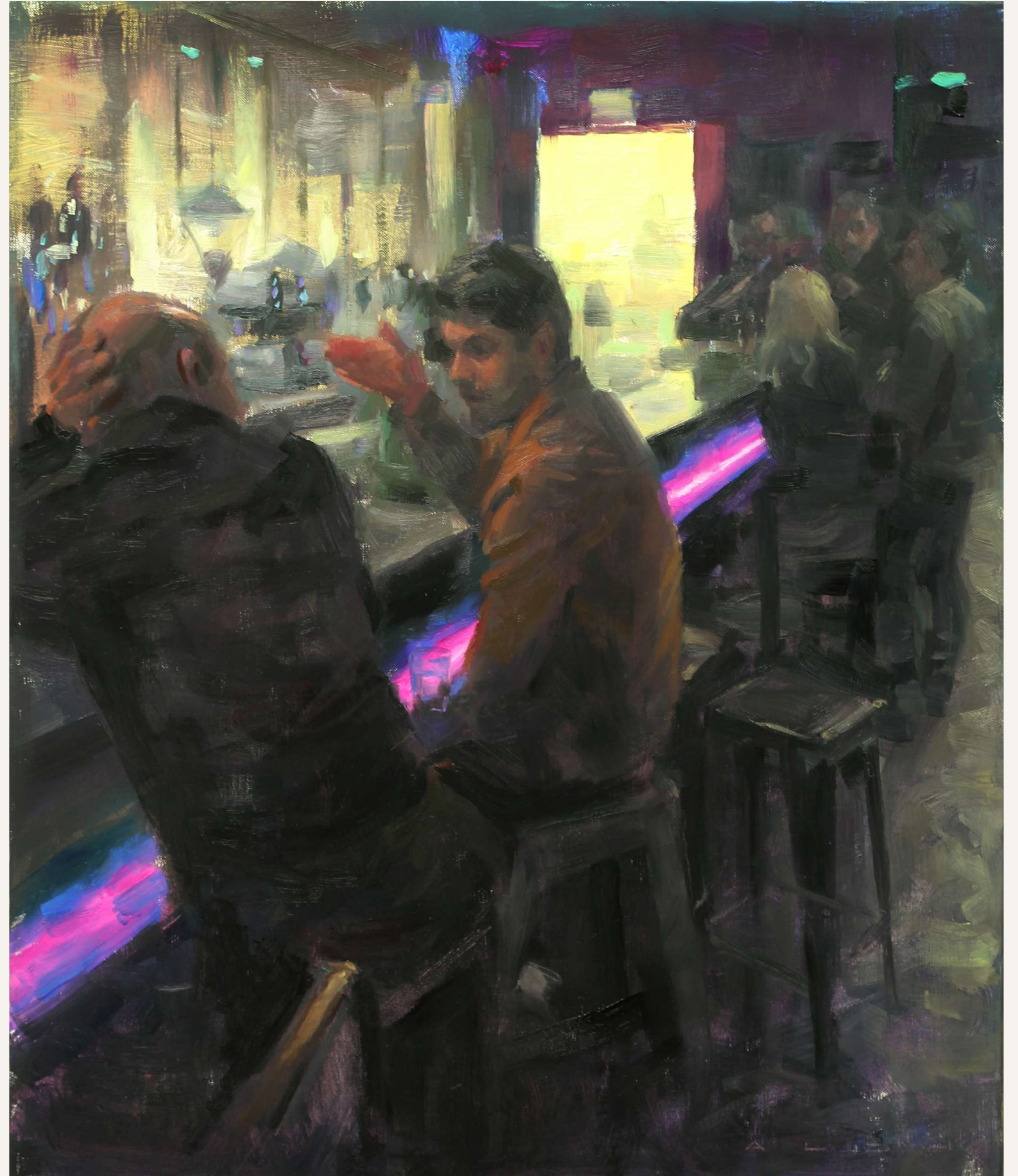
SUBWAYS
oil on canvas
60 x 50cm (24 x 20 inches)
GBP 4,000 excl S.A vat



FLUORESCENCE
oil on canvas
60 x 50cm (24 x 20 inches)
GBP 4,000



MAGENTA
oil on canvas
60 x 50cm (24 x 20 inches)
GBP 4,000 excl S.A vat



PLUGGED BAR
oil on canvas
60 x 50cm (12 x 16 inches)
GBP 4,000 excl S.A vat



BIOGRAPHY

Aldo Balding, an English artist, is renowned for his remarkable talent and unique perspective in the art world. Born in the U.K. in 1960, Balding initially pursued a career as an illustrator in London before immersing himself in the pursuit of becoming a full-time artist in France. With nearly four decades of experience, Balding has honed his artistic skills and developed a distinctive approach that sets him apart. His works captivate viewers with their striking visual impact and demonstrate his unwavering commitment to his craft.

