

TOM CLIMENT

Everlast



artists' agents
fine art consultants
gallery

solomon

Tara Murphy
requests the pleasure of your company
at the opening day launch of

TOM CLIMENT

Everlast

on
Thursday 2 July 2020
from 12pm to 7pm

at
Solomon Fine Art, Balfe Street, Dublin 2

The exhibition continues until Saturday 25 July 2020
Opening hours: Tuesday to Friday 10am – 5.30pm / Saturday: 11am – 4pm
tel: +353 (0)1 672 4429 / email: info@solomonfineart.ie / www.solomonfineart.ie

front cover: *Crown (detail)*, oil, plaster & sand on canvas, 183 x 213 cm
back cover: *Land Bridge*, oil & plaster on board, 37 x 50 cm

Tom Climent: Everlast

'When I'm working, I try to stay out of it.' Tom Climent, when he is working, is not thinking about particular places. The places he paints are nowhere and everywhere. One remarkable aspect of his work is that every painting feels like some place we might know.

There has been a shift in these new paintings. There is more abundance and growth in them. They contain a faster set of shapes. The multi-faceted landscapes and built-looking structures of recent years, which shimmer and refract, sitting in locations that feel familiar and pregnant with rooted emotions, have yielded in some of this new work to forms that lift upwards, like mushrooms and bunches of flowers, even humanoid shapes. Chin up, eyes up, they are growing towards the sky more than they are rooting to the ground. Is this an antidote to the darkness, I ask him? Perhaps it's a medicine for it, we agree.

My visit to his Cork studio is the last 'social' encounter I have before Ireland begins its Coronavirus lockdown. The start of 2020 is a strange time, here and everywhere. As we speak, a global anxiety is looming, something big and bad is coming for us all. And yet, here are Climent's paintings, which despite their rainbow colours, are deeply rooted in an understanding of the dark.

He's been thinking about tree stumps, and the new things that grow from them: 'that life force that's always there.' It's a sobering thought, and a hopeful one. We talk about ancient, spiritual places: the undersides and peaks of mountains, the shadows beneath rocks, the land itself. 'There's a lot of surface to the work now,' he notes, 'texture, sand and plaster.' Elements of rock mixed with the paint reiterate

the fact that although these paintings reach towards the sky, they are anchored in elements that come from the earth.

Gold has been a feature of his work for the past decade. Is it symbolic? 'For me, it's a kind of doorway into something else... It's a kind of light power source,' he says. You can feel that intention in the surfaces of the paintings. Is it related to the sun? 'It's hopeful,' he says, 'that's one of the things that's in it.' Climent is a kind of alchemist, a wizard conjuring joyous prisms from the ground.

The mountain paintings tend to culminate in a peak. 'It's like this sharp point pointing upwards, and it comes up from the ground, a focal point,' he says. These peaks are like the tip of an ancient arrowhead, a flint-carved point that can fly, and is therefore of rock and sky.

Mushroom shapes are part of the unexpected shift in velocity that is a feature of these new works. Mushrooms spring up overnight, unlike mountains. *Everlast* is the name of the show. It implies enduring. Not just like a rocky landscape, but in an act of endlessly active rejuvenation.

Some of these works are like portraits, which feels new. Bloom recalls a figure wearing a cap. *Germinate*, the most floral painting here, recalls a head with hair, or a headdress, growth. There are leaf shapes, like petals, in this work: burgeoning shapes, faster shapes, overflowing fronds, cascading, tumbling. Something is mobile again, not like the slow, solid mountains that have come to anchor his work. Still, there is *Crown, Aurelia, Conductor*, with their peaks and outcrops of prisms.

'I used to paint in a looser way and now my work is more structured,' says Climent. This is true, and there is a reassuring solidity to the flatness of his planes. There is also the idea of an iceberg inherent in all of

this. *Shores of Light* implies that what's underneath is as important as what is seen. New forms grow from invisible roots.

The feeling that humans are here and also absent is common in his paintings. *Landbridge* gives the impression of field markings, visible interventions made to divide the land. Climent paints the geometric shapes of nature and sometimes adds the shapes humans make to compliment or layer over them.

