

TEN BY MARY O'CONNOR

31.08.2023 - 28.09.2024 | SO FINE ART EDITIONS, DUBLIN



Mary O'Connor's artistic journey reflects a personal exploration of movement and migration, both in the physical and metaphorical sense. This exhibition, TEN, captures the essence of her ten years back in Ireland, while celebrating the impact and influence that travelling across continents throughout her life has had on her work. This has resulted in artworks that are both visually striking and thematically profound.



Images: Iceberg III; Middle Earth New series; Silkscreen print, Edition of 5, 100h x 70w cm, €700 unframed each

O'Connor's work is characterised by flat, gestural compositions that make use of bold, abstract geometric designs. She makes paintings, screen prints, and large-scale wall murals that are influenced by the various vast landscapes she has encountered. The boldness of her colour palette and the recurring shapes in her work convey a sense of movement - both the physical movement of her own life and the larger, more gradual movements of the earth itself. Beyond personal narrative, her art delves into the broader themes of environmental impact, suggesting the immediate impact we as humans have on our environment, contrasted with the slow, almost imperceptible movements of tectonic plates.



Images: Cyclical I; Cyclical II; Cyclical III; Silkscreen print, Edition of 4, 100h x 70w cm, €620 unframed each



Images (top): Portal I; Portal II; Portal III, Painting on panel, Unique, 15h x 20w cm, €365 each
(bottom): Portal IV; Ridge I; Ridge II, Painting on panel, Unique, 15h x 20w cm, €365 each
(opposite): Soar, Silkscreen print, Unique, 55h x 30w cm, SOLD





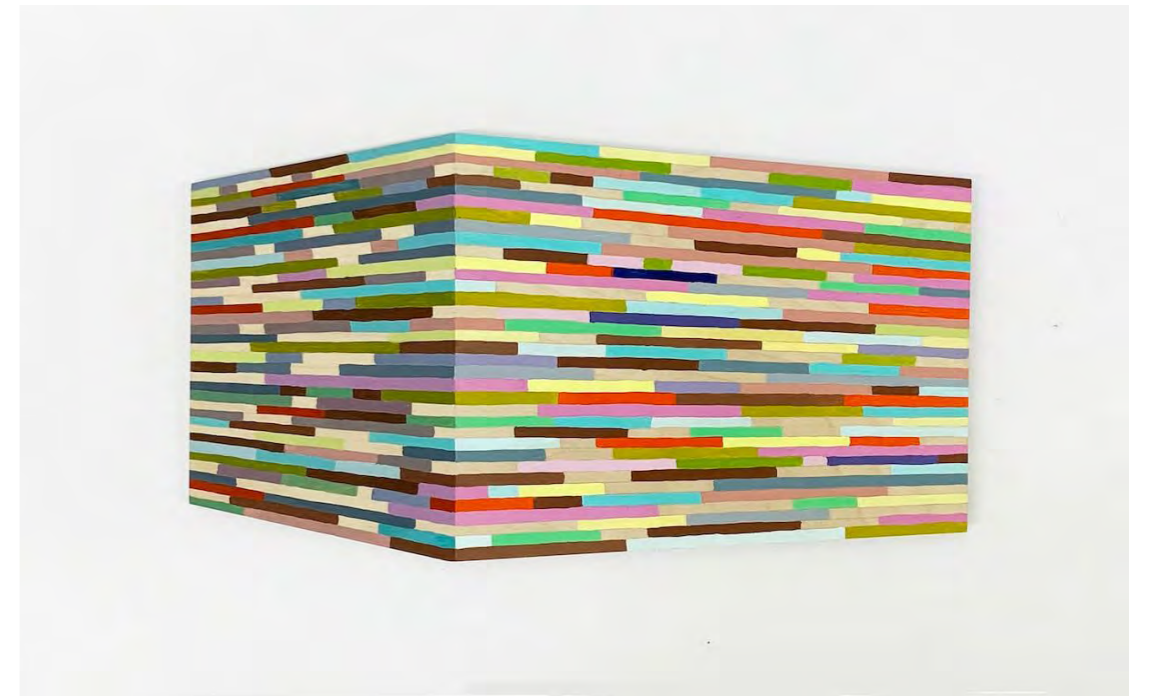
Image (opposite): Paint box I, Silkscreen Print, Edition of 3, 100h x 70w cm, €650 unframed
(above): Paintbox II, Silkscreen print, Edition of 2, 100h x 70w cm, €650 unframed

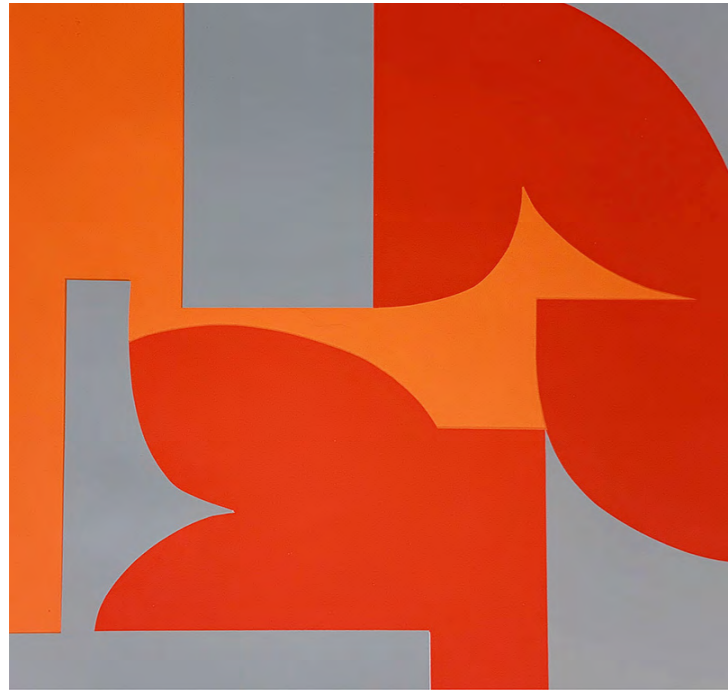


Images: Limelight III, Painting on panel, Unique, 24h x 30w cm, €550; Limelight IV, Painting on panel, Unique, 24h x 30w cm, SOLD



