

MARTIN FINNIN

49 Ox Hides and a Lump of Faith



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## 49 Ox Hides and a Lump of Faith

20th May - 19th June 2010

JOHN MARTIN GALLERY 38 ALBEMARLE STREET, LONDON W1S 4JG [WWW.JMLONDON.COM](http://WWW.JMLONDON.COM)  
+44 (0)207 499 1314 | [info@jmlondon.com](mailto:info@jmlondon.com) | mon-fri 10-6 sat 11-4 | All paintings available for sale on receipt of catalogue  
OPPOSITE A Wet Wonder Waiting (detail) 23¾ x 31½ins 60.5 x 80cms acrylic, pigment and gouache on paper



My Life as a Lettuce Labeller  
12 x 27.5 ins 30.5 x 70 cms  
oil on canvas

Being a painter I like painting, the smell of paint, I like the pace of a painter's life.....there is a lot of waiting in paintings, waiting for them to organize themselves between sessions and also for my mind to forget whatever it is it is thinking and to approach the painting again, ambush it without its knowing, sneak up on it, other times it's just daily visits to the studio putting on paint and taking it off, not much to report, feeling like I'm getting nowhere and then a big shift and buzzy exhale...I usually sit with them for months to make sure they are finished. I think the process of painting is beginning, then layers of waiting, and then being able to stop before you push it too far, to leave it alone. That's where these paintings come from, that's a brief sketch of their coming into being...

I would like people to engage with the paintings in anyway they want, or better still leave our heads outside the door all together and look at the work with fresh eyes. The title 49 oxhides and a lump of faith came when I was reading Tim Severin's book about the Brendan voyage. Legend has it that St. Brendan, an Irish monk built a boat from oxhides and he and a few other monks sailed it to America in the 11th century. Tim Severin re-enacted the journey exactly as St. Brendan did, and arrived in America. The title of the show and this painting came from the amount of oxhides I remember it taking to build this boat, I added in the lump of faith myself.....

Martin Finnin, 2010

49 Ox Hides and a Lump of Faith  
55¼ x 63 ins 140 x 160 cms  
oil on canvas



A Puzzle and a Paradise  
24 x 32¼ ins 61 x 82 cms  
acrylic and pigment on paper



A Wet Wonder Waiting  
23¾ x 31½ ins 60.5 x 80 cms  
acrylic and pigment on paper



