

SUZY MURPHY



Suzy Murphy in her studio, London 2020. Photograph by Emma Hardy.

BIOGRAPHY

Vast, deserted, majestic landscape with only the smallest hint of a human presence – the headlights of car or an isolated cabin – are recurrent themes in Suzy Murphy's work. Her images are not just visual representations of observed landscapes, they are also imbued with a profoundly personal dialogue and underlying political commentary. Deeply autobiographical, her paintings are better understood as a form of self-portraiture.

Born in London's East End in 1964, Suzy Murphy moved to Alberta, Canada at the age of five. The shift from a small tenement apartment, where she lived with her large Irish family, to the vast open landscapes of North America, brought an enormous emotional shift. This experience became the creative catalyst that informs the tranquillity and magical realism of her work.

Suzy Murphy's love of North America has remained and she continues to travel extensively on annual road trips from the monumental landscapes of the Rocky Mountains to the sprawling townships and prairies. Her diarised sketches record her trips and these small, spontaneous images become the basis for her paintings. The narrative of her life is the subconscious thread that runs throughout her work and continues to quietly but surely present itself.

Suzy Murphy is an alumna of St Martin's School of Art, London in 1982. Her work is held in many important public and private collections worldwide. Suzy Murphy continues to live and work in London, England.

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2023

Paint and Plates, Lyndsey Ingram, London

2022

Of Dark and Light, Lyndsey Ingram, London

2020

Harbour Island, Lyndsey Ingram, London

I Won't Look Away, Lyndsey Ingram, London

2018

E/AB Fair, Lyndsey Ingram, New York

London Original Print Fair, Lyndsey Ingram, London

21st Century Women, Unit London

2017

When I Close My Eyes, Masters and Contemporary, London

2016

National Open Art, London, (Landscape Award)

Pallant House, Chichester, (NOA Landscape Award)

2014-15

What I Thought I Saw, Mead Carney, London

2014

Threadneedle Prize, Mall Gallery, London

2010

Threadneedle Prize, Mall Gallery, London