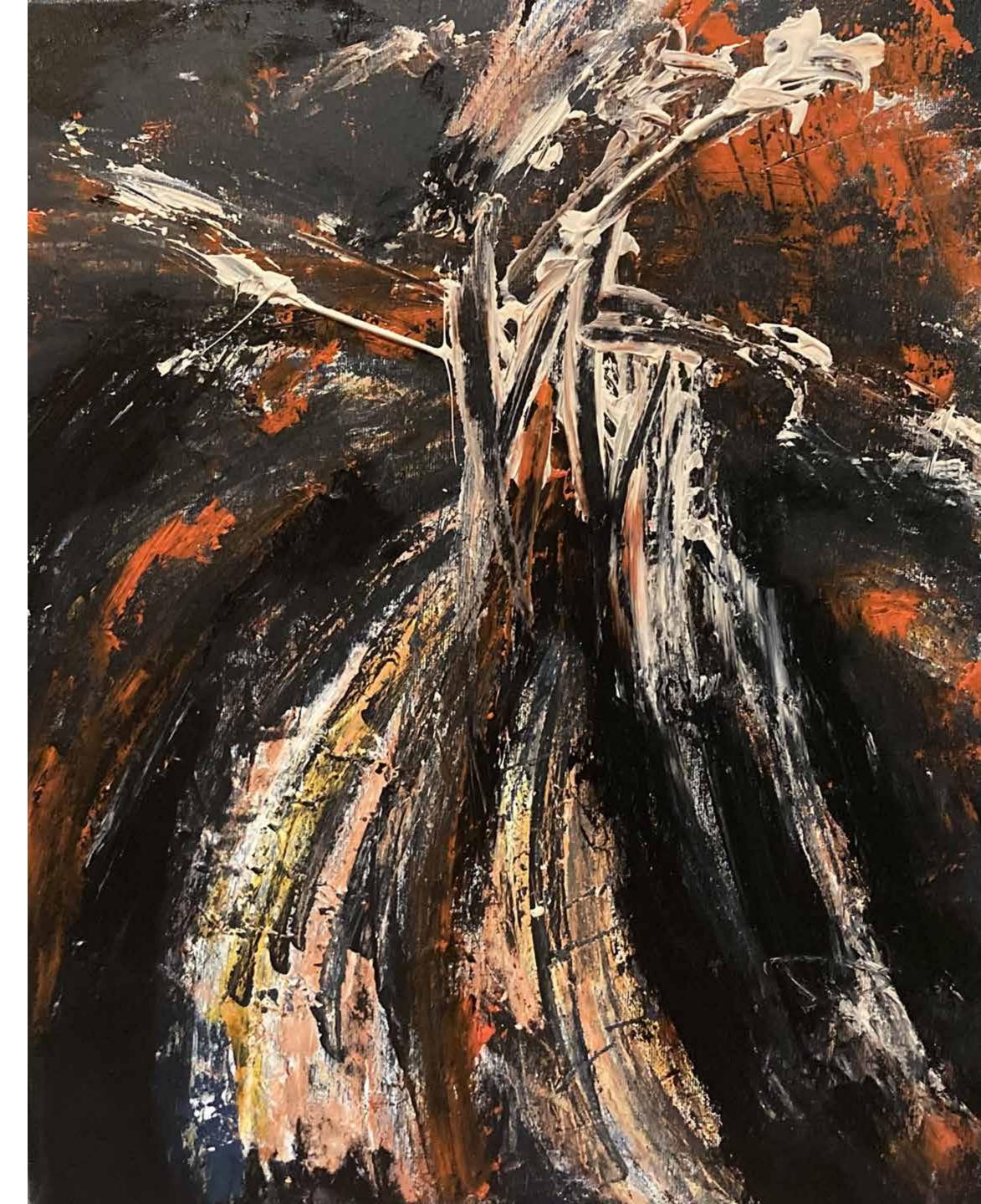
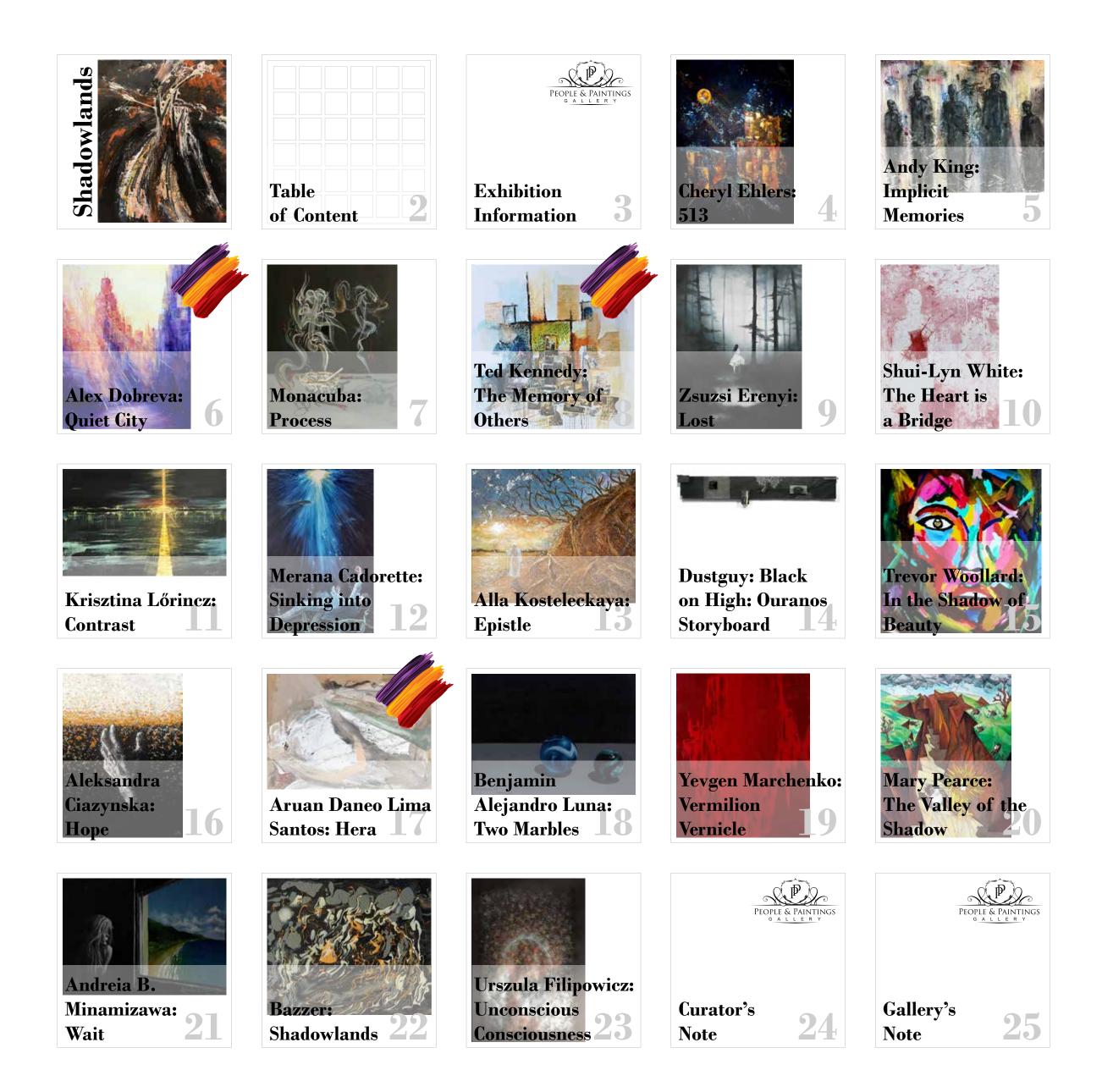
# 25 June 2021 Shadowlands 4 June 2021







