Ruth Philo, Painter

Ruth's paintings explore abstraction, through colour, light and surface, often emerging from encounters with place and walking. They combine conscious and unconscious elements to convey a sensory experience communicating on both a physical and an emotional level.

She regularly exhibits in the UK and abroad, based in Sudbury, Suffolk. Ruth has an MA Fine Art, Norwich University of the Arts, BA History of Art, University of Warwick, is a member of artist-led group Contemporary British Painting and also curates shows. Her work has been selected for the Jerwood Drawing Prize and the Royal Academy Summer Exhibition, Mark Rothko Symposium, Rothko Museum, Latvia, British Council exhibitions in Poland and Romania as well as Contemporary British Painting shows in China and the US. She has been awarded Arts Council EnglandDYCP and project grants and a British Council Artists International Development Fund Travel Grant for work in China. Her work features in collections in the UK, Ireland, Latvia, USA, Switzerland and China.

Selected Exhibitions

2023 Love is the Meaning Exhibition celebrating Julian of Norwich, St Julians Church& Shrine, Norwich

2023 Mark Rothko Painting Symposium 2023 & Residency, Rothko Museum, Daugavpils, Latvia

2023 Royal Academy Summer Exhibition, London

2023 With(in) and With(out) Borders & Boundaries, The Milkfactory, Hertogenbosch, The Netherlands

2023 X Contemporary British Painting 10th Anniversary Show, Newcastle Contemporary Art, Newcastle

2023 This Year's Model, Studio 1.1, London

2022 Animal Vegetable Mineral, The Art Station, Saxmundham

2022 Territory Expo., Sluice + PADA, Lisbon Art Fair, Lisbon, Portugal

2022 Women in Colour: East Anglian Women Artists, Cobbold & Judd, Stoke by Nayland

2022 Paint Edgy, Contemporary British Painting, The Ropewalk, Barton on Humber

2022 A Generous Space 2, Artists Support Pledge, New Art Gallery Walsall

2022 Vitalistic Fantasies, Elysium Gallery, Swansea

2022 M2 Gallery Artists: 2, ASC Gallery, London

2022 The Art of Grieving, St Albans Museum, St Albans

2022 Paradoxes Contemporary British Painting, Quay Arts, Newport, Isle of Wight

2022 This Year's Model, part 1, Studio 1.1, London

2021 30 x 30, North House Gallery, Manningtree

2021 Nowhere, Cley 21, Cley next the sea

2021 Here. The Art Station, Saxmundham

2021 Art Top Ten Lockdown Interviews Exhibition, Cello Factory, London

2021 This Year's Model, Studio 1.1, London

2020 Vitalistic Fantasies, Contemporary British Painting exhibition, part of the BEEP

Painting Biennial 2020 & at Cello Factory, London

2020 Natural Beauty, North House Gallery, Manningtree

2020 Beyond Other Horizons: Contemporary Paintings Made in Britain & Romania, British Council exhibition, Palace of Culture, Iasi, Romania

2020 Mycorrhiza and Extancy, Survival Strategies, Sluice, AMP Gallery, Peckham, London

2019 A Hand Stuffed Mattress, curated by Karl Bielek, Terrace Gallery, Leyton

2019 Between Us: Biennial Conversations & Exchanges, China & Britain, University of

Suffolk, Ipswich & Ex Marks the Spot, Great Yarmouth

2019 The Colour in Anything, Solo Show, M2 Gallery, Peckham, London

- 2019 Alive in the Universe, Palazzo Pesaro Papafava, Venice Biennale
- 2019 Contemporary British Painting, Norwich Cathedral, Norwich
- 2019 Made in Britain: 82 Painters of the 21st Century, National Museum, Gdansk, Poland
- 2019 Painting as Terrain, St Marylebone Parish Church, London
- 2018 Local Anywhere, Sluice, Hackney, London
- 2018 NEW Painting, Contemporary British Painting, St Marylebone Parish Church, London
- 2018 Paintlounge Berlin, Sluice, The Kühlhaus, Berlin
- 2018 Estuary, North House Gallery, Manningtree, Essex
- 2018 First Biennale Sino-British Contemporary Art Exhibition, Yantai Art Museum, China
- 2018 The River Runs Through Us, Boat House Gallery, Flatford, Suffolk
- 2017-18 Contemporary Masters from Britain: 80 Painters of 21st Century, touring
- exhibition, Yantai Art Museum, Yantai; Artall Gallery, Nanjing; Jiangsu Art Museum, Nanjing & Tianjin Academy of Fine Art, Tianjin, China
- 2017 Ruth Philo & Yves Beaumont: Paintskips, Studio 1.1, Redchurch Street, London
- 2017 Solo show Paint Ground Westminster Reference Library, London
- 2016 Contemporary British Painting, 30x30x34, St Marylebone Parish Church. London
- 2016 Ways of Seeing The Boat House Gallery (National Trust), Flatford
- 2016 This Year's Model Studio 1.1, Redchurch Street, London
- 2015 Jerwood Drawing Prize Jerwood Space, London
- 2015 Lines for Agnes The Crypt, St Marylebone Parish Church, London
- 2015 Royal Academy Summer Exhibition, Royal Academy, London
- 2015 Stations of the Cross Contemporary British Painting, Brentwood Cathedral
- 2014 A Creative Conversation Cley14, Cley-next-the-sea, Norfolk

Curating/Projects

- 2022-3 ACE DYCP project Making Ground on colour, combining practice and research
- 2019- Secretary, artist led group, Contemporary British Painting
- 2018- Fabric: Silk Road, cultural and ethnographic exchange on silk, UK- China, 2018
- China research trip, British Council Artists International Development Fund.
- 2018-19 Coordinator & programme developer for the first Sudbury Silk Festival
- 2018-22 *River Stour Festival*, director, arts festival along River Stour, Essex, Suffolk & Cambridgeshire, supported by Dedham Vale AONB
- 2017-18 *The River Runs Through Us*, Film | Walks | Swims, with sound artist Stuart Bowditch, supported by ACE & Dedham Vale AONB
- 2016 Curator of Ways of Seeing, 12 Contemporary Painters, Flatford
- 2015 Curator, Lines for Agnes: 9 Contemporary Painters, St Marylebone Crypt, London
- 2012-15 to the lighthouse, project & residency, grove projects, Bury St Edmunds
- 2005-2007 Visions of Sudbury, Sudbury, Suffolk, supported by Awards for All

Education

- 2009-11 MA Fine Art Norwich University of the Arts
- 1990-1992 Diploma Art Textiles (Distinction) Anglia Ruskin University
- 1986-1987 PGCE Art Education (Distinction) Institute of Education, University of London
- 1975-1979 BA Hons History of Art 2:1 University of Warwick

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