Paintings like *Gateway*, *Guide* or *Sundew*, offer more organic takes without the rainbow prisms. *Towards the Sun* lies somewhere between the two. And then there are surprises: *Elixir* and *Nectar* are small paintings of rainbow containers, ancient palisades, high-rises, popcorn boxes.

Climent's work has changed, slowly, intuitively, over time. It has also always been mysteriously in tune with the times, sometimes a little ahead of events, as it is again now. These paintings, produced as the world hurtled towards a global pandemic, knew nothing of what was to come, but saw signs of it everywhere. *Meristem* looks like a stump, and it presents the possibility of a whole new world growing from something that might appear to be beyond rejuvenation, a life force that everlasts.

Cristín Leach
Art critic, writer & broadcaster
May 2020

Germinate
oil, plaster & sand
on canvas
153 x 153 cm





Left:
Crown
oil, plaster & sand on canvas
183 x 213 cm

Right:
Fountainhead
oil, plaster & sand on board
27 x 22 cm





Left:
Wellspring
oil & plaster
on board
75 x 100 cm

Right:
Shores of Light
oil & plaster
on board
61 x 91 cm





Sundew
oil & plaster on board
24 x 17 cm



Filament
oil, plaster & sand
on canvas
30 x 30 cm



Left:
Meristem
oil, plaster & sand
on canvas
122 x 152 cm

Right:
Bloom
oil & plaster
on board
46 x 60 cm





Aurelia
oil, plaster & sand on canvas
30 x 30 cm



Conductor
oil & sand on canvas
30 x 30 cm



Towards the Sun
oil & plaster on board
32 x 27 cm



Near Field
oil, plaster & sand on board
27 x 22 cm



Guide
oil & plaster on board
27 x 22 cm



Gateway
oil & plaster on canvas
60 x 60 cm

TOM CLIMENT

- 1995 Crawford College of Art and Design: BA Fine Art (Hons)
2011 Crawford College of Art and Design: MA by Research

Solo Exhibitions

- 2020 Everlast, Solomon Fine Art, Dublin
2019 Transmission, GOMA Gallery of Modern Art, Waterford City
2018 Voyager, Sternview Gallery, Cork
2018 Aspect, Solomon Fine Art, Dublin
2018 Latitudes, Dunamais Arts Centre, Portlaoise, Co.Laois
2017 Quadrants, Custom House Gallery & Studios, Mayo
2016 Future Light, Sternview Gallery, Cork
2016 In its Reflection, Solomon Fine Art, Dublin
2015 Season Map, The Gallery Room, Liss Ard Estate, Co. Cork
2014 A Place Found, Sternview Gallery, Cork
2014 Vessels, The Luan Gallery, Athlone
2012 Final State, Blue Leaf Gallery, Dublin
2011 MA by Research, Wandersford Quay Gallery, Cork
2010 Harvester House, South Tipperary Arts Centre
2010 Ashlar, Alley Theatre Arts Centre, Tyrone
2009 Dust, Garter Lane Arts Centre, Waterford
2008 Between Chance and Rhyme, Hunt Museum, Limerick
2007 Hansel's House, Kevin Kavanagh Gallery, Dublin
2005 A Light Enters the Land, Blue Leaf Gallery, Dublin
2003 New Paintings, Fenton Gallery, Cork
2000 Forgiveness, Gallery 44, Cork
1998 Dancing Parade, Triskel Arts Centre, Cork
1997 Pure, Temple Bar Gallery and Studios, Dublin
1996 Stolen Beauty, Blackcombe Gallery, Cork
1994 New Paintings, Blackcombe Gallery, Cork