#### **Shadowlands**

Is there light or darkness in the shadowlands or is it a state of chiaroscuro? In some faiths, the shadowlands are peopled by spirits or phantoms; others see it as the domain of the unconscious. Living in the shadowlands can mean uncertainties, a sense of feeling disembodied from reality. Is it a destination or a point on a journey and if we inhabit the shadowlands, is it with a sense of freedom and excitement or a sense of regret and loss? Take a step into the shadowlands. I'll see you there.

A poem to celebrate the new exhibition, "Shadowlands". It's one kind of Shadowland.

#### Shadowland

take a shadow as memories sing as to a child sweet soft lullaby.... while they sleep, open the blinds, slatted daytime disguise unfurled, uncurled, recoiled recall darkness, that soft, blanket blackness, with the silent taptouchtap on your cheek that once told I'm here

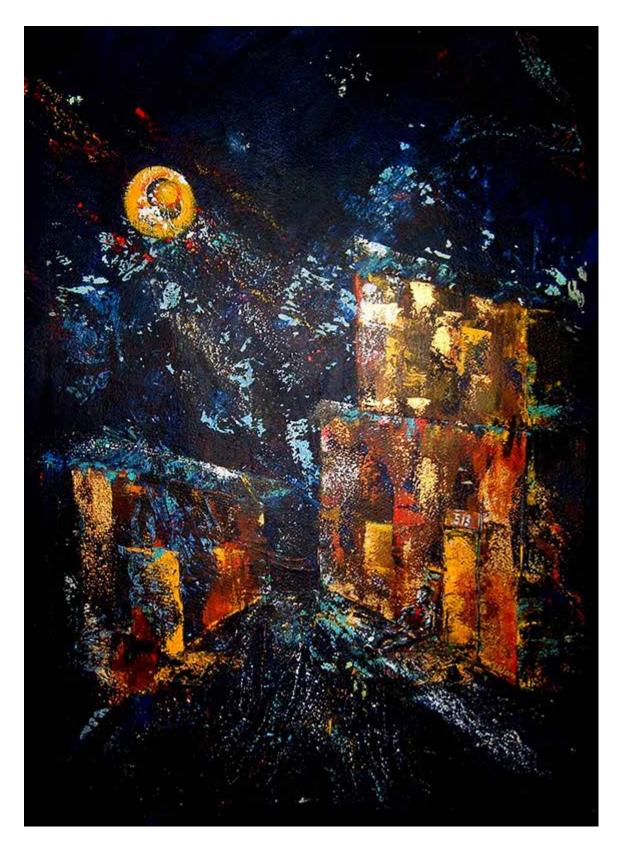
we learn to live in the shadowland between then and when in the gaps between sleep and dream that perfect point of stillness where you feel soft breath kiss your face and for a moment, believe the lie

