

Still Spaces

Jane Swanston

Rebecca Crowell

Elizabeth Cope


GORMLEYS
FINE ART

“STILL SPACES”

Three Contemporary Painters

30th September – 15th October

Complete exhibition can be viewed online at:

www.gormleys.ie

Jane Swanston

"A budgie made a few appearances between my neighbour's and my garden over a few days. We nearly caught it, but failed. I imagined it as prey to a gull or slowly starving, it's brightly coloured body in some corner of some place. In truth, just another dead bird, another passing. Its life can be so easily snapped and of little consequence to the world.

Thinking of its passing and not being able to affect the outcome, left me considering the everyday circumstances where we face a heightened sense of uncertainty. Places in which we wait - for bad or good news,

for truth, for love, for enlightenment or for redemption. It is a stilled, solitary moment in time where the breath is held - a little death.

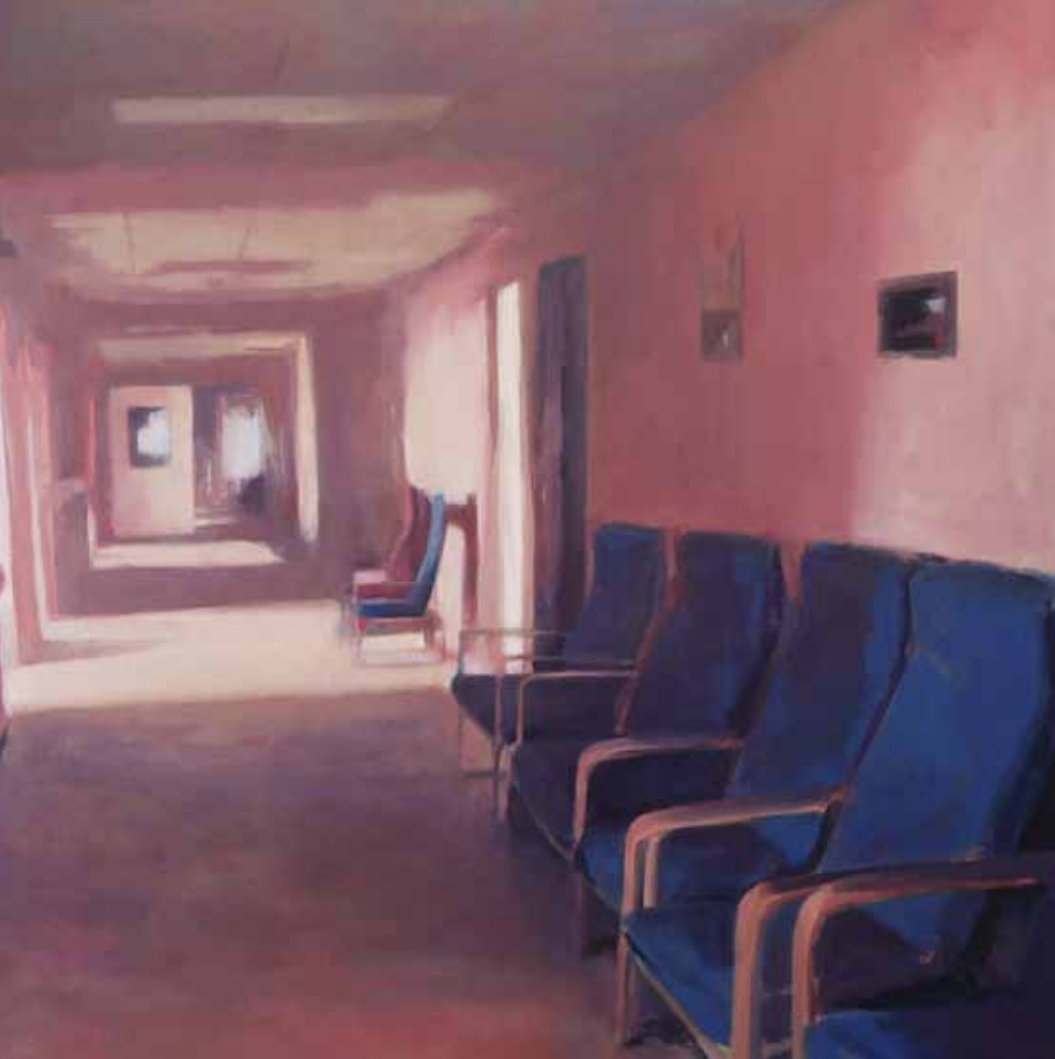
In this new work, I am interested in describing a psychological or spiritual space within the banality of real spaces. Trying to explore the possibility of evoking in a painting the expression of our fragility - those stilled moments in time where we sit expectantly on the hushed and fluttering edges of some transformation."

