

Andrew Litten

Fragile Together

12 May – 6 June 2021



Andrew Litten, *The Clouds*, 2020, Oil on canvas, 66 7/8 x 82 5/8 in. (170 x 210 cm)

When JD Malat had the idea, last summer, of giving artists a London showcase in the exhibition *Isolation Mastered*, Andrew Litten (b. 1970) was one of the artists selected. His work forcefully evoked the physical and emotional fragility exposed by the Covid pandemic.

This exhibition brings together recent large-scale figurative paintings, sculptures, and mixed media works on paper by British artist Andrew Litten. *Fragile Together* is a raw and visceral multifaceted body of work that reflects our shared human vulnerability.

“The work itself is intended to be unguarded, full of raw nerves and emotionally varied. I look to create art that speaks of the love, anger, loss, personal growth and the private confusions we all experience in our lives. Where our vulnerability is made apparent, there is then a potential to relate to others. I want this exhibition to nurture a life affirming sense of our shared humanity and encourage wider readings of compassion. Empathy is powerful.”
— Andrew Litten.

The varied expressive handling of materials and the wide-ranging subjects denote the artist’s requirement for emotive articulacy. This body of work conveys potential human alienation and neurosis, whilst also reflecting our complicated co-existence. Through intensity, disturbance and agitation the works in this exhibition aim to encourage readings of compassion. Litten hopes to contribute to the dialogue of developing a kinder society.

JD MALAT

GALLERY

“Through these works I seek to create stories of authenticity and to explore the part of us that wants to care — to compress a sense of endurance of human spirit.”

This exhibition aims to express complex states of our contemporary condition and convey shared anxieties of our troubled times. Litten is inspired by the commonplace, stimulated by the many works in his studio and by the activity of art making, assembling, collaging, scoring texture into surfaces, and manipulating the material qualities of paint.

Litten lives and works in Cornwall, UK and has exhibited widely in Cornwall and the UK, including at the Tate Modern in London. Litten’s work has also been exhibited in Germany; Poland; Italy; China; Mexico; USA; and Australia. Litten’s work is in the collections of the Milwaukee Art Museum USA; The Royal Cornwall Museum, UK; The Priseman Seabrook Collection, UK; and the Falmouth Art Gallery Collection, UK. Litten is a nominated member of the Newlyn Society of Artists; and the Contemporary British Painting group. Litten’s work has been published in Studio International Magazine; and his artwork has been used for cover images by publishers Faber and Faber (*Plays* by David Farr); Bloodaxe Books (*Silent in Finisterre* by Jane Griffiths) and also within various art publications.

For interviews, images and comment, please contact: press@jdmalat.com

Exhibition Opening Hours: Monday – Friday, 10am – 6pm. Saturday, 12pm – 6pm.

JD Malat Gallery, 30 Davies Street, Mayfair W1K 4NB

www.jdmalat.com