

An abstract painting featuring a large, dark, textured shape resembling an eye or a face, set against a background of warm, pinkish-orange tones. Below the main shape, there are several dark, tassel-like elements hanging down. The overall style is expressive and painterly.

DAA ART GALLERY

Can You See Me?

Curated by Vittoria Beltrame

Iris Garagnoux
Naila Hazell
Mona JanMohamadi
Aoibhin Maguire
Manon Steyaert

3rd to 13th of July
67 York Street, W1H 1QA

Daa Art Gallery is delighted to present their next show *‘Can You See Me?’* held at 67 York Street, Marylebone, W1H 1QA, on from the 3rd till the 13th of July. The exhibition showcases new works by artists **Iris Garagnoux** (France), **Naila Hazell** (Azerbaijan), **Mona JanMohamadi** (Iran), **Aoibhin Maguire** (Ireland) and **Manon Steyaert** (France/UK).

The exhibition, curated by **Vittoria Beltrame**, plays with ideas of transparency and intimacy reflected in the pieces through materiality and semi-autobiographical work. The show highlights sight as one of the five senses, while also underlining the imagery of the eye often linked to spirituality and higher power (e.g. third eye) and how through it one perceives and understands the world and one's place in it. The exhibition wants to highlight the idea of transcendentalism, and how one experiences materiality through human form - with the understanding that art has the power to translate certain ideas and introspection into objects perceivable by the eye, then strongly felt within one. This phenomenology can be linked to Maurice Merleau-Ponty's exploration of the body's role in perception, which he explores in *‘Phenomenology of Perception’* (1945). In his writing, Merleau-Ponty emphasises the embodied nature of perception, suggesting that our experience of the world is not separate from our bodily existence but deeply intertwined with it.

The show, in fact, does not limit the viewer to simply ‘see’ the artwork, while sound plays in the background and videos are included, the viewer shall navigate the space reminded of their presence in it, while circling around objects in the gallery.

Furthermore, the title plays an important role on the idea of self-expression and being understood, whether through painting, photography, or performance - art is a ritualistic form of communicating what words often cannot. Whether through a play with bodily aspects and transparency (Garagnoux), materiality (Steyaert), thick layers of paint and interpretation of tales and memories (Maguire), neon colours and portraiture (Hazell) or photography (JanMohamadi), the exhibiting artists translate their identity directly onto the chosen medium and the artwork is therefore a full reflection of themselves and their souls.

The exhibition is on from the 3rd till the 13 of July on 67 York Street, W1H 1QA, open daily 11am to 6pm. The drinks reception will be held on Wednesday the 3rd of July, 6-8pm.

For any enquiries about the exhibition or the artists and their works please email info@daa-art.com or visit the daa-art.com website.

Iris Garagnoux

France

Iris Garagnoux has graduated from her Master's degree at the **Chelsea College of Arts, UAL** in 2021. She has soon after had her first solo show titled 'Choreographic Sequence' in Cork Street. Other selected shows she participated in are 'Faire histoire' held in **H Galerie**, Paris, France; 'London Grads NOW' held at **Saatchi Gallery** in London; **TATE Britain's** TATE Lates 'Constructing Landscapes', virtual show; and more. She has been featured in **British VOGUE**, online and printed magazine, 'Vogue Gallery' in 2023; in W Magazine, 'Abstract Art by Women' by Alex Needham in 2023; 'Body E(Motions)', online magazine, News & Events, **Sotheby's Institute of Art** in 2020 and **Galleries & Musées**, Paper magazine, 'Vu pour vous dans les galeries', Art galleries market in 2019, amongst others publications.

Iris' practice is focused on the plasticity of the human body, which is torn between a deep desire to reconnect with nature while also evolving with new technologies. Painting allows the artist to create a repertoire of gestures, which she then transcribes into sculptural and performative fragments such as body extensions which through a play with transparency, create the illusion of a 3D work with aspects of it getting out of the canvas stretching out to the viewer. By layering organic and synthetic elements, new semiotic colours and textures appear considering societal relationships and the tension between the living and the non -living. By exploring Gilles Deleuze and Felix Guattari's concept «Un corps sans organe» (A body without Organs), Garagnoux seeks to make visible an organic interiority which is never fixed and without a proper organisation. She tries to transcribe states of in-betweenness, vulnerability, and corporal energetic fluids, emanating from the physical and unseen worlds.