Jane Swanston - September 2011

Jane Swanston achieved a B.A. Hons degree in Fine and Applied Art in 2002 followed by a Master of Fine Arts degree in 2004 at the University of Ulster. She is a recipient of the University of Ulster John Turner Bursary and was a finalist for the Hunting Art Prize at the Royal College of Art in London in 2004.

Jane has exhibited widely, including seven solo shows in the last six years and has been selected many times to exhibit at the Royal Ulster Academy. She lives and works in County Down, Northern Ireland.

Still Spaces 1 - 36" x 36" - Oil on Canvas





Still Spaces 2 - 12" x 12" - Oil on Canvas



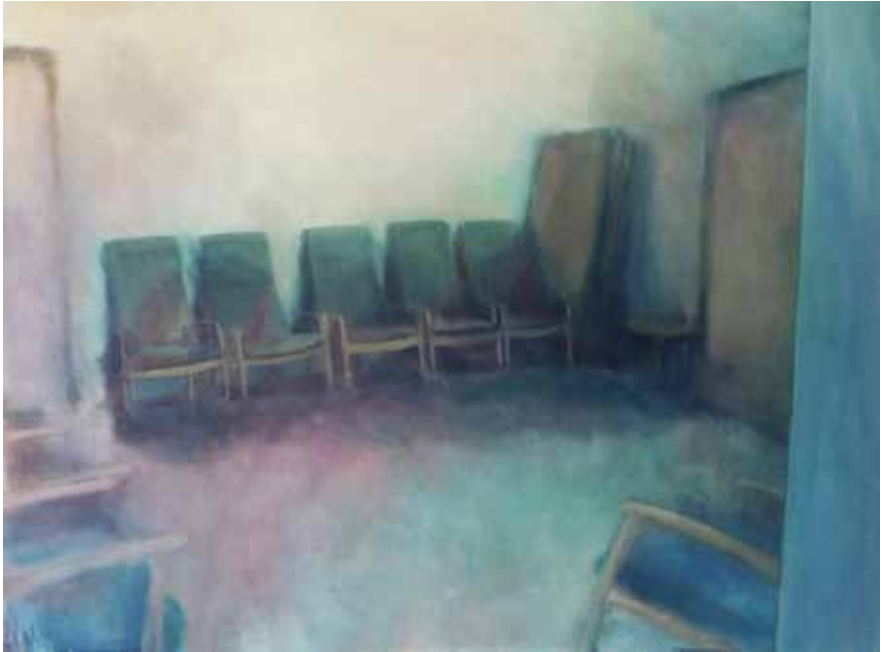
Still Spaces 3 - 20" x 30" - Oil on Canvas



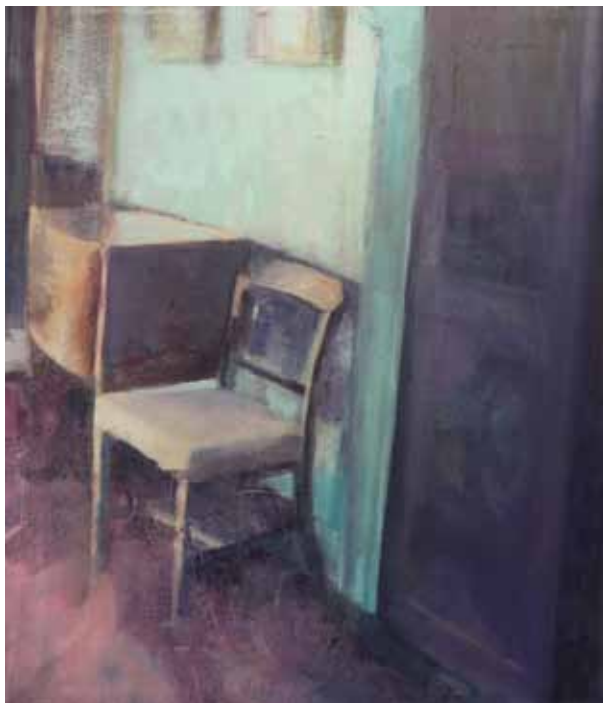
Still Spaces 4 - 32" x 18" - Oil on Canvas