The Edge Replies  
24 x 32 ins 61 x 83.5 cms  
acrylic and pigment on paper





Boy Racers and Spring Onions

31½ x 47¼ ins 80 x 120 cms

oil on canvas

The Making of Pet Eights III  
12 x 10 in 30.5 x 25.5 cms  
oil on canvas



The Brazen Serpent (after Rubens)  
31½ x 47¼ ins 80 x 120 cms  
oil on canvas

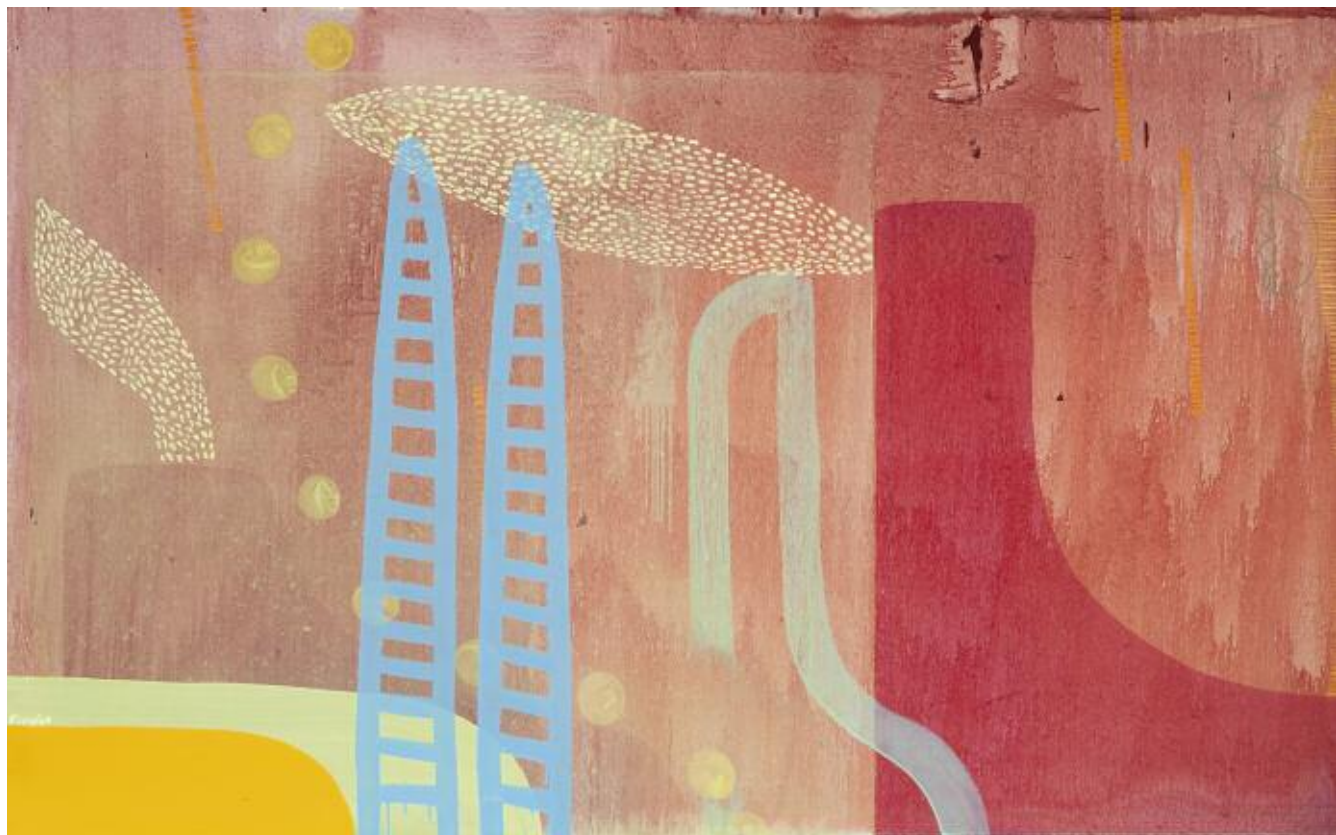


## Dealing with Digital Hillbillies

27½ x 12 ins 70 x 30.5 cms

oil on canvas





Two Aerials Responding to a Rumour

43¾ x 63 in 110 x 160 cms

oil on canvas

The Making of Pet Eights I  
12 x 10 in 30.5 x 25.5 cms  
oil on canvas





Five Studies for a Recurring Space II  
 10¼ x 6 ins 26 x 15 cms  
 acrylic and pigment on paper



Five Studies for a Recurring Space III  
 10¼ x 6 ins 26 x 15 cms  
 acrylic and pigment on paper

The Crooked Path of the Puritans  
19¼ x 27¼ ins 50 x 70.5 cms  
oil on canvas





In the Beginning There Was a Problem

23¾ x 55¼ ins 60.5 x 140.5 cms

oil on canvas



Unseen Rain  
 27½ x 12 ins 70 x 30.5 cms  
 oil on canvas



The Pear and the Saviour  
 27½ x 12 ins 70 x 30.5 cms  
 oil on canvas

The Other One Never Came  
23¾ x 55¼ ins 60.5 x 140.5 cms  
oil on canvas





The Inner Life of Marigolds  
27¼ x 55¼ ins 70.5 x 140.5 cms  
oil on canvas

The Fabric of Faceless Thoughts  
19¼ x 27¼ ins 50 x 70.5 cms  
oil on canvas





Five Studies for a Recurring Space I  
 10¼ x 6 ins 26 x 15 cms  
 acrylic and pigment on paper