Selected Group Exhibitions

- 2020 Beep Painting Biennial, Elysium Gallery, Wales
2020 Modern Love, AK Bellinger Gallery, Australia
2020 This is a Painting Show, Sternview Gallery, Cork
2019 VUE, National Contemporary Art Fair, RHA Gallery Solomon Fine Art, Dublin
2019 Artform Annual Art Fair, #44 The Quay, Waterford
2019 Youyi, Hangzhou Public Library, Irish Embassy Shanghai & Beijing, China
2019 The Land is Still Being Formed, Sternview Gallery, Cork
2019 Four Landscape Painters, Blue House Gallery, Schull, Co.Cork
2019 Boyle Arts Festival, King House, Co.Roscommon
2019 The Land is Still Being Formed, Sternview Gallery, Cork
2018 VUE, National Contemporary Art Fair, RHA Galleries, Solomon Fine Art, Dublin
2018 Boyle Arts Festival, King House, Co.Roscommon
2018 Small Works, The Lavit Gallery, Cork
2017 The Rag and Bone Shop of the Heart, Mayfield Arts Centre, Cork
2017 Annual, Sternview Gallery, Cork
2017 The Space Between; A Selection of Artworks from the OPW Art Collections, Pearse Museum, Dublin
2017 Winter Exhibition, Custom House Gallery & Studios, Westport, Co.Mayo
2017 VUE, National Contemporary Art Fair, RHA Galleries, Solomon Fine Art, Dublin
2017 Halycon Days, Glór, Ennis, Co.Clare
2017 Skibbereen Arts Festival, Co.Cork
2017 Boyle Arts Festival, Co.Roscommon
2017 Virginia Teehan Selects, Lavit Gallery, Cork
2017 Hermione Exhibition, Alexandra College, Dublin
2016 VUE, National Contemporary Art Fair, RHA Galleries, Dublin
2016 Glow, Catherine Hammond Gallery, Co.Cork
2016 SHUFFLE, Herrick Gallery, London
2016 The Retrieval of the Beautiful, The Painting Center, New York
2016 ARTWORKS & HORTON PRIZE, VISUAL, Carlow
2016 Oriel Davis Open 2016, Oriel Davis Gallery, Wales
2016 A Terrible Beauty is Born, Hamilton Gallery, Sligo

2016 Celebrating Being Irish, The Lavit Gallery, Cork
 2016 Easter Group Exhibition, Solomon Fine Art, Dublin
 2016 Irish Wave 2016, NING SPACE & Sanwei Art Center, Beijing & Shanghai, China
 2016 Hermione Art Exhibition, Alexandra College, Dublin
 2016 Spectrum, Herrick Gallery, London
 2015 Winter Exhibition, Solomon Fine Art, Dublin
 2015 NN Open Exhibition 2015, NN Contemporary Art, Northampton, UK
 2015 Winter Open Exhibition 2015, RUA RED, Dublin
 2015 Annual, Sternview Gallery, Cork
 2015 VUE National Contemporary Art Fair, RHA, Dublin
 2015 Tom Climent/Sheenagh Geoghegan/Marianne Keating, Keo Design, Wexford Opera Festival
 2015 18"x14", The Lavit Gallery, Cork
 2015 Curator's Choice, The Hunt Museum, Limerick
 2015 Arte Internazionale, Matera, Italy
 2015 Unfolding B, The Doswell Gallery, Co.Cork
 2015 Impressions of W.B. Yeats, The Hamilton Gallery, Sligo
 2014 RUA Annual Exhibition, Royal Ulster Academy, Belfast, Northern Ireland
 2014 4th Enniskillen Visual Arts Open, Higher Bridges Gallery, Co.Fermanagh, Northern Ireland
 2014 Selected Artist, Eigse, Carlow Arts Festival
 2014 RHA Annual Exhibition, Invited Artist, Dublin
 2014 Summer Exhibition, Mullan Gallery, Belfast
 2014 Summer Exhibition, Catherine Hammond Gallery, Co.Cork
 2014 Exposure, Doswell Gallery, Co.Cork
 2013 Winter Exhibition, Mullan Gallery, Belfast, Northern Ireland
 2013 VUE Art Fair/Catherine Hammond Gallery, RHA Gallery, Dublin
 2013 Art Toronto, BlueLeaf Gallery
 2013 Trí, Tom Climent/Marty Kelly/Suzy O'Mullane, J.Cacciola Gallery, New York
 2013 Royal Ulster Academy Annual Exhibition, Belfast
 2013 Aideen Barry/Katherine Boucher-Beug/Tom Climent/Dorothy Cross, Engage Arts Festival, Co.Cork
 2013 Summer Exhibition, Mullan Gallery, Belfast, Northern Ireland
 2013 Celebration, Catherine Hammond Gallery. Co. Cork

