

Spencer Shakespeare

Born in 1967 in London, Shakespeare discovered his addiction to the natural world in his yearly holidays to Cornwall with his family, which, after 20 years of living on Australia's Gold Coast he has returned to, residing near Penzance where he says the bird song is at its most beautiful.

Being an obsessive and automatic drawer since the age of seven, Shakespeare completed a degree in Illustration at Bournemouth College of Art and Design (1992-1995). Although his love of drawing never stopped, as he matured both as a person and an artist, he sought to break away from commissioned work, seeking his own artistic independence. Now an internationally successful artist, independence is what he has certainly achieved. He enjoys transcribing places of intersection; the coastline, the edge of forests- places where a transition of boundaries takes place. The garden is significant in his work because of the element of interchange between the domestic boundary and the beginning of wilderness. Although he is inspired by places such as these, he never strives for specifics nor is beholden to the landscape around him, instead drawing and exposing his own imaginary world. His work connotes a kind of mystery, a kind of magic. A world where colours are intense, high contrast, energetic: vibrating with an emotional energy. His abstract canvases show the blurred boundaries of the humming world he sees: a door for you, the viewer, that opens into wonderland.

Recent and Current Exhibitions & Residencies

2022 - Thin Places

17th June - 18th July

Tremenheere Sculpture Gardens, Penzance, Cornwall

2022 - Art of the Present Future Chapter 2

10th May - 30th June

AP House, Madrid, Spain

2022 - Pink

April 14th - 1st May

Piermarq*, Surry Hills, NSW, Australia

2022 - Residency

April - June

Porthmeor Studio 5, St Ives, Cornwall

2022 - Places of Intersection, Places of Becoming

February 4th - 30th April

One Wall Gallery, Eugene, Oregon US

2022 - Dreamland
January 22nd - March 1st
Kers Gallery, Amsterdam

2022 - Paperworks Vol II
January - Present
NBB Gallery, Berlin

2021 - Affordable Art Fair with Livingstone St Ives
October 21st - October 24th
Battersea Park, London

2021 - Amongst Friends
October 7th - October 31st
Livingstone St Ives, St Ives, Cornwall

2021 - Residency
June - September
Porthmeor Studio 5, St Ives, Cornwall

2021 – Mind the Gap
May 12th - May 21st
CIRCLE Contemporary, Cornwall

2021 – Prima Vera
March 1st - May 3rd
Livingstone St Ives at Tremenheere Sculpture Gardens

2020/21 – Brindar con extraños
December 5th - January 5th
Trinta Gallery, Santiago de Compostela Spain

2020 - Spencer Shakespeare x Gorman
Gorman winter collection
Gorman Clothing, Melbourne

2019 – Sea Tree Bird and Bee
October 12th - November 12th
Kers Gallery, Amsterdam Netherlands

2019 – Recent Work
September 12th – October 20th
BDDW annex, New York USA

2019 – Summer Mix

June 21st – September 24th
CIRCLE Contemporary Cornwall

2018 – Alchemy Faune
May 23rd – June 12th
Dust Temple, Currumbin QLD Australia

2017 – Outlook
Kers Gallery, Amsterdam Netherlands

2017 – The Garden
November 17th – December 1st
Maverick Art, Coolangatta QLD Australia

2017 – We are the ones
Calsberg Byen Galleri, Copenhagen Denmark

2017 – Seraphim
May 23rd – June 12th
The Design Files, Melbourne VIC Australia

2016 – New Slang
DenHolm Studios, Melbourne VIC Australia

Education
1992 – 1995 Illustration
Bournemouth College of Art and Design