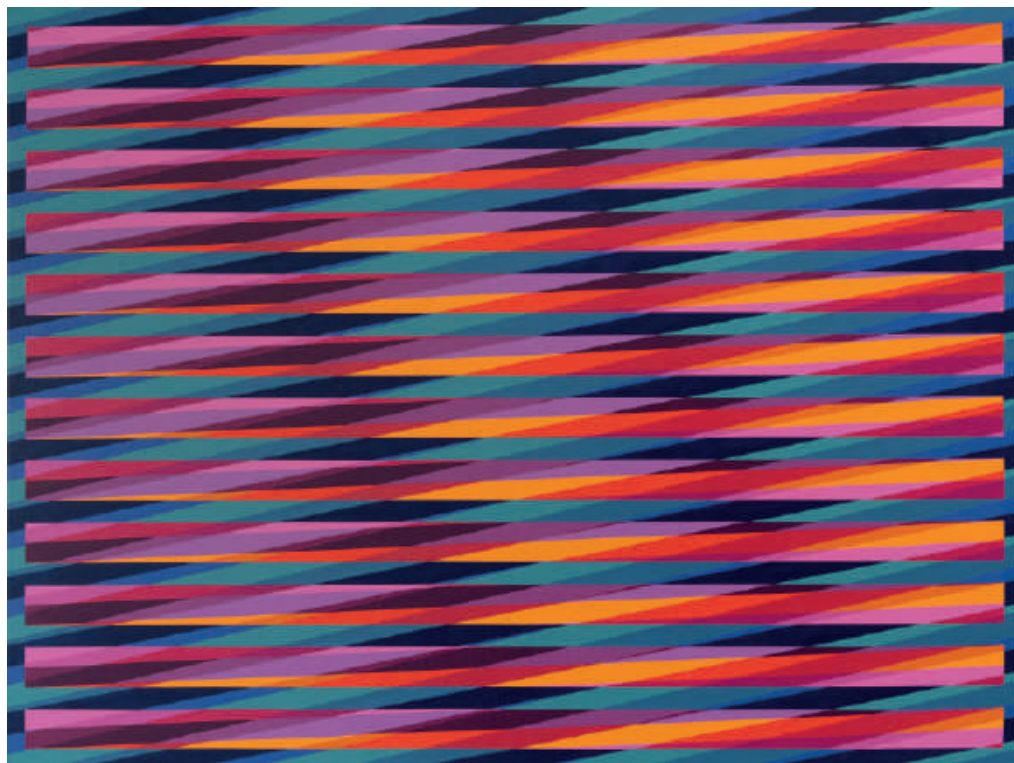


**VICTORIA MARDON**  
GALLERY DEBUT SHOW



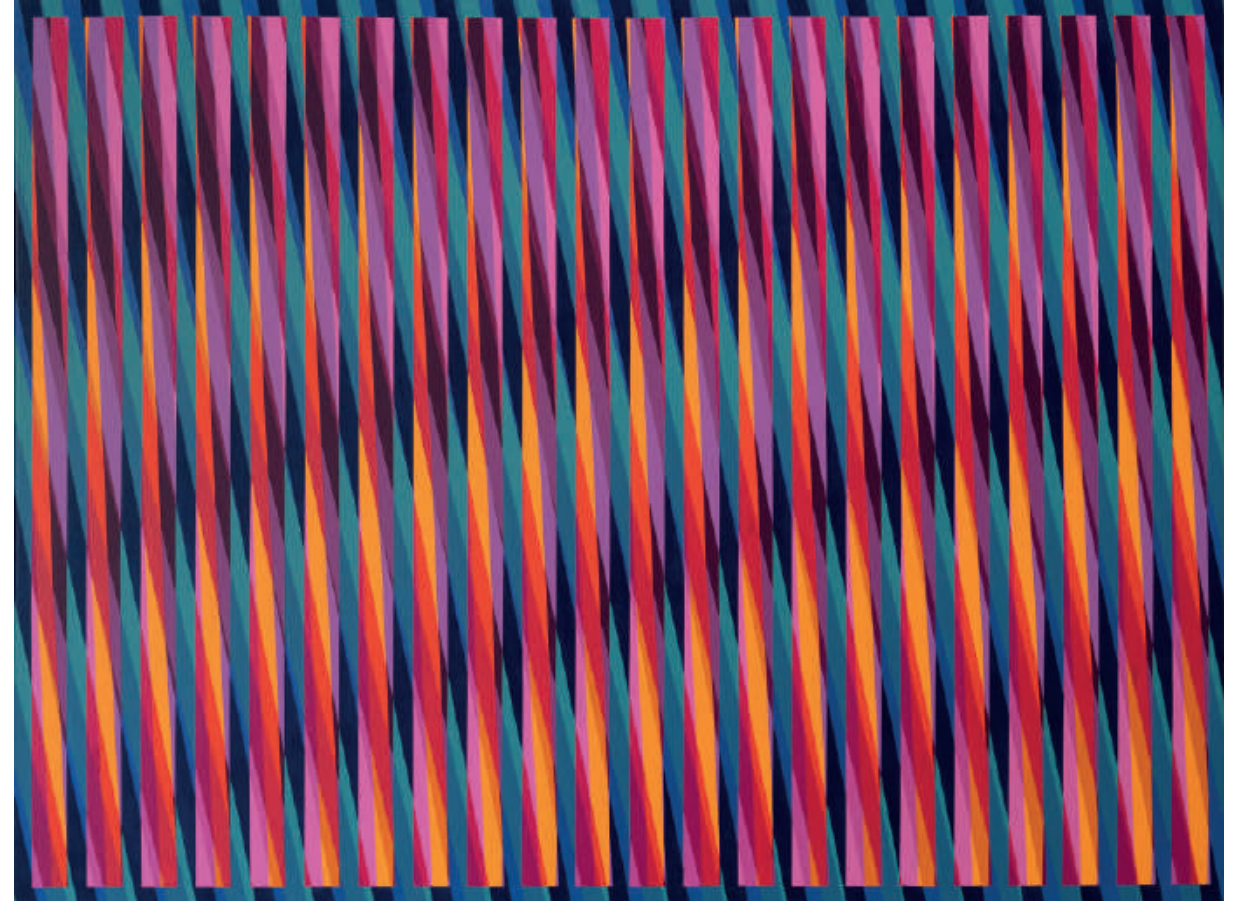
BROWNSWORD  
HEPWORTH

**VICTORIA MARDON**  
GALLERY DEBUT SHOW

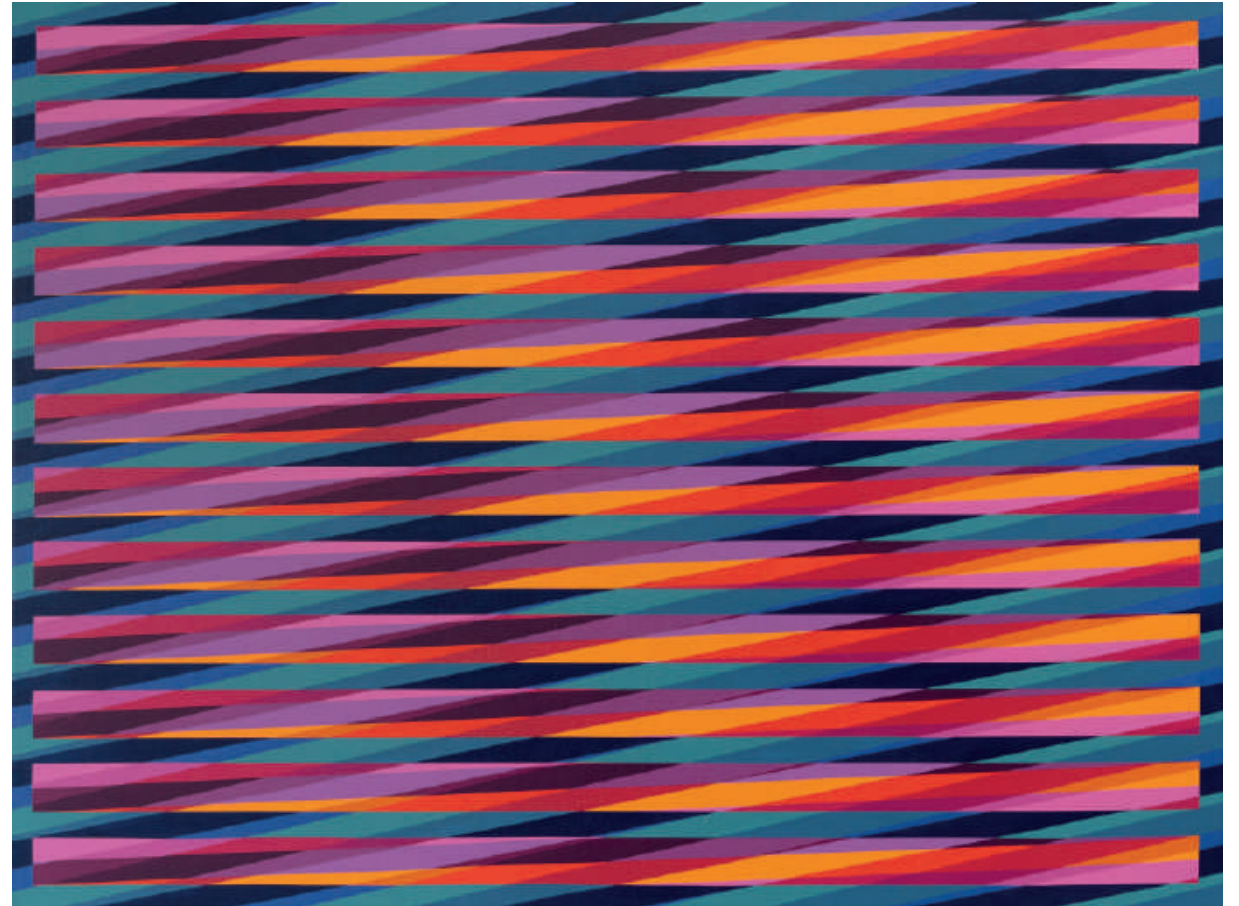
