

Sapling

SAPLING IS PLEASED TO PRESENT

WHEN THE LIGHTS GO UP



A SOLO EXHIBITION OF WORKS BY
FLEUR YEARSLEY

CURATED BY JULIA LUCERO
PRIVATE VIEW: THURSDAY 1ST JULY, 6-9 PM.

Sapling is delighted to present a solo exhibition of paintings by Fleur Yearsley, curated by Julia Lucero. Inspired by her personal experience, Yearsley captures fragments of lives moving through private and shared spaces. From childhood to adulthood, the hermetic bubble of the modern home to the parks, toilet cubicles, streets and dance floors, the artist's visual language sings a generational anthem. Yearsley imagines snapshots of scenes after an action has taken place, transforming these views into monumental paintings. Toys, cigarette butts, Adidas sliders and Monzo cards stand for owners just out of frame.

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For Yearsley, play is the life force running through all of her paintings. Halfway Down the Stairs (2020) is a freeze-frame of two Slinky toys twisting their way down the staircase. Alongside Let Me In (2021), the artist's humorous approach to the sweet and sour is portrayed with simplicity and sensitivity. Her party scenes are just as much a playground for the grown child as her staircase a space to meditate on the dynamic of growing up. Her paintings ask you to pause and appreciate life's fleeting moments.

In Come Over (2020), Yearsley depicts a calming interior scene looking towards the outside world from the comfort of her bed, recalling a tradition of window paintings that have inspired artists for centuries. The sunlit palm leaves, sitting in the cool, gently inviting the visitor to come over, speak of summer days and times together. The symbols, objects, and places appearing in Yearsley's work speak of a shared cultural and generational language. These are the memories that make us.



Fleur Yearsley (b.1990 Manchester, UK) graduated from an MFA in Painting at the Slade School of Fine Art as a recipient of the Gwen John Scholarship in 2017. Her work 'To The Moon and Back' (2019), is part of the John Moore Painting Prize 2020, currently on view at the Walker Art Gallery.

In August 2021, the artist is curating and exhibiting a collaborative art, music and performance show in Manchester titled 'Anything Goes' with Alvaro Barrington, Dorus Tossijn, and Kim Harvey. 'Anything Goes' aims to create a place of solace and unity for people to reawaken Manchester's dance and club culture, after being gravely impacted by the effects of Covid-19.

Yearsley was selected for both Bow Art's 'Annual Open Show 2019' with a call for works that respond to "our current political moment", curated by Carrie Young, and 'Boundaries' that coincided with the London Festival of Architecture. As an awardee of the Jealous Prize 2018 the artist undertook a residency to create limited edition prints of her work that were exhibited at Original London Print Fair at the Royal Academy of Arts and in 2019 they were officially included in the permanent collection of the V&A Museum.

Other exhibitions include 'The Iso Box', a community focused photography and art collaboration, FBA Futures at Mall Galleries, Desires at GNYP Gallery, Berlin. The artist has undertaken residencies at Slade School of Fine Art, Malvern St. James and Cheadle Hulme School. In 2018 she was the beneficiary of the Almacantar Award. The same year, she was shortlisted for the Dentons Art Prize and Hottinger Purchase Prize for Excellence.

Visit: Sapling, 124 Mount Street Mews London W1K 3NR
Mon - Sat, 12-6pm, no appointment necessary

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