

**MEMORY  
AND MOVEMENT**

**05.07-  
14.07  
2019**



**LAUREL  
HOLLOMAN**

GALERIE JOSEPH  
7, rue Froissart  
75003 PARIS

**EXPOSITION**  
Vendredi 5 Juillet 2019  
Au dimanche 14 Juillet 2019  
de 11h00 à 19h00



## Biography

**Laurel Holloman** is known for her vibrant use of color and larger-than-life paintings capable of capturing tumultuous emotions with a vivid movement that create a three-dimensional illusion. *"I feel my paintings have a secret language born out of science and my obsessiveness with why and how we are here. I paint through abstraction with subtle hints of elemental imagery; the sky, water, fire, earth, a bird flying, cells reproducing, or a celestial bed of stars. I am obsessed with metallics and textures and use playful brushstrokes that give paintings a third dimension and explore emotion,"* she reveals.

Ever since her acclaimed debut in 2010 with her New York studio collection, **TriBeCa**, Holloman has firmly established her artistic presence both domestically and abroad. In April 2012, **Coeur Libre** exhibited at the Pantheon Town Hall in Paris by invitation of the mayor. This show was followed by **Free Falling** at The Ateneo Veneto and ran during the 2012 Venice Architecture Biennale and was the first exhibition to contain large luminous murals. This exhibition was also the first collaboration between Holloman and Lea Mattarella, art history professor and art critic for La Repubblica, who curated the installation.

In spring 2013, **All The World Inside** featured 17 large-scale murals in three rooms at the Grand Palazzo Italia (Berlin). Also curated by Mattarella, this impressive collection furthered the artist's visual and visceral discourse on universal elements and existentialism. In summer 2013, Holloman's painting *Swell* was picked for the group show, **Nell'Acqua Capisco, at the Venice Art Biennale** where it was chosen for the official catalog.

In July 2014, **The Fifth Element** was held in Paris at Galerie Joseph where it was met with a public increasingly drawn to the poetic emotion of Holloman's work. The 28 pieces visually reflect the four major tangible elements—Earth, Air, Water, Fire—while the mysterious "fifth element" is represented in the emotion of each painting. In November 2015 in London, the artist presented **The Innocents**, a stunningly intimate series featuring portraits of women and children.

In summer 2016, the Jan van der Togt Museum in Amsterdam invited the artist for a solo exhibition. In this show dealing with environmental issues, Holloman captures actual images of woods, plants, and animals in their damaged natural spaces. **Reminiscent of stained glass, Everglow** is an installation of 12 back-panel LEDs that serve as a commentary on our current global warming crisis. In **Fertile Ground**, Holloman's second London exhibition (Bankside Gallery, July 2017), the artist continued to explore her favorite themes of nature, including the world of flora—from the tight abstracted micro images of flowers to posed portraits of the different stages of blooming.

In April 2018, **Color Forest** at the Luciana Matalon Foundation in Milan revealed several works referencing the style of large murals Holloman created for her solo shows *All The World Inside* and *The Fifth Element*. The link between these works is not only the stylistic choice but also the theme: the "liminal space or threshold" that is the border between life and death. From this sentiment also comes a section entitled **Memory Paintings**, in which layers of paint are superimposed with patinas of gold and silver, to which tiny amounts of pearlescent pigments and color are added. The result is iridescent works that—depending on the viewer's point of view—represent "a sort of search of the imaginary that nevertheless fades too quickly."

Laurel Holloman earned her Bachelor of Arts at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, majoring in performance art and visual art. She continued her studies at UCLA and the British American Drama Academy in London alternating between theatre and visual art.



