

# ***A retrospective: Part II***

**Alan Gouk**

**6 Oct – 3 Nov 2018**

Tues-Fri 10.30-6; Sat 11-3

**A second solo exhibition of paintings by Alan Gouk to be held  
at Felix & Spear**

Felix & Spear, 71 St Mary's Road, Ealing, London W5 5RG

[info@felixandspear.com](mailto:info@felixandspear.com) T: 020 8566 1574

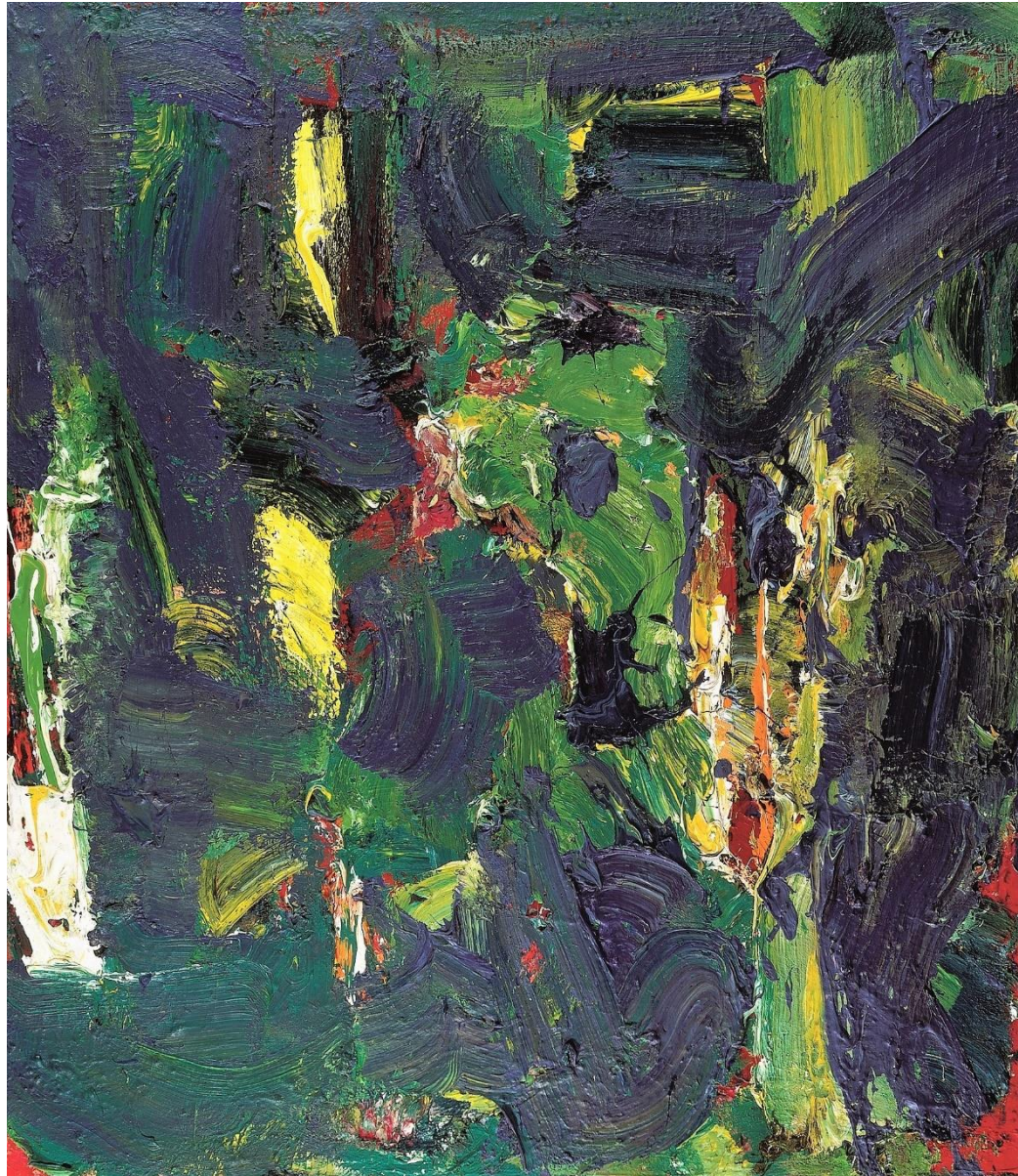
[www.felixandspear.com](http://www.felixandspear.com)