Five Studies for a Recurring Space V  
 10¼ x 6 ins 26 x 15 cms  
 acrylic and pigment on paper

Unlike Other Days  
23¾ x 55¼ ins 60.5 x 140.5 cms  
oil on canvas



LIST OF WORKS

49 Ox Hides and a Lump of Faith 55¼ x 63 ins   140 x 160 cms Oil on canvas	Five Studies for a Recurring Space II 10¼ x 6 ins   26 x 15 cms Acrylic & pigment on paper	The Brazen Serpent (after Rubens) 31½ x 47¼ ins   80 x 120 cms Oil on canvas	The Rose Laughs at my Long Looking 10 x 10 ins   25 x 25 cms Oil on wood
At Ease With the Periodic Table 12½ x 10½ ins   32 x 27 cms Acrylic on paper	Five Studies for a Recurring Space III 10¼ x 6 ins   26 x 15 cms Acrylic & pigment on paper	The Crooked Path of the Puritans 19¾ x 27¾ ins   50 x 70 cms Oil on canvas	Two Aerials Responding to a Rumour 43¼ x 63 ins   110 x 160 cms Oil on canvas
A Porous Afternoon 12 x 27¾ ins   30.5 x 70.5 cms Oil on canvas	Five Studies for a Recurring Space IV 10¼ x 6 ins   26 x 15 cms Acrylic & pigment on paper	The Edge Replies 24 x 32 ins   61 x 81 cms Acrylic & pigment on paper	Unlike Other Days 23¾ x 55¼ ins   60 x 140 cms Oil on canvas
A Puzzle and a Paradise 24 x 32¼ ins   61 x 82 cms Acrylic & pigment on paper	Five Studies for a Recurring Space V 10¼ x 6 ins   26 x 15 cms Acrylic & pigment on paper	The Fabric of Faceless Thoughts 19¾ x 27¾ ins   50 x 70 cms Oil on canvas	Unseen Rain 27½ x 12 ins   70 x 30.5 cns Oil on canvas
A Serious Lack of Angel Wings I 10 x 10 ins   25 x 25 cms Oil on wood	In the BeginningThere was a Problem 23¾ x 55¼ ins   60 x 140 cms Oil on canvas	The Inner Life of Marigolds 27¾ x 55¼ ins   70 x 140 cms Oil on canvas	Until One hundred Years we Hold our Breath 10¼ x 12 ins   26 x 30 cms Oil on canvas
A Serious Lack of Angel Wings II 10 x 10 ins   25 x 25 cms Oil on wood	Mostly from Coloured Plants I 7¼ x 7¼ ins   18 x 18 cms Oil on canvas	The Making of Pet Eights I 12 x 10 ins   30 x 25 cms Oil on canvas	
A Wet Wonder Waiting 23¾ x 31½ ins   60 x 80 cms Acrylic & pigment on paper	Mostly from Coloured Plants II 8 x 8 ins   20 x 20 cms Oil on canvas	The Making of Pet Eights II 12 x 10 ins   30 x 25 cms Oil on canvas	
Boy Racers and Spring Onions 31½ x 47¼ ins   80 x 120 cms Oil on canvas	My Life as a Lettuce Labeller 12 x 27½ ins   30 x 70 cms Oil on canvas	The Making of Pet Eights III 12 x 10 ins   30 x 25 cms Oil on canvas	
Dealing with Digital Hillbillies 27½ x 12 ins   70 x 30.5 cms Oil on canvas	Sack Cronus 8 x 8 ins   20 x 20 cms Oil on canvas	The Other One Never Came 23¾ x 55¼ ins   60 x 140 cms Oil on canvas	
Five Studies for a Recurring Space I 10¼ x 6 ins   26 x 15 cms Acrylic & pigment on paper	Study for Accumulating Small Changes 6¼ x 5½ ins   16 x 14 cms Acrylic & pigment on paper	The Pear & The Saviour 27½ x 12 ins   70 x 30.5 cns Oil on canvas	

