



LEAH FRASER
The Thin Places

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7 – 30 March 2024

Opening Celebration, Thursday 7 March, 5 – 7pm

Leah Fraser is enchanted by the universal psyche that has connected civilisations, both ancient and contemporary, throughout history. “It’s so interesting that as humans we have these stories that are parallel to one another, it reflects our way of explaining the world and nature and science, before there were words for those things.” Charged with this energy, Fraser’s paintings are driven by intuition, a gut feeling. She depicts worlds that she can feel, but not see. The artist reflects on this sensation, “it’s so much a part of me, it’s my way of interpreting the world.” Guided by mythology, folklore, and the occult, Fraser engages in conversations with the canvas, allowing this connection to dictate her next move. With every brushstroke the narrative unfolds, weaving together realms, both seen and unseen.

In Celtic mythology ‘The Thin Places’ are locations where the physical world and the eternal world are thin, or even where they become one. A spot where you are awakened to other forces that occupy the world beyond. These new paintings are the artist’s, *Thin Places*, a deeply personal expression of self, snippets of her soul. In this collection, figures float between the veil that separates worlds. We exist in the tangible world, detached from the unseen. Fraser breaks down these boundaries, painting figures that exist only in her imagination—capturing the essence of being between worlds. ‘The Thin Places’ is about finding one’s truth, discovering what lies within. The artist muses, “the stories behind them are a very ephemeral thing. I think it could be a different story for everyone that looks at it.” The paintings become portals for reflection.

Guided by her connection with the element of air, being a Vata Dosha, the space and air element, in the Indian medicinal practice of Ayurveda and an air sign, Libra, in zodiac astrology, her works focus on how connection is established through the air. The way it caresses your skin and the skin of others, how it flows through the natural environment. Constantly in motion, forever intertwined with the cosmos. Canvases are adorned with birds soaring through boundless skies, evoking a sense of liberation and transcendence. Visible streams of air weave through the compositions, imbuing them with a palpable sense of movement and fluidity. The delicate figures appear weightless, as they effortlessly glide through worlds unknown. Fraser employs an ethereal colour scheme, reminiscent of drifting in and out of a dreamscape. The enigmatic gazes and gentle expressions of the characters forge an irrefutable bond with the viewer.

Fraser’s exploration of ‘The Thin Places’ beckons viewers to embark on a journey of introspection and transcendence. Through her paintings, she invites us to embrace the interconnectedness of existence and to discover the beauty that lies within the subtle currents of the air. Come forth and cross the veil.

Imogen Charge
Deputy Editor, Artist Profile

After completing a Bachelor of Fine Arts at the College of Fine Arts, UNSW, Fraser was granted an Art Production Residency in Arquetopia, Puebla Mexico (2012) and has regularly exhibited throughout Australia in solo and group shows. The artist has also been a finalist in a number of awards, including the Blake Prize for Religious Art (2014, 2009), the Moreton Bay Art Prize (2016), Kings Art Prize (2019) and the Portia Geach Memorial Award (2017).



That is the light that moves through you

acrylic on linen

155.5 x 124.5 cm (framed)

\$8,990



The need was magnetic
acrylic on linen
155 x 124.5 cm (framed)
\$8,990



I am beside you look for me

acrylic on linen

155 x 124.5 cm (framed)

\$8,990



Her roots grow in air and she flows to the sky

acrylic on linen

155 x 124.5 cm (framed)

\$8,990



Where the veil is porous I will find you
acrylic on linen
124.5 x 155 cm (framed)
\$8,990



Trust the spirits
acrylic on linen
170.5 x 140 cm (framed)
\$9,600



Learning to fly
acrylic on linen
140 x 170.5 cm (framed)
\$9,600



I can feel you in my midst
acrylic on linen
99.5 x 89.5 cm (framed)
\$6,600



Seen and not seen
acrylic on linen
99.5 x 89.5 cm (framed)
\$6,600



The wind blew and time stood still

acrylic on linen

99.5 x 89.5 cm (framed)

\$6,600



I will stretch my body across the world to find you

acrylic on linen

99.5 x 89.5 cm (framed)

\$6,600



I am her and she is me and we are all

acrylic on linen

99.5 x 89.5 cm (framed)

\$6,600



Let me enfold you
acrylic on linen
99.5 x 89.5 cm (framed)
\$6,600



(Top Left) *Songs of absence II*, acrylic on linen, 43 x 33 cm (framed), \$3,200 ●

(Top Right) *Songs of absence VIII*, acrylic on linen, 38 x 33 cm (framed), \$3,000

(Bottom Left) *Songs of absence VII*, acrylic on linen, 38 x 33 cm (framed), \$3,000

(Bottom Right) *Songs of absence IX*, acrylic on linen, 43 x 33 cm (framed), \$3,200 ●



(Top Right) *Songs of absence I*, acrylic on linen, 43 x 33 cm (framed), \$3,200

(Left) *Songs of absence X*, acrylic on linen, 43 x 33 cm (framed), \$3,200

(Bottom Right) *Songs of absence XI*, acrylic on linen, 43 x 33 cm (framed), \$3,200

