

## CATHERINE HYDE

*“She is, if you will, a visual poet weaving images, symbols and archetypes into paintings that resonate in the subconscious and linger there like half remembered dreams or the dark fairy stories with which she has such affiliation”*

**Pip Palmer, Galleries Magazine**

Catherine Hyde is a Cornish artist, writer and award winning Illustrator. She trained in Fine Art Painting at Central School of Art in London and has shown her atmospheric and symbolic paintings in galleries for over thirty years.

“I am constantly exploring the liminal spaces that lie between dream and consciousness, land and water, earth and sky and attempting to capture the landscape in a state of suspension.

I use symbols that are both universal and personal: Archetypal animals, such as the hare, stag and owl are all associated with many layers of myth and history and in my paintings they appear as emblems of wildness and fertility. The hare in particular is a highly personal symbol that I have used in my work for many years. It is a mysterious and ancient creature and I often use it as an image of stillness and contemplation but I also love its wiry speed and ability to exist as if in flight, neither earth nor air – pure energy, pure wildness: sheer earthy magic.

My landscapes are simple and semi-abstracted and usually tonally dark and mellow. I build the surface with layers of paint, gels and glazes, suspending gold and copper leaf, mica flakes, sea glass and shells. Hidden within the images are suggestions of the poet in the landscape – the lit house among the trees, a small figure in a boat or a solitary figure against the horizon. Sometimes sheets of colour and sunlight flood the surface leaving pools of gold and shadow, fleeting suggestions of heat and light or approaching weather.

Against the stillness of my landscapes it is the implied movements and cyclical journeys of the animals, fish and birds that act as the narrative vehicle that binds the elements and the seasons together within the paint.”

## EXHIBITIONS

2018: Solo 'The silver apples of the moon' Foss Fine Art London 2017: Solo 'The Twelve Days' Lighthouse Gallery, Penzance

2016: Solo 'Running of the deer' Foss Fine Art, London

## MIXED AND SOLO SHOWS

Ainscough Contemporary London

Beaux Art Bath

Lemon Street Gallery Truro

Charleston Farmhouse Sussex

Falmouth Art Gallery

Foss Fine Art London

Illustration Cupboard London

Iona House Gallery Woodstock

Lion House Gallery Suffolk

Lighthouse Gallery Penzance

Mall Galleries London

Rye Art Gallery Sussex

Singing Soul Gallery Kent

True North Gallery Massachusetts

Twenty Twenty Gallery Much Wenlock

Wetpaint Gallery Cirencester

*"Catherine's work has always been closely connected to Nature and storytelling. Understanding the language of ancient symbols she enhances this fairytale with her signature images. Ethereal figures, leaping hares and bounding stags, lurking fish and devious ravens, the waxing and waning moon, the burnished suns and distant planets and dark ochre pomegranates, the fruits of Hades, are woven into their fabric like a glorious medieval tapestry."*

**Peta Jane Field, Inside Cornwall Magazine**

*"Catherine Hyde..is fast becoming one of Cornwall's most celebrated artists. It is easy to see why. Her work, replete with archetypal symbolism and yet discernibly her own, has a tantalizing, ineffable feel allied with a delicate, but never precious, sensitivity."*

**Alex Wade, Cornwall Today**