BROWNSWORD  
HEPWORTH

15 & 17 Walton Street, London, SW3 2HX  
[www.brownswordhepworth.co.uk](http://www.brownswordhepworth.co.uk)

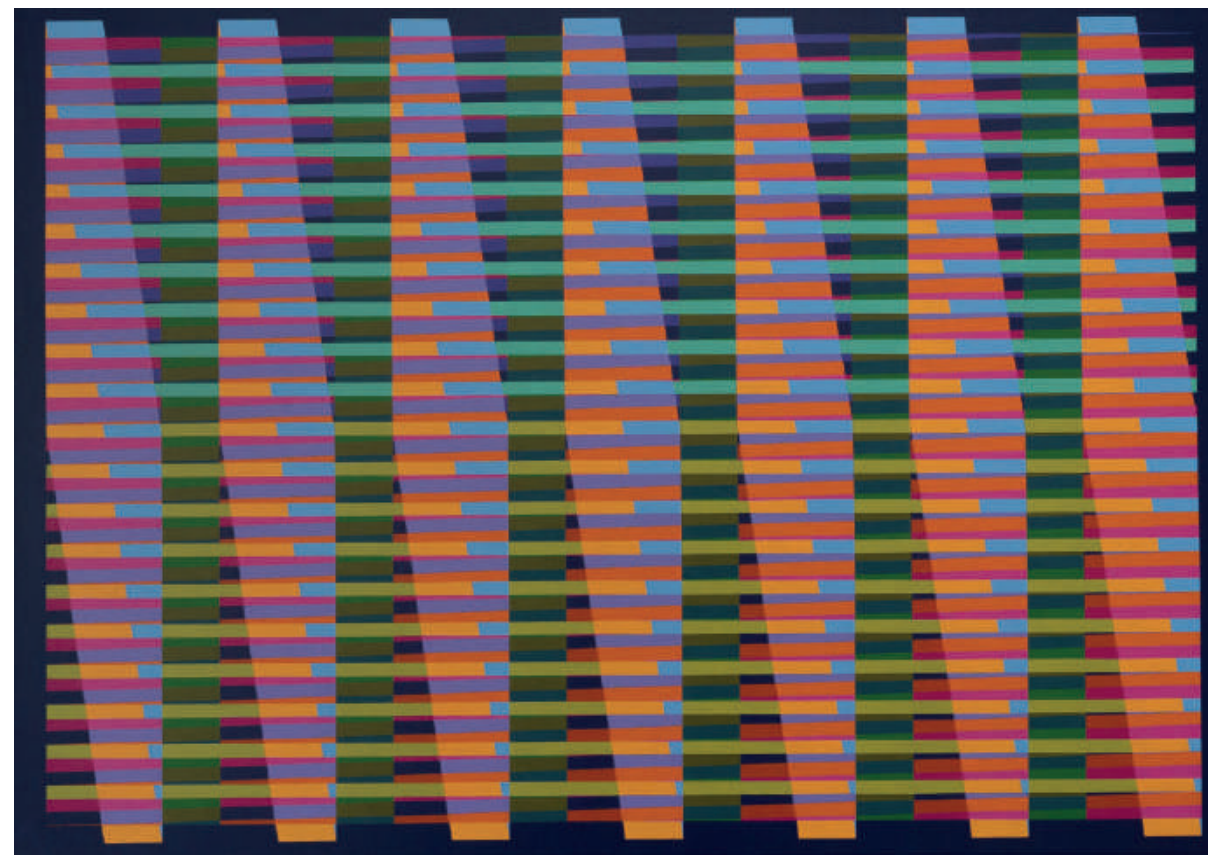
**Summer Daze**  
2019  
Acrylic on canvas  
76.5 x 102 cm



