



R.A. Ceiling oil on linen 48cm x 36cm



Two Portraits oil on linen 50cm x 40cm



An exhibition of paintings by
Louise Thomas

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Open Tues – Sat 10.00am – 5.30pm
Sunday 11.00am – 4.00pm


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Louise Thomas

Saturday 22nd November - Sunday 14th December 2008

These new paintings started life when I was researching in the archives of Country Life magazine. As well as back dated issues, the collection holds photographs of country houses dating back to the beginning of 20th century, many of which were never published. Some of the most beautiful and fragile interiors that I discovered now only exist in this archive. I subsequently found out that over the decades hundreds of decadent homes have been abandoned or destroyed by fire, this was completely fascinating for me.

The paintings attempt to recollect or recover something of what was lost in the fires. Alongside research at Country life I visited many country houses all over England. Spending hours in state rooms, dining rooms and having tea with National Trust stewards, discussing the imitation silk wallpaper and the restoration of 18th century sofas. I recorded reams of details ranging from the arrangement of fake wooden eggs in Sudbury hall's parlour rooms to an original Tudor sprung floor of Flemish Oak at Clandon Park, perfect for dancing!

The interiors that affected me the most, when I visited them, may not be directly referenced in my new paintings. However, the experience of the atmosphere, smell and touch of a huge succession of interiors fed into the paintings on a subliminal level.

Louise Thomas, September 2008

Education

- 2004 Art Foundation, Kingston University
- 2007 BA Fine Art, University College Falmouth

Solo Exhibitions

- 2007 Ferdynand Zweig Scholarship, Poly Arts Center, Cornwall

Group Exhibitions

- 2008 Interiors, 10g Gallery, New York
- Kapellmeister Pulls a Doozy, Seven Seven Contemporary, London
- Sunspot Mirage, BISCHOFF/WEISS, London
- Sweet Monument, The Sassoon Gallery, London
- 2007 Concrete Hole You Clench my Soul, PZ Gallery, self-curated, Penzance
- Second X-Posure, Revolver, PZ Gallery, curated

- 2007 4 New Sensations, Truman Brewery London organized by the Saatchi Gallery and Channel 4
- Sunrise with Sea Monsters, Trinity Buoy Wharf, London
- 2006 Shelflife, The Gallery, curated by Jonathan Stubbs and the artist, Surrey

Awards

- 2008 Nominated for the Jerwood painting prize 2009
- 2007 Celeste Painting Prize, (Shortlisted, Artists Category)
- 4 New Sensations (Shortlisted)
- 2006 Ferdynand Zweig Memorial Travel Scholarship


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Cover **Calke** oil on linen 36cm x 48cm



Stack of Orphee oil on canvas 50cm x 40cm



Upstairs Downstairs oil on linen 48cm x 36cm