

WINGS AND BRUSH STROKES

Michelle Pearson Cooper



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Osborne Studio Gallery

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osg.uk.com

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As a photographer, you must understand your subject in order to capture its true nature. Michelle's work achieves the incredible feat of capturing the natural world – our animal planet – with a remarkable truth to nature.

This extraordinary collection of new work not only captivates the senses but also serves as a powerful reminder of our planet's delicate balance. These mesmerizing paintings by Michelle possess a unique gift – the ability to channel her deep connection to nature onto the canvas.

In a world increasingly consumed by concrete jungles and disconnected from its natural roots, Michelle embarks on a profound journey, using her brushstrokes to transcribe the beauty and fragility of the natural world. Each mark on the canvas embodies a passionate plea for conservation, a vivid reminder that we hold the key to safeguarding the world's precious ecosystems and the endangered species that inhabit them.

The artist's decision to give each animal its own space, its own canvas, brings forth a profound urgency in her works. By shining a light through her connection to nature, these paintings serve as a rallying cry, reminding us of the consequences of our actions.

The visual journey you will embark on, a spectrum of emotion, is echoed by the vibrant use of colour. Through her paintings, Michelle aims to inspire others to appreciate and respect the incredible wildlife found especially in the Eastern Cape South Africa. Spending time in the natural world truly allows us to disconnect from daily pressures and immerse ourselves in the present moment, fostering a sense of peace and tranquillity.

This exhibition will inspire us all to connect with and understand her subjects and, hopefully, bring us that bit closer to nature, Michelle's artistic interpretation inspiring those who are lucky enough to experience this wonderful exhibition.