2013 The Absence of Realism, The Lavit Gallery, Cork
 2012 Tom Climent/Bettina Seitz, The Hamilton Gallery, Sligo
 2012 Art Toronto, Art Miami & Art Chicago, BlueLeaf Gallery
 2012 Tom Climent/Gary Kearney/Vida Pain, Source Arts Centre, Tipperary
 2011 Tom Climent/Aidan Crotty/Stephen Lawlor, Lavit Gallery, Cork
 2011 Art Toronto, Art Chicago, Art Miami & Art Wynwood, BlueLeaf Gallery
 2010 Wildly Different Things, Blue Leaf Gallery, Dublin
 2010 Art Toronto, Art Chicago & Art London, BlueLeaf Gallery
 2010 CASE'10, Lavit Gallery, Cork
 2009 Engage Arts Festival, Cork
 2009 On The Verge, Tom Climent/Bridget Flannery/Carol Hodder/Siobhan McDonald, Cill Rialaig Gallery, Kerry
 2009 Eigse, Carlow Arts Festival
 2008 Winter Salon, Temple Bar Gallery and Studios, Dublin
 2007 Art Now, The Hunt Museum, Limerick
 2006 Tom Climent/Paddy McCann, Fenton Gallery, Cork
 2005 A Moment in Time, Temple Bar Gallery and Studios, Dublin
 2005 C2, Crawford Gallery, Cork
 2004 Travelogue, Butler Gallery, Kilkenny
 2004 Full Circle, Temple Bar Gallery and Studios, Dublin
 2004 Tom Climent/Sarah Walker, Fenton Gallery, Cork
 2000 Tom Climent/Clea Van der Grijn/Michelle Souter, Unit 26, Dublin
 2000 RHA Annual Exhibition, RHA Gallery, Dublin
 1996 Victor Treacey Award Show, Butler Gallery, Kilkenny
 1996 Shelter, Crawford Gallery, Cork
 1995 New Painters, Crawford Gallery, Cork
 1994 Fledglings, Lavitts Quay Gallery, Cork

Awards & Residencies

Heinrich Boll Cottage Residency 2017
 Ballinglen Arts Foundation Fellowship 2016
 Cork City Council Individual Artists Bursary Award 2014

Working Art Grant Recipient February 2014
 Cill Rialaig Project Residency 2003/2007/2009/2011/2014
 Tony O'Malley Travel Award
 Victor Treacy Award
 Department of Foreign Affairs Travel Award
 Featured Artist Cork Arts Fest 2000
 Featured Artist ArtTrail 1999
 Critics Choice Award 1997, Temple Bar Gallery & Studios

Collections
 The Central Bank
 National Concert Hall
 National Treasury Management Agency
 University College Cork
 University College Dublin
 University of Limerick
 The American Embassy, Dublin
 Investec
 AIB Bank
 Office of Public Works
 Cork Opera House
 Cork City Council
 National Self-Portrait Collection
 Cork Institute of Technology
 Smurfit Business School
 NCB Stockbrokers
 Deloitte
 Allianz
 Ibec
 Waterford Healing Trust
 Druids Glen Hotel & Golf Resort