**Detail of Summer Daze**  
2019  
Acrylic on canvas  
76.5 x 102 cm

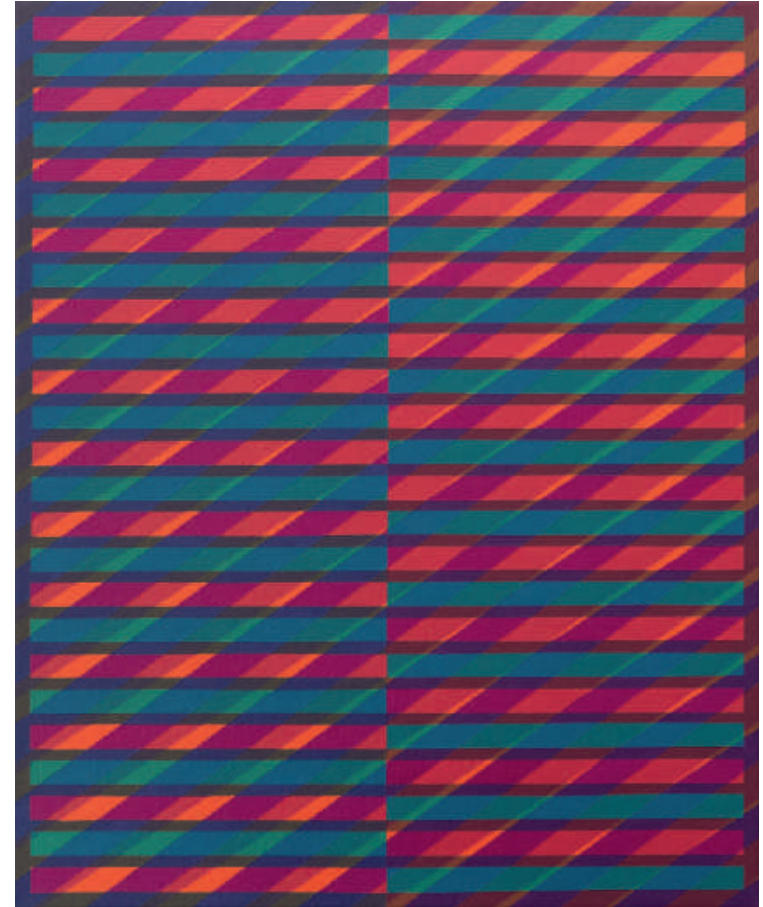


**Flux**  
2019  
Acrylic on canvas  
70 x 100 cm





**Counterbalance**  
2019  
Acrylic on canvas  
56 x 46 cm