Adrian Houston
Photographer, 2023

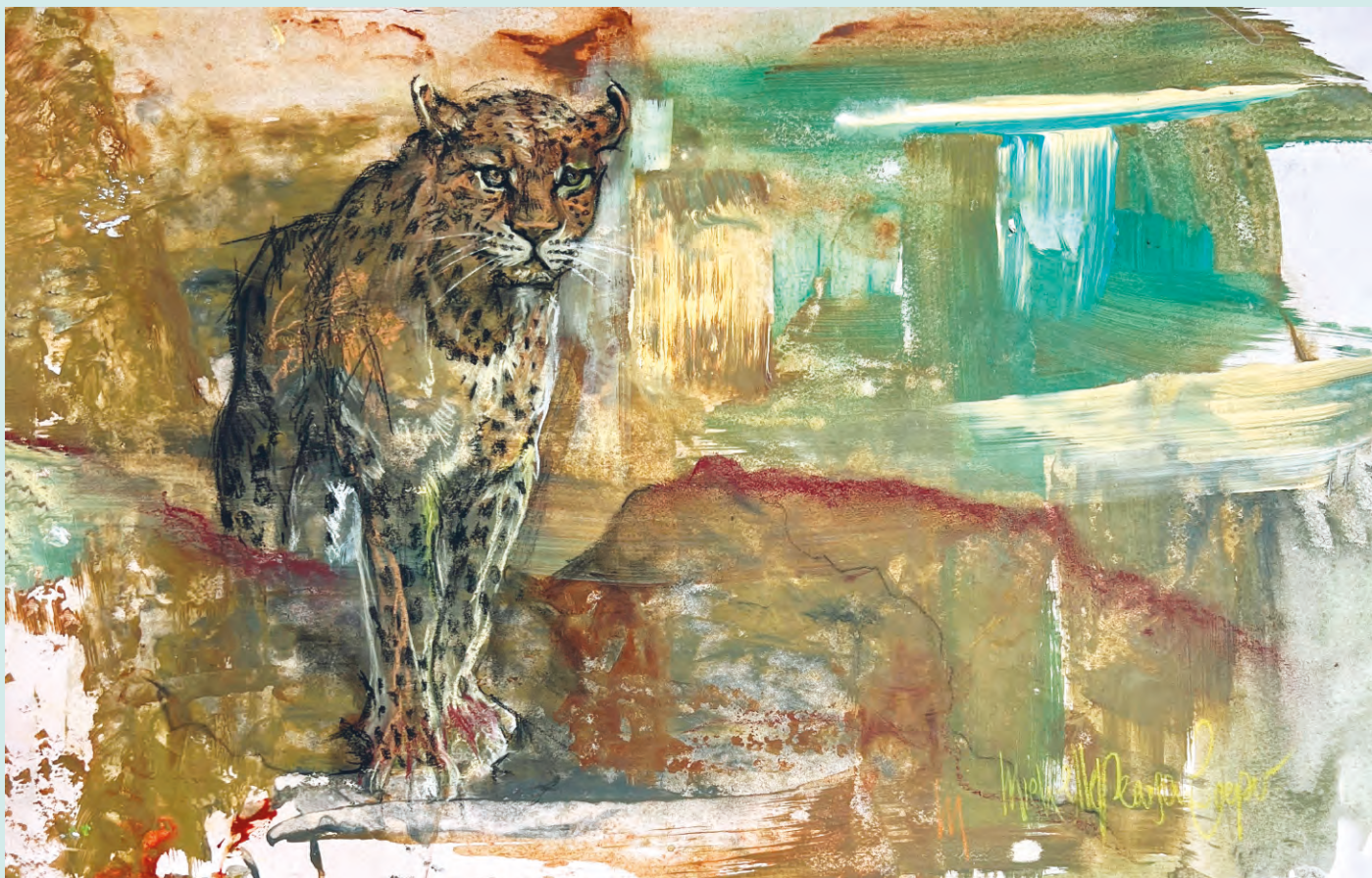


I first met Michelle maybe thirty years ago, and at the time she specialized in painting dogs and very good they were too. For some years we lost touch, However I started to hear that her chosen artistic path had become wildlife painting, and when I saw this new work I was thunderstruck at her ability to capture the grace, the speed, and the immediacy of her subjects. It was quite out of the ordinary. I persuaded her to come back to the OSG, and this is now her third exhibition which we are proud to present.

We believe Michelle to be outstanding in this field, she has a distinct advantage of course of spending most of the Winter months in Southern Africa where her subjects are to be found and she searches high and low for them. Her passion is reflected in her work and leads us to a natural world of wonder and reality.

This exhibition proves to us Michelle's deep understanding and insight and it's a pleasure for us to host her yet again.

Geoffrey Hughes
Osborne Studio Gallery, 2023



Leopard on Abstract mixed media, 24 x 37 cm

**Tamie, Xhosa Girl
and Cheetah**

oil on canvas, 90 x 60 cm

'Tamie, a married Xhosa woman, wears black and orange ceremonial dress for Umgidi, when her son becomes a man.'





Moon Bear oil on panel, 35 x 40 cm



Bee One oil on gesso panel, 12 x 14 cm



Bee Too oil on gesso panel, 12 x 14 cm



Bee Free oil on gesso panel, 12 x 14 cm



Bee Fore oil on gesso panel, 9 x 10 cm

And there will Bee many more...



Lynx on Lime
Shwe Shwe

oil on panel
35 x 26 cm



Lionesses oil on wood, 70 x 120 cm



**Letty, Ndebele Woman
and Black Leopard**

oil on canvas, 90 x 60 cm

'Letty, a married Ndebele woman, wears a ceremonial Ngurara cape, traditionally worn in South Africa for ritual occasions.'

Anna in Ceremonial Beads
oil on panel, 50 x 30 cm

*'A left-side profile of Anna,
a Ndebele girl wearing
ceremonial beads and a
Doek, a carefully wrapped
South African headscarf.'*





Maasai & Cheetah mixed media, 55 x 35 cm



Maasai at Sunset mixed media, 55 x 35 cm



Cape Hunting Dog mixed media, 24 x 37 cm



Roller Birds

oil on wood

57 x 40 cm



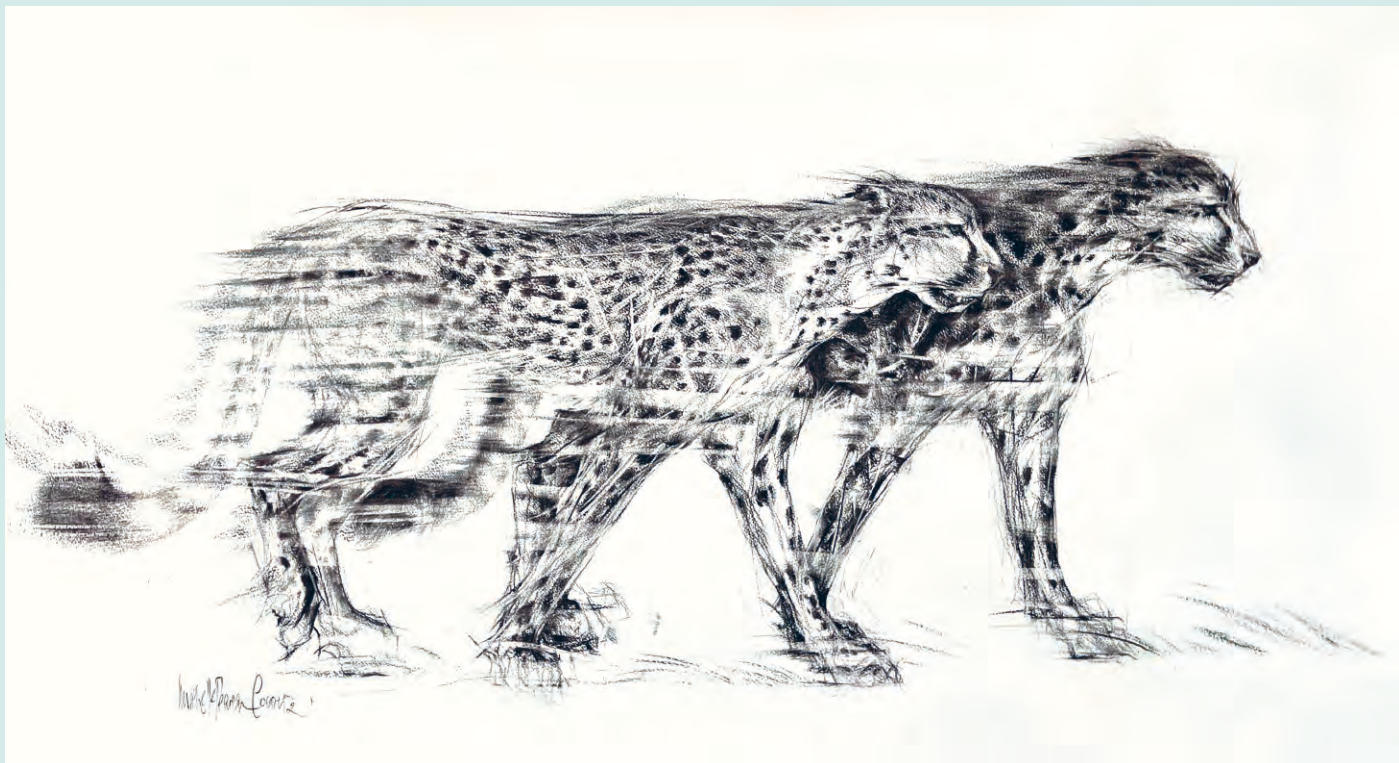
Pangolin on Pink oil on panel, 30 x 30 cm