Cordon à vif.1

2024

Acrylic paint, polyurethane membrane, canvas

54 x 44 cm

£1,800



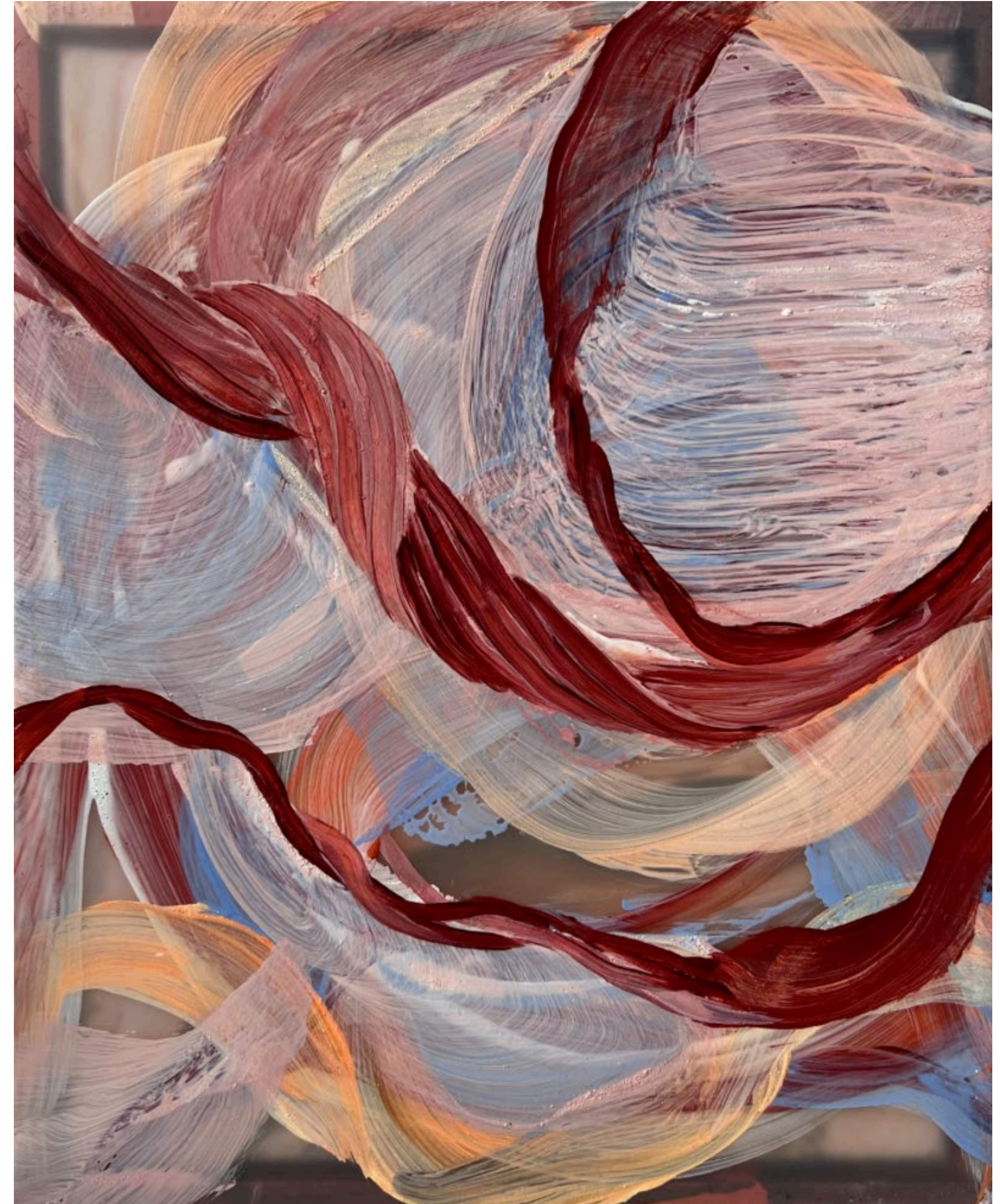
Cordon à vif .2

2024

Acrylic paint, polyurethane membrane, canvas

54 x 44 cm

£1,800

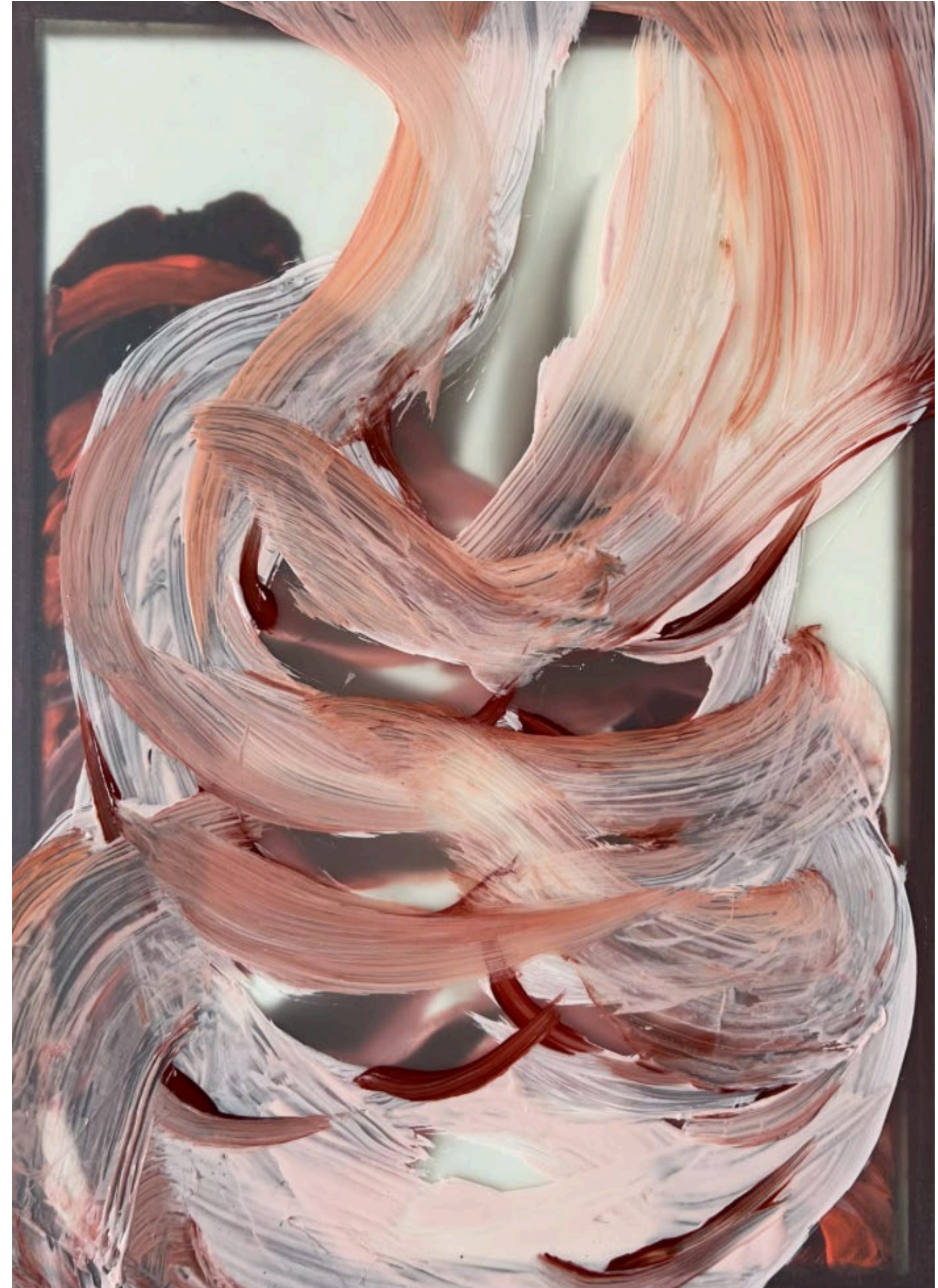


Étude cordon.6

2024

Acrylic paint, polyurethane membrane, canvas
30 x 25 cm

£950



Decidua (Amnion series)

2024

Acrylic paint on polyurethane membrane
130 x 110 cm

£4,800



Naila Hazell

Azerbaijan

The figurative paintings of award-winning British-Azeri artist Naila Hazell give a vibrant take on what can pass by as snapshots of daily moments. Her realistic, yet paintily works are brought to life from photographs of moments that capture Naila's attention, '*Naila's Moment*,' then proposed on canvas with thick yet carefully-placed layers of paint. Despite the painting's seemingly rapid imprint that allow them to have the impression of movement, (highlighting the passing moment and rapidity of time), her works have an evident level of detail and attention. Her paintings invite the audience to stop and reflect, remembering how every moment can be special even if seemingly unimportant. She was taught by renowned Soviet social realism painter Boyukagha Mirzezade while studying fine arts and getting her MA at the Azerbaijani Fine Arts Academy.

Some of the exhibitions she participated in are "Face to Face" at **Marlborough Gallery** in 2023 showcases next to artists such as Lucian Freud, Francis Bacon and contemporary artist Liorah Tchiprout; "Carrying My Landscape" at **Marie Jose Gallery** 2023, 2024 International Women's Day **Art on a Postcard** Auction curated by Vittoria Beltrame; "Face to Face" at **Gillian Jason Gallery** in 2023.