*“ Part 2 of this retrospective concentrates on the 1990s, those pictures that are small enough to fit into the gallery spaces , that is, but it begins with Sea Horse Tenacity I , from 1973-74, one of the pictures in which I first began to find my own style, based as it is on convictions of taste, and the most painterly aspects of Hans Hofmann’s art ( the ones without the “ blocks” that is ).*

*Continuity of concern and direct comparison have become my mantra, a recurring affirmation of that style, as evidenced by Gaucin Night II, 1992, almost twenty years later. It is not a wilful affirmation, but one which occurs almost in spite of oneself. There have been detours, in an attempt to assimilate aspects of Patrick Heron’s style, and under the influence of the Matisse/Picasso show at Tate Modern in 2002. But it all comes back in the end to Sea Horse, as my most recent work of the 2010s to 2020s will reveal.*

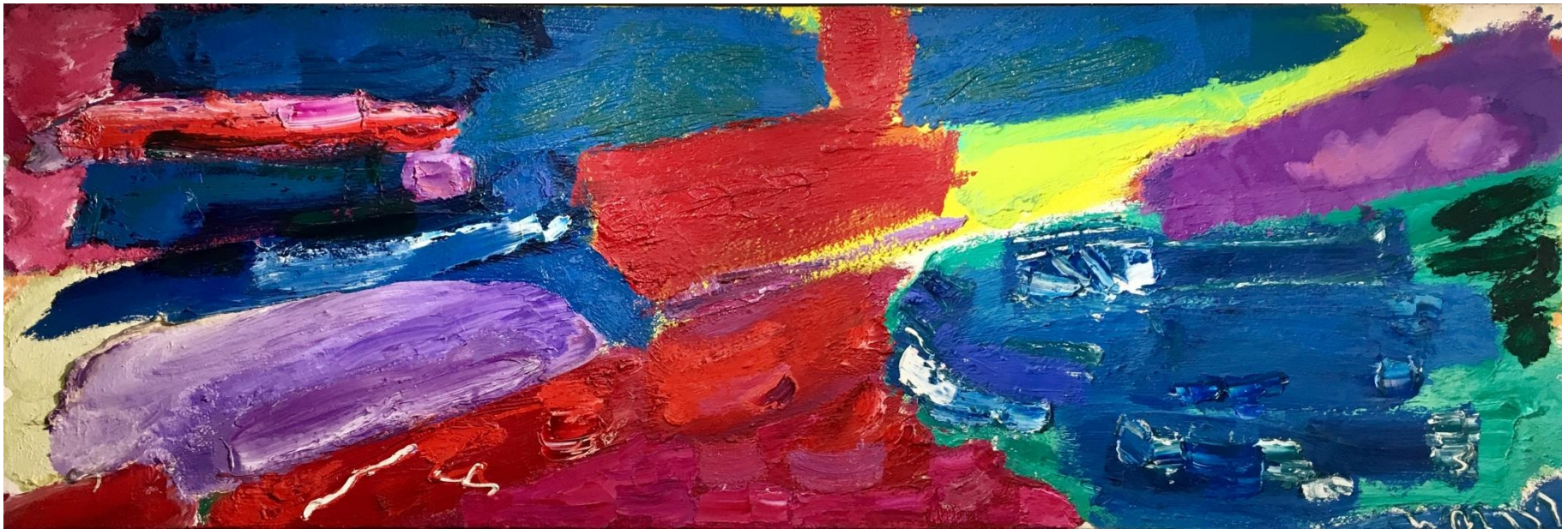
*Incidentally, Twilight of the Dog Roses, 1995-96, was featured in black and white in the gallery scene with Julia Roberts in the film Notting Hill.”*

