Georgia Stoneman

JOSEPH DUPRÉ: BLURRING THE LINES

THE VIEWING ROOM, CASTLE CARY & ONLINE | 13 JULY - 13 AUGUST 2023

Artist and doctor Joseph Dupré's latest work marries medicine, politics and art in an overt rendering of his double life.

Juggling two careers is increasingly common however it is rare to find someone working in two such specialist and diametrically opposed fields as Joseph Dupré, who spends three days of his week working as a doctor, and two practising as an artist and sculptor. But it's in the contrast between these two disciplines that Dupré finds a sense of balance. Requiring entirely different ways of thinking, art and medicine are a strangely happy marriage, enabling Dupré to exercise both parts of his brain to the benefit of the other. And increasingly they are finding expression alongside each other in his art.

Although Dupré grew up in an artistic household – his mother is a ceramicist and father is a poet – he was put off art at school due to an uninspiring 6th form art teacher. This led him down an alternative path, and on



to studying medicine. During the 13 years of his training, Dupré barely picked up a pencil. Instead he focussed on completing his specialist training, at the end of which he would give himself time to explore his art.

Towards the end of his studies, he took some time out of medicine to do a term at The Royal Drawing School in London, focussing on print-making and observational studies. Here the synergies between his two passions began to emerge – life-drawing and an understanding of anatomy, an ability to really look closely and observe and understand.

The end of his training coincided with Covid and a two-month spell in which he could focus exclusively on art. A lockdown purchase of a kiln, to share with his partner ceramicist Pollyanna Johnson, led to an exploration of ceramics. The surfaces remain as important as the objects themselves. Often pock-marked, visceral yet playful, the anatomy of his medical life appears alongside the natural world that surrounds his life as an artist in rural Sussex.

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His most recent work, made for the Royal Academy summer show, the most explicit portrayal of his two careers to date. 'Sharp Scratch' is a pilgrim flask, boasting the NHS logo on one side and a nurse letting blood on the other, with the words "Fund us let us care".

Blurring the Lines is an exhibition of new work by Joseph Dupré which responds to the crisis facing the NHS and further exploration of his obsession with 17th and 18th century English ceramics such as Delftware and Thomas Toft. Medieval themes and illuminated manuscripts, as well as Dupré's relocation to the Sussex coast and the work of Georges Braque, Alfred Wallis and Pablo Picasso are also evident in the series.

The exhibition will be held at *The Viewing Room*, our new gallery space located at 13 Fore Street, Castle Cary, BA7 7BG from the 13th July - 13 August 2023 and will run online for the same period.

For sales or press enquires please contact: emily@georgiastoneman.com

About Georgia Stoneman Fine Art:

Georgia Stoneman Fine Art is a gallery and art consultancy with a unique relationship to contemporary British art thanks to the legacy of Georgia's late father, renowned printmaker Hugh Stoneman. Started in 2005 as a way of introducing Stoneman's extraordinary body of work to a bigger audience, we now specialise in contemporary British prints, paintings and sculpture with a particular focus on Cornish contemporary artists.

Thanks to Hugh Stoneman's remarkable output over a career spanning 30 years, we have rare access to the estates of some of Britain's most treasured artists, an extensive archive of modern and contemporary British artists alongside an ever-growing stable of painters, print-makers and sculptors working today.

Together with the gallery, we offer full-scale art consultancy to private clients, interior designers and property developers, designed to make the process of sourcing art for your home or project inspiring and enjoyable.

Georgia Stoneman Fine Art is now run by Hugh's daughter Georgia Stoneman, and Gallery Manager Emily Grimble.

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