

A quiet gentle landscape with new rituals and pace

Birds begin to signify things, a heron like a flash of happiness

The wizard that flaps so rarely as it flies

Somehow domesticity becomes undiluted in the countryside and the decision to leave the house harder.

Molly Drake's 'Little weaver bird' plays

The connotations between birds and women seemingly so apparent, the versatile mammals with wings become totally in focus, breasts and all.

This exhibition includes selected paintings and sculptures from the past few years. After moving to Somerset four years ago she has chosen paintings which reflect this change.

Imagination plays a huge role in beginning her works. After writing and sketching, the idea begins to carve a strong undiluted image and title which she begins to work from. This turns into a series of paintings, watercolours and more recently terracotta sculptures.

Seal has spent time experimenting with surface, and texture, in order to keep the painting's initial drawing intact and create a watercolour like finish - Making a gesso, to prime the canvases which creates a papery and absorbent surface, then drawing in charcoal, applying thin layers of diluted paint which is then laid flat to dry. And finally going over areas in pastel and or oil paint.

Recently she has been making terracotta sculptures, after bisque firing she applies a light gesso, then creating a paste with pastels and gouache, paints and scratches into them, finishing them with a breathable matt glaze.

Working within a series is a natural way for her to work, whilst addressing vast themes like the female perspective, mythology, and the beauty industry.

The title of the show comes from one of the paintings. Using the composition of a bed as a way of addressing the figure, and the window as a means of perspective. This has become a theme in her compositions. The bed signifies the unconsciousness parallel state, where the surreal becomes real. Like birds who live in the higher dimension of the sky. Being upstairs in bed, closer to the world of the winged. By using the bedroom as a stage, Seal emphasises the liminal tension between the outside and the in.