In the Studio 2023



Acinonyx II charcoal on arches paper, 75.5 x 118 cm



Heat & Dust charcoal on arches paper, 60 x 114 cm



W. de Pina
Cape

Head On

charcoal on arches paper

76 x 56 cm



Cheetah on Ndebele oil on panel, 30 x 30 cm



Leopard on Ndebele oil on panel, 30 x 40 cm



Giraffe on Abstract
mixed media
37 x 24 cm



Zebras Entwined on Abstract mixed media, 24 x 37 cm



Bedtime ink wash on paper, 19 x 28 cm



Angelina oil on panel, 30 x 30 cm

*'Angelina wears a Shwe Shwe dress; a traditional Xhosa design
and recognised by its intricate geometric print.'*



Cornflower & Bee

oil on paper

40 x 40 cm



Thistle & Bee

oil on paper

38 x 46 cm



Madam Dragonfly oil on panel, 30 x 30 cm



Rocky the Rook oil on panel, 30 x 30 cm



Rook & Walnuts oil on panel, 30 x 40 cm

Toto

oil on panel, 44 x 29 cm

*Toto wears a crown Doek,
distinguished by the roped
cloth twisted around the
base of the headscarf.*





Ostriches on Abstract mixed media, 24 x 37 cm



Wild Dogs Resting on Abstract mixed media, 24 x 37 cm

Exhibitions

- 1979** First Exhibition: Charles Young Fine Paintings, Bond Street, London
- 1980** Christmas Show – Coln Gallery, Walton Street, London
- 1983** Cadogan Gallery, Pont Street, London
- 1986** Cadogan Gallery, Pont Street, London
- 1994** Palm Beach, Florida, USA
- 1998** Raphael Valls Gallery, Ryder Street, London
- 1999** The Royal Society of British Artists – Mall Galleries, The Mall, London
- 2000** The Gallery in Cork Street, London
- 2003** The Gallery in Cork Street, London
- 2005** Woman's Society of Artists – Mall Galleries, The Mall, London (won the Peter Hambro Best Sculpture Award)
- 2006** The Gallery in Cork Street, London
- 2008** The Gallery in Cork Street, London
- 2009** Galerie d' Art Lawrence - Arnott, Marrakesh, Morocco
- 2011** The Showcase Gallery, Dubai, UAE
- 2014** The Royal Opera Arcade Gallery, Pall Mall, London
- 2015** Wykham Gallery, Stockbridge, Hampshire
- 2016** La Galleria, Pall Mall, London
- 2020** The Osborne Studio Gallery, London
- 2023** 25 Years on Motcomb St, The Osborne Studio Gallery, London

Collectors

- Lord and Lady Asprey
Earl and Countess of Aylesford
H.R.H King of Bahrain
Count and Countess Leopold Von Bismarck
Mr & Mrs Simon Bladon
Sir Dominic and Lady Cadbury
The Hon William Cadogan Cayzer Family
Lord and Lady Chadlington
Lucy Dahl
Lord and Lady Daresbury
"Earthkind" Memorial Mural
The Hon Michael & Mrs Elliot
De Ferranti Family
Firmdale Hotels
The Earl and Countess of Lindsay
Princess Chantal of Hanover
Lord Hanson
H.J.Hyams
Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan
Thomas Loyd
Sir John Madejski
Duke of Marlborough
Lynne and Christopher Mills
NSPCC
National Canine Defense League
Bruce Oldfield OBE
Lord Palumbo
Mr and Mrs Timothy Pilkington
Prince Nicholas von Preussen
- Gordon Ramsay
Kate Rothschild
Mrs Robert Sangster
Sir Christopher Soames
Sir Tom Stoppard
Countess of Strathmore
Sunley Holdings Group
His Excellency Mahdi al Tajir
The Hon Hugh & Mrs Tollemache
The Vestey Family
Alex Walduck

**All illustrated works are for sale on receipt of the catalogue;
further works will be available at the exhibition**

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