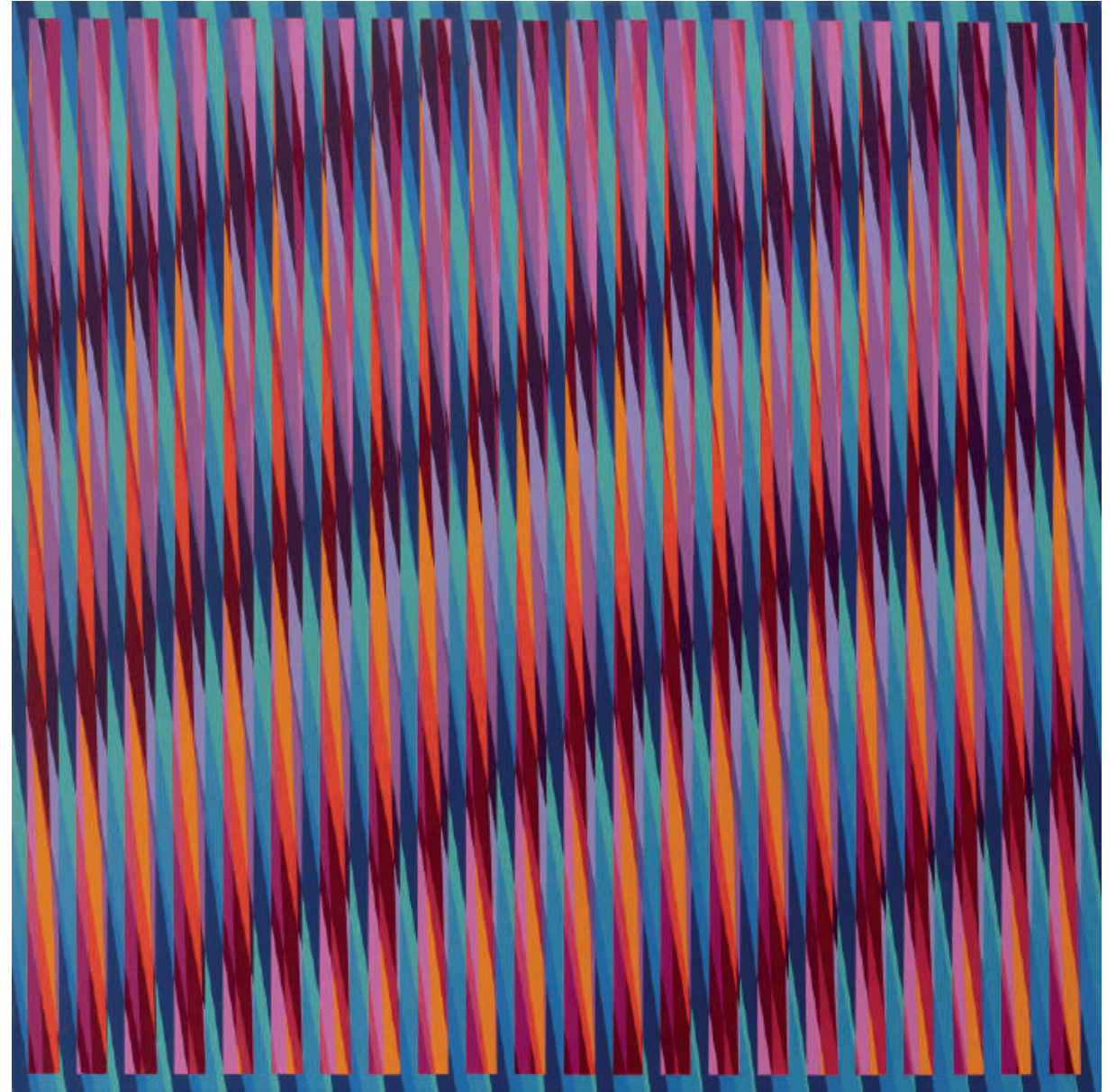




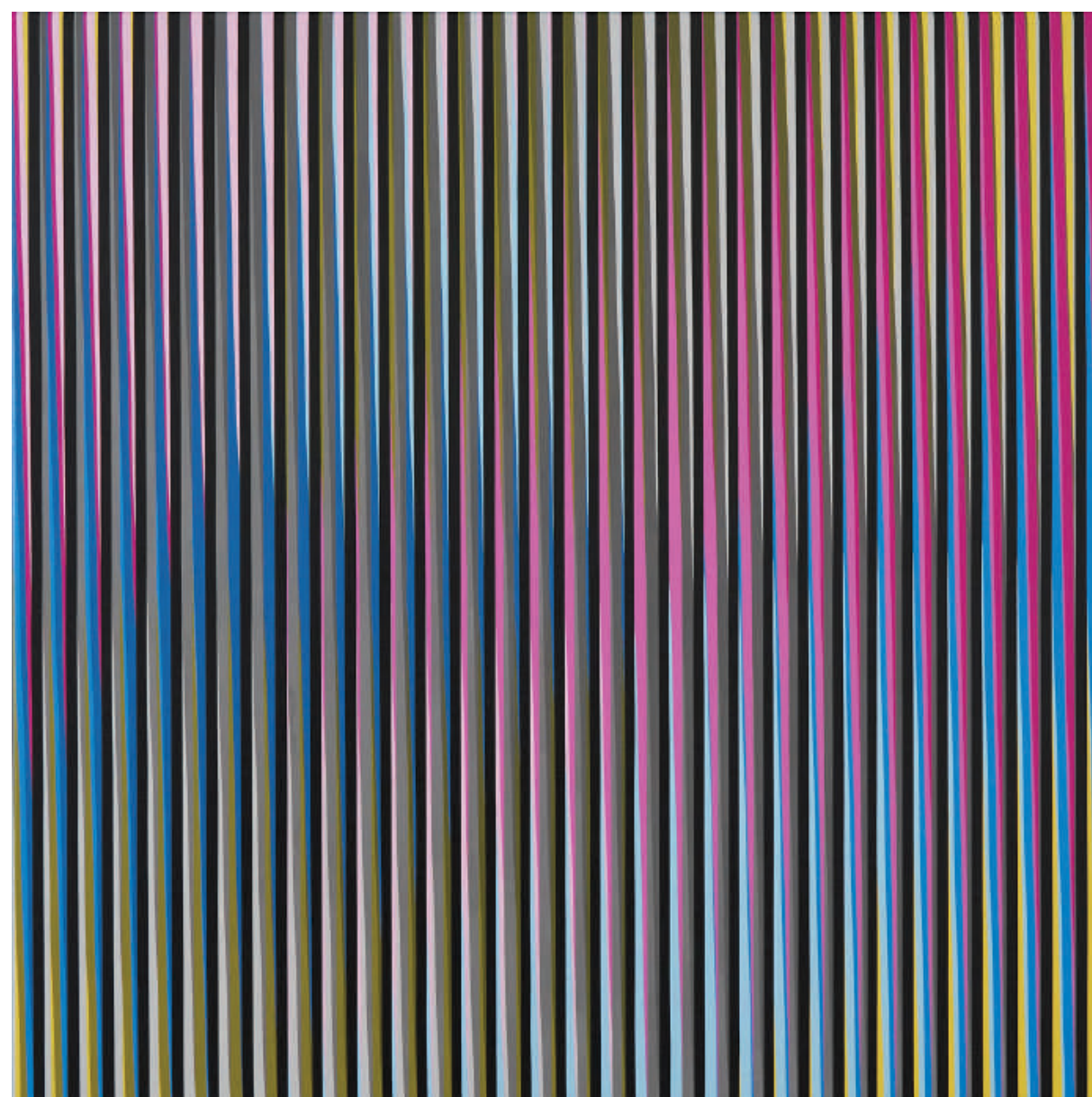
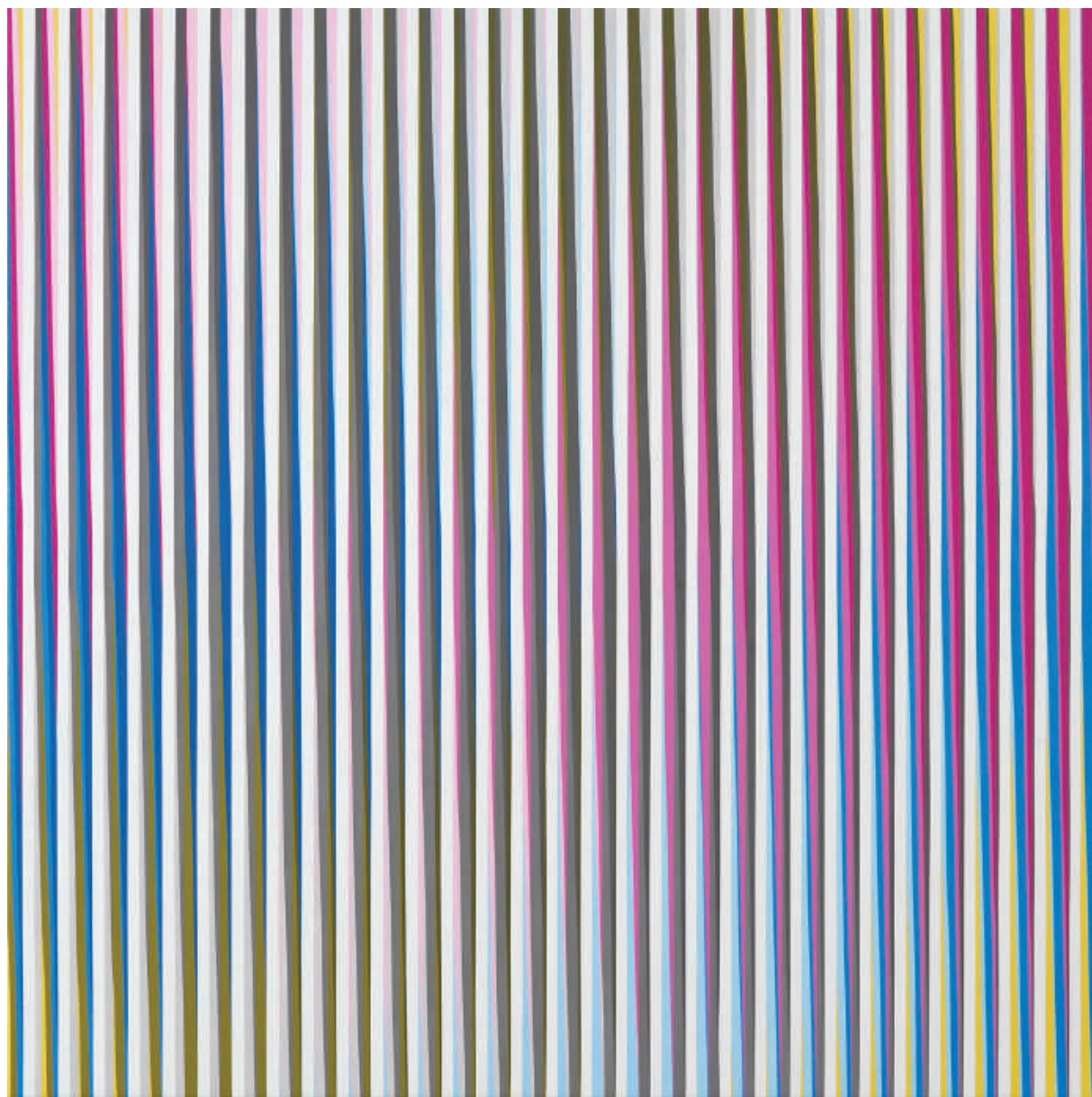
previous page - left:  
**Rainbow in the Dark (Dark)**  
2020  
Acrylic on canvas  
75 x 75 cm