> Best wishes. Exhibition curator: Womanwithstick (AKA Jan Sargeant)

Location: Online Exhibition



# **Cheryl Ehlers: 513**





Art No: PP1047 Artwork Dimensions: w 22 cm (8.8 inches) h 30 cm (12 inches) Year Created: 2020 Medium: Acrylic Surface: Watercolor Paper

Shadowlands

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The image was created amongst the darkest times of a loved one in my life. The scratching and crawling to return to oneself when life has brought such despair and loss of confidence.

# **Andy King: Implicit Memories**

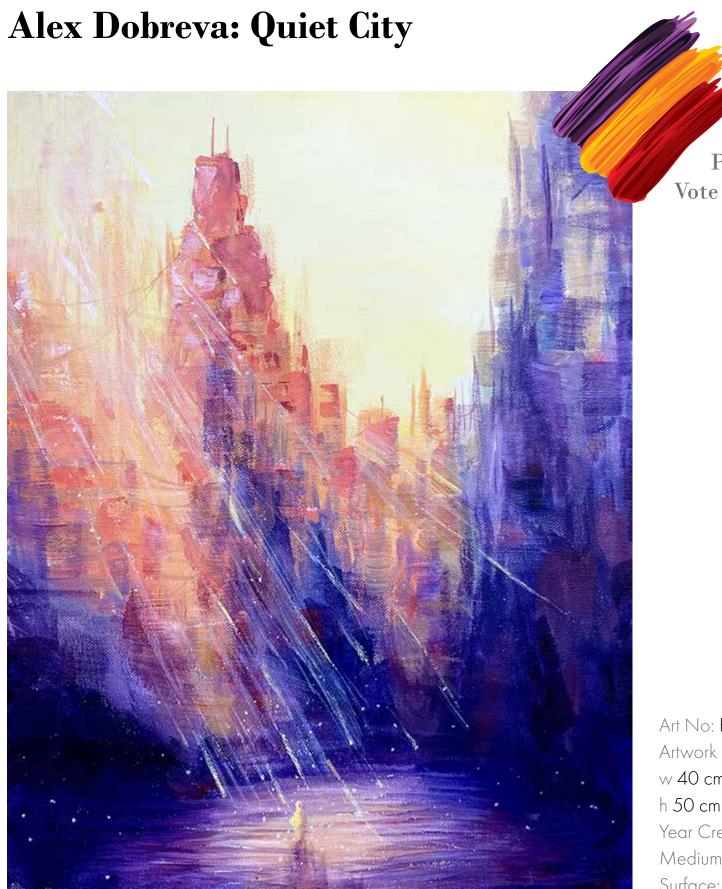




Art No: PP0993 Artwork Dimensions: w 76.2 cm (30 inches) h 60.96 cm (24 inches) Year Created: 2020 Medium: Oil Surface: Canvas

Shadowlands

Recalling the imagery of "Shades" from Greek mythology, Implicit memory recalls figures as ghosts or memories that persist through time.





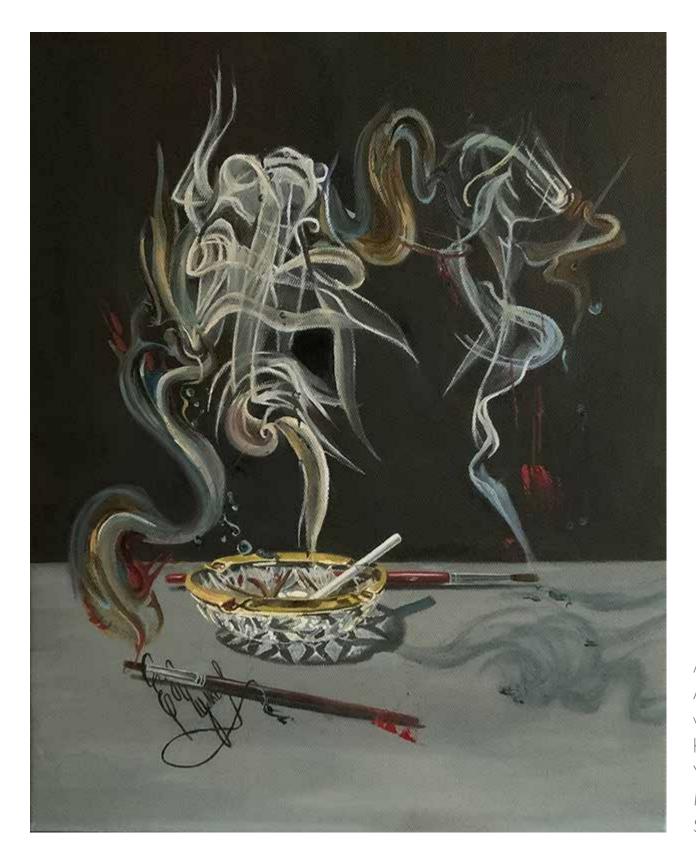
Popular Vote Award

Art No: PP0953 Artwork Dimensions: w 40 cm (16 inches) h 50 cm (20 inches) Year Created: 2021 Medium: Acrylic Surface: Canvas