The Kiss

2024
Oil and acrylic on linen
150 x 110 cm

£15,000



Darren is Awake
(Work in progress)

2024
Oil and acrylic on linen
100 x 76 cm

£6,000



Love is Not a Sin

2024

Fabric with stuffings

Approximate length of installation: 2.5 m

£4,000



Mona JanMohamadi

Iran

Mona JanMohamadi's photographs center around representations of perceived realities. She approaches these by painting directly onto polaroid prints to prolong her engagement with the subject matter, aiming to focus on the sense perception which in turn allows us to understand the connection between the recollection of a lived experience and the representation of that moment recorded in a particular snapshot. By sometimes overlaying, sometimes obscuring and sometimes adding elements to the content of the instant photographs, she explores a way of telling personal stories which is intimate and distant at the same time. The ongoing interaction between the painting and photographs produced a more painterly effect of instant photographic images.

Aside from thoroughly exhibiting in Iran, JanMohamadi's work can be found in the **V&A Museum** collection



EYE

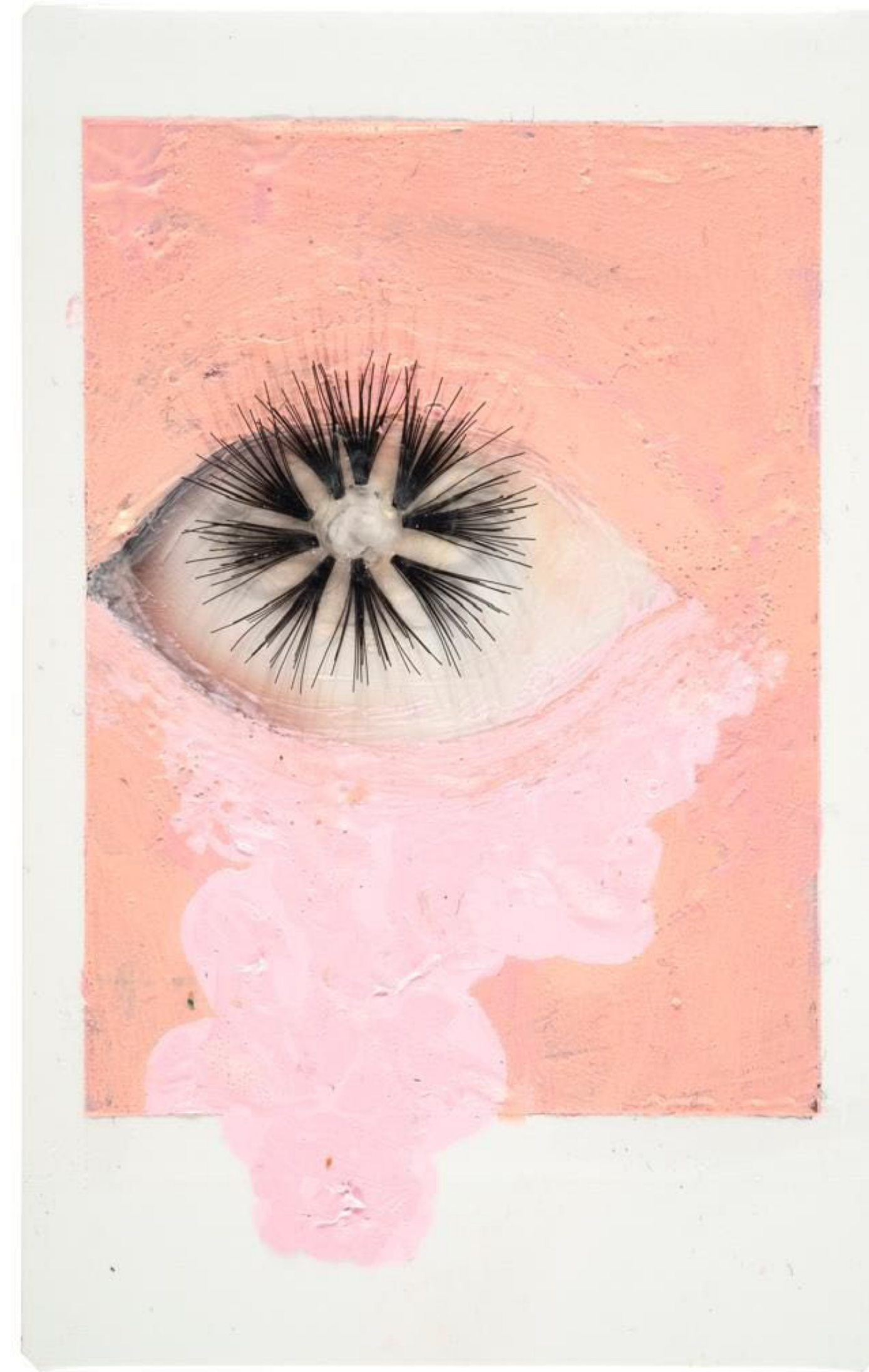
2019

Mixed media on polaroid

Framed: 32 x 27 x 4 cm

Artwork: 8.6 x 5.4 cm

£400



EYE

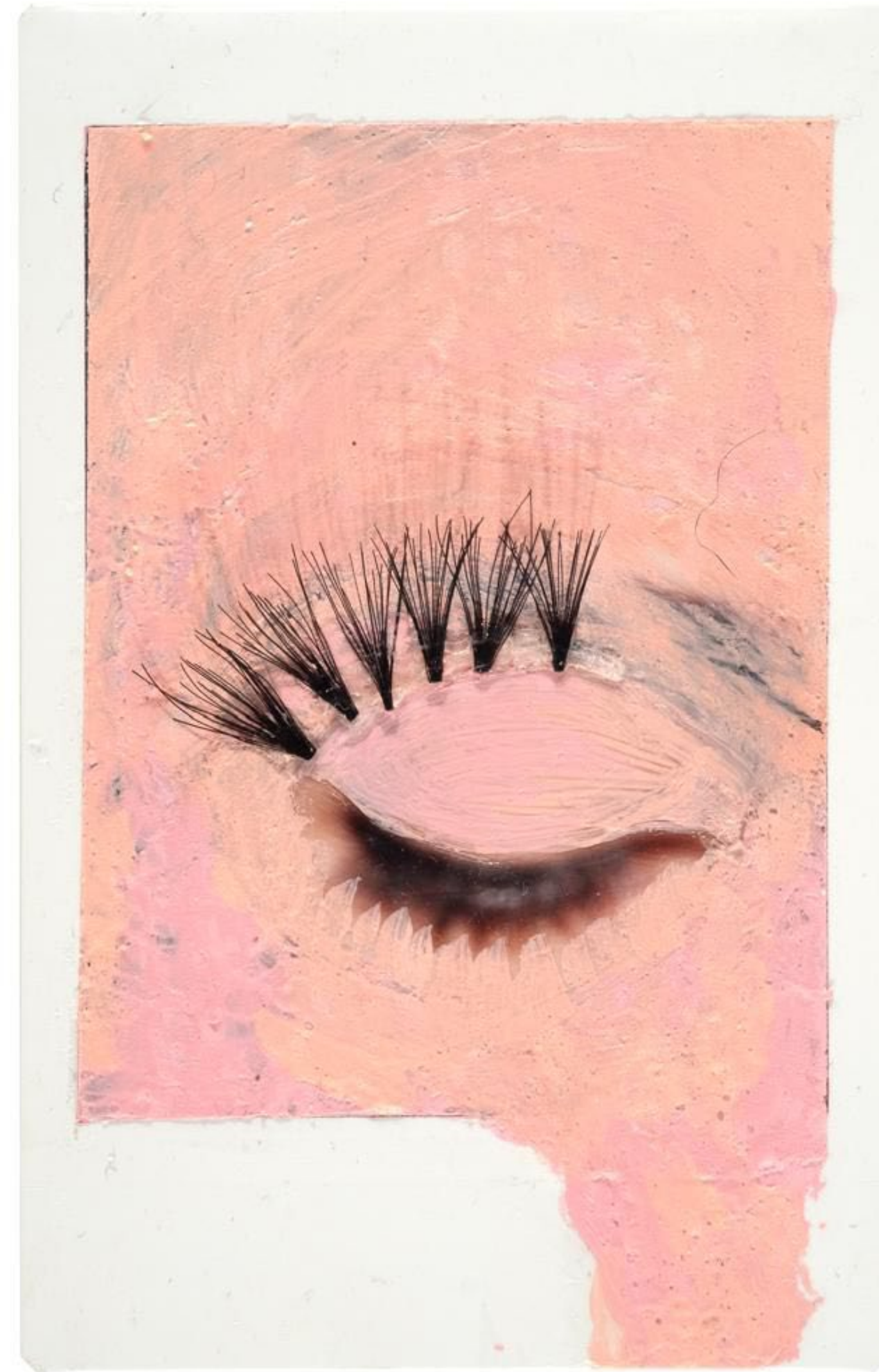
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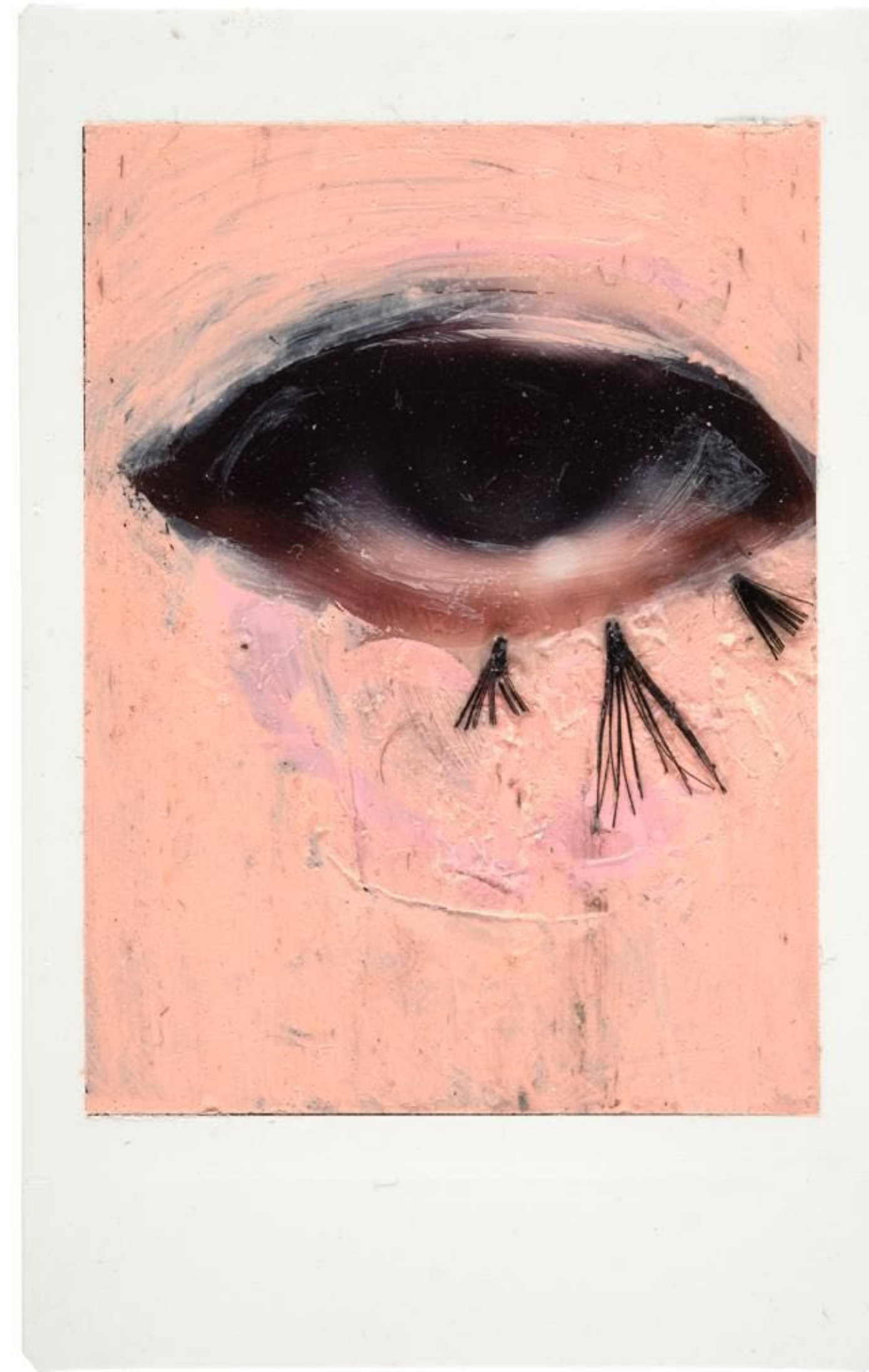
2019