Pool party, 2024 Gouache and pastel on paper, 27 x 27



Bird watching in bed, 2023

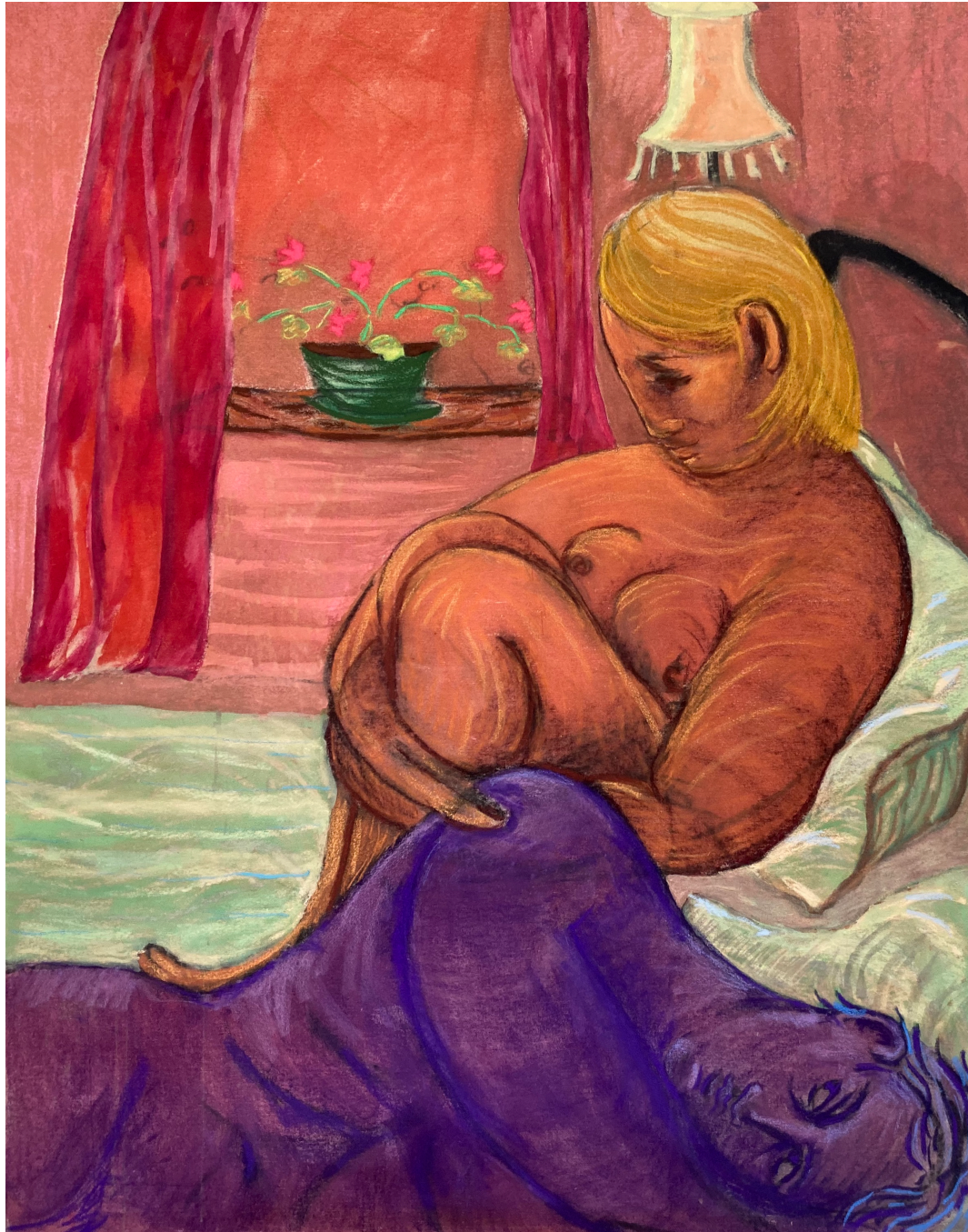
Acrylic, oil and pastel on canvas

150 x 120

£ 6300



Girl and a bird, 2024
Collage in ferrero rocher box
25 x 6 x 10 cm



The ancient art of Sulking, 2023
Oil, acrylic and pastel on canvas
120 x 150 cm
£ 6300



A Book about Mormons, 2018
Charcoal on paper
42 x 30 cm
£ 280



Birdland, 2024. Terracotta,
mixed media, glazed, 13 x
17 x 10 cm
£ 470



Dappled light in the bath, 2024,
Gouache, pigment and pastel on
gesso panel 30 x 17cm (diptych)
£ 500