previous page - right:  
**Rainbow in the Dark (Light)**  
2020  
Acrylic on canvas  
75 x 75 cm

**Summer Daze (Square)**  
2020  
Acrylic on canvas  
75 x 75 cm



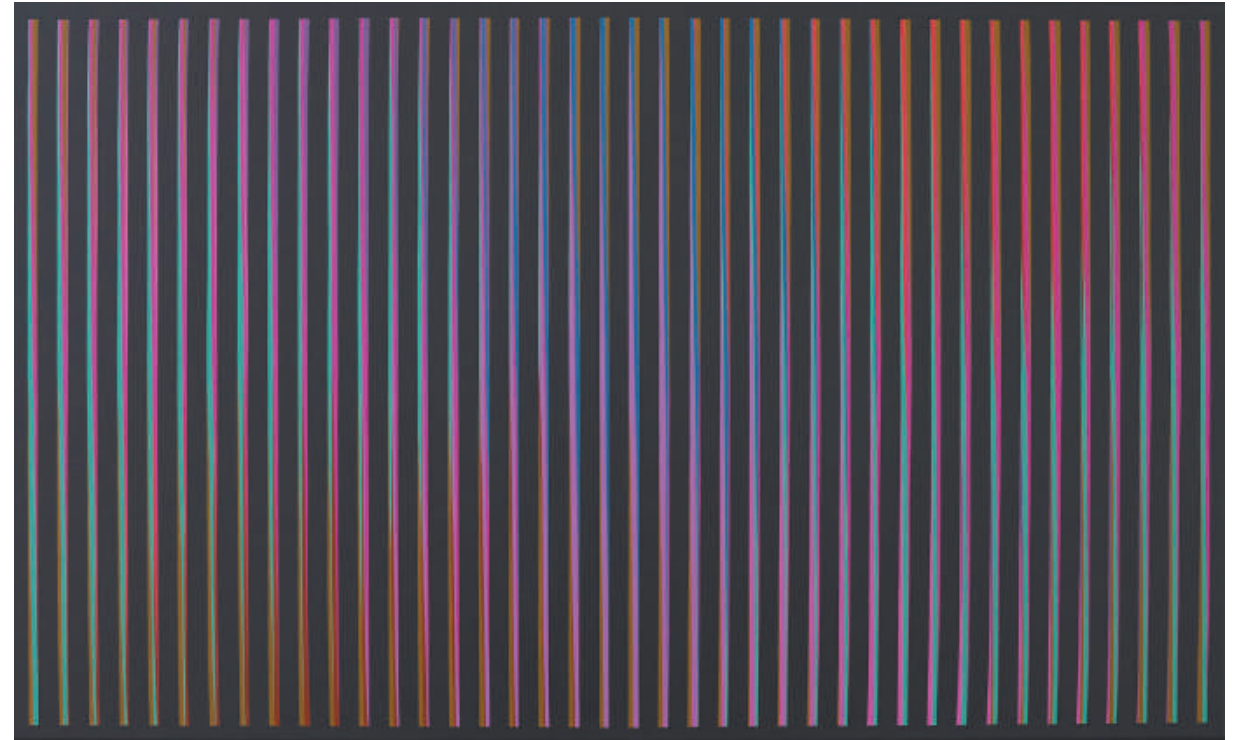




previous page - left:  
**Ambient Flow (White)**  
2020  
Acrylic on canvas  
75 x 75 cm

