

## **Artist Statement**

I am captivated by a layering process where I use a variety of brushmarks to build up various thicknesses of paint harnessing the luminosity in each stroke. The result is a happening of sorts, an unforeseen magic that emerges from the canvas. My imagery is compelling and ambiguous, always evoking a sense of light that hints at a relationship with landscapes without being bound to specific sites. I express a purely abstract aesthetic, balancing expressionism with informed thought.

With each artwork, I aim to transcend the limitations of the canvas, creating a sense of light that prompts viewers to consider what lies beyond the abstract vistas I depict. These artworks resonate within, inviting viewers to contemplate the mysteries of light and perception.

This series for the *Imprints of Elsewhere* exhibition explores my personal internal dialogue with that of the landscapes. These landscapes represent that moment when the intellect quietens and the intuitive takes over. Figurative forms emerge from the veridian greens and the cerulean blues of the landscape. The mystery and mystique is there, as part of the exchange between our own inner and outer landscapes.

## **Biography**

Johannesburg based artist, Sue Martin, has been honing her painting and printmaking skills since the 1980s. Martin boldly engages and experiments with a variety of techniques and media to produce her compelling, deeply personal artworks. Martin's skillful manipulation of composition and typography adds texture to her work, her personal identity, against a wider historical backdrop.

## **Education**

Sue Martin completed a BA Fine Arts degree at the University of Natal in Pietermaritzburg, known today as the University of KwaZulu-Natal.

## **Exhibition History**

In the intervening twenty years since Sue Martin's first solo exhibition in 1999, she has participated in numerous group exhibitions and Art Fairs across South Africa. In addition, Martin has produced several successful solo exhibitions that have established her as a prominent feature in the South African art market. Working from her Johannesburg-based studio, Martin continues to exhibit her work extensively with various galleries such as Knysna Fine Art, Origin Art Gallery, Artist Proof Studio, The Viewing Room, Arand The White River Gallery.

## **Collections**

In 2010, the Independent Electoral Commission (IEC) recognised Martin's work and acquired the series *Urban Cowboys* (2009) for its permanent collection. Moreover, earlier this year, the Johannesburg Chamber of Commerce (JCCI) added a selection of paintings and prints, from Martin's series *The Cartographer's Notes* (2020), to its permanent collection.

## **Residencies**

Martin was invited by Mark Attwood to participate in the prestigious residency at The Artists' Press in September 2023.

## **Art Fairs**

Sue Martin's work has been shown at Latitudes Art Fair, Turbine Art Fair and she exhibited with Matt Slater at Origin Art Gallery in Johannesburg.