Elixir
 oil & plaster on board
 24 x 16 cm

Tom Climent: *Everlast*
 2 - 25 July 2020

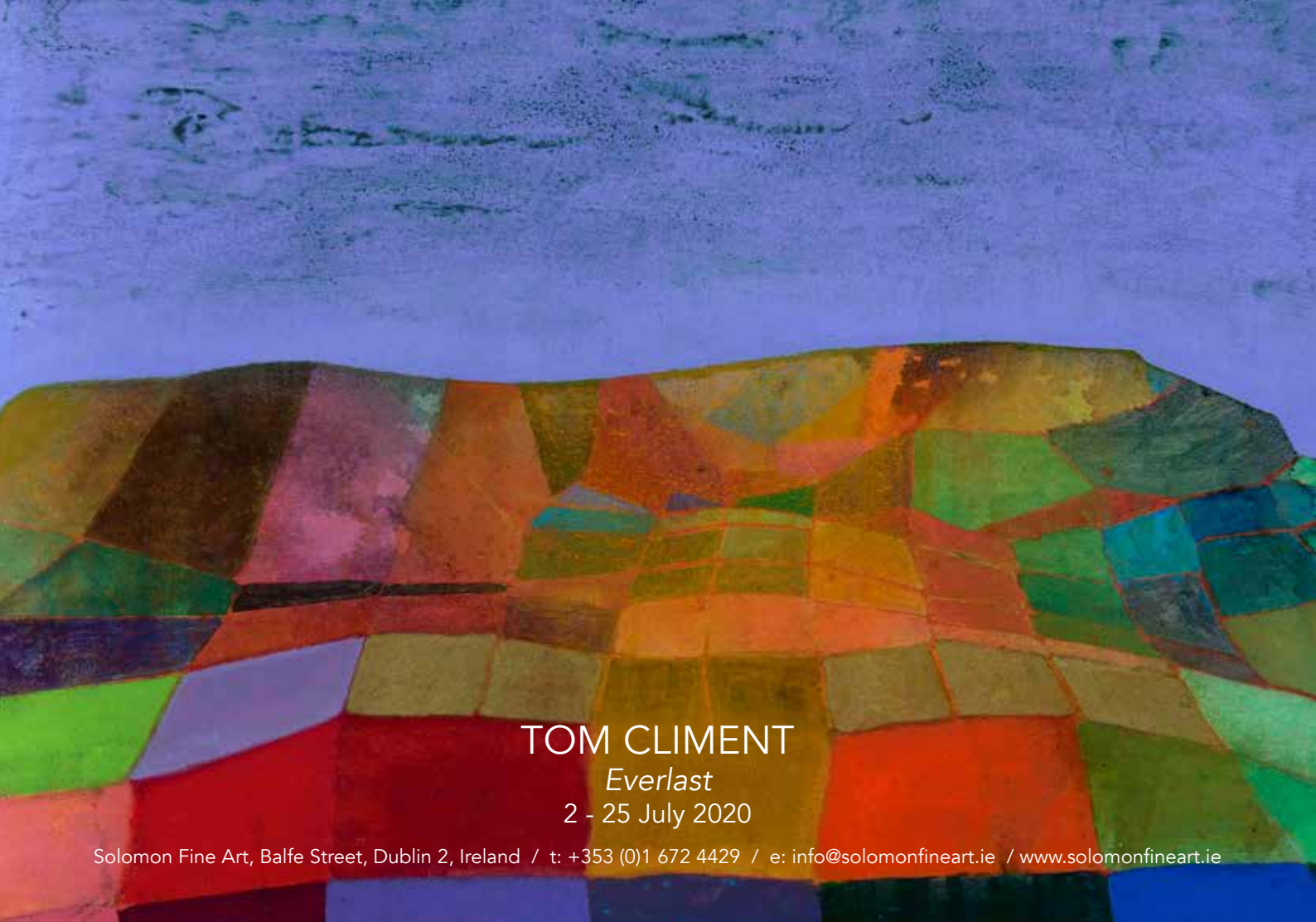
CATALOGUE LIST

1.	<i>Crown</i>	oil, plaster and sand on canvas	183 x 213 cm
2.	<i>Germinate</i>	oil, plaster and sand on canvas	153 x 153 cm
3.	<i>Meristem</i>	oil, plaster and sand on canvas	122 x 152 cm
4.	<i>Filament</i>	oil, plaster and sand on canvas	110 x 110 cm
5.	<i>Wellspring</i>	oil and plaster on board	75 x 100 cm
6.	<i>Shores of Light</i>	oil and plaster on board	61 x 91 cm
7.	<i>Gateway</i>	oil and plaster on canvas	60 x 60 cm
8.	<i>Bloom</i>	oil and plaster on board	46 x 60 cm
9.	<i>Land Bridge</i>	oil and plaster on board	37 x 50 cm
10.	<i>Aurelia</i>	oil and plaster on canvas	30 x 30 cm
11.	<i>Conductor</i>	oil and sand on canvas	30 x 30 cm
12.	<i>Towards the Sun</i>	oil and plaster on board	32 x 27 cm
13.	<i>Guide</i>	oil and plaster on board	27 x 22 cm
14.	<i>Near Field</i>	oil, plaster and sand on board	27 x 22 cm
15.	<i>Fountainhead</i>	oil, plaster and sand on board	27 x 22 cm
16.	<i>Elixir</i>	oil and plaster on board	24 x 16 cm
17.	<i>Sundew</i>	oil and plaster on board	24 x 17 cm
18.	<i>Nectar</i>	oil and plaster on board	24 x 16 cm

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