Mixed media on polaroid

Framed: 32 x 27 x 4 cm

Artwork: 8.6 x 5.4 cm

£400



EYE

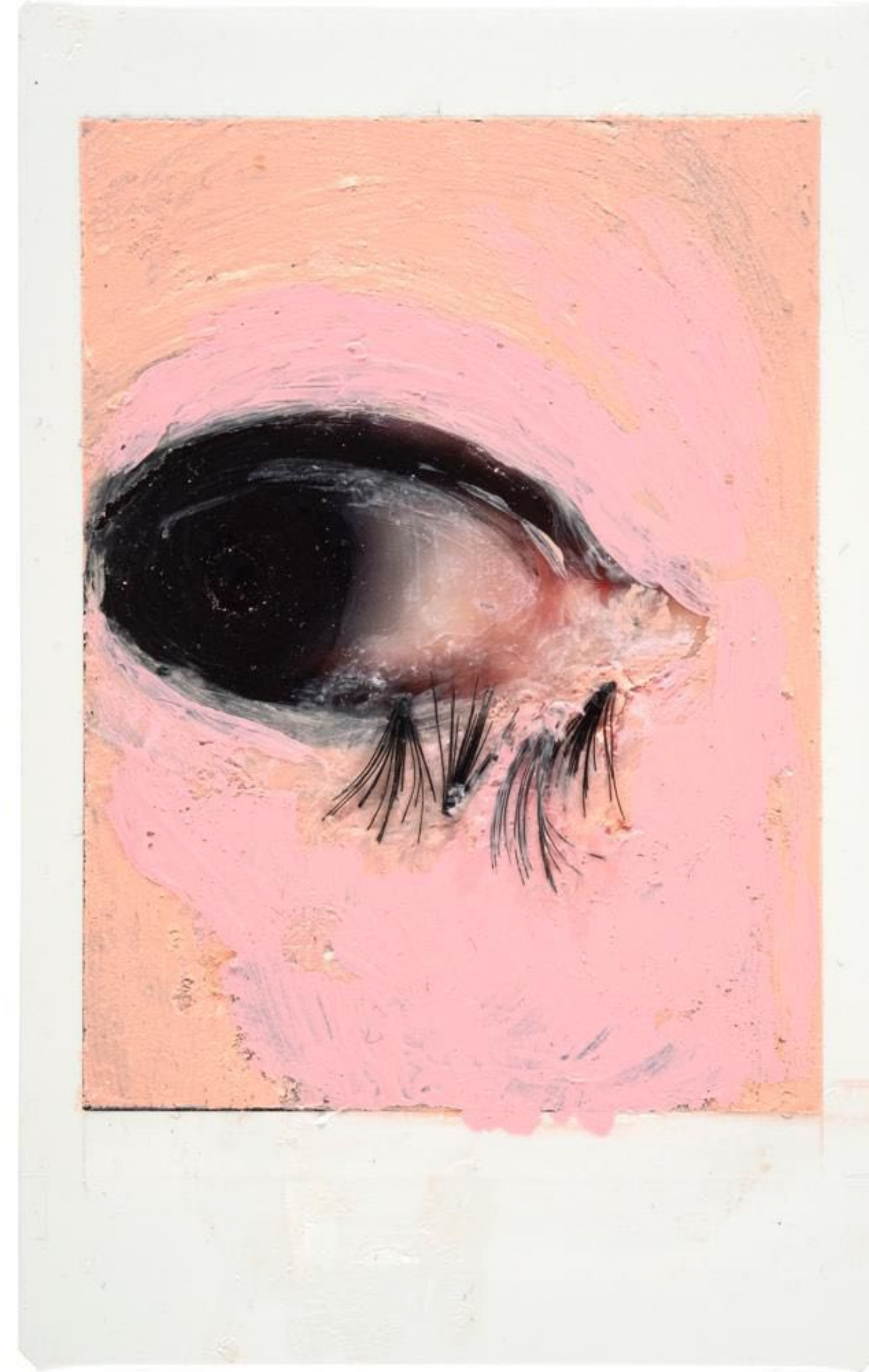
2019

Mixed media on polaroid

Framed: 32 x 27 x 4 cm

Artwork: 8.6 x 5.4 cm

£400



Instant Photos and Absolute Development

2015

Mixed media on polaroid

Framed: 54 x 53 x 7 cm

£750



Aoibhin Maguire

Ireland

Aoibhín Maguire, born in 1997, a painter from Belfast, Northern Ireland, living and working in London. She obtained her BA in Fine Art from Lancaster University and graduated from the **Royal College of Art** with an MA in Painting. Maguire has exhibited in group exhibitions across the UK, Ireland, and internationally, including **The Lido Stores, Barbican Arts Group Trust, Art on a Postcard, Irving Gallery, The Function Suite, The Tub, Hackney and Rowe Galleries**. She had her first solo show at Pollen Gallery and Studios, Belfast in 2023. Recently, Maguire was a guest speaker with Artvocacy, collaborating with We Are Cognito on 'Leveraging Creative Arts for World Peace, Opportunities, and Youth Transformation.' Maguire's painting practice explores the overlap between the actual and fictitious in our everyday lives.