Shadowlands

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#### **Monacuba: Process**

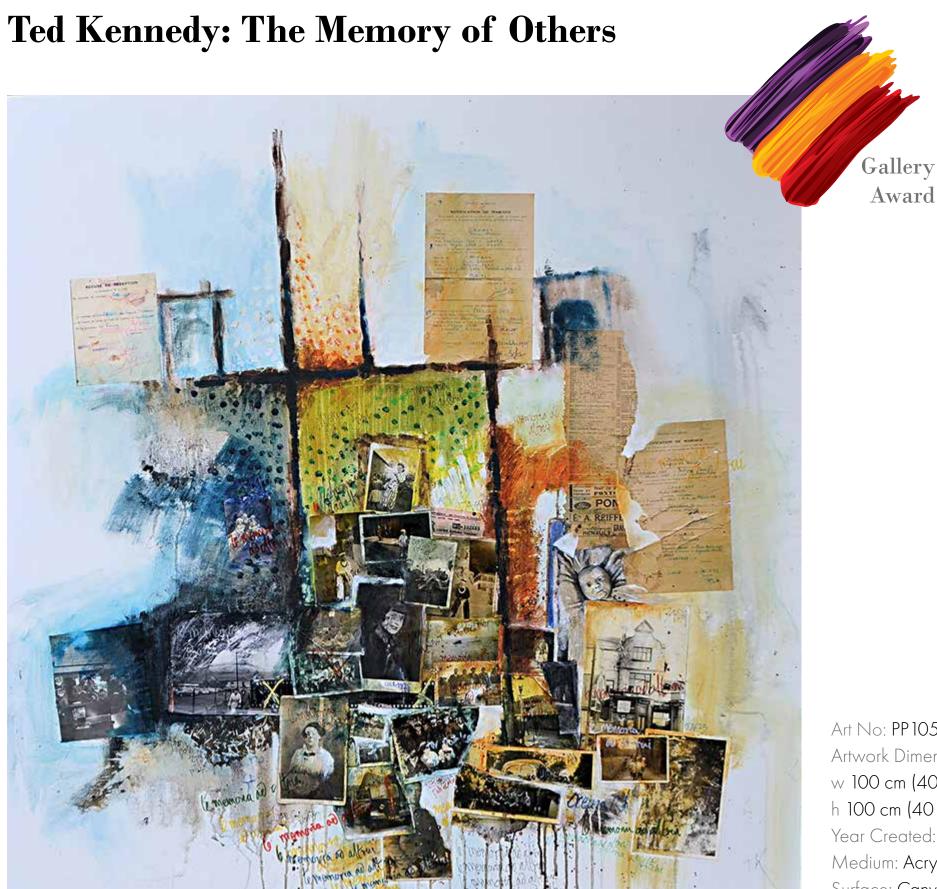


PEOPLE & PAINTINGS G A L L E R Y

Art No: PPO921 Artwork Dimensions: w 40 cm (16 inches) h 50 cm (20 inches) Year Created: 2020 Medium: Oil Surface: Canvas

Shadowlands

Light-shadow...it is impossible to play only with white pieces, black and white are embedded in our culture, the black stripe in life is a shadow of the light stripe. The world needs shadows to make the light brighter.





Art No: PP1055 Artwork Dimensions: w 100 cm (40 inches) h 100 cm (40 inches) Year Created: 2021 Medium: Acrylic Surface: Canvas

Award

For me the Shadowlands are my memories and the memories of others. Those don't always align with mine so where does truth lie? In this work I have used old photographs from that box of images we all have, somewhere on a dusty shelf. Other memories/shadows are included that have imposed themselves on me, e.g. the French papers from an old Sucre tin bought years ago and some very small images from a vintage camera in my collection. Whose memories are those? are they mine in some way? Do I have the right to use them? Are they the memories of others?

The repeated Italian phrase is another memory, used in work when I was a student over 50 years ago. Other notations are taken from the reverse side of the photographs used and include reference numbers, a shopping list and comments from a WW2 censor. Memories are like shadows, not reality, existing in a faraway country and, differently, in the memories of others.

Shadowlands

# Zsuzsi Erenyi: Lost





Art No: PP1067 Artwork Dimensions: w 58 cm (23.2 inches) h 76 cm (30.4 inches) Year Created: 2021 Medium: Oil Surface: Canvas

Shadowlands

0

For me shadowlands is the unknown. It's mystic, incognizable and constant, it's like a dark forest, where you have to find the right way.

