

LONDON
MESSUMS
WILTSHIRE

Francesco Poiana





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Brought up amongst the groves and vineyards of Faedis in northern Italy, the son of an architect and winemaker, Francesco Poiana has exchanged the alluvial plains and terraces of the Mediterranean for the wild and open chalk downs of Wiltshire.

Francesco joined our Emerging Talents programming following his Masters Degree at Central St Martins in London in 2019. Later that summer he was invited to Wiltshire to spend time in the landscape surrounding Messums. It was a culmination for him of a reverse Grand Tour, that saw him trace a path from Italy to the landscape from which so many of the most legendary tours started. His interest however was in a connection to the landscape far more ancient; in particular he has been taken by the area around Cranborne Chase with its striations and lush gradations of green and the Bronze Age barrow of Win Green that stands high on a ridge above it.

Using a mixture of oil on paper and print making techniques he explores the mystery and romance of one of Britain's most historically significant and beautiful quarters. In conversation with senior curator Catherine Milner, Francesco discusses his inspiration:

My three favourite spots of landscape in Wiltshire are the top of Win Green, Fonthill Lake and the view from a farm high above the plain rising up from Messums Wiltshire. I have always loved the landscape paintings of Cozens, Turner and Thomas Jones, who came on the Grand Tour to Italy and in many ways I have felt I am now doing the reverse journey as an Italian, travelling around England. I first discovered their work when I was studying at the Art Academy in Rome. They made their pictures in one sitting and their paintings are very immediate and that attracted me. Importantly for me, they also elevated watercolours from being just sketchy side shows to being stand alone art works in their own right.

A major influence on me has also been JM Whistler. In a diary of Whistler's, I found his recipe to make oils look as if they are made of watercolour and some of the landscapes I did of Wiltshire use this method. Oils by Whistler are very fluid and liquid and he made them using varnish made of the resin of a copal tree, mixed with oil paints which is something I also do – though using a rather cheaper equivalent!

What impressed me most about the landscape of the Wiltshire is its order and geometry. It is casual but organised; smooth, with no high mountains or deep valleys, but very soft and gentle. It reminds me of Tuscany without the Cypress trees and with more fields. It also reminds me of a Sean Scully painting - it's a landscape made up of geometrical colour in which the hedges, houses and farms play as much a part as the fields. In many ways, it is already a drawing and the artist just has to finish the process.