### Solo Exhibitions:

**2019:** Memory and Movement, Galerie Joseph, Paris, France

**2018:** Color Forest (duo exhibition with sculptor Susi Kramer) Fondazione Luciana Matalon, Milan, Italy

**2017:** Fertile Ground, Bankside Gallery, London, UK

**2016:** Everglow, Museum Jan van der Togt, Amstelveen, NL

**2015:** The Innocents, Menier Gallery, London, UK

**2014:** The Fifth Element, Galerie Joseph, Paris, France

**2013:** All the World Inside, Palazzo Italia, Berlin, Germany

**2012:** Free Falling, Ateneo of Venice, Venice, Italy

**2012:** Coeur Libre, Pantheon Town Hall, Paris, France

### Group Exhibitions:

**2018:** Museum of Art- Biennale Chianciano, Italy

**2018:** Water for Life, International Art Exhibition, Niagara Falls History Museum, Canada

**2014, 2016, 2018:** The Contemporary Art Biennale of Argentina, Centro Borges Museum, Buenos Aires, Argentina

**2017:** Museo Ateneo de Madrid, A Collection Art from Spain and the Americas, Madrid, Spain

**2014:** Spectrum Miami, Contemporary Arts Selection, Miami, USA

**2014:** The Opera Gallery, Monaco, France

**2013:** The Venice Biennale, Nell'Acqua Capisco, San Marco Piazza, Venice, Italy

### Awards:

**1st** Place in Painting, Contemporary Art Biennale of Argentina, 2014

**Best Overall**, Banco Ciudad Award Contemporary Art Biennale of Argentina, 2014

**5th** Place in Painting, Florence Biennale, 2015

**1st** Place, The International Federation of Art Critics, Chianciano Biennale, 2018

**Memory and Movement** present stunning new works from Laurel Holloman as well as several paintings from her series **Color Forest**, which premiered during 2018 Milan Design Week.

For this exhibition, the theme of movement is beautifully expressed with swirling shapes flowing across each canvas and energetic brushstrokes whipping across rich shards of color.

Certain images are deliberately blurred so the viewer must sit with each piece a little longer to perceive its meaning. Many of the larger pieces are paintings within paintings where Holloman has left the first layer peeking through the next by either blurring the final layer or scraping back to the first layer underneath it all. Holloman purposely juxtaposes the technical memory of the paint with her own conscious and unconscious memory.

*"I believe the task of preserving memory is difficult because the unconscious mind is constantly changing it. This is why it is so complicated, but yet so interesting to explore in paint. Memory is never finite. Never a complete truth. It can stay close but is never a twin,"* the artist muses.

*"Memory is attached to an emotion, so I used a select life event when painting each work and I also wanted to technically see what the paint reveals in memory when it is layered a certain way."*

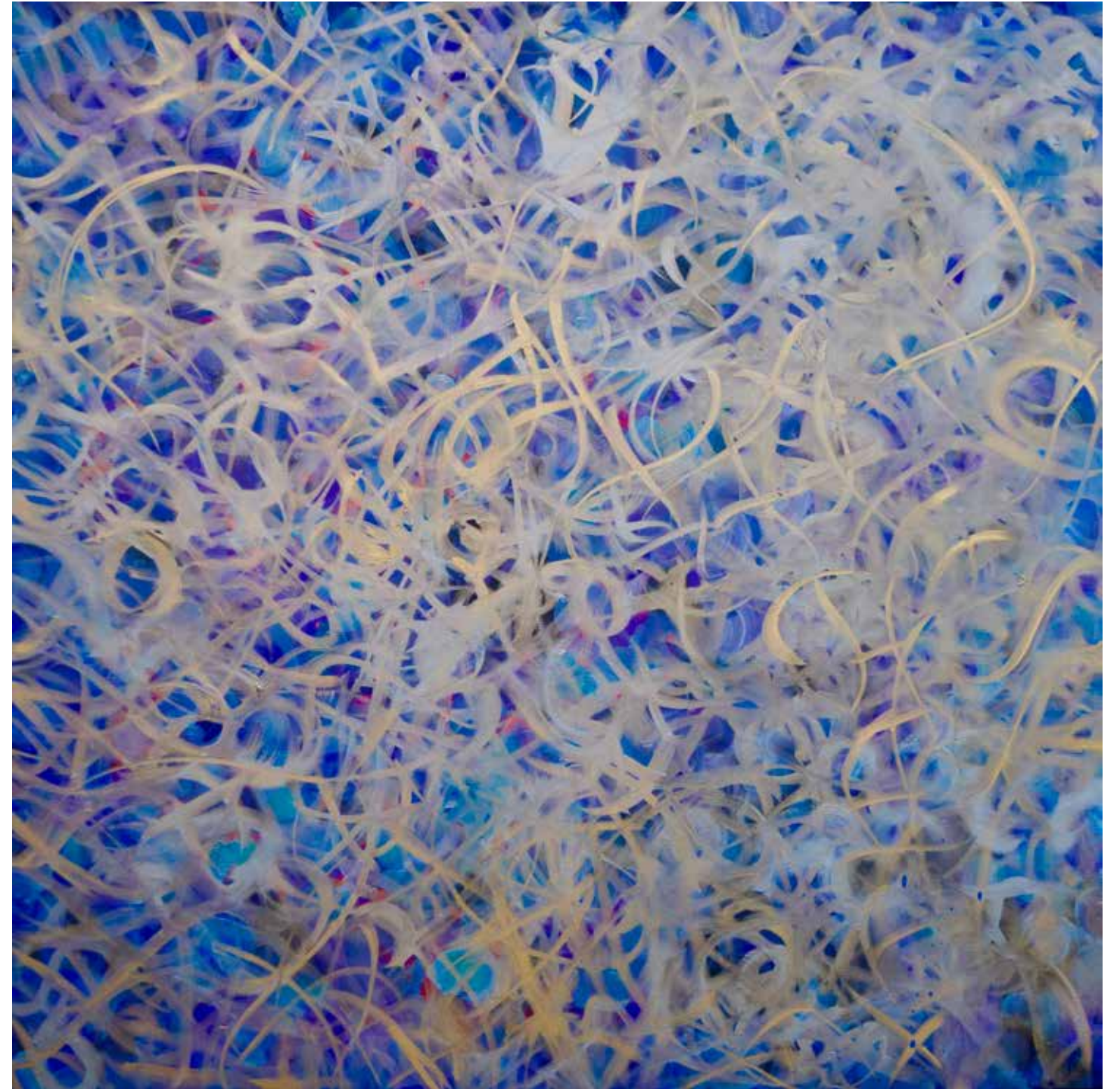
Co-produced by **Little Monkey Productions** (USA) and **Claudine Gil Galerie** (France), **Memory and Movement** is Holloman's second solo exhibition at Galerie Joseph. Her first show at the gallery was in 2014 with *The Fifth Element*, a series that explored the elements of earth, air, fire, and water.