## **Shui-Lyn White: The Heart is a Bridge**



Art No: PP1041 Artwork Dimensions: w 56 cm (22.4 inches) h 76 cm (30.4 inches) Year Created: 2021 Medium: Other Surface: Paper

#### The heart is a bridge

"Between the idea And the reality Between the motion And the act Falls the Shadow For Thine is the Kingdom

Between the conception And the creation Between the emotion And the response Falls the Shadow Life is very long

Between the desire And the spasm Between the potency And the existence Between the essence And the descent Falls the Shadow"

T.S. Eliot (The Hollow Men)



Shadowlands

This poem by T.S. Eliot evokes for me the human experience of the shadowlands. The uncertain worlds of emotional shadows that fall between past, present and future selves severing a sense of continuity in life's trajectory.

Life is often thought of as a continuous flow from here to there, there to here, but life like time is neither singular or consistent.

#### Krisztina Lőrincz: Contrast





Art No: PP1061 Artwork Dimensions: w 60 cm (24 inches) h 40 cm (16 inches) Year Created: 2021 Medium: Oil Surface: Canvas

In the shadow it's never homogeneous, it's the constant whirl of light and darkness. Some parts has more light while other parts are darker and these parts can define each other. The Shadowland is never stable, there is continuous fluctuation in it, the potential to become the light or the dark. And for us, who travel through the Shadowlands, there is the potential to go towards the light or the dark.

For me the light filtering in the shadows gives guidance and hope, it leads me through the shadows and inspires me to keep going even in the darker parts.

# **Merana Cadorette: Sinking into Depression**





Art No: PP0933 Artwork Dimensions: w 45.72 cm (18 inches) h 121.92 cm (48 inches) Year Created: 2019 Medium: Acrylic Surface: Canvas

Shadowlands

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When life is sucking you down into the depths, and it threatens to snare you and drag you under...when even to last glimmer of warmth and light looks

## Alla Kosteleckaya: Epistle





Art No: PP0961 Artwork Dimensions: w 60 cm (24 inches) h 50 cm (20 inches) Year Created: 2021 Medium: Acrylic Surface: Canvas

"Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death I will fear no evil ...."

In this verse of the Bible, mortal shadows represent trials and difficulties that come into our lives. Hardships that are following in to footsteps or running ahead of us, they can't do any harm unless we voluntarily fill them with our fears and experiences.

If we trust the Creator and look at the trials as an opportunities to become stronger and wiser then the great despair can transform into the Love and Light, the shadows can simply disappear and the victory over the circumstances can become our reality.

In the painting in the lower right corner, you can see the text from the Bible-the shadows have almost hidden it, but the power of the Word still works. The wanderer in white clothes and the female silhouette become one and the shadows that hide in the roots of the trees are no longer terrifying and they have no more power over her ...



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# **Dustguy: Black on High: Ouranos Storyboard**





Art No: PP1050 Artwork Dimensions: w 111.76 cm (44 inches) h 20.32 cm (8 inches) Year Created: 2021 Medium: Other Surface: Other



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Virginia slate, Champlain black marble, Belgian black marble, Georgia regal black marble, Tennessee imperial black marble, Spanish negro marquina marble, Italian portoro marble

## **Trevor Woollard: In the Shadow of Beauty**





Art No: PP1051 Artwork Dimensions: w 60 cm (24 inches) h 60 cm (24 inches) Year Created: 2020 Medium: Acrylic Surface: Wood

Shadowlands

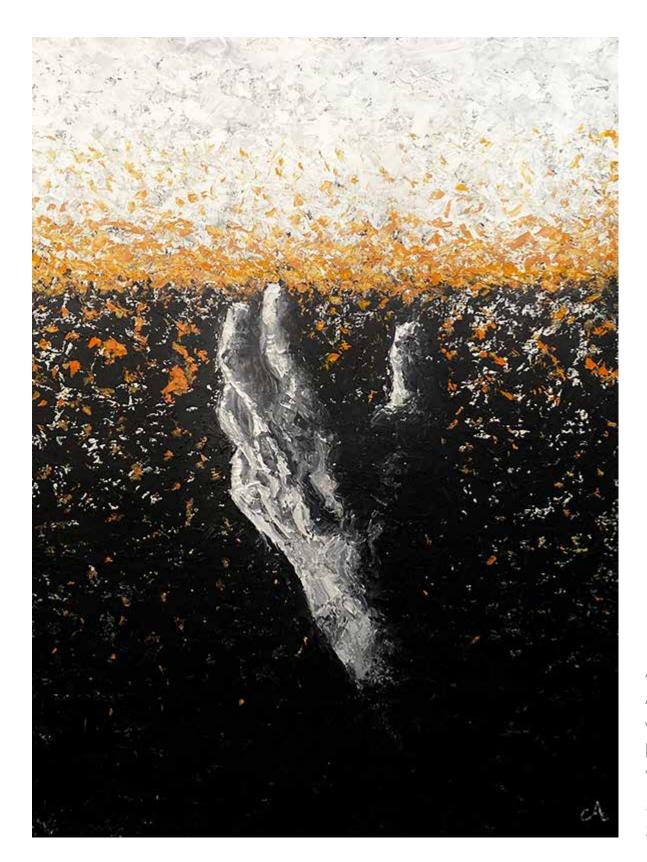
15

In the shadow of beauty – represents the obsession some people have with trying to beautify every aspect of their life in order to feed the social medial machine.