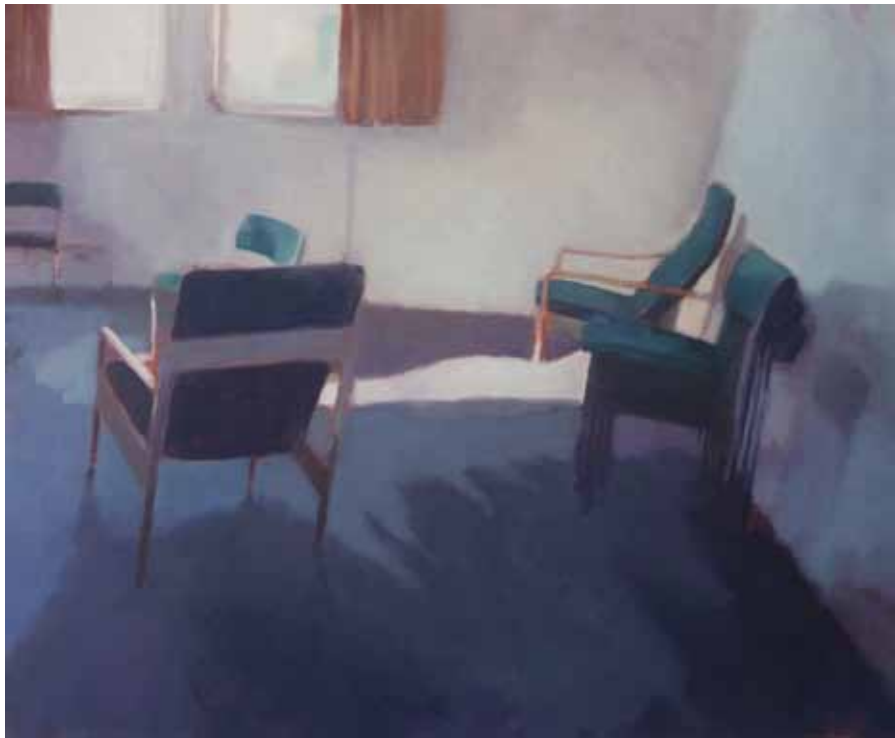
Still Spaces 5 - 19" x 18" - Oil on Canvas



Still Spaces 6 - 36" x 47" - Oil on Canvas



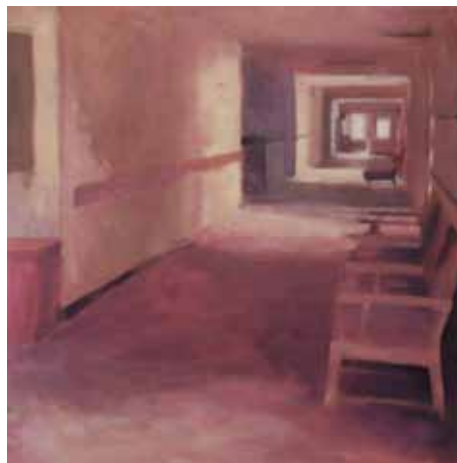
Still Spaces 7 - 24" x 21" - Oil on Canvas



Still Spaces 8 - 36" x 29" - Oil on Canvas



Still Spaces 9 - 36" x 36" - Oil on Canvas



Still Spaces 10 - 36" x 36" - Oil on Canvas



Still Spaces 11 - 26" x 13" - Oil on Canvas



Still Spaces 12 - 18" x 24" - Oil on Canvas

Rebecca Crowell

"Recently I've had a special interest in what lies beneath the surface, reflected in my working methods of digging and dissolving into the layers of my paintings. As source material, I've been looking at drawings and diagrams of Irish archeological sites, tombs and standing stones, aged walls and weathered, eroded surfaces.

