

Serena Morton

From:
15 February 2021

343 Ladbroke Grove
London W10 6HA

Jonathan Schofield Intellectual Animals



Highly charged



Serena Morton has pleasure in announcing the launch of *Jonathan Schofield - Intellectual Animals*

Intellectual Animals is a solo exhibition of paintings and work on paper, at Serena Morton, London.

Jonathan Schofield has made the following comments about his work and this exhibition:

‘My paintings draw on a wide range of sources for their imagery: everyday life, film, poetry, the idealised images of social media, remembered sensations, memories and dialogue with History of Art are used to create spontaneous compositions that result in highly charged yet resolved work which aims to offer open ended and varied interpretation.

Colour, both pictorially and neurologically, is the foremost expressive element. Colour is a physical presence in the paintings. From the way it works in relationship with other colours, to its ability to set mood and atmosphere, the way it can transform the viewer through both its optical and emotional power is of fundamental importance.

Cover: *Mansplaining*, 2020
190 x 180 cm

Above: *On The Beach*, 2020
160 x 130 cm

Colour is a drug

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Colour can induce powerful mindfulness, a state of heightened experience and awareness. Colour is a drug, with no known side effects.

The painted gesture is constantly in flux, until each work begins to take on its own internal logic, guiding me to a resolution, rather than the other way round. I rarely work from sketches or preparatory studies, but from an ongoing dialogue with motifs and forms that continue to obsess me. The paintings are an oblique and poetic interpretation of modern life.

For this exhibition, animals have become a significant motif, often the monkey, the dog, the moth or the leopard.

Animals have a long significance in the history of art, from cave painting through to the Renaissance and Rococo periods, used both as a formal device and also as a poetic metaphor or symbol. I think of the Animals in my paintings as emotional signifiers - they are engaged in some sort of dialogue with my characters - the exact nature of which I like to leave to the audience to decide.

In two recent paintings : 'Intellectual Animals' and 'Mr Jagger Washes His Feet' the human form has become transformed into monkey-like creatures, human, but with animal characteristics. They become quasi-mythic; both modern and old, human and other, in tune with both their instincts and their minds, in short, 'Intellectual Animals.'

Intellectual Animals, 2020
180 x 120 cm (at widest point)



Jonathan Schofield was born near Manchester and now lives and works in London. He studied for a Masters Degree in Fine Art at The Royal College of Art under Peter Doig. His work has been exhibited internationally and he is part of the RCA permanent collection. Jonathan has since fused his interest for art and fashion, running his own art direction agency, whilst continuing to paint from his studio in Hackney.

This spring Jonathan has been commissioned to create a three window installation for Selfridges.

The opportunity arose to create a site-specific three dimensional installation melding Jonathan's passion for colour and painted forms; expanding on themes from the Intellectual Animals Exhibition. This oeuvre is the culmination of a three year cycle of reflection and exploration.

The show will run from
15 February 2021

To request the PDF catalogue and price list and to enquire about gallery re-opening / covid restrictions please contact: info@serenamorton.com

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343 Ladbroke Grove
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Mon - Fri 10 - 5
Saturday 10 - 2

Reading To Leopold, 2020
Two canvases 120 x 90 cm each