Spurred on by mainstream media, clever algorithms and "influencers" they become fixated with being in the spotlight.

The missing eye represents the fact some don't even realize their obsession and are blindsided by it all.

#### Aleksandra Ciazynska: Hope



Art No: PP1019 Artwork Dimensions: w 60 cm (24 inches) h 80 cm (32 inches) Year Created: 2021 Medium: Oil Surface: Canvas

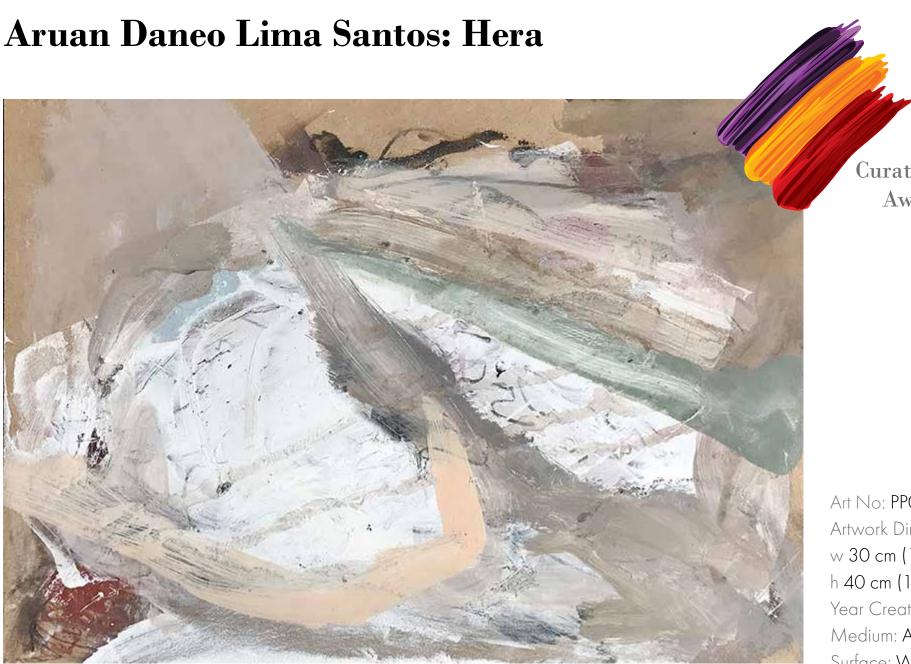
Shadowlands. Each of us has experienced it in our own lives. There are days when we are at the end of our strength, life hurts us, we only see problems. We are surrounded by uncertainty.

However, there is always hope. Even in the darkest days. If we only reach out our hand towards it, it will let us pass through the most difficult moments. You just need to grab it, and then it will spread its brightness over us and it will slowly flow down the golden stream into our hearts, until it finally fills it with calm and joy. This is what I wanted to show in my painting.





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Curator's Award

Art No: PP0967 Artwork Dimensions: w 30 cm (12 inches) h 40 cm (16.8 inches) Year Created: 2021 Medium: Acrylic Surface: Wood

Hera is a painting about light and hope. This painting encourages the viewer to leave the shadowlands of depression and threat in which we have all dwelt for the past few months.

Shadows are shades, things we don't understand enforced by embedded primal fears, but for there to be shadows there must also be light. Initially I thought of physical areas in deep dense woodlands where the light would not reach as a metaphor for one's own psyche.

I found light in the muted fells and moorlands of my beloved, beautiful Yorkshire an area which can at times be bleak and grey, but also resplendent and glorious just like life itself.

Hera – a painting which embraces light and hope as we emerge into a brighter future.

# **Benjamin Alejandro Luna: Two Marbles**





Art No: PP0982 Artwork Dimensions: w 28 cm (11.2 inches) h 21 cm (8.4 inches) Year Created: 2021 Medium: Oil Surface: Paper

In the middle of a sterile and gray place that extends to infinity, where life did not prosper and the universe was not able to reach itself, and where a sky in perpetual twilight embraces creation; majestic and unalterable two marbles are imposed that in silence mark the center of the world that only they populate. The immutable shadows that they project under their being, keep in perpetual darkness a fraction of divine creation; and on its surface, between chiaroscuro, the whole is reflected.

Perhaps some wandering traveler, an eternal and immortal soul, walked into infinity and passed them by stumbled upon the two great crystal sphinxes. And in they shadow he rested and meditated on eternity and void, on light and shadow; to finally continue on his way.