Dancer, 2015
Watercolour on cotton bed sheet
35 x 35 cm



Handsome Ram, 2024
Terracotta, mixed media, glazed
20 x 14 x 10 cm
£ 730



Holding a bird, 2023

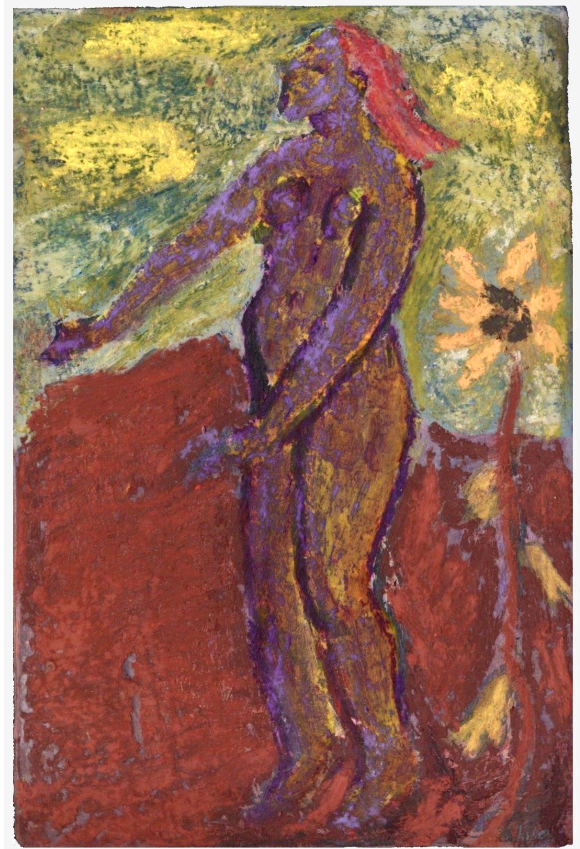
Terracotta

10 x 8 x 15

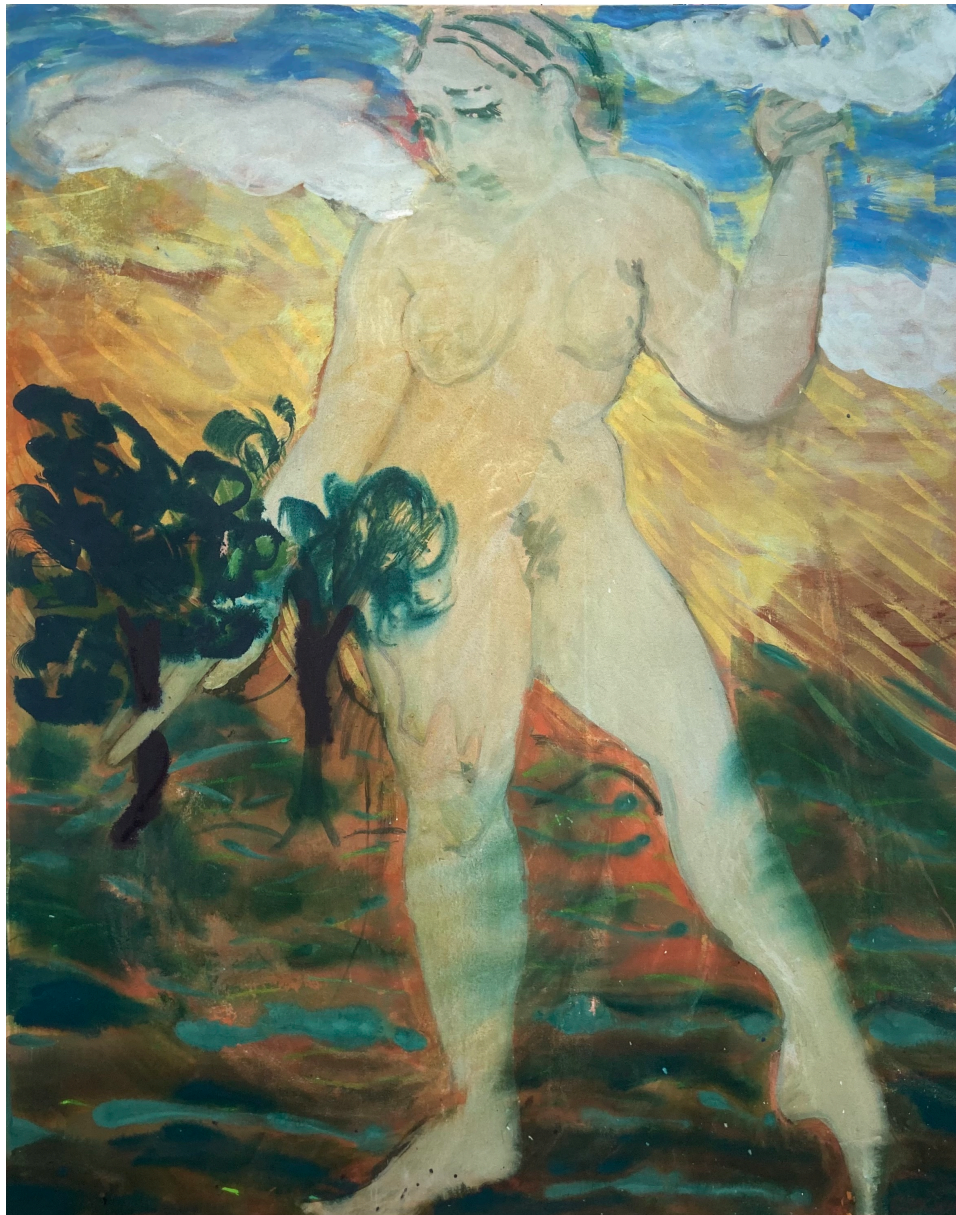
£ 700



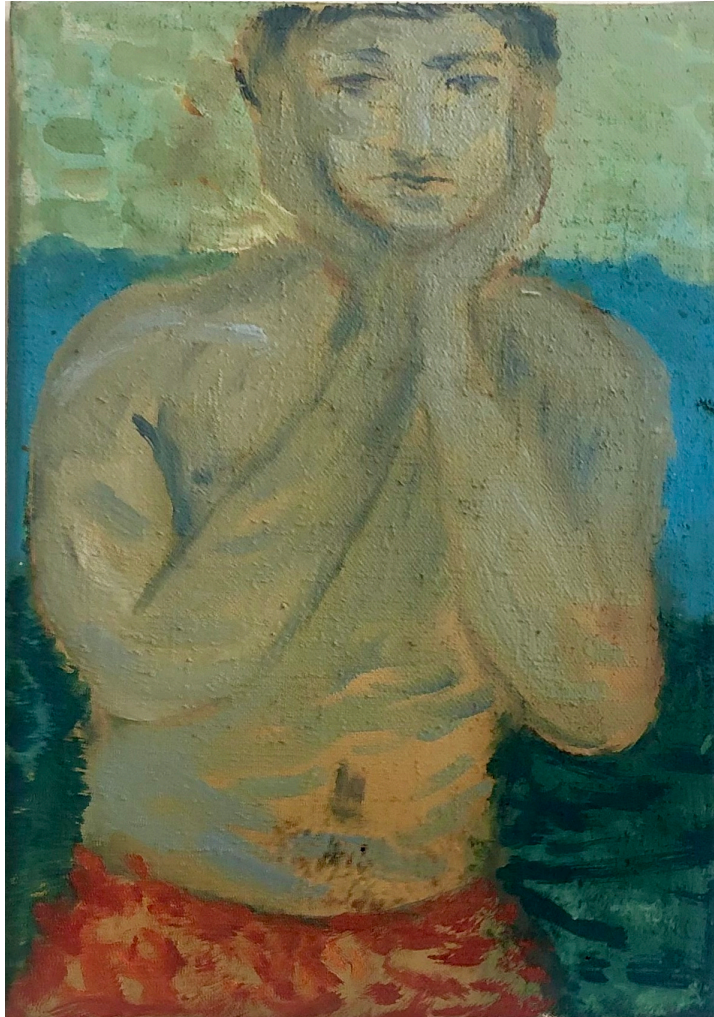
Nudist perch, 2024
Terracotta, mixed media, glazed
13 x 20 x 10 cm
£ 780



Moon bathe, 2023
Oil and pastel on gesso panel. 10
x 16 cm
£ 400



*Spinning a cloud and picking a tree, 2023 Oil
and pastel on canvas
120 x 150 cm
£ 6300*



Man on a beach, 2024 Oil
on canvas
25.5 x 20.5 cm
£ 810

BIO

Chica Seal b.1991 is a British painter. She received her BA in Painting at Brighton University (2015) after completing an art foundation at Falmouth University (2011). Her work has been exhibited internationally including Alice Black Gallery(London) & Annika Nuttall Gallery (Denmark) amongst others.

Her practice explores the female perspective through looking at historic references, including mythology, folklore, literature and popular culture to create paintings. She is interested in the changing cultural landscape of technology, specifically on how the beauty industry has saturated our screens; she imbues a sense of dreaminess and unease within her compositions.