MARTIN FINNIN

b. 1968 Limerick, Ireland

1987–8 Limerick School of Art & Design  
National College of Art & Design, Dublin  
Lives and works in Cork

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2010	49 Ox Hides and a Lump of Faith, John Martin Gallery, London	1995	Ivory Tower Restaurant, Cork Jo Rain Gallery, Dublin
2009	The Moon and the Modern World, Origin Gallery, Dublin	1994	Art Hive, Cork
2008	Turn the Lemon Page, Cill Rialaig Arts Centre, Ballinskelligs, Kerry	1993	Blackcombe Gallery, Cork
2007	A snippet from the seventh soup,Vangard Gallery, Cork	1991	Lost Boys Coffee Shop, Harlem, Holland
2006	The world is blue like an orange, New Urban Retreat Gallery, Dublin	1989	Everyman Palace, Cork
	Stepping out of the stream of time, Printmakers Gallery, Limerick	1988	Iveagh Markets, Dublin
	Life beyond the hedge, Cill Rialaig Art Centre, Ballinskelligs, Co Kerry		La Galleria Lucierna, San Miguel de Allende, Mexico
2005	A miracle outside the window, Form Gallery, London	SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS	
	The Marching Hugs, Origin Gallery, Dublin	2009	Jack Donovan & Martin Finnin, Printmakers Gallery, Limerick
	Meanwhile...in a foreign land,Vangard Gallery, Cork	2008	Artists’ Choice, John Martin Gallery, London
	The origins of optimism, Printmakers Gallery, Limerick	2005	Cill Rialaig Arts Centre, Ballinskelligs, Co Kerry
	Songs of a recluse,Vangard Gallery, Cork		Tribute to Beckett,Vangard Gallery, Cork
	In Fall,Ashford Gallery, Royal Hibernian Academy, Dublin; Printmakers Gallery, Limerick	2004–5	The People’s Gallery, Cork
2002	Vermont Studio Gallery, Vermont	2002	Myth and Magic, Lavit Gallery, Cork
2001	A subtle consolation of existance,Vangard Gallery, Cork	2001	RHA Annual Exhibition, RHA Gallagher Íontas 2001, Sligo Art Gallery; Ormeau Baths Gallery, Belfast
	The Big Picture, Printmakers Gallery, Limerick		Crawford Art Gallery, Cork
1997	Forest of Banquets,Tig Filí Gallery, Cork	2000	Tom Climent, Martin Finnin, Brian Smyth, Lavit Gallery, Cork
1996	Spionza, Blackcombe Gallery, Cork	1997	Sense of Cork, Crawford Art Gallery, Cork
	Triskel Art Centre, Cork		

AWARDS AND RESIDENCIES

2009	Dedaldo Art Competition,Tuscany
2008	Cill Rialaig Art Centre, Ballinskelligs, Co Kerry (artist’s residency; also 2005, 2006)
2002	Dedaldo Art Competition,Tuscany (also 2005, 2006; 1st prize, 2004)
2001	Vermont Studio Center, USA(painting scholarship)
	Department of Foreign Affairs (Cultural Relations Committee Award)
	Vermont Studio Center, USA (fellowship award)
1998	Nominated by Crawford Art Gallery for Glen Dimplex Awards
	Sense of Cork, Crawford Art Gallery, Cork (prizewinner)
1994	An Chomhairle Ealaíon / The Arts Council bursaries (studio rental, 1995, 2001; materials grant, 1997, 2001; Artflight, 1996)

COLLECTIONS

Crawford Art Gallery, Cork; Cork Opera House; Department of Foreign Affairs; The Shelbourne Hotel, Dublin; Office of Public Works; AIB Bank; Spazio Tiempo Gallery, Florence; University College Cork; Vermont Studio Centre, USA; private collections in Ireland, England, Holland, Italy, Lithuania, Australia, Canada, Mexico and the US.