# Yevgen Marchenko: Vermilion Vernicle





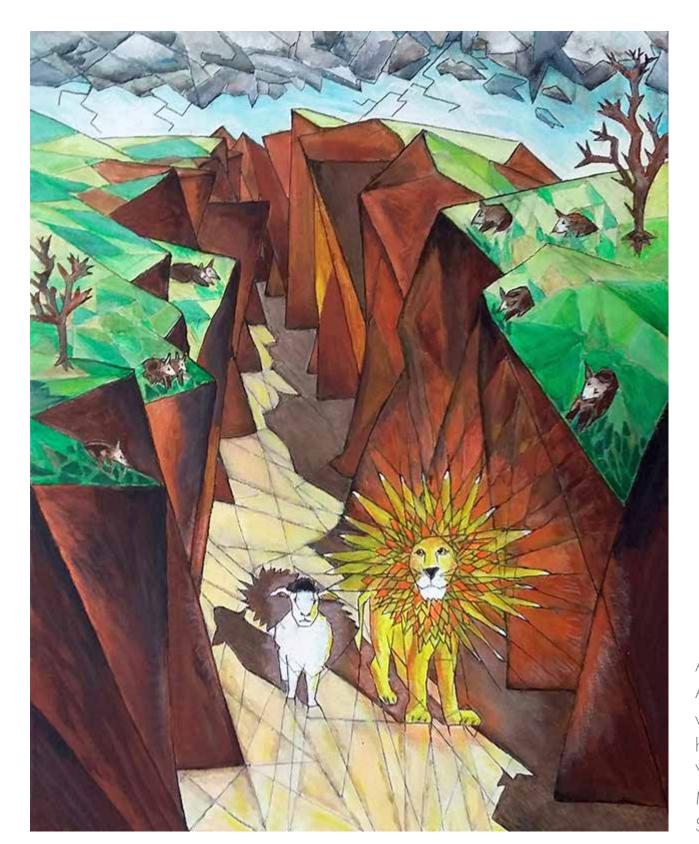
Art No: PP1035 Artwork Dimensions: w 100 cm (40 inches) h 120 cm (48 inches) Year Created: 2017 Medium: Oil Surface: Canvas

Shadowlands

Sometimes the shadows take on familiar shapes. They live in familiar things and colors. We recognize them as signs and symbols. Mystical shadows like a gaze from the depths of the centuries filled with purity and simplicity.

A gaze burdened by the bloodshed and misunderstanding of times. He still continues to silver lining. He still looks from the inside into the very soul.

## **Mary Pearce: The Valley of the Shadow**



Art No: PP1031 Artwork Dimensions: w 40 cm (16 inches) h 50 cm (20 inches) Year Created: 2021 Medium: Acrylic Surface: Canvas

When I think of "Shadowlands", C.S.Lewis together with Narnia, Aslan and Psalm 23 come to mind. C.S.Lewis used the term to refer to his grief over losing his wife, Joy. But C.S. Lewis had his first encounter with Shadowlands in 1908, at the age of 10, when his mother died. This year was also the year that Cubism became popular.

In this painting, I have brought these threads together, using geometric shapes to express the emotion, fear, grief and trauma — but also the relative power of the characters. Aslan is pictured as the Shepherd, walking beside the sheep, keeping the wolves at bay. The cliffs are sharp, foreboding and real, but there is hope too.

As the Psalmist says, "Though I walk through the Valley of the Shadow of Death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me." The shadows that I am currently facing are to do with cancer, Parkinson's Disease, injustice and grief, but I find hope in the fact that where there are shadows, there is also light.





## Andreia B. Minamizawa: Wait



Art No: PP0741 Artwork Dimensions: w 30 cm (12 inches) h 21 cm (8.4 inches) Year Created: 2020 Medium: Acrylic Surface: Paper

Humanity is in quarantine, living in the shadow of its fears, in fear of the present and in the uncertainty of the future.

How long will the human being, with all his life, creation and socialization, endure?

How long will hearts withstand the loneliness of darkness?

It is not folklore, nor legend, nor history, but reality has never been lived as before.

Resilience becomes the only weapon and God's faith in better days is the only shield and only light.



Shadowlands



#### **Bazzer: Shadowlands**



#### Shadowlands

Beware thee of the Shadowlands Below this land of sun and beauty There lies a place I beg thee never see Where hell abounds and overflows at every part Every action is with hate and dread Unspeakable acts Souls in prayer rescinding their deeds And they look above As if to talk to the omnipotent one All they see is darkness And fading fingers of light from hells pyres Where demons roast alive the weaker souls On spikes like spit roast chickens And pack like lower beings to fight for scraps A table of dread thou should never see. Beware of darkened places Places that people enter But never be seen again Near dirk and mired outlands Bogged places Led by fools and opportunists Who wander into darkened cave-like places Knowing from old tails From frightened mothers

Beware the Shadowlands Tell one tell all but harken to all said And if yeah find you venture into the dark places I truly hope thee don't not awaken anything Thy hasn't been tolled