The **Win Green** Series

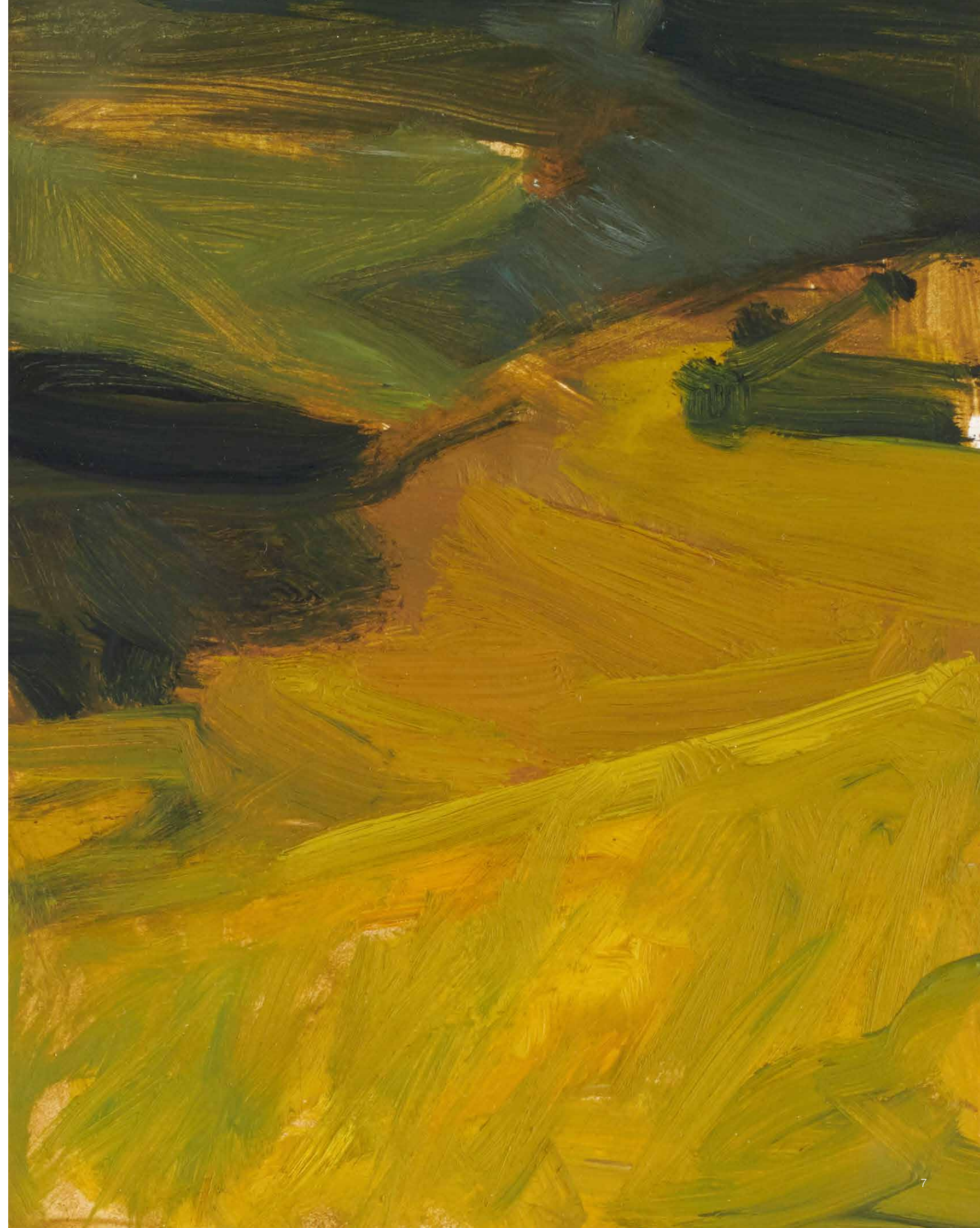


Win Green #1, 2019

Oil on paper

21 x 15cm

£1,285





Win Green #2, 2019

Oil on paper

21 x 15cm

£1,285





Win Green #3, 2019

Oil on paper

21 x 15cm

£1,285





Win Green #4, 2019

Oil on paper

21 x 15cm

£1,285



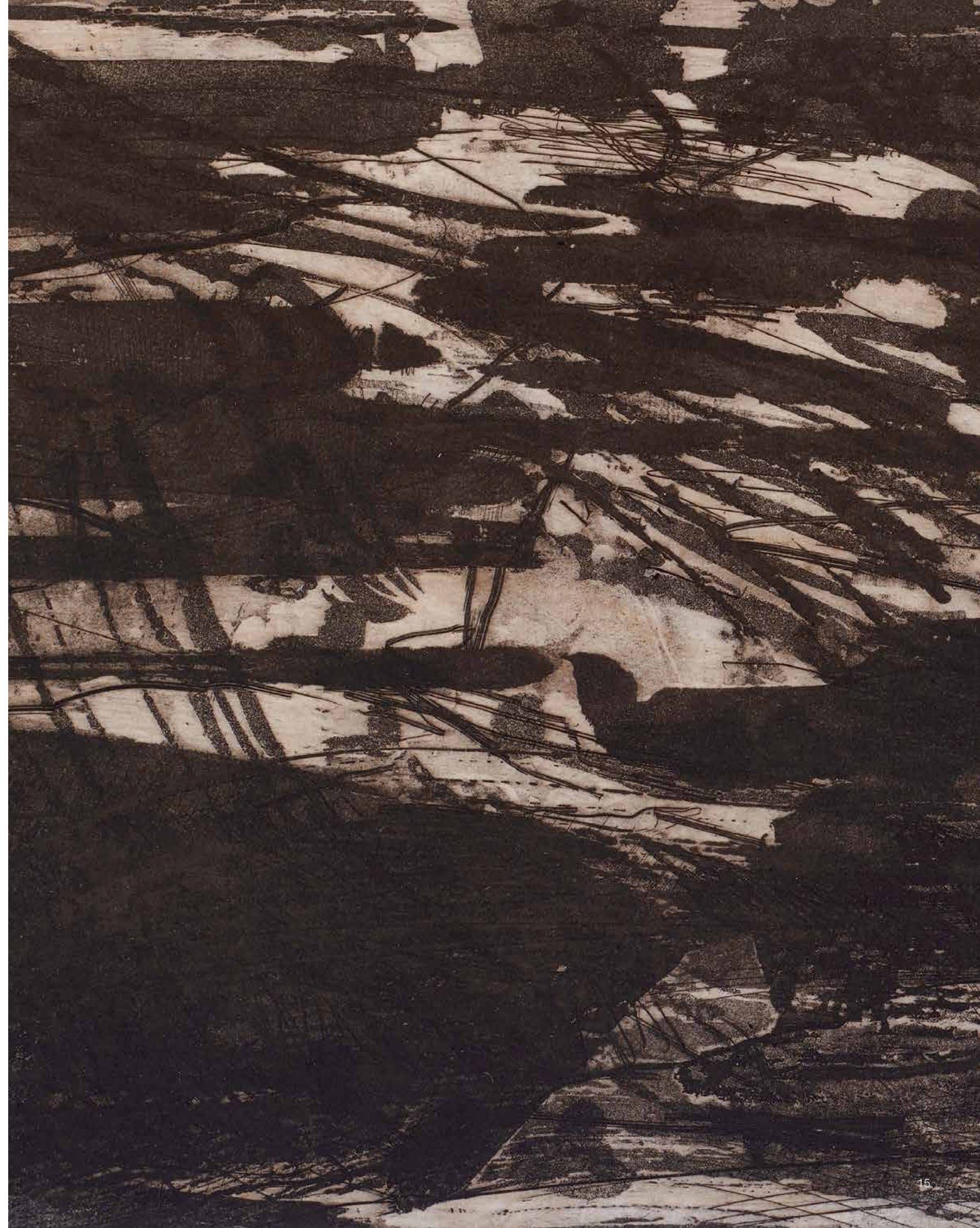


Win Green Hill #2, 2019

Sugarlift/chine collé etching

Edition of 10