Since earning her MFA in painting from Arizona State University in 1985, Rebecca Crowell has led a life focused on painting. She has worked almost daily in her studio in western Wisconsin, with time out for travels and painting in England, Spain, the Western US, and most recently in Lanzarote. She has been accepted as an artist in residence in Ireland in the fall of 2011.

The exhibition title - Still Spaces - has a two fold meaning for me in reference to these ancient Irish sites and buildings. There is the deep stillness of accumulated eons of history, as well as the phenomenal persistence of ruins and artefacts over time."

Rebecca Crowell - September 2011

Rebecca Crowell is represented by fine art galleries in Minnesota, New Mexico, Colorado and Wisconsin, and has recently signed for representation in Ireland where she intends to return to paint and exhibit. She was a featured artist in 'New American Paintings' - Open Studios Press.

Gold Cliff - 30" x 30" - Mixed Media on Panel





Fen - 16" x 16" - Mixed Media on Board



Lost Wall 1 - 14" x 11" - Mixed Media on Board



Chamber - 16" x 16" - Mixed Media on Board



Chamber 2 - 16" x 16" - Mixed Media on Board



Fragment - 16" x 16" - Mixed Media on Board



Personal History 1 - 16" x 16" - Mixed Media on Board



Coiled - 24" x 18" - Mixed Media on Board



Structure1 - 14" x 11" - Mixed Media on Board



Structure2 - 14" x 11" - Mixed Media on Board



Interval - 16" x 16" - Mixed Media on Board



Meeting Silence - 16" x 16" - Mixed Media on Board

Elizabeth Cope

"Painting for me is a way of life. I was seduced by the smell of oil paint when I was nine years old: my sister came home from Paris with a box of paints.

The act of painting is like doing a post mortem. You are involved emotionally and yet detached at the same time. This means that the act of painting is dispassionate as well as passionate. I think that the painter has 'an inner eye'. When I was a child I wanted to be a nun and become a saint, like St. Therese of Lisieux. I soon realised that this would not happen, but perhaps becoming a painter has allowed me to become a 'second-rate saint'. The dedication of a painter allows a spiritual freedom and I see painting as a kind of prayer

Elizabeth Cope was born in Kildare in 1952. She attended the National College of Art and Design, Dublin, in the 1970s and continued her study at Whitechapel School of Art and Chelsea School of Art in London. Her work has led her to travel widely, both independently and with travel awards and bursaries. In 1994 Cope travelled to Somalia as Trocaire Artist in Residence, she continued her resi-

that lifts the spirit beyond mundane life.

Like many of the artists I admire I begin with a struggle. Without the struggle occurring in making a painting, I feel that the process of trying to paint a painting is not wholly alive. It is the struggle that counts. In painting there is no resolution; it is an ongoing act. I paint through the chaos of everyday life, if I were to wait for a quiet moment I would never paint. I believe that painting should also be like dancing and that the real 'work of art' is not so much the canvas when the paint is dry, but rather the physical rhythm of the process of painting it."

Elizabeth Cope - March 2011

dency for Trocaire in 1997 -98 travelling to Central America. In 2006 she completed a masters in Fine Art at City and Guilds School of Art in London.

She has exhibited widely in both Ireland and abroad, and her paintings are held in a number of important public and private collections

Interior of Studio - 24" x 29" - Oil on Canvas





Still Life with Iron - 30" x 36"- Oil on Board



In the Living Room - 26" x 22" - Oil on Canvas



View of the Pier - 15" x 18" - Oil on Board



Flowers and Dog on Table - 24" x 30" - Oil on Board



Birds - 20" x 16" - Oil on Board



Looking out the Window - 30" x 23" - Oil on Board



The Woodland - 23" x 30" - Oil on Canvas



Flowers in Jug - 30" x 24" - Oil on Board



Sweet Potato with Secateurs- 24" x 30" - Oil on Canvas



Lobster and Radio - 30" x 24" - Oil on Board

List of Illustrations

Jane Swanston

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Rebecca Crowell

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The exhibition contains a number of additional paintings.
The complete exhibition can be viewed online. For further
information and to view the full exhibition log onto
www.gormleys.ie

All paintings are available for purchase on receipt of this
catalogue.

