Prelude  91 x 76 cm  Oil on canvas

Front cover: Flower duet  91 x 122 cm  Oil on canvas
Symphony

New Paintings 2022 - 2024

Lucy Doyle

@lucydoyleartist

www.lucydoyle.com
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When I started working on this collection in 2022, I envisaged four large paintings each symbolising a season, my idea of a visual symphony. The other works augment and develop this theme of celebrating the year in a colourful and textural way. *Serenade to Dahlias* is the first large canvas I painted for this collection back in autumn 2022 when these flowers were at their best. I tried to convey a sense of security, joy and companionship with this composition. *Winter Kitchen* was my large winter painting 122x152cm. Here I was celebrating the warm hub of a kitchen in the coldest and darkest of months. I played with the warm rusty pinks and burnt oranges of the copper kitchen utensils contrasting these warm colours with the cool earth greens of the tablecloth and shelves. The low but beguiling light coming from the moon through the window and the flickering candlelight are devices I have used to add to the sense of intimacy and drama. *River Song* is the largest painting from this collection at 152 x 182 cm and is what I call a retreat painting where I set out to create a place of peace and tranquillity of pure painterly escapism, away from all the noise and chaos of daily life. It is of a reclining female figure in a woodland setting with a babbling brook. I also set out to create a retreat painting with *Summer Interlude* 122 x 152 cm of a reclining female figure in an interior setting but with the same object in mind; that of taking time out to rest and contemplate the moment.

Both my daughters are my muses and I often use two female forms conversing with each other over a table and I am sure this has been inspired by years of watching them chat over a cup of tea during the years they were at home. Now they have young families of their own I feel drawn to the mother and child theme as can be seen in *Bedtime Story* and *Autumn Kitchen.*

*Summer Song* is an ode to Dod Proctor as she is one of my favourite painters and her painting, *Girl with a parrot,* was the inspiration behind my painting. Sometimes the flowers that are growing around me are so dramatic and visually stimulating that I will often do a portrait of a standalone vase of flowers. These compliment and support my figurative work like a running theme throughout this collection and help me to document the seasons as they pass. Over the last 5 years or so, I have painted a series of small flower paintings especially commissioned by the Doorway Gallery for their Christmas Show. This year they are in two collections; *Flower Notes* and *Floral Notes* painted in 2022 and 2023 respectively.

All my subject matter is a means to an end and that is to work and experiment with paint, colour and texture; always pushing the boundaries of what this medium can do. For me it’s a continuously evolving challenge and a new experience each time I start a painting.

Lucy Doyle
Easter lit tulips  61 x 46 cm  Oil on canvas
Tulip chorus  91 x 91 cm  Oil on canvas
Dahlias red  61 x 46 cm  Oil on canvas
Lemon tea  100 x 120 cm Oil on canvas
Spring table 76 x 91 cm Oil on canvas
Summer song  122 x 91 cm Oil on canvas
Floral chorus blue  61 x 46 cm Oil on canvas

Previous Page: River song 152 x 182 cm Oil on canvas
Moonlit tulips  61 x 46 cm Oil on canvas
Fruit salad  76 x 91 cm Oil on canvas
*Bedtime story*  91 x 76 cm Oil on canvas
Floral chorus May  71 x 71 cm Oil on canvas
*Floral chorus June*  91 x 91 cm Oil on canvas
Above:
*Summer table*  71 x 71 cm  Oil on canvas

Centre:
*Summer interlude*  122 x 152 cm  Oil on canvas
Floral chorus August  91 x 76 cm  Oil on canvas
Floral chorus Pink  71 x 61 cm  Oil on canvas
Dahlia chorus  91 x 91 cm  Oil on canvas
Dahlias yellow 61 x 46 cm  Oil on canvas

Previous page: Winter kitchen 122 x 152 cm  Oil on canvas
Serenade to dahlias  152 x 152 cm  Oil on canvas
**Dahlias green**  91 x 76 cm  Oil on canvas
Study in green  100 x 120 cm  Oil on canvas
Autumn kitchen  91 x 91 cm  Oil on canvas
Floral chorus September 122 x 122 cm Oil on canvas
Flower notes 1-6 30 x 25 cm Oil on canvas
*Flower notes 7-11* 30 x 25 cm Oil on canvas
Floral notes 7-11 30 x 25 cm Oil on canvas