

*Up the Garden Path, Over the Wall
& Into the Sunshine*



Julie Held, *The Garden Spring*, 2013, acrylic and oil on canvas, triptych, 30 x 81 cm, 11 3/4 x 31 7/8 in, £4,750

Julie Held, Melissa Scott-Miller, Amelia Power
and introducing
Olivia Baynham

2 June – 9 July 2021

Crean & Company
www.creanandcompany.com

Crean & Company is delighted to announce *Up the Garden Path, Over the Wall & Into the Sunshine*, a group show of works celebrating gardens and their timeless inspiration on artists. The show features a range of paintings by Julie Held, Melissa Scott-Miller, Amelia Power and Olivia Baynham, all of which variously delight in the beauties, freedoms and mysteries of gardens and the natural world.

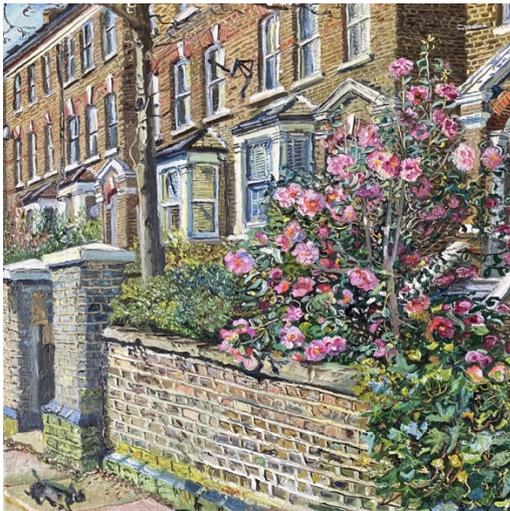
From the camellia-filled front gardens of **Melissa Scott-Miller's** Islington paintings to **Amelia Power's** pencil close-ups of irises and gerberas, these works capture the everyday magic of nature. The show also includes a new series of specially commissioned paintings by emerging artist **Olivia Baynham**, whose work presents a

contemporary spin on the art historical relationship between gardens and the female nude.

The show will also feature a virtual viewing room of oil canvases by British painter **Julie Held**. Exploding with life and colour, gardens are both an ongoing subject and inspiration in Julie's work. Comprising paintings and watercolours, her works capture the seasonal cycle of nature and feature motifs such as the underworld, echoing the mythic importance of gardens throughout art.

'New life, bursting with spring colour, heralding the warm zephyrs of summer. The cycle, the affirmation of continuum. In this world where all things are prone to decay, the beauty of nature remains constant, so full of longing and desire,' says Nick Crean, Founder of Crean & Company, of this vibrant selection of works.

As summer approaches and the country blossoms back to normality, this virtual show running until 9 July is a colourful commemoration of the importance of gardens in art – as symbols of hope, joy and life.



Melissa Scott-Miller, Camellias in a sunny Islington street, 2021, oil on canvas, 50 x 50 cm, £1,300



Olivia Baynham, Ladies who Lunch, 2021, oil on canvas, 107.5 x 87.5 cm, 42 3/8 x 34 1/2 in, £3,600.

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For further information, please contact:
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Notes to editors

Dates: 2 June – 9 July 2021

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About Crean & Company

Launched in December 2020, Crean & Company is an online gallery founded by collector Nick Crean. A timely online celebration of artists, makers and collectors, the gallery acts as a digitally curated space with viewing rooms full of curiosity, colour and conversation. Its line-up of contemporary international artists includes Kate Braine, Julie Held, Thomas Merrett and Rupert Shrive.

About Julie Held

Julie Held is an elected member of The London Group, The Royal Society of Watercolours, The N.E.A.C. and The Aborealists. Her work is held in public collections including Nuffield College, Oxford, The Ben Uri Museum and Baker McKenzie. Julie studied at Camberwell School of Art and The Royal Academy Schools and is a member of faculty at The Royal Drawing School.

"Gardens, trees, plants," says Julie, "embody and reflect elements that mirror ourselves as human being: roots, diversity, mutability and connections."

About Melissa Scott-Miller

Melissa Scott-Miller is an elected member of The Royal British Artists, The New English Arts Club and The Royal Society of Portrait Painters. She has shown widely including 22 appearances in the Royal Academy Summer Exhibition. Melissa studied at the Slade School of Fine Art and now teaches at The Heatherley School of Fine Art and The Royal Drawing School.

Melissa is an urban artist with a Breughel-like eye for the smallest detail, the bird's eye view of those private gardens often hiding behind our city streets and avenues: the roses, lavender, iris and clematis that spill out across the city pavements.

About Amelia Power

Amelia Power studied at The Ruskin and The Royal Drawing School and went on to teach drawing at both. She exhibits widely and past exhibitions include The Lynn Painter Stainers Prize, The Discerning Eye and The RA Summer Exhibition. In 2009 she was one of five artists selected to take part in a residency at Kensington Palace culminating in an exhibition at Thomas Williams Fine Art. Her series of finely observed watercolours were painted from her kitchen table, a moment's escape from the rigours of 'home schooling'.

About Olivia Baynham

Olivia Baynham studied at City and Guilds School of Fine Art before further studying at the Charles Cecil Studios in Florence. Her influences are broad but Paul Gauguin would rank highly amongst them. Olivia's intention as a painter is "To create a world within a canvas". Whether it is in her meticulously-studied portraiture, exemplified by "Phoebe in Lockdown" in the current Royal Society of Portrait Painters show in the Mall Galleries, or in these three pictures, painted for this show, inspired by the laughter and mischief of Bacchanalia, her palette pays tribute to the many who have inspired.