

An abstract painting with a textured, layered appearance. The color palette is dominated by various shades of teal and turquoise, interspersed with earthy browns, tans, and muted greens. The brushstrokes are visible and expressive, creating a sense of movement and depth. The overall effect is reminiscent of a natural landscape, perhaps a forest or a field of tall grasses, captured in a soft, atmospheric light.

# BREATHE

CHARLIE YATES



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**A solo exhibition of new work by Charlie Yates**

**14 May – 19 June, 2022**

Charlie Yates is an exciting young Scottish talent, primarily a figurative painter working mostly with oil paint on a variety of surfaces. This exhibition will be Charlie's first solo show with The Watermill; the gallery became aware of his paintings online during the Covid pandemic, when The Open Eye Gallery held a virtual solo show for him in 2020.

Charlie has built this 'Breathe' collection over three years by collating photographs, drawings, verbal anecdotes, written notes and previous experiences and distilling them into still moments of time, limiting the palette and evoking distant memories.

Charlie's work is about nostalgia, a snapshot of light, undefined images – many of the paintings have evolved using family photographs dating back to the 1950s of foreign travel and holidays that particularly in light of the recent pandemic and world as it is, now seems elusive for many still. The exhibition is to remind us of happier lighter times, time as it was, so to speak.

*"I would like my work to transcend time and bring a different viewpoint into lives, be positive and hopeful and offer a moment to pause and breathe."*

Charlie Yates, April 2022

Charlie Yates' work is eager, distinctive and consistent. There is a mature grounding in strong draughtsmanship.

*"There is a sense that Charlie is racing to show the world his work. His style is measured and assured. Undeterred by Lockdowns and Covid, Charlie exhibited tirelessly, diversifying into the online exhibition sphere and he has had an ambitious singular vision for this 40-piece strong body of work. His observations are ambiguous and suggestive, yet decisive and bold at the same time.*

*Each image emanates light and stillness, glistening like a calm jewel of memory."*

Zanna Wilson, Watermill Gallery curator, April 2022.

Cover image: *'A View from Above'*, oil on canvas, 80 x 80cm

Inner cover image: *'Wave'*, oil on canvas, 140 x 141cm



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**Two Private Views:  
Friday 13th May 5pm – 8pm  
& Saturday 14th May 11am – 5pm**

Even with the recent lifting of Covid restrictions here in Scotland, we are continuing with the two PV model as it's wonderful to offer both a day and evening occasion to meet the artist, gather and share the experience and have some light refreshments (including fizz on the Friday).

**Talk and Demo: Live on Instagram and in real life.  
Saturday 21st May 11am – 1pm**

Charlie Yates is offering insight into his inspiration, career and his practice, processes and materials in this two-hour workshop presentation. It's a very informal two-way dialogue between anyone who attends either virtually or in person and the artist. Light refreshments will be served and live art making by Charlie will be performed.

The Gallery is then open 7 days a week 10am – 5.30pm, Sundays 11am – 5pm.

All works are for sale on receipt of this catalogue.

The full exhibition can be viewed online at [www.zannawilson.com](http://www.zannawilson.com)

Image: '*Saucepan of Cold Water*', watercolour on paper, 31 x 38cm



### CHARLIE YATES

Charlie has packed a wealth of art-led endeavours into six years. As a graduate of Glasgow School of Art, he was short-listed for the John Byrne Award in 2017, winning the AON Community Art Award in 2019, then in 2020 Charlie won no less than two awards – the Culture NL Art Award, the Envision Art Award and then in 2021 the Gradcurate award which involved being supported to hold a solo show online. The Open Eye Gallery was aware of Yates' potential and showcased his work via an online solo show that same year and in 2021 much of this current collection of work was created whilst being the artist in residence at the Edinburgh Academy. Charlie has already had considerable acclaim, exhibited with the Royal Scottish Watercolour Society in the Annual Exhibition, had many sales and we hope 'Breathe' will illuminate further Charlie's unique vision and distinctive style.

Image: *'Misty'*, oil on board, 15 x 21cm



*'Sitting in the Garden'*, oil on board, 15 x 21cm



*'Marimar'*, oil on board, 19 x 23cm

**Education:**

2016-2019 BA Hons Painting & Printmaking,  
Glasgow School of Art

2015-16 Foundation Course, Leith School of Art

**Solo Shows:**

2022 'Breathe', The Watermill Gallery, Aberfeldy

2021 Virtual Solo Show, Gradcurate Award, Online

2020 'Lost & Found', Open Eye Gallery, Online

2019 'New Work', The Virgin Mary Bar, Dublin

**Residencies:**

2021 The Edinburgh Academy, Edinburgh

**Awards:**

2021 Gradcurate Award

2020 Envision Arts Award

2020 Culture NL Art Award, Motherwell

2019 Aon Community Art Award, London

2017 Short-listed for the John Byrne Award

**Group Shows:**

2021 RSW Annual Exhibition,  
National Gallery of Scotland, Edinburgh

2021 Open Eye Gallery, Edinburgh

2021 Lyon & Turnbull, Edinburgh

2021 Maggie's Art Extravaganza, Edinburgh

2021 The Holy Art, Nostalgia, Online

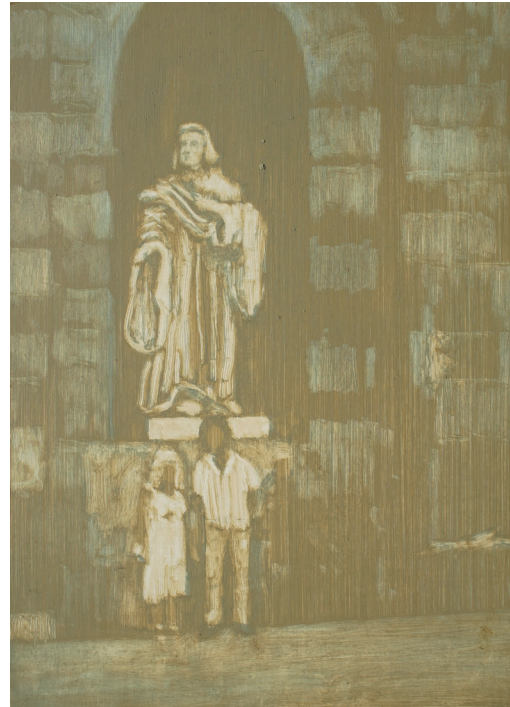
2020 Open Eye Gallery, Edinburgh

2020 Environs Art Award, Online

2020 BOS Gallery, Online



*'Pont du Gard on wall'*, oil on board, 21 x 15cm



*'Casa de la Ciudad'*, oil on board, 30 x 22cm



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Monday – Saturday: 10am – 5.30pm | Sunday: 11am – 5pm