These forces still unite her recent works, which burst in hues ranging from fiery red and deep watery turquoise to lush greens and earthy tones. Whether blurred or sharp in focus, there is a constant theme of nature in Holloman's palette. Her paintings take the viewer elsewhere to another world of extreme color, spirituality, and meditation.



# ILLUSIVE THOUGHTS

Oil on Canvas 122x122cm







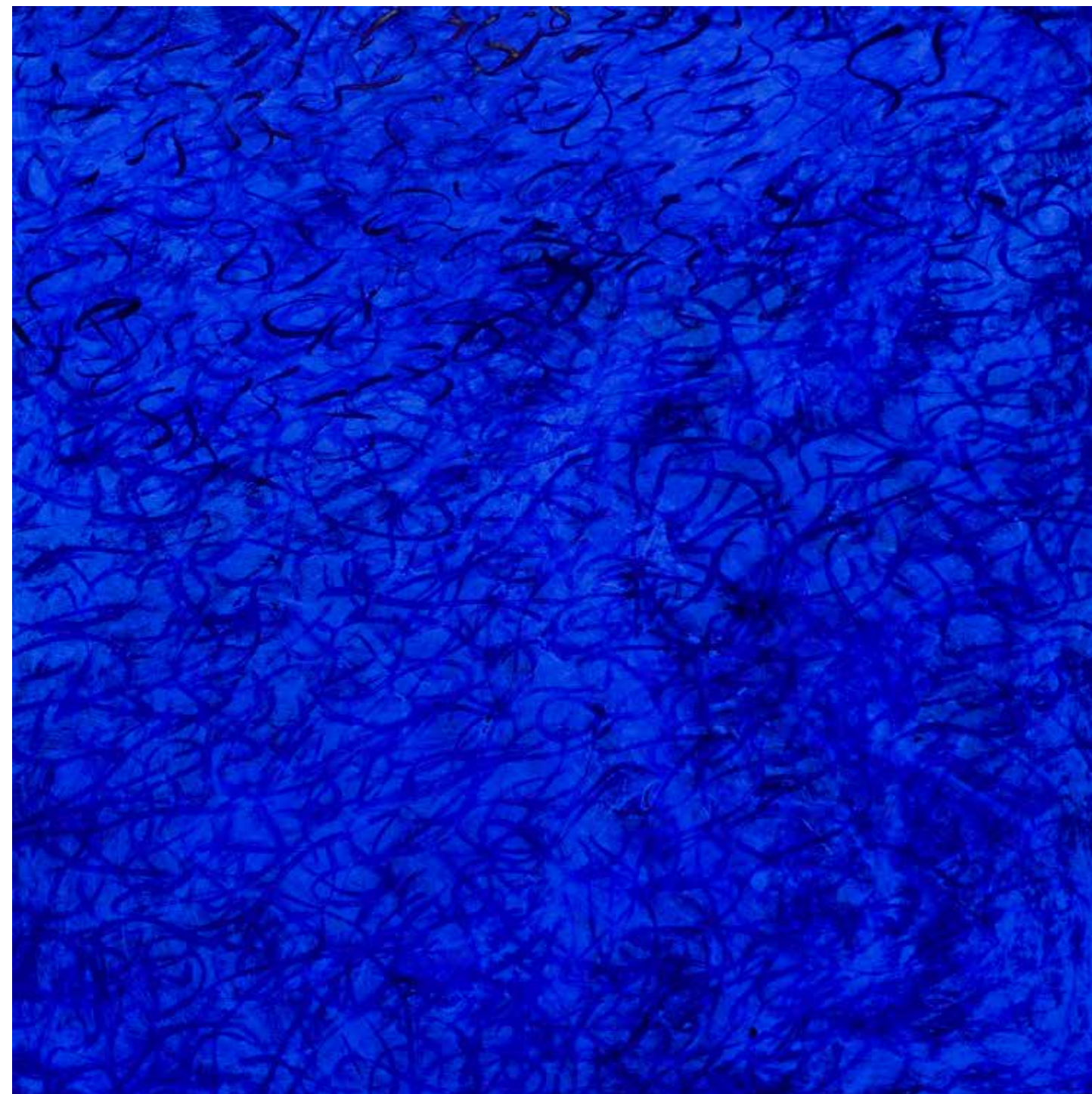
# FLIRTING

Oil on Canvas 122x122cm

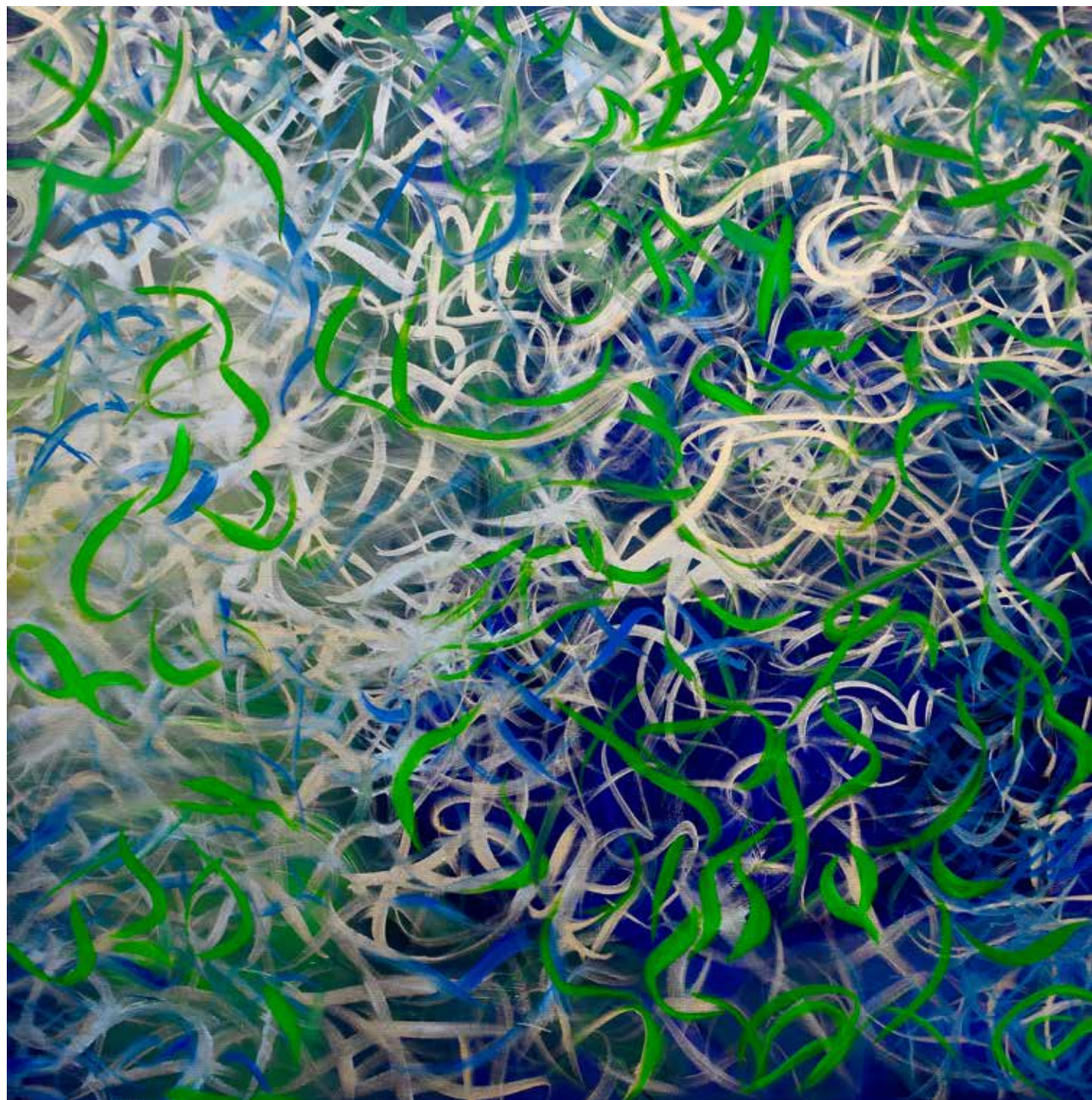


# LA DANSE BLEUE

Oil, Resin and Pigment on Canvas 122x122cm







