

# EVERARD READ

## LOUISE MASON

(1976 Johannesburg, South Africa)

Born in Johannesburg in 1976, Mason graduated with a honours degree in Fine Art at Stellenbosch University in 1998. While living in rural France for almost 2 years, she found the inspiration and the market for her first body of commercial work, mainly landscapes and abstract agricultural scenes. Through her husband's involvement in the wine industry she was commissioned to illustrate catalogues and design wine labels for a large wine merchant based in the UK.

On returning to Cape Town in 2000 Louise continued to produce commissioned works for both private and corporate clients the most notable of which was the large body of work (550 originals) commissioned by the then Arabella Sheraton (Now Westin Grand) Hotel on the Foreshore.

The subject matter of Mason's work, although wide and varied, is typically centred around the aesthetic use of colour, form and texture. Imbued with hints of nostalgia, the 2015/2016 series of *Beach Paintings* personifies for the artist 'surface areas of shapes and colour - instantly abstract compositions'. These wilfully crowded beachscapes punctuate with simple and repetitive patterns and rhythms; developing further into her recent *Informal Settlement* series. Here, from an elevated perspective, nuisances of the narratives are filled with jostling anonymity - where houses are reduced to geometric shapes, their close arrangement overlapping and colliding much like the people who live in them.

These all serve to reinforce the artists desire to investigate the congested spaces we choose to inhabit. Do people find comfort in congregation? Does anonymity afford us privacy in close proximity? For Mason 'an alternative view provides us with a different dimension on something we are used to seeing on a horizontal scale. Its context changes. All is not what it seems'.

## SELECTED RECENT SOLO EXHIBITIONS

**2019** *Unravel*, Everard Read, Cape Town, South Africa

**2017** *Flight*, Everard Read, London, United Kingdom

## SELECTED RECENT GROUP EXHIBITIONS

**2020** *IMAGO*, Everard Read, Franschoek, South Africa

*Journeys of the Mind*, Everard Read, Franschoek, South Africa

**2019** *Summer*, Everard Read, Cape Town, South Africa

*On Being*, Everard Read Franschoek, South Africa

**2018** *Summer*, Everard Read, Cape Town, South Africa

**2017** *Summer Exhibition*, Everard Read Gallery, London, United Kingdom

*Summer Exhibition*, Everard Read Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa

*Winter Collection*, Everard Read Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa

*Cubicle Series*, CIRCA Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa

**2016** *Summer Exhibition*, CIRCA Gallery London, London, United Kingdom

*Winter Collection*, Everard Read Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa

*Christmas Collection*, Everard Read Gallery, London, United Kingdom

**2015** *Summer in the City*, Everard Read Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa

*Homage*, Everard Read Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa

*WINTER*, Everard Read Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa

*EMPIRE*, Everard Read Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa

**2014** *Summer*, Everard Read Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa

*Winter*, Everard Read Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa

## SELECTED PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

Arabella Sheraton (Now Westin Grand) Hotel

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Private collections in Australia, Dubai, Germany, Spain, United Kingdom and USA