## VANESSA BOWMAN and MHAIRI McGREGOR

28<sup>th</sup> October – 15<sup>th</sup> November 2023 The Jerram Gallery, Half Moon Street, Sherborne, Dorset, DT9 3LN UK

The Jerram Gallery's exhibition from 28<sup>th</sup> October – 15<sup>th</sup> November will showcase an exciting selection of new paintings by the highly popular artists Vanessa Bowman and Mhairi McGregor, who will be in the Gallery on the opening day of the exhibition.

Whilst unique in style and appearance, three things unite Bowman and McGregor as painters: their passion for rich bold colours; their playful confident abstraction of reality; and their use of form, pattern and shape to re-present their subjects. Both artists also tend to study flower still lives and landscapes, all be it with very different results.

Mhairi McGregor was born in 1971 and studied at Glasgow School of Art, after which she spent time painting in Australia. Her emotional and spontaneous response to her subjects, such as landscapes and flower still lives, come through in her paintings. The immediacy of initial sketches is developed into more abstract work with McGregor's characteristic use of bold colour blocks and rich impasto paint surfaces. I never want to lose sight completely of what it was that inspired me to paint a particular scene. I love colour, especially layers of colour on top of one another which gives both a depth of paint and sometimes a glimpse of what was there before.' McGregor has been awarded a number of prizes and scholarships and has exhibited throughout the United Kingdom, including at the Royal Academy in London; and the Royal Scottish Academy, the Royal Scottish Society of Painters in Watercolour, and Royal Glasgow Institute in Scotland.

Vanessa Bowman was born in 1970 to a family with a long-standing artistic tradition. Her interests and abilities in the visual arts flourished in a stimulating and supportive environment rich in the cultural influences of Europe. Bowman seeks inspiration for her paintings and textile designs in the sensual qualities of colour and pattern abundant in many of her favourite sources such as Classical architecture, the market stalls and bazaars of Istanbul, Venice and Paris, and the rich palette of an English garden. She has exhibited with the Royal Institute of Watercolorists and the Pastel Society at London's Mall Galleries, where she won the prestigious Daler Rowney Best Young Artist in Pastels in 1995 and 1996. In 2022 she was invited to be the Artist in Residence at Marchmont House, Berwickshire.

This exciting exhibition will be accompanied by an illustrated catalogue and promises to be a sensual display of joyful colour and a clever use of form to celebrate and explore the world around us.

The Jerram Gallery is open Tuesday - Saturday 9.30am - 5pm. 01935 815261 info@jerramgallery.com



Vanessa Bowman
Nasturtiums and Fish Jug
Oil on card, £1,950



Mhairi McGregor Tulips Oil on canvas, £4,600



Vanessa Bowman, The Garden, Full Summer Oil on card, £1,950



Mhairi McGregor Montady South of France Oil on canvas, £4,000