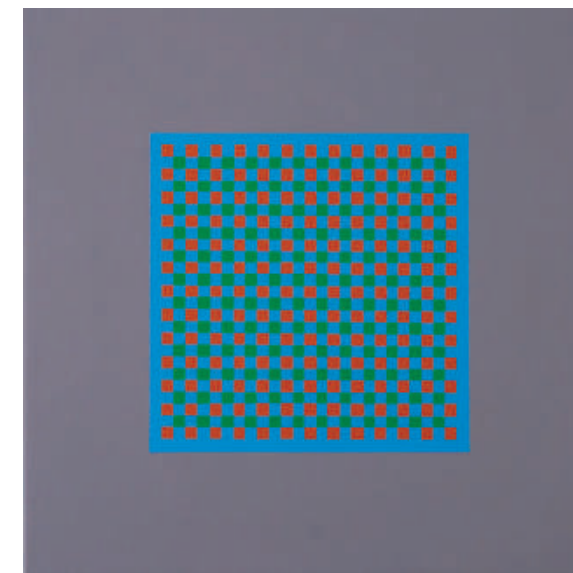
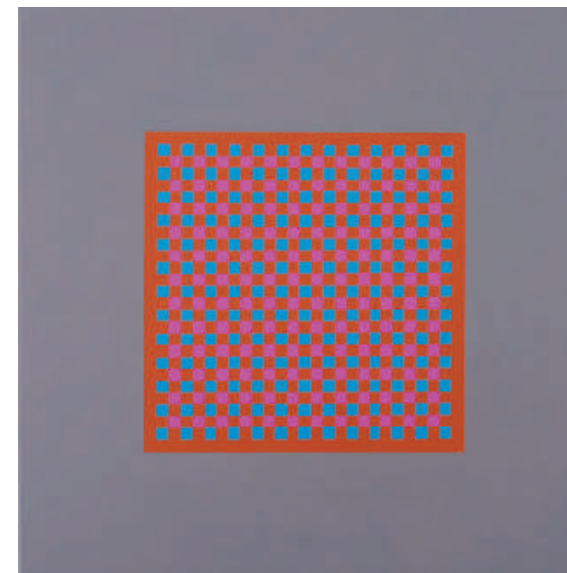
previous page - right:  
**Ambient Flow (Black)**  
2020  
Acrylic on canvas  
75 x 75 cm

**Aurora (Rainbow)**  
2020  
Acrylic on canvas  
70 x 115 cm



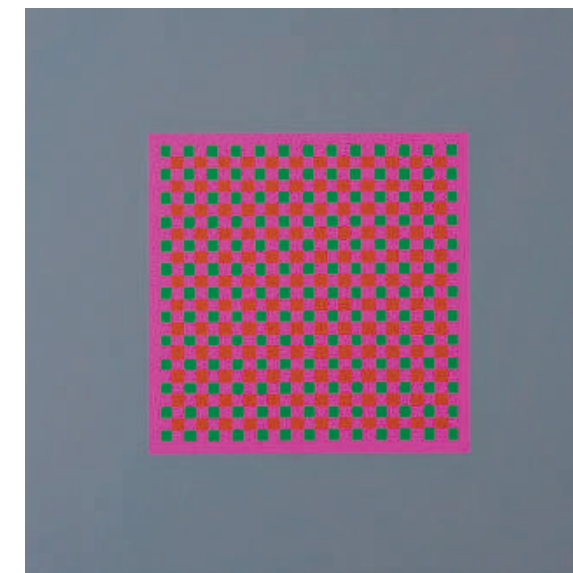
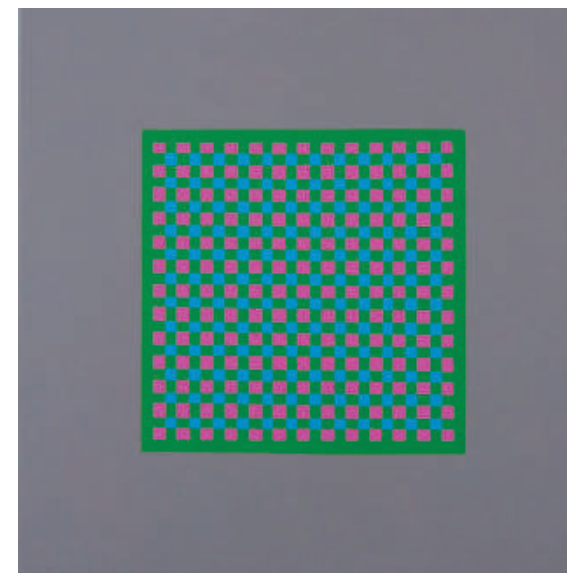
left:  
**Isolated Haze (Orange)**  
2021  
Acrylic on canvas  
45 x 45cm

right:  
**Isolated Haze (Blue)**  
2021  
Acrylic on canvas  
45 x 45 cm



left:  
**Isolated Haze (Green)**  
2021  
Acrylic on canvas  
45 x 45cm

right:  
**Isolated Haze (Pink)**  
2021  
Acrylic on canvas  
45 x 45 cm





left:  
**Median Haze - Blue**  
2021  
Acrylic on paper  
31 x 23 cm

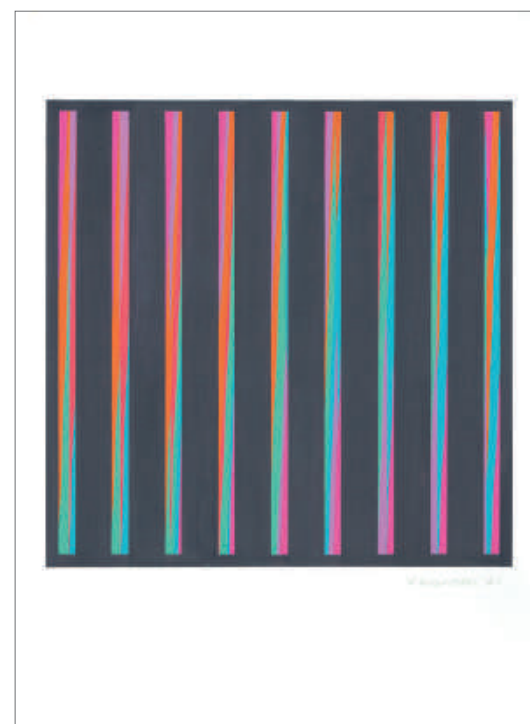
right:  
**Median Haze - Pink**  
2021  
Acrylic on paper  
31 x 23 cm