Mixing vivid imagination with personal tales, she creates a visual dialogue that transcends temporal confines, drawing inspiration from memory, nostalgia, emotion, Celtic tradition and the nuanced narrative of growing up in Belfast. Through layers of bright colour, she converges commonplace worries into worlds that embrace the disorder of existence; a perpetual oscillation between emotional extremes, where fear and desperation run parallel to hope and love. Whilst in a state of reverie, she creates mind-scapes; emotional landscapes of the past, present and future. Recurrent motifs and surrealist symbolism act as portals, transporting viewers into a realm where the tangible and the fantastical coalesce in chaos. Nostalgia, an undercurrent in the work, sparks collective memories, fostering contemplation on the complexities of identity. Whilst painting, she thinks about the rhythm of the women's monthly cycle, allowing its natural cadence to inspire her working pattern. Drawing on a multitude of art historical, literary, poetic, and personal references, Maguire's work abstractly reflects on the confusion surrounding Irish/Northern Irish identity, as she intertwines mythology with personal recollections. Her paintings are a testament to the tactile and visceral nature of paint, with vibrant colours and textures acting as emotional conduits, as she layers and scrapes away paint, mirroring the constant ebb and flow of the human experience.



Odyssey Tunnel

2023

Oil on canvas
12.5 x 12.5 cm

£200



Building Blocks

2024
Oil on canvas
25 x 25 cm

£550



Impression of an Impression

2023
Oil on canvas
10 x 15 cm

£200



Manon Steyaert

France/UK

Manon Steyaert is a French-British artist based in London. Steyaert's practice is situated between the two worlds of painting and sculpture, the artist pays homage to both traditional and non-traditional mediums throughout her practice. Focusing mainly on the aesthetic quality of silicone, Steyaert also utilises canvas, scrim, wood and metal, consequently drawing on the visual language of both architecture and painting. Silicone as a medium is one that requires time, attention, and immense control. Hand-pouring each sheet of silicone, the curing process alone can take days, and the finished form is as delicate as it is physical. In many of Steyaert's works, the silicone is treated like fabric: draped and folded across its structural support.

As a result, movement, abstraction and action are core to Steyaert's work. The importance of materiality of Steyaert's practice is undeniable. Unable to be defined within 'traditional' boundaries of painting or sculpture, her work embodies the transgressive nature of conceptual and contemporary artistic practice.

Manon Steyaert received her graduate degree from **Central St. Martins**, MAF in Fine Art from Chelsea college of Arts in 2019. Recent Exhibition include: **Art on a Postcard** International Women's Day Auction curated by Vittoria Beltrame; Solo Show "Cache - Cache" with **Blue Shop Gallery** (London, UK), Solo Show "Passing Colour" with **Annika Nuttall Gallery** (Aarhus, Denmark, 2023), Beyond Figuration: Then and Now with **Gillian Jason Gallery** (London, UK, 2023) Westbund Art Fair with **Cub_ism Artspace** (Shanghai, China, 2022) Material World at **Liliya Gallery** (London, UK, 2022), Point de Vue at **Blender Gallery** (Athens, Greece, 2021), Realities at **Artistellar Gallery** (London, UK, 2021), Noticing Colour at **Annika Nuttall Gallery** (Copenhagen, Denmark, 2021), Hétérotopie at **Bubble n' Squeak Gallery** (Brussels, Belgium 2021). She just finished a residency at **GlogauAIR Berlin**.



Cover Your Eyes II

2023
Silicone and pigment
40 x 60 cm

£1,760



Cover Your Eyes III

2023
Silicone and pigment
40 x 60 cm

£1,760



City Yellow

2024

Acrylic paint, canvas and wood
30 x 30 x 12 cm

£935



Monochrome Blue

2024

Acrylic paint, canvas and wood

34 x 30 x 12 cm

£935



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@daa.artgallery

<https://www.daa-art.com/>

Email: info@daa-art.com

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Mona JanMohamadi, Aoibhin Maguire, Manon Steyaert

Curated by Vittoria Beltrame

Exhibition dates: 3rd - 13th of July 2024

Opening hours: open daily, 11-6pm

Location: 67 York Street, Marylebone, W1H 1QA

Enquiries: info@daa-art.com

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vittoria@daa-art.com

About Daa Gallery

Daa Gallery, launched in 2022, emerged out of our shared vision to create a platform for recent graduates, emerging artists and UK based international artists, and aspires to promote critical conversations and creative exchanges between contemporary artists who will shape the future of the contemporary art world.

Our aim is to foster meaningful dialogue between artists from the Middle East and those from the Western world. Our goal is to create a platform where diverse voices can intersect, sparking critical conversations and cultural exchange. By showcasing the works of Middle Eastern artists alongside Western counterparts, we seek to highlight the rich tapestry of artistic expression while exploring themes of identity, tradition, and innovation. Through this juxtaposition of styles, forms, and trends, we invite visitors to explore the interconnectedness of global art movements and to appreciate the depth and diversity of artistic expression across borders.

Through our exhibitions, we aim to foster a dynamic and vibrant environment that not only promotes the art itself but also supports the artists in their journey. We believe that by facilitating these connections between artists and their audience, we can help both the creators and the appreciators of art to engage in meaningful, inspiring interactions.

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