*Alan Gouk, 2018*



Sea Horse Tenacity I, 1973-74, 172 x 142 cm, acrylic on cotton duck





The Summer Knows, 1988-89, 82.2 x 245 cm, oil on canvas



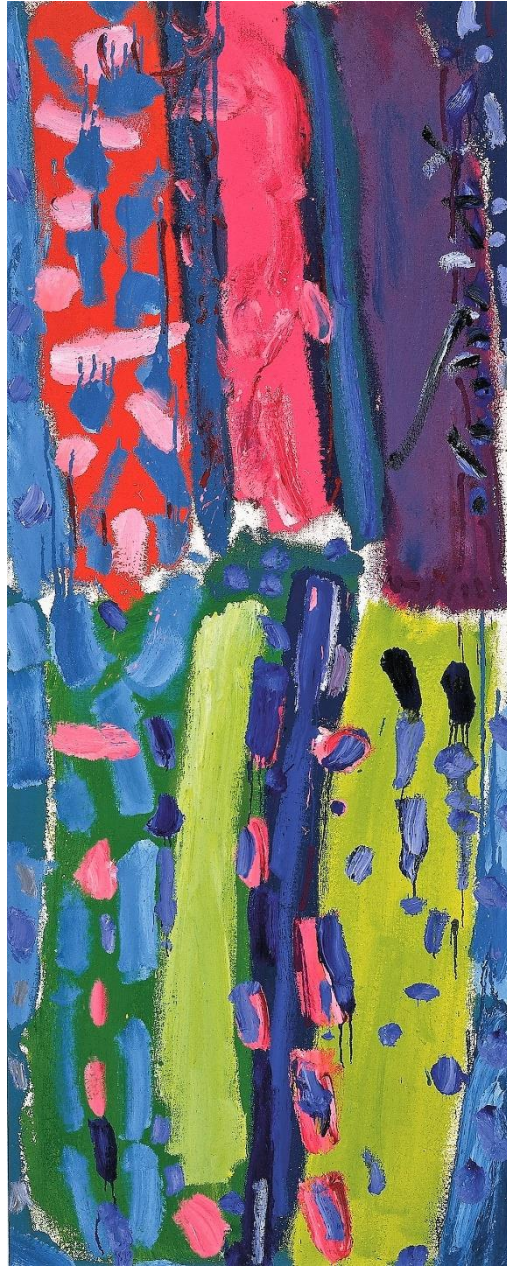


Gaucin Night II, 1992, 172 x 295 cm, oil on flax





Mad Donna of Boddin, 1992-95, 81.5 x 57 cm, oil on canvas



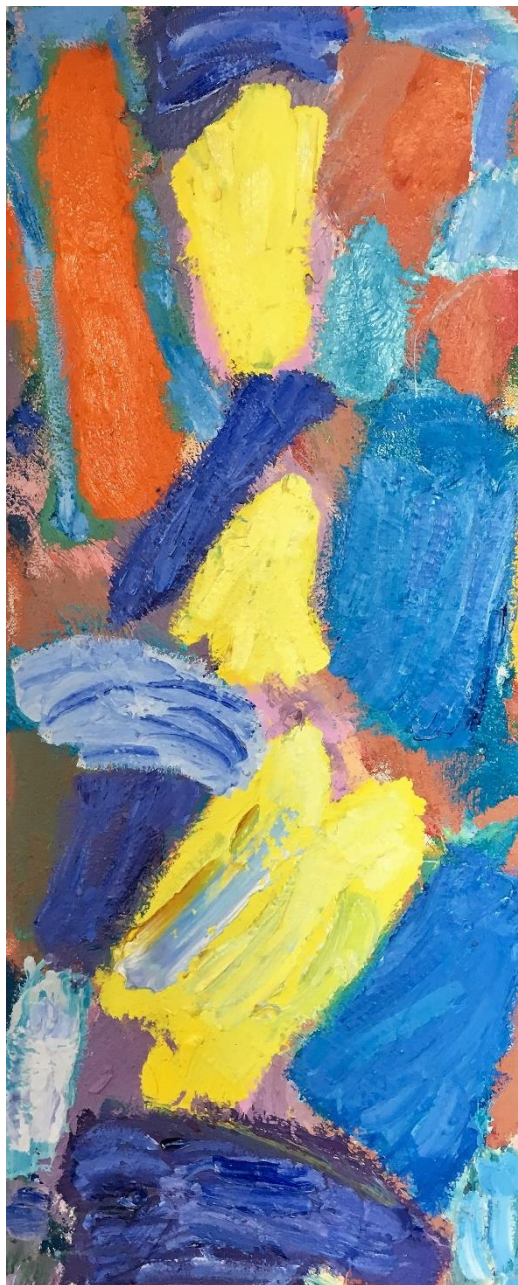
Lime Hawk Moth, 1994, 71 x 183 cm, oil on canvas





