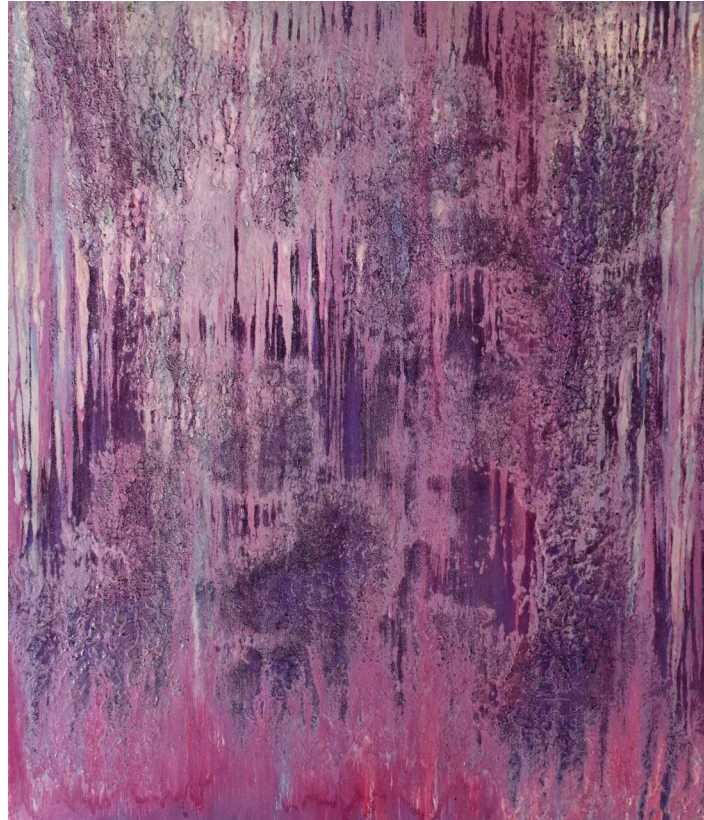


Roger Holtom
British, B. 1961



Favouring domestic and industrial paints over art-shop standards, Roger Holtom creates a wealth of unusual effects by mixing specialist applications ranging from rust inhibitors to wood stains, resulting in surfaces which may have gaping fissures, irregular surface cracking or subtle fractal effects.

"Twenty-five years ago, at the peak of my former career as a professional cellist, I began experimenting with paint and found that it allowed me a refreshingly different type of expression than through classical music. Moreover, it gave me a means of indulging my long-standing fascination with the craft of the improviser.

Principles of composition, tonality, texture, colour, rhythm and nuance being common to both disciplines, I was able to take my knowledge of these fundamentals and apply them to an ongoing investigation into the art of improvisation – from the perspective of a visual artist.

FIUMANO CLASE

Unlike the transience of a musical performance, the gradual evolution of an artwork allows one to stand back and enjoy not only the process but also a final result which can be revisited and appreciated long into the future.

Working as a professional cellist has almost certainly affected my painting technique, however. It has been observed, for instance, that I paint 'with my whole body'. Whether throwing paint at the canvas, distressing the surface or applying a wash, I find that the best results are achieved by harnessing the power of one's core body-mass, which is unquestionably the case when playing the cello.

I still play the cello regularly but now concentrate solely on the Six Suites for Solo Cello by J. S. Bach. Following the example of Pablo Casals I play one complete Suite every day. The fluency I have established as a painter is thus enriched and informed by the architectural purity of Bach, representing a unique form of research into the parallels between these two disciplines."

Education

- 1996 Diploma in Studio Practice - University of West London, UK
- 1989 Certificate in Education (Further Education) - Huddersfield Polytechnic, UK
- 1982 BA (hons) Music, Specialising in Musical Composition - Leeds University, UK
- 1982 Associate Diploma in Cello Tuition - Royal College of Music, London, UK
- 1981 Licenciate Diploma in Cello Performance - Trinity Laban Conservatoire, London

Publications

- 2018 *BOOM*, Fiumano Clase, ISBN 978-1-9164521-0-7, edition of 75
- 2015 *Liberty with Order: The Art of Improvisation* - Fiumano Projects Publishing, London, UK

Residencies

- Current Bajardo Studios - Bajardo, Italy
- 2011-14 Casa Harvey - International Artist Community of Bussana Vecchia, Italy
- 2002-6 The Performance Space - Covent Garden, London, UK

Selected Solo Exhibitions

- 2018 *BOOM*, Fiumano Clase, London, UK
- 2016 *Continuum* - Archimania, San Remo, Italy
- 2015 *Liberty with Order* - Fiumano Projects, London, UK
- 2013 *Dreamtime* - Fiumano Projects, London, UK
- 2012 *My Back Pages* - Laboratorio Aperto, Bussana Vecchia, Italy

FIUMANO CLASE

- 2010 *The Art of Improvisation* - Fiumano Fine Art, London, UK
- 2008 *The Art of Self Expression* - Chapel Row Gallery, Bath, UK
- 2001 *Jazz Painting* - Molde Jazz Festival, Norway

Selected Group Exhibitions

- 2018 With Fiumano Clase at Pulse Miami Beach, Miami, USA
- 2017 With Fiumano Clase at Pulse Miami Beach, Miami, USA
- 2016 With Fiumano Projects at the London Art Fair, UK
- 2015 With Fiumano Projects at START, Saatchi Gallery, London, UK
- With Fiumano Projects at the London Art Fair, UK
- 2012 Summer Exhibition - Fiumano Fine Art, London, UK
- Fantasia* - Milan, Italy
- 2010 Chesterton & Humberts - London, UK
- Henley Arts Festival - Henley, UK
- 2009 Art London - Fiumano Fine Art, London, UK
- Edinburgh Art Fair - Fiumano Fine Art, London UK
- 2008 Annual Exhibition - Bath Society of Artists, UK
- Winter Exhibition - Fiumano Fine Art, London, UK
- 2002 *Inner Landscapes* - Oxo Tower, London, UK

Other

- 1997-99 Creative Advisor/Project Coordinator - Albatross Studios, Sydney, Australia
- 1995-97 Associate Music Tutor - Richmond Music Trust, London, UK
- 1990-97 Principal Cellist - Intercontinental Chamber Ensemble, Sydney, Australia
- 1982-84 Collaborative Project with avant-garde saxophonist Xero Slingsby ('The Works')