

Tranquillity in the Wild – Tess Armitage 21st July 2021 – 26th October 2021

Tranquillity in the Wild is an exciting celebration of the dramatic vistas of the West Country. Tess's restful yet vibrant use of colour and texture lifts her work beyond the merely representative and transports the spectator into evocative landscapes that perhaps "just for a moment" takes them there. It's as if one can feel just a hint of a breeze or smell the salt in the air.

The gestural mark making is paradoxically both random yet deliberate. Through splattering, scraping and smudging with hands, brush and palette knife Tess has



developed a playful explorative technique that reflects a mindful immersion in a time and place. Her fascination lies at the resonant place between abstraction and realism. The marks are spontaneously abstract but the finished image echoes the landscape from where the inspiration began.

Tess immerses herself in the outdoors having lived much of her life on the edge of Exmoor. It is these wide open landscapes that she is drawn towards, seeking wild and untouched places. Being in the wild is intensely exhilarating yet equally humbling at the same time.

This exhibition reflects how so many of us have found sanctuary in the landscape over the last year. Connecting with nature is essential for our well being and there is simply nothing more beautiful.