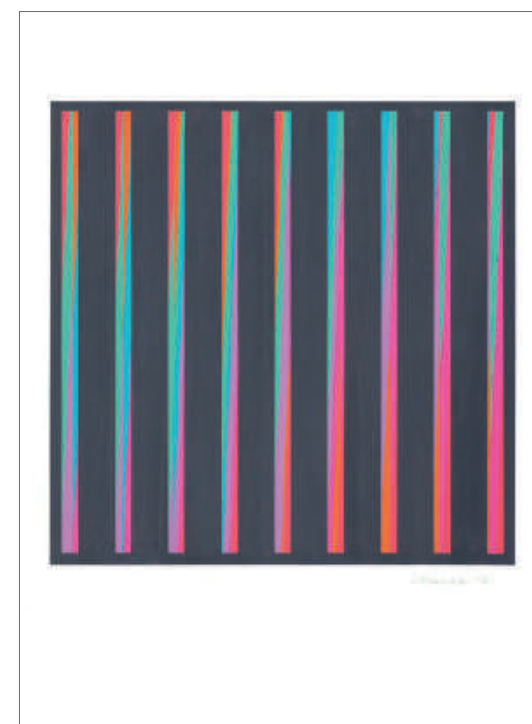
left:  
**Aurora**  
**(Square - Orange)**  
2021  
Acrylic on paper  
31 x 23 cm



middle:  
**Aurora**  
**(Square - Turquoise)**  
2021  
Acrylic on paper  
31 x 23 cm



right:  
**Aurora**  
**(Square - Pink)**  
2021  
Acrylic on paper  
31 x 23 cm





## ARTIST SPOTLIGHT

### **BH: What led you to become an Artist?**

I have an inherent curiosity for art and creativity. I know it's a cliché, but I believe I was born an artist. As a child, I spent countless hours in my bedroom, making collages and drawing self-portraits - creating was how I liked to spend my time, and it made me happy. I didn't doubt that creativity, of some kind, was going to be my career.

After studying Graphic Design and Photography at College, I went on to study Graphic Design and Illustration at Bath Spa University. I loved the university experience of being surrounded by like-minded people and living in a creative atmosphere. However, by the end of my degree, I knew I didn't want to be a Graphic Designer. I wasn't inspired to fulfil other peoples' briefs - I was more interested in artwork and artists than fonts and concepts - I wanted to pursue my visions and ideas.

I moved back to Devon and started work as a Visual Merchandiser (Window Dresser), and to explore my interest in art, I enrolled on an Art A-level evening class. During this phase of my life, I travelled a lot. One of my most precious possessions is a sketchbook I kept whilst travelling through America. In every city we went to, I would head to the public galleries. Seeing so many inspirational artworks highlighted how important art was to me.

After my travelling phase, I settled back into life in Devon and got a job where I worked four long days and so I could have a day off in the week to paint. At this time, I joined Patrick Jones's abstract painting classes. Patrick is one of England's foremost and respected abstract painters, and his teachings were inspirational and had a profound effect on the direction of my work.

**BH: Were there any pivotal moments in your education or experience when you were growing up that inspired you to become an artist? Perhaps you had a tutor or friend or parent who encouraged you? Or perhaps discovering the life and work of another artist inspired you in some way?**

A couple of pivotal moments led me back to being a practising artist after taking a few years away to raise my family.

Firstly, in 2016 I became poorly. It took nearly two years to diagnose and begin to treat my condition called PoTS (Postural Tachycardia Syndrome). During this period, I spent a lot of time in bed. Being poorly gave me time to think, dream and evaluate life. When I started getting better, I knew how I wanted to spend my time - painting and hiking! Over the last few years, as my health has slowly improved, I have been putting my energy into doing precisely those things!

Another pivotal moment was becoming part of a creative community again. Painting can be very insular, and as much as I love that, I also need, and enjoy, the energy and conversations from other creative people. I re-joined Patrick's abstract painting class, and I also joined Instagram. Connecting with other artists makes me feel part of something bigger than my practice.

**BH: Are you on Instagram? Do you enjoy using the platform? Has it changed the way you interact with an audience, and do you find yourself tempted to produce work especially for an Instagram audience?**

Yes, I'm on Instagram - I usually post a couple of times a week. I enjoy sharing my latest paintings on there. As I find people are interested in my practice as well as my artwork, I also share bits

of my life, process and progress. Different stages and curiosities from my previous paintings typically inspire my next painting, so I also use my Instagram feed as a visual diary.

I don't do artwork, especially for Instagram. However, I have discovered that work that translates well into a thumbnail-sized image usually gets a better reaction. Instagram can't ever replace seeing work in person, but it is a great communication tool.

**BH: Now that the Lockdown restrictions are lifting – if you could be in London for a day, what would your day look like? Where would you go?**

Straight away, I would go to some galleries - which ones would depend on their current exhibitions. I love walking, so I'd happily walk around, stopping at little cafes. I'd also watch a show - I love musicals!

I live in Exeter, in Devon, so the journey to London is quite long. Before Covid, I had planned to make an effort to visit every few months to see more exhibitions as I find seeing art in person highly valuable. I always come away with a creative buzz and renewed artistic energy. Hopefully, I can do that this year!

Besides art exhibitions, I'd also like to visit The V&A as I've never been, and I am curious to see what may inspire me there. Also, I'd like to go to the Design Museum. The last time I went was on a college trip when I was 17, so it was a long time since I've been there!

Before I got PoTS, I would go to London for one or two days, and I would rush all over the place, trying to see and do as much as possible. PoTS has taught me to slow down and enjoy the