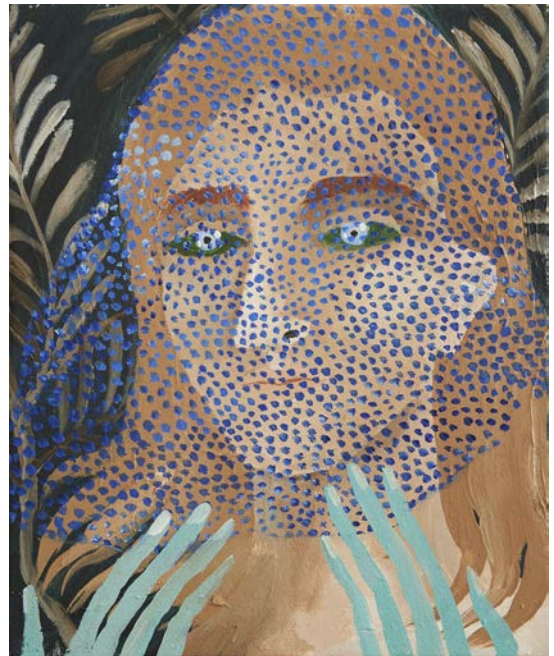


(Top Left) *Songs of absence V*, acrylic on linen, 33 x 28 cm (framed), \$2,800 ●

(Top Right) *Songs of absence IV*, acrylic on linen, 38 x 28 cm (framed), \$2,900

(Bottom Left) *Songs of absence III*, acrylic on linen, 38 x 28 cm (framed), \$2,900

(Bottom Right) *Songs of absence VI*, acrylic on linen, 33 x 28 cm (framed), \$2,800



Know the Secret
glazed ceramic
17.5 x 14 x 11 cm
\$1,400

Touching the Sky
glazed ceramic
34 x 16 x 14.5 cm
\$2,200



She Opened Her Eyes

glazed ceramic

56 x 16 x 16 cm

\$2,200



Inhale and Exhale (front)

glazed ceramic

28.5 x 22.5 x 14 cm

\$2,200



Inhale and Exhale (back)

glazed ceramic

28.5 x 22.5 x 14 cm

\$2,200



The First Thing that Happened

glazed ceramic

26 x 21 x 20 cm

\$2,200



LEAH FRASER

Born 1983, Sydney, Australia

EDUCATION

2002 Bachelor of Fine Arts, College of Fine Arts, Sydney

AWARDS, GRANTS & RESIDENCIES

2019 Kings Art Prize, Finalist
2017 Portia Geach Memorial Award, Finalist
2016 Moreton Bay Art Prize, Finalist
2016 Waverley Art Prize, Finalist
2014 Blake Prize, Finalist
2014 Woollahra Small Sculpture Prize, Finalist
2012 Art production Residency, Arquetopia, Puebla Mexico
2009 Blake Prize, Finalist

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2024 'The Thin Places', Arthouse Gallery, Sydney
2021 'Let her go into darkness', Arthouse Gallery, Sydney
2018 'In the beginning there were stars', Arthouse Gallery, Sydney
2017 'Within You Without You', Arthouse Gallery, Sydney
2015 'Messages from the World Invisible,' Arthouse Gallery, Sydney
2014 'Odyssey and Oracle,' Arthouse Gallery, Sydney
2013 'Valley of the Silver Moon,' Arthouse Gallery, Sydney
2010 'The Jabberwocky Prayers,' Gallery at 28, Sydney
'I am the cosmos,' Mils Gallery, Sydney
2009 'Fear and Might,' Black and Blue Gallery, Sydney
'Fever Dreams,' Utopian Slumps, Melbourne
2007 'When Night Comes Falling,' Black and Blue Gallery, Sydney

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2024 'Summer', Arthouse Gallery, Sydney, NSW
2023 'Paper & Clay', Arthouse Gallery, Sydney, NSW
2022 'Summer', Arthouse Gallery, Sydney, NSW
2021 'Coming Home', Arthouse Gallery, Sydney, NSW
2020 'Mystic Woman', Byron School of Art, Byron Bay, NSW
2019 'Summer', Arthouse Gallery, Sydney, NSW
2017 Arthouse Gallery Group Show at Sydney Contemporary Art Fair, NSW
Works on Paper Group Show, Arthouse Gallery, Sydney, NSW
2016 'Interstices', Tristian Koenig Gallery, Melbourne, VIC
2015 'In the Still', Arthouse Gallery, Sydney, NSW
'Under the Sun', Arthouse Gallery, Sydney, NSW
2014 'Mental As', ABC, Sydney, NSW
'Under the Sun,' Arthouse Gallery, Sydney, NSW
'Open House,' The Design Files, Melbourne, VIC
2013 'From the river to the seeker,' Pieces of Eight Gallery, Melbourne, VIC
'Open house,' The Design Files, Sydney, NSW
2010 'Headgear,' Mils Gallery, Sydney, NSW
'Local Produce,' Artfocus Gallery, Sydney, NSW
2009 'Red Show,' Gallery at 28, Sydney, NSW
'Water,' Gallery at 28, Sydney, NSW

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- 2008 'You Can Count to Ten,' Black and Blue Gallery, Sydney, NSW
'Year Is Over,' Black and Blue Gallery, Sydney, NSW
'Chalk Reindeer,' Chalk Horse Gallery, Sydney, NSW
- 2006 'Emergent iii,' Newport Artworks Gallery, Sydney, NSW
- 2005 'Grad Show,' COFA Sydney, NSW
- 2004 'Dissonance,' Kudos Gallery, Sydney, NSW

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Imogen Charge, 'The Subconscious,' Artist Profile, Issue 66, March 2024
'Profile', The Journal of Australian Ceramics, Vol.53, no.2, 2014
'Odessey and Oracle', The Design Files Blog, Feb 25 2014
'Mystic Memories', Vogue Living, Mar-Apr 2014
'Victorian Treasure', Country Home Ideas, Vol.13, no.8, 2014
'Sydney Home', The Design Files Blog, Feb 20 2013

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