As a young man, Balding's encounter with a John Singer Sargent artwork sparked his inspiration to become an artist. He was captivated by the illusion of reality created by Sargent's loose brushwork when viewed from a distance. This experience left a lasting impression on Balding and motivated him to strive for a similar essence in his own work, while maintaining a realistic appearance from afar.

The concept of a painting being essential from a distance, yet revealing simple brushwork up close, is a technique used by artists to create an overall impression or effect when viewed from a distance, while also showcasing the skill and craftsmanship in the brushwork when observed up close. Balding strategically arranges elements, employs various brush techniques, and plays with light and shadow to create harmonious and visually striking compositions. This intentional arrangement ensures that his paintings are visually appealing and impactful, drawing viewers into their captivating worlds.

Upon closer inspection, Balding's mastery and attention to detail become evident through the individual brushstrokes. These brushstrokes may appear loose, expressive, or even abstract when examined closely, allowing viewers to appreciate the artist's hand and the unique texture created by the application of paint on the canvas.

Unity of colour is of great importance in Balding's work. By carefully selecting and organising colours, he creates a sense of balance, harmony, and overall visual unity. Colours play a significant role in evoking emotions and conveying meaning in a painting. When colours are unified, they create a sense of order and prevent the painting from appearing disjointed or chaotic. Balding's intentional use of colour guides the viewer's eye smoothly throughout the composition, enhancing the overall impact.

In addition to his technical prowess, Balding's work carries a narrative element that invites viewers to interpret and create their own stories within his contemporary scenes. He skillfully conveys emotions and intentions through body language and space distortion, creating a sense of anticipation and intrigue. As a storyteller, Balding shapes his ideas and adjusts colours, figures, and scenery to guide the viewer's experience and perception, allowing them to engage with his art on a deeper level.



EXHIBITIONS

2024

Diversity Within Unity - Solo exhibition. Christopher Moller Gallery

2023

Galerie en Rè, Bois-Colombes, solo show.

2022

Thompsons Gallery London -two man show -Influences.

2020

ModPortrait MEAM BARCELONA.

Neonism - Solo Exhibition. Christopher Moller Gallery

2019

Galerie Marine en Ré, Bois-Colombes, France.

Galerie Anagama, Versailles.

2018

IAACC Pablo Serrano de Zaragoza Museum Exhibition - Group exhibition.

Barcelona Museum of Modern Art MEAM Exhibition - Group exhibition.

2017

Thompsons Gallery London - Group exhibition.

2016

ROI exhibition. - Group exhibition.

Royal Society of Portrait Painters - Group exhibition. (2016, 2014, 2011, 2009, 2007, 2006, 2005, 2003, 2002)

2015

Christopher Moller Gallery- Solo exhibition 2015, 2013, 2011.

2009

ING Discerning Eye- Group exhibition.

2008

Catto Gallery - Solo exhibition, 2008 and 2006.

2006

Alexander Gallery, Bristol - Solo exhibition.

2000

BP Awards - Group exhibition.

AWARDS

Winner 'best of show' bold brush competition Nov 2013

Arc salon finalist 2004 , 2006

NSE Exhibition first prize 2003

Artist international first prize 2002



CHRISTOPHER MOLLER

GALLERY

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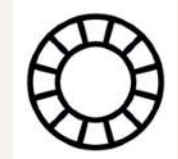
www.christophermollerart.co.za

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ACQUISITION PROCESS

- Once you have chosen your favourite piece, please contact our team at info@christophermollerart.co.za to confirm your request and advise on your shipping address.
- Please note, your requested piece and invoice will be valid for 7 calendar days. Once payment has been processed and received, ownership of the piece will be transferred.
- Art pieces will be released to the waiting list after 7 days.
- Shipment date will be confirmed per purchase. Kindly note, artwork will only leave the Gallery post exhibition.
- Kindly note all ZAR prices are excluding 15% SA VAT.
- Kindly note, shipping cost excludes any destination taxes & import charges

CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS ACCEPTED.

Our bank (Nedbank) has given us the option to do the credit card transaction via e-payment solution for credit cards. This is a secure product that enables the Gallery to send you a link with the amount pre-populated. It requires you to complete your credit card details. This protects you, in that you don't have to give out your credit card details to a third party, while you complete it online. Unfortunately, this system does not accept American Express or Diners Club credit cards.

Please inform your bank of the transaction in advance and provide them with our Merchant code: 2738375 should your bank reject the request from a foreign country.

This is how it works; You will receive an email with the link from the Christopher Moller Gallery. This will include a PDF copy of the invoice. Please click on the link and complete the transaction by completing your credit card details. Kindly note each link has an expiry date and is valid for 2 days. Once the transaction has been authorised, you will receive a notification that the payment has been successful.

ENQUIRIES | How can we assist?

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VIEWINGS BY APPOINTMENT

Please contact us to view in person.

Tuesday - Friday · 10h00 - 16h00

Monday & Saturday · Viewings by Appointment Sunday · Closed

CHRISTOPHER MOLLER

GALLERY

VISIT US

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Please contact our team should you wish to be added to the preview list of your desired exhibition.
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