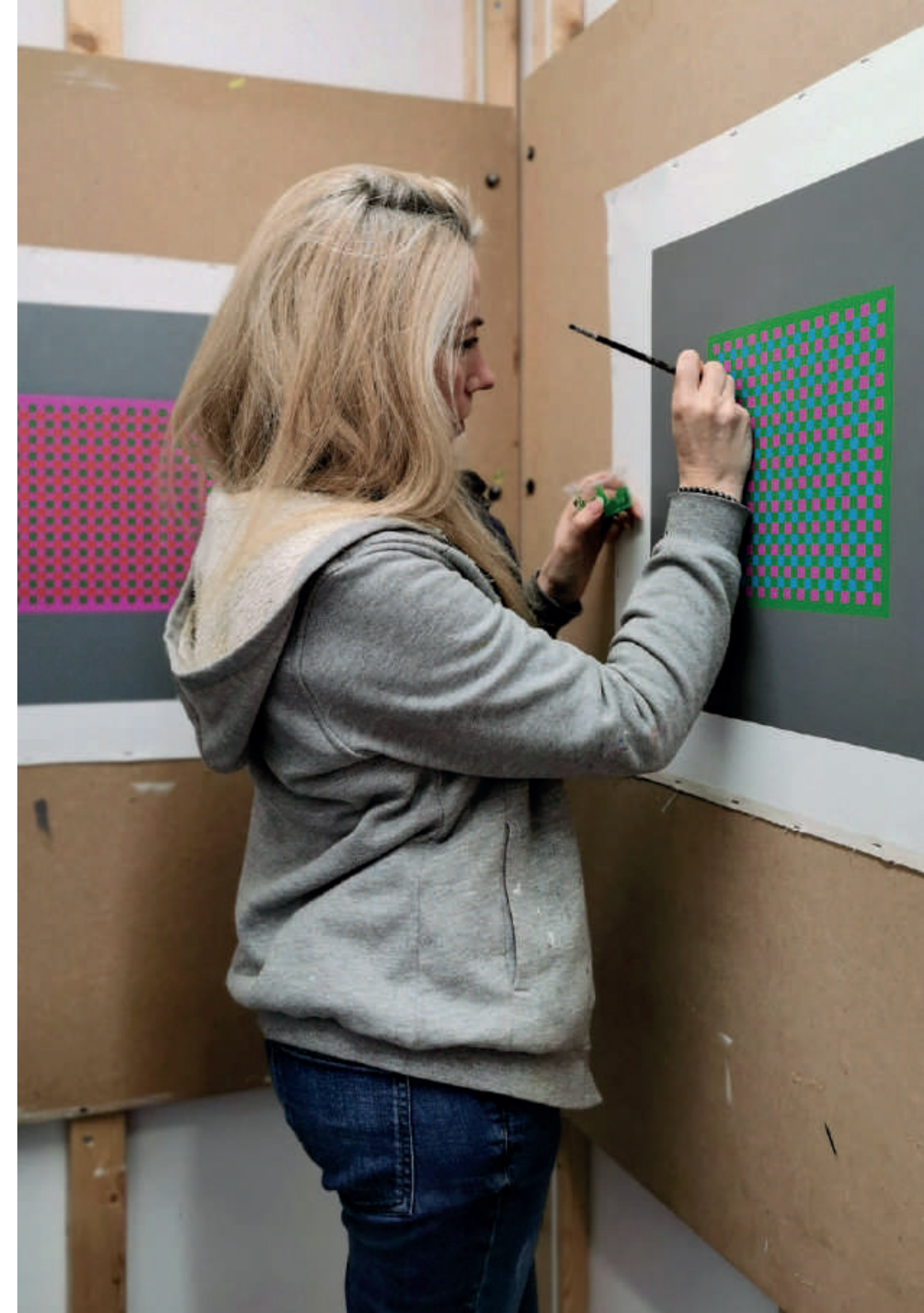
moment. Now when I visit, I do less but absorb more. When I visit London again, I will be really excited and will genuinely appreciate seeing art in person.

**BH: What is your favourite work of art in a public collection?  
Why?**

It is a tricky question with many answers, but Matisse's 'L'Escargot' at Tate Modern is a favourite. I enjoy the colours, shapes, movement and scale of the work - I'll happily sit in awe of this work for ages. During my university years, I had Matisse and Miro's prints covering my room walls - my tastes haven't changed much in the last twenty years!

**BH: Were you able to get to the studio during the Lockdowns, or did you commandeered a room in the house as your Lockdown studio?**

I am fortunate to have a small home studio, a godsend during the lockdowns. During the first lockdown, I would paint every afternoon and evening after we had finished home-schooling. During the second lockdown, the school work was more time consuming, and the kids needed more support, so I took over a corner of the dining room where I'd paint sporadically in-between helping them. It was not the most inspirational of environments (or times), and when the schools went back, I was raring to paint. I have been in the studio, pretty much, every day since!







## VICTORIA MARDON

BRITISH, B. 1978

Victoria Mardon is an emerging abstract artist living and working in Exeter, Devon. Using acrylic on canvas, she creates precise and complex chromatic, hard-edged, geometrical paintings.

Mardon studied Graphic Design at Bath Spa University and graduated in 2000. Although never following a career in Graphic Design, the experience shaped her style of painting.

Op Art, Minimalism, Colour Field Painting and Colour Theory are strong influences in Mardon's practice. Together with artists Bridget Riley, Josef Albers, Carlos Cruz-Diez, Anni Albers and Sarah Morris.

Her work was recently selected to exhibit in the Evolver group exhibition at the Thelma Hulbert Gallery, Honiton, and the Abstraction Here and Now group exhibition at the Awesome Art Space, Exeter. She also had paintings shortlisted for the Jacksons Painting Prize and selected for the RWA Open Exhibition.

## ARTIST STATEMENT

I see my paintings as experiments; explorations into how colours and forms can create the feeling of light, depth, layering and movement. The concepts for my work come from my interest in Op Art, Geometric Patterns and Colour Theory. Ideas and curiosities that arise from my previous paintings also inspire my practice.

I design the composition for my work using drawing software. Having studied Graphic Design at University using software is a natural and accurate way to achieve and refine my ideas. I then meticulously draw my design onto the canvas.

My practice is very systematic. I premix and refine all my paint colours; this allows me the opportunity to study how the colours work together before painting.

I achieve the crisp, precise edges - which are crucial to my style of work - by careful masking with tape. The finish needs to be as flawless as possible to prevent distraction from the composition and colours.

I like my paintings to be intriguing and disconcerting, encouraging the viewer to pause to decipher them.

## EDUCATION

2000 BA (Hons) Graphic Design, Bath Spa University

2001 A Level Fine Art, Exeter College

2009 Member of Patrick Jones's Abstract Art Group, Exeter

2018-2020 Member of Patrick Jones's Abstract Art Group, Exeter

## SHOWS

2019 Evolver. Group Exhibition, Thelma Hulbert Gallery, Honiton

2019 Abstraction Here & Now. Group Exhibition, Exeter

2019 Selected for RWA Open. RWA Bristol

2020 Shortlisted for Jackson's Art Prize

2020 A Cabinet of Curiosities. Brownsword Hepworth

2021 Spring Show. Brownsword Hepworth

2021 Victoria Mardon & Andrew Stonyer. Brownsword Hepworth

cover image:  
Detail of Summer Daze  
2019  
Acrylic on canvas  
102 x 76.5 cm

back cover image  
Excerpt of:  
Summer Daze  
2019  
Acrylic on canvas  
102 x 76.5 cm

All dimensions of works are given height before width.  
The colour reproduction in this catalogue is representative only.

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