£885





Chicksgrove # 1, 2019

Sugarlift/chine collé etching

Edition of 10

46 x 38cm

£925





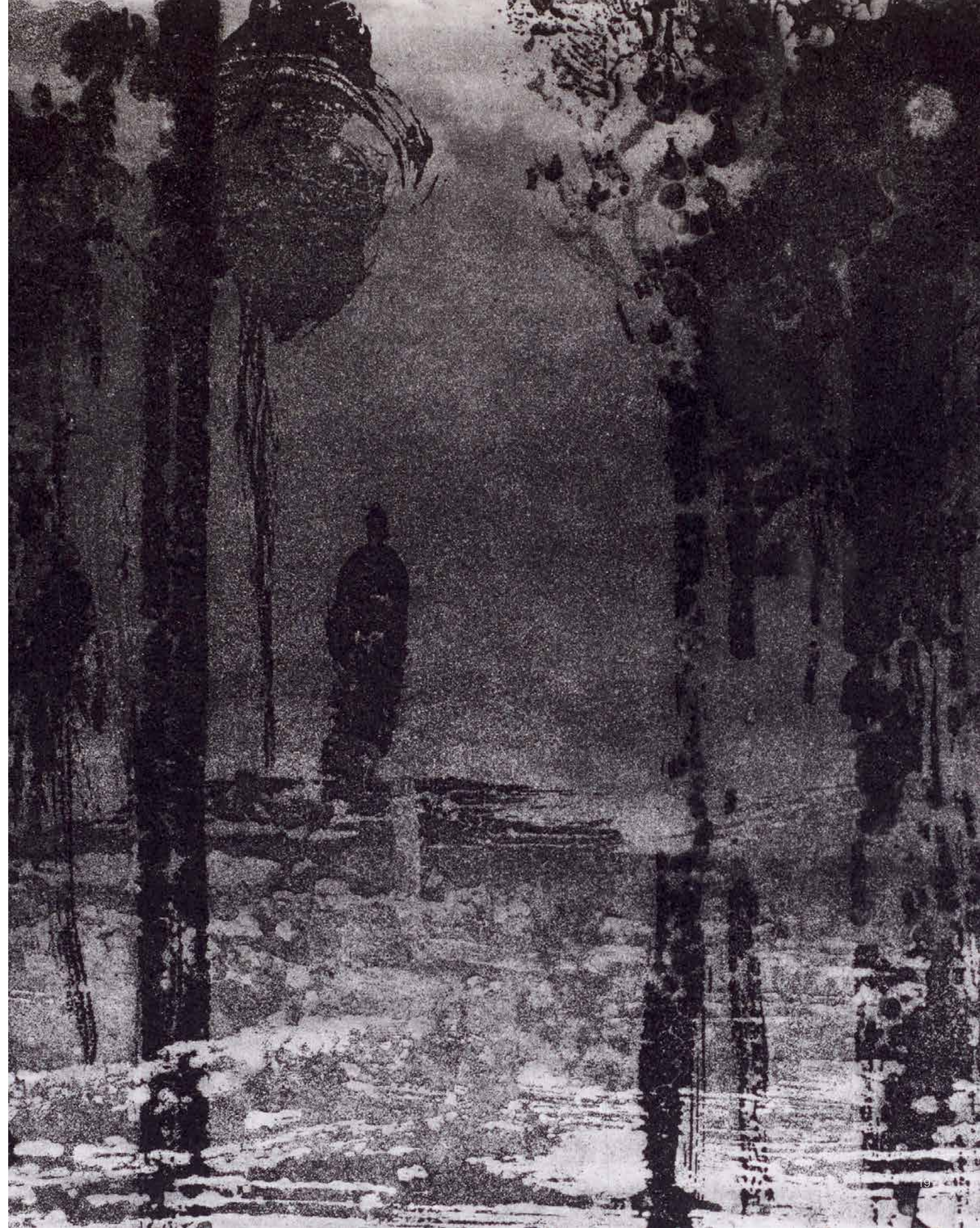
Walking Inside Out, 2019

Sugarlift/chine collé etching

Edition of 10

46 x 38cm

£985





Canto 1, 2019
 Ink on parchment
 25 x 17cm
 £1,100



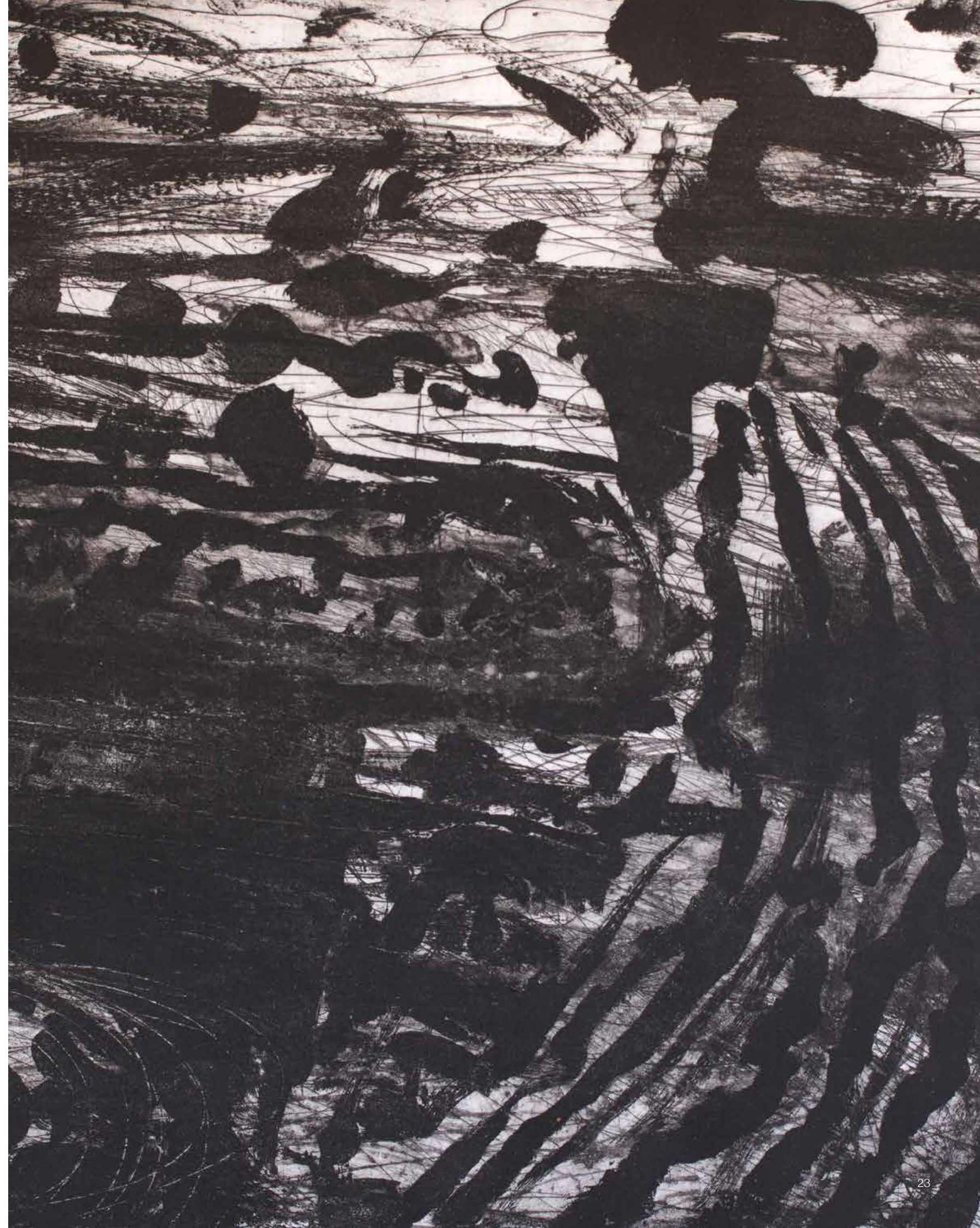


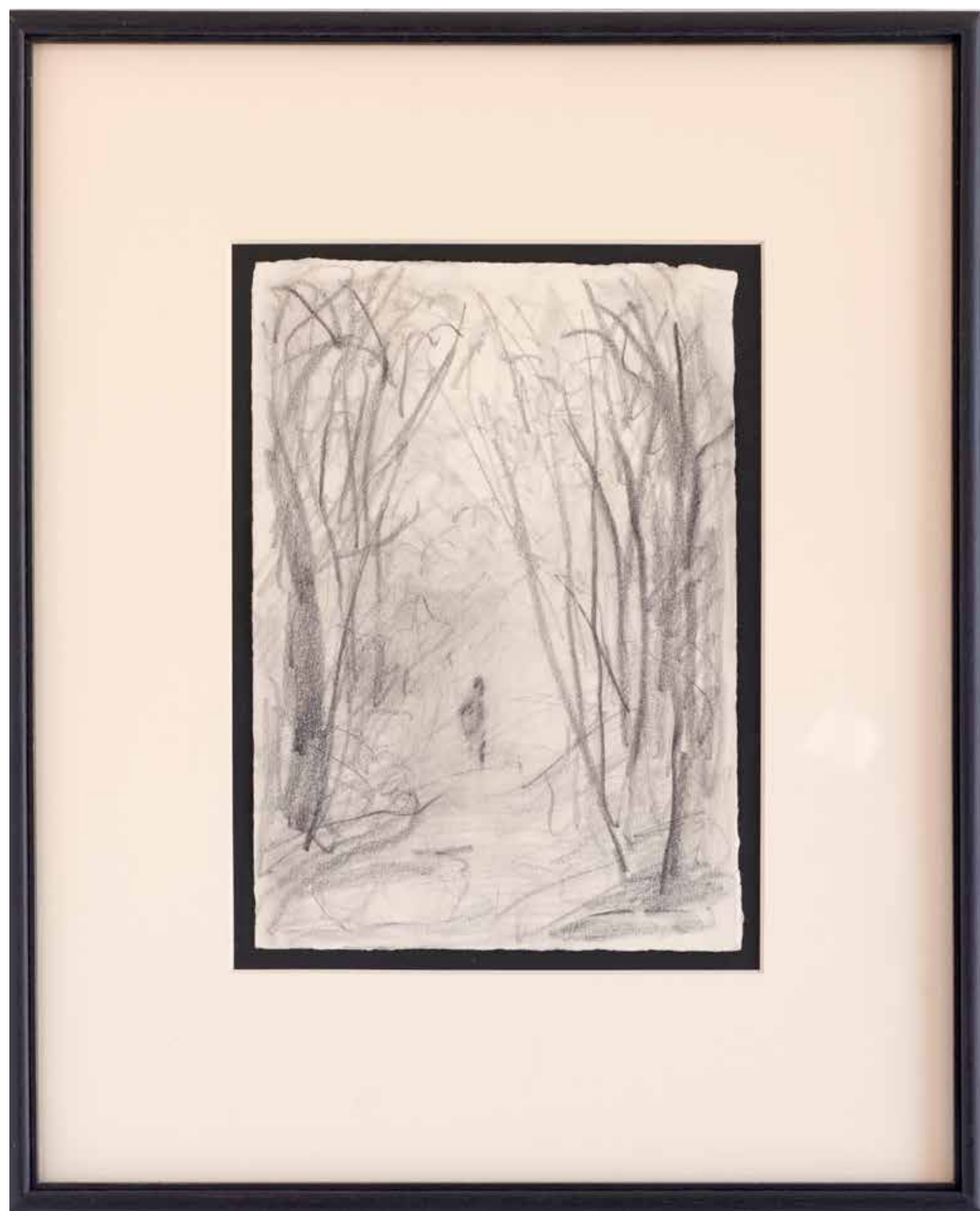
Glimpse of Inner Landscape, 2019

Hard ground/ sugar lift etching

56 x 74cm

£1,285





Pencil Sketch, 2019

Pencil on paper

21 x 15cm

£585





Pencil Sketch 2, 2019

Pencil on paper

21 x 15cm

£585



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Education

2019/2020 - Drawing Year, Royal Drawing School, London

2019 - Graduated in MA Fine Arts at “Central Saint Martins”, UAL, London

2016 - Graduated in Painting at the “Fine Arts Academy of Rome”

2010 - Graduated at the Artistic high school “G.Sello” in Graphics Arts, Udine

Projects and Exhibitions

2020 - Emerging Talents – Messums London

2019 - Woolwich Contemporary Print Fair, London

2019 - Postgraduate Art Auction 2019, Lethaby Gallery, London

Artist in Residence, Printmaking Studio Central Saint Martins, London

Freelance Artist for the project ‘N100 Campari’, London/Milan

2018 - Printmaking Category Award ‘Jackson’s Emerging Artist Prize’, London

Postgraduate Art Auction”, Lethaby Gallery. London

Collective Exhibition – ‘Air’, Ravinkar Gallery, Ljubljana, Slovenia



This is a PDF catalogue with works available for sale directly online or by contacting the gallery. All works are priced including framing and VAT.

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