The Twilight of the Dog-Roses, 1995-96, 127 x 305 cm, oil on flax





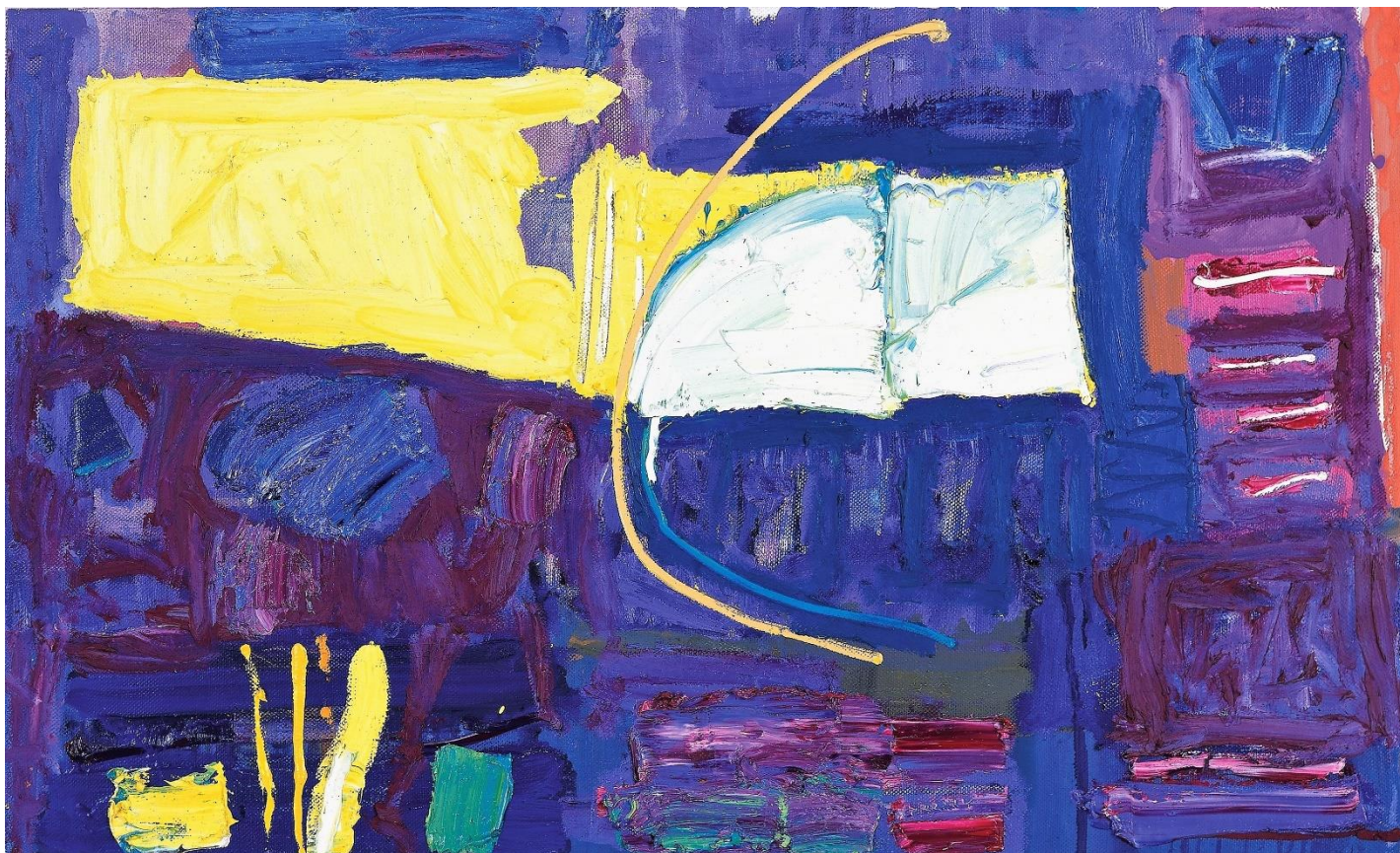
Mimosan Euphony, 1996, 122 x 51 cm, oil on canvas