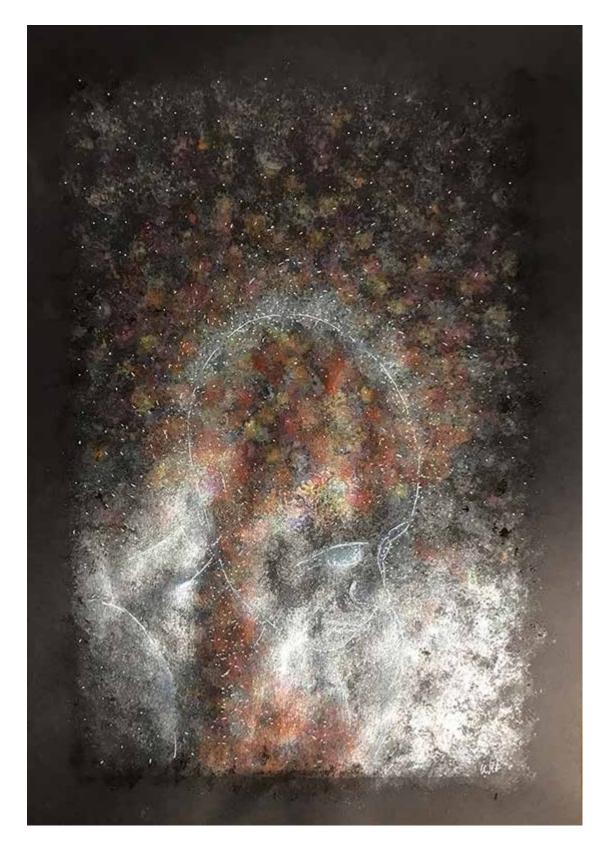


#### Art No: PP0984 Artwork Dimensions: w 25.4 cm (10 inches) h 35.56 cm (14 inches) Year Created: 2020 Medium: Acrylic Surface: Canvas



# **Urszula Filipowicz: Unconscious Consciousness**





Art No: PP1045 Artwork Dimensions: w 30 cm (12 inches) h 42 cm (16.8 inches) Year Created: 2021 Medium: Watercolor Surface: Paper

Shadowlands

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You are the eternal energy in the human body for a while. What is on your mind? What is in your soul? Light or shadow? Or maybe both? Shadow and darkness are just a state of no light. Does shadow can exist without light? Does light can exist without shadow?





#### **Curator's Note**

Thank you to everyone who submitted work for this exhibition. I was honoured to have this opportunity and gratified to see so many entries.

In curating this, I wanted to offer a sense of the narrative that emerged strongly as I read through the supporting statements. For some, Shadowlands exists as a metaphysical concept, for others, it is part of the human condition; whilst some see light emerging from darkness, others see shadows as memories of past lives.

In making what were often difficult choices, I was mindful of the request for artists to offer a supporting statement which related the work to the title of the exhibition. Some work of great merit is therefore not represented simply because there was no attempt to explain the link, or the link was extremely tenuous. A good exhibition needs a strong narrative — and the narrative here has been created by the work contained and the statements about that work; thoughtful insights into the artist's mind and the work they present.

I hope this exhibition speaks to everyone who visits. The work contained shifts from light to dark, dark to light. It is an exhibition framed by the shafts of light and dark that enter all our lives and we each move within and between them in life, before we become the dust and shadows of our destiny: "Shape without form, shade without colour" (The Hollow Men, TS Eliot). There's no order to these shadows; they move around at will and when you reach to touch, they dissolve. Thank you, fellow artists, for the gift of your work.

In choosing the recipient of the Curator's award, I looked for work that responded to the title and concept of Shadowlands in a personal way; a way that suggested the artist was grappling with the ambiguities behind the title. I also looked at the statements very carefully to understand the artist's thinking and how they saw their work as a response to the title. There were a number of very good pieces in this exhibition, and some thought-provoking statements but I kept returning to one in particular. The winner of the Curator's Award is the artist who offered a rich visual image alongside a highly personalized rationale and glimpse into the thinking behind the work.

Womanwithstick (AKA Jan Sargeant)







## **Gallery's Note**

We are grateful to our curator Jan Sargeant (AKA Womanwithstick) for setting up this exhibition. The theme "Shadowlands" appeals to our very inner and often sacred thoughts and emotions. We often (if not always) ask the artists to write a description for all applied works. This time reading descriptions can turn your perception of this exhibition upside down.

There is no GPS in Shadowlands. Each artist took a different approach. Some found inspiration in the bible or ancient texts, the others searched for the light in the land of shadows, several wrote their own poems. We decided to give the gallery award to the work which took metaphysical and also very personal approach. The work which one of the most famous writers of 20th century Erich Maria Remarque would probably call "Schatten im Paradies" (Shadows in Paradise).

Shadowlands is the kingdom of the unknown. How you deal with something you cannot see or comprehend? We all are looking for our own ways. Isn't it what the art is about — looking for your own way?

The winners of the contest are:

Curator's Award — "Hera". Aruan Daneo Lima Santos (UK)

Gallery Award – "The Memory of Others". Ted Kennedy (UK)

Popular Vote Award — "Quiet City". Alex Dobreva (Bulgaria)

Shadowlands



People & Paintings Gallery