# INNERBLOOM

Oil on Canvas 122x122cm



# LIFE'S GOLDEN COMPASS

Oil on Canvas 152x182cm







# THE DREAM LIFE OF ANGELS

Oil on Canvas 152x182cm





## BABEL WEST

Oil on Canvas 182x168cm



## BABEL EAST

Oil on Canvas 182x168cm



# PROVENCE ON THE MOON

Oil, Resin and Pigment on Canvas 152x122cm







# SWEPT AWAY

Oil, Resin and Pigment on Canvas 152x122cm

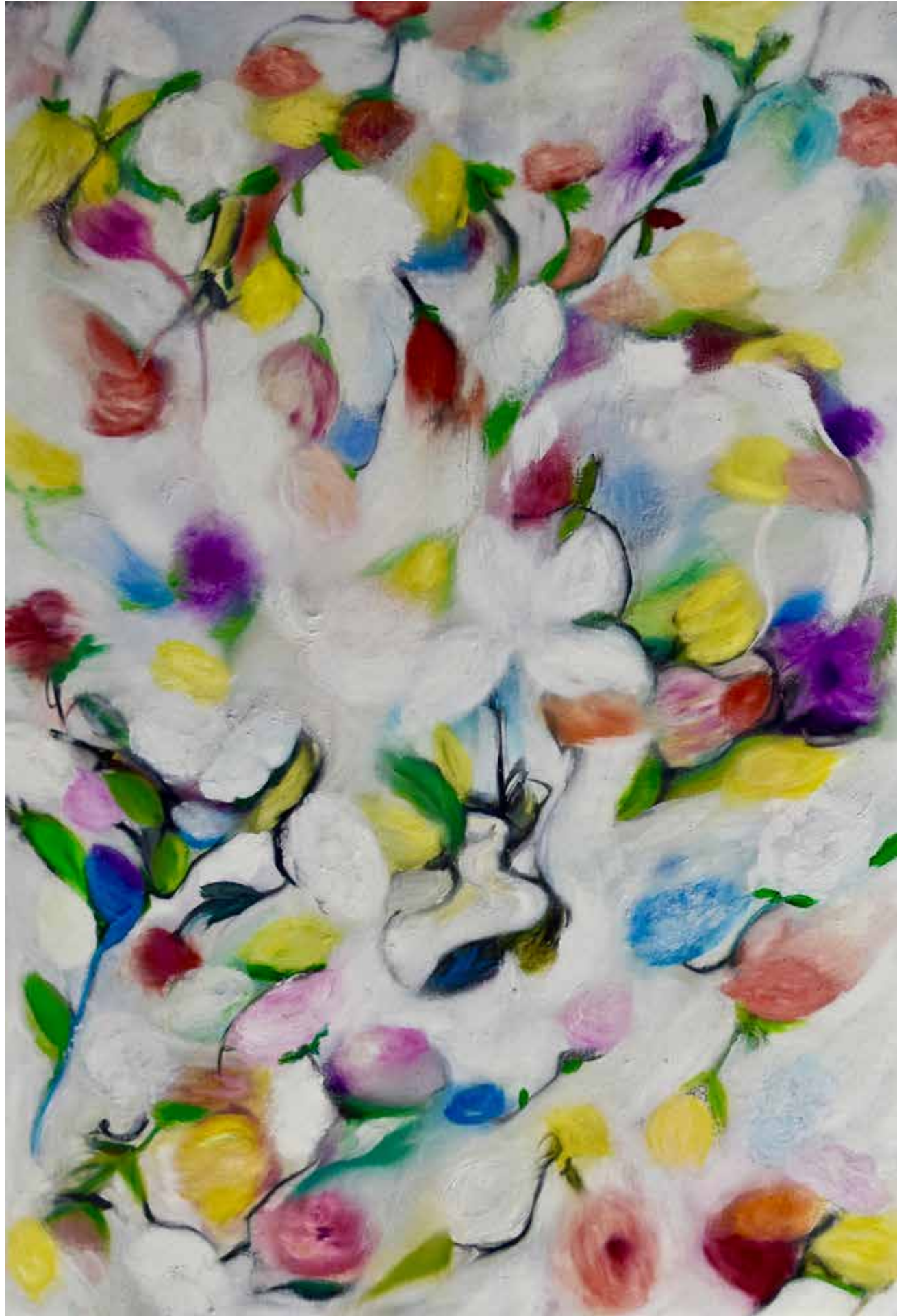




# THE ROSE AND THE SERPENT

Oil on Canvas 152x182cm





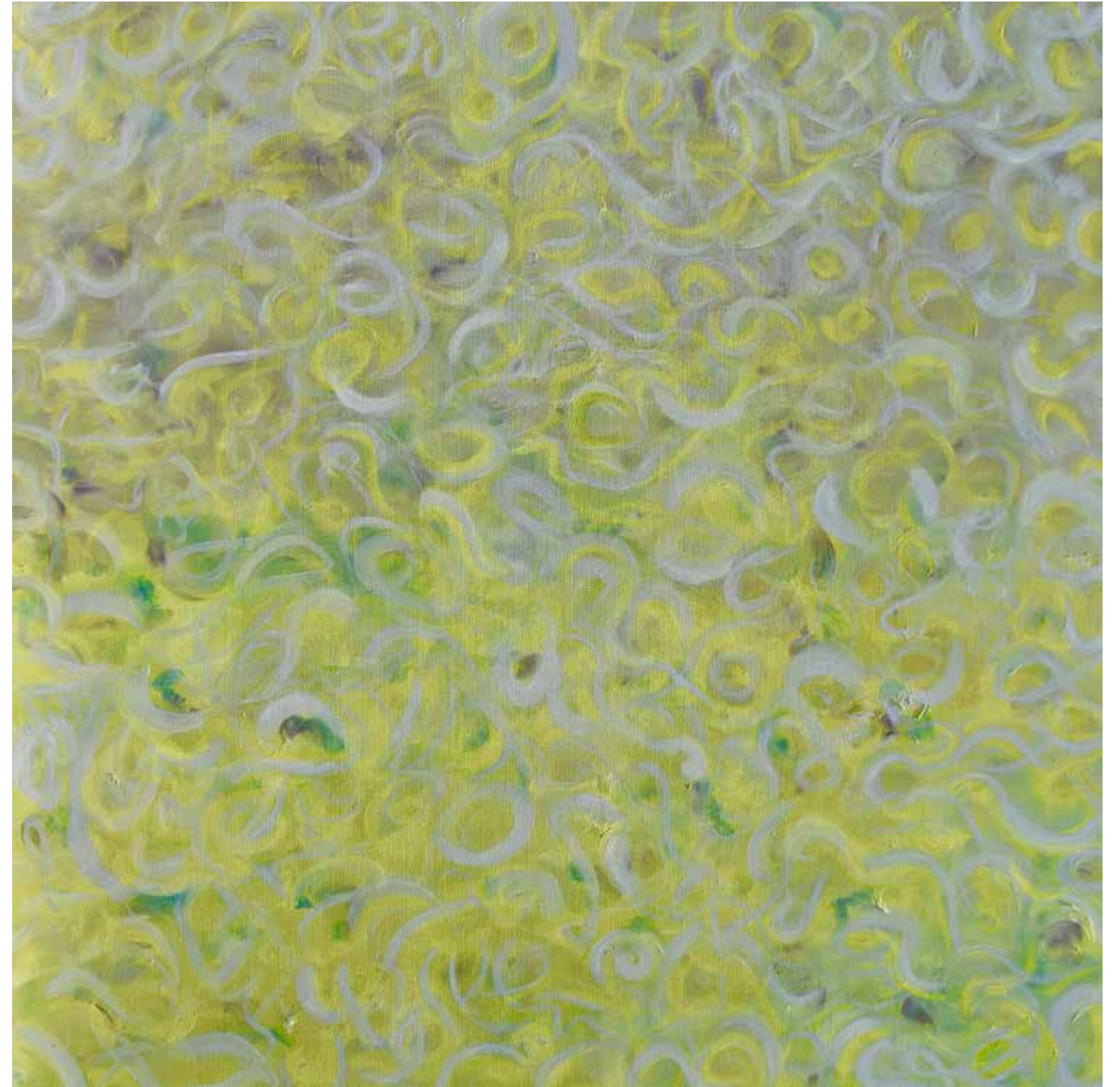
# DÉFLORÉE

Oil on Canvas 100x70cm