Image (opposite): Block 1; Block II, Painting on Birch plywood, Unique, 23h x 39w cm, BOTH SOLD.
(above): Blue Moon, Painting on panel, Unique, 70h x 100w cm, €1800





Images: Bliss I; Bliss II; Bliss III; Silkscreen print, Edition of 12, 40h x 40w cm, €330 unframed each

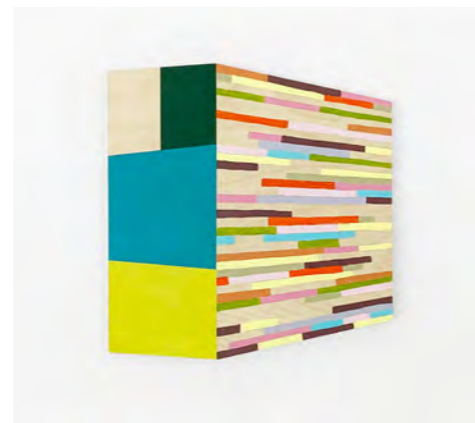
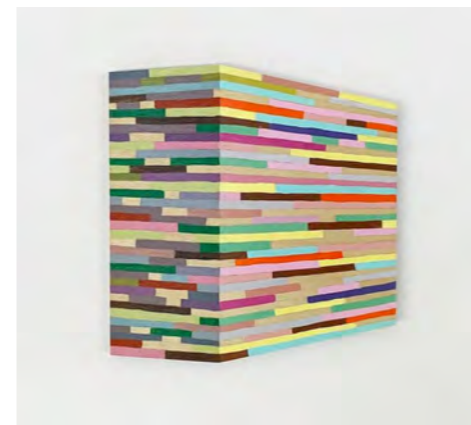
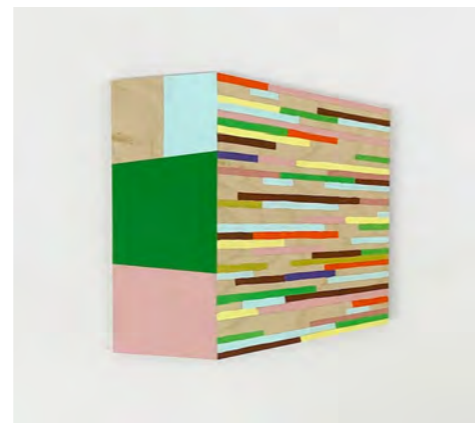
A pivotal moment in O'Connor's career came in 2020, during the COVID-19 lockdowns. The isolation and time allowed her to experiment with small gesso panels, which she began to produce routinely. The stacked layers of multiple panels mimic geological strata, further emphasising the connection to the earth. By mimicking the layers of soil and rock found in landscapes, O'Connor's panels become a metaphor for the passage of time and the accumulation of experience. Within each layer there are numerous colours. As in nature, the formation and arrangement of each colour is accidental and not controlled, but a byproduct of painting on the panels. By photographing these panels on their sides, she transformed them into sculptural stacks and ensured a further evolution of her work.



Images: Contiguous II, Painting on panel, Unique, 15cm h x 20cm w, SOLD;
Contiguous I, Painting on panel, Unique, 15cm h x 20cm w, €365



Image (opposite): Stripe II, Painting on panel, Unique, 24h x 30w cm, €480
(above) Stripe I, Painting on panel, Unique, 24h x 30w cm, €480



Images left to right: Truffle I, Painting on panel, Unique, 15h x 20w cm, SOLD; Small block colour 1, Painting on Birch plywood, Unique, 23h x 21w cm, €365; Small block 3, Painting on Birch plywood, Unique, 23h x 21w cm, €365; Small block 1, Painting on Birch plywood, Unique, 23h x 21w cm, €365; Small block 4, Painting on Birch plywood, Unique, 23h x 21w cm, €365; Small block 2, Painting on Birch plywood, Unique, 23h x 21w cm, SOLD; Small block 2, Painting on Birch plywood, Unique, 23h x 21w cm, €365



Mary O'Connor is a Dublin-based artist from Wexford, Ireland. Educated at TU Dublin, Chelsea College of Art, London and in New Zealand. She lived in Belize and Kazakhstan before repatriating to Dublin in 2014. She held her first solo exhibition in 2020 in SO Fine Art Edition and has shown work in numerous group exhibitions including the Royal Academy Summer Exhibition, RHA Dublin, and RUA Belfast. Her work is part of several public and private collections, and she has received awards including the Arts Council Agility Award in 2021 / 2022. In 2024, she was awarded a residency and fellowship at Ballinglen Arts Foundation, Mayo and TIME OUT Art and Culture Editor Eddy Frankel selected Mary's painting in its Top Ten at the Royal Academy Summer Exhibition 2024. Mary is a member of Black Church Print Studio.

Image: Stack, Painting on timber, Unique, 184h x 30d cm, €5800



Image (above): Wellspring, Painting on linen, Unique, 116h x 137w cm, €3300
(front cover): Retro, Painting on linen, Unique, 116h x 137w cm, €3300

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31 August - 28 September, 2024

SO FINE ART EDITIONS

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