# BRIGHTER HONEY

Oil on Canvas 122x122cm







# GREEN MELODY

Oil on Canvas 122x122cm



# NIGHTBLOOM

Oil on canvas 122x122cm







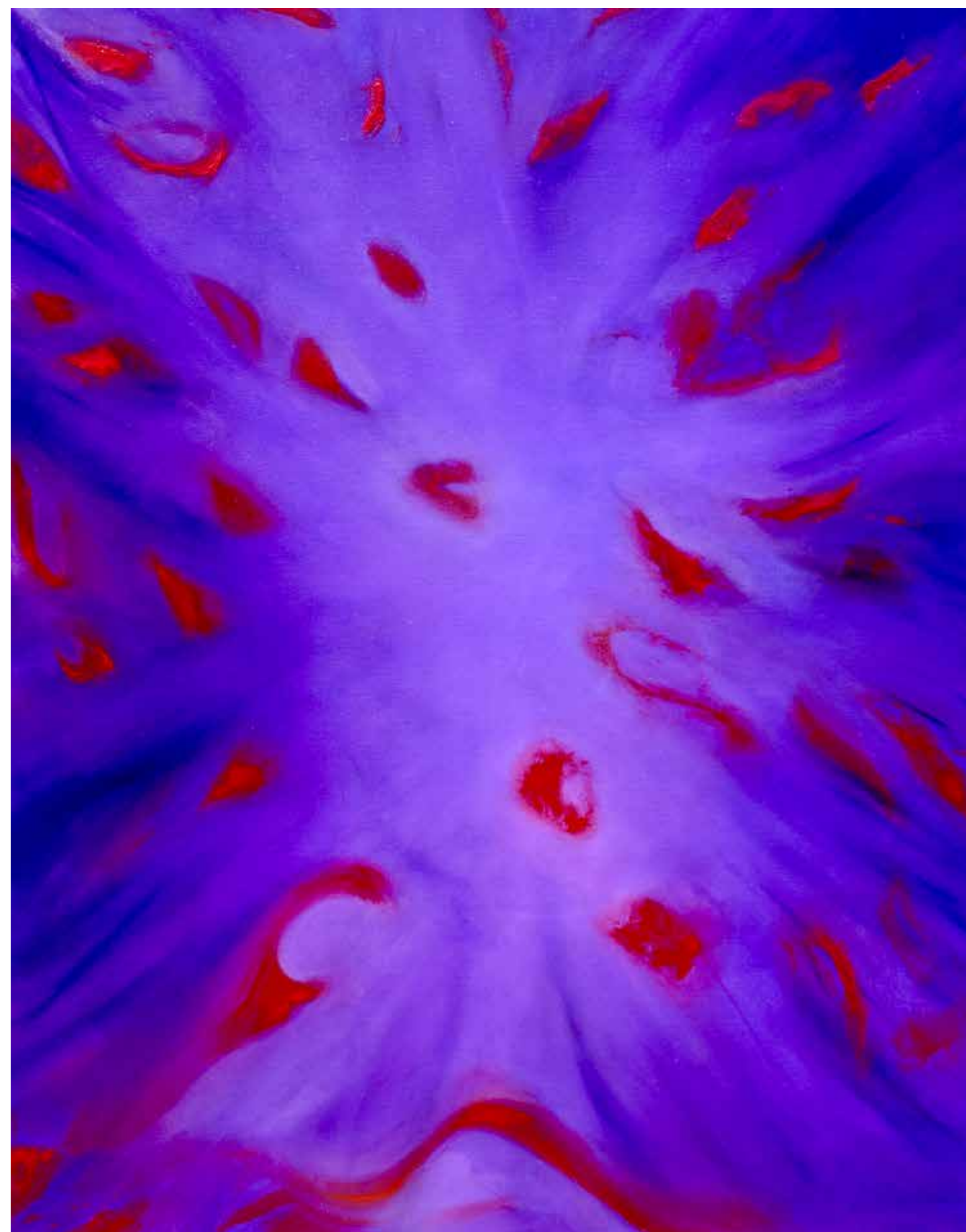
# SUNDREAM

Oil on canvas 122x122cm



# FLYING LOVE

Oil on canvas 152x122cm







# DESERT SKY

Oil on canvas 152x122cm

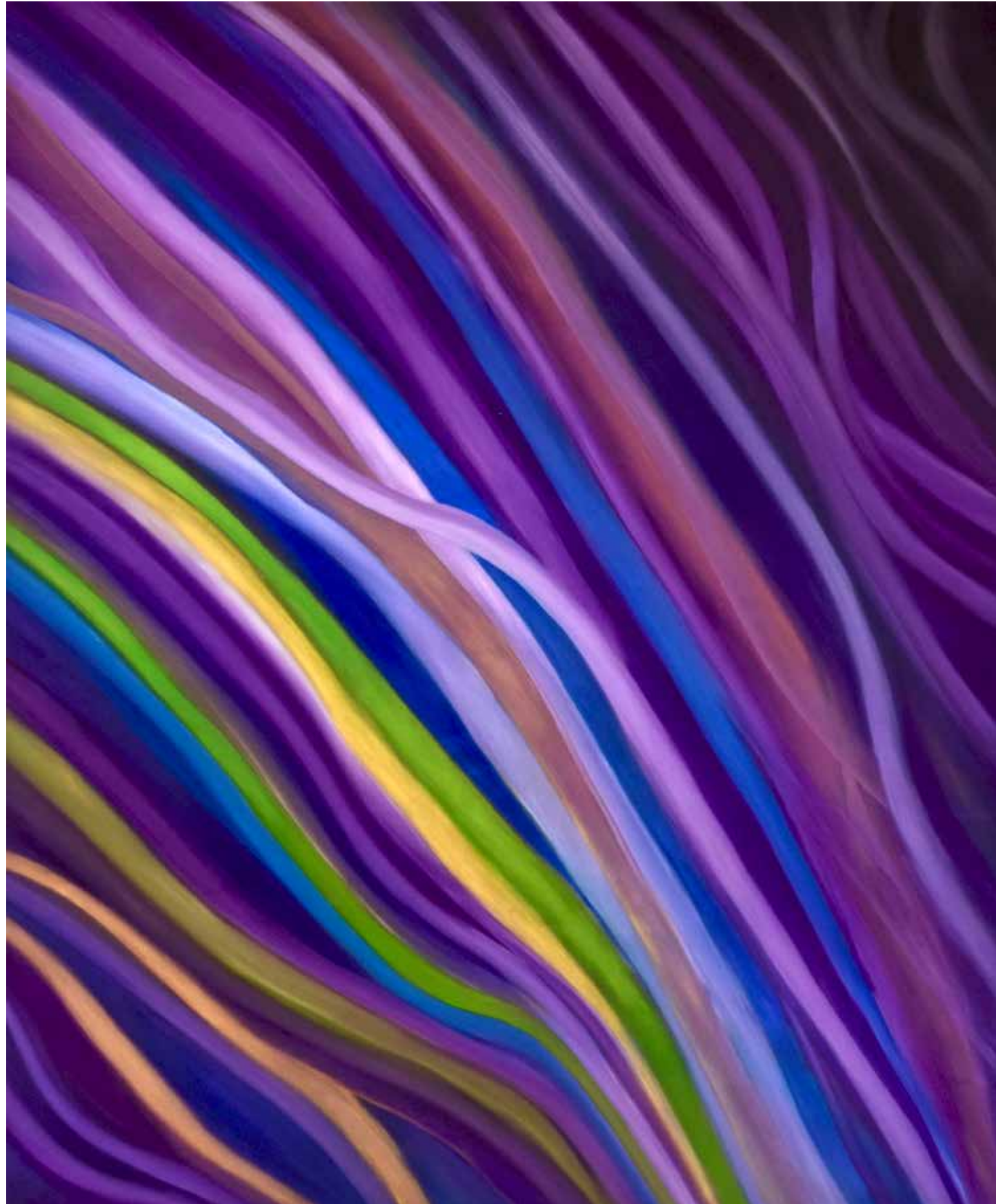


# THE FIFTH ASCENSION

Oil on canvas 152x122cm







# FADE OUT LINES

Oil on canvas 182x152cm



# BRIGHT STAR

Oil on canvas 122x122cm







# LIFE AQUATIC

Oil on canvas 122x152cm





Museum Jan van der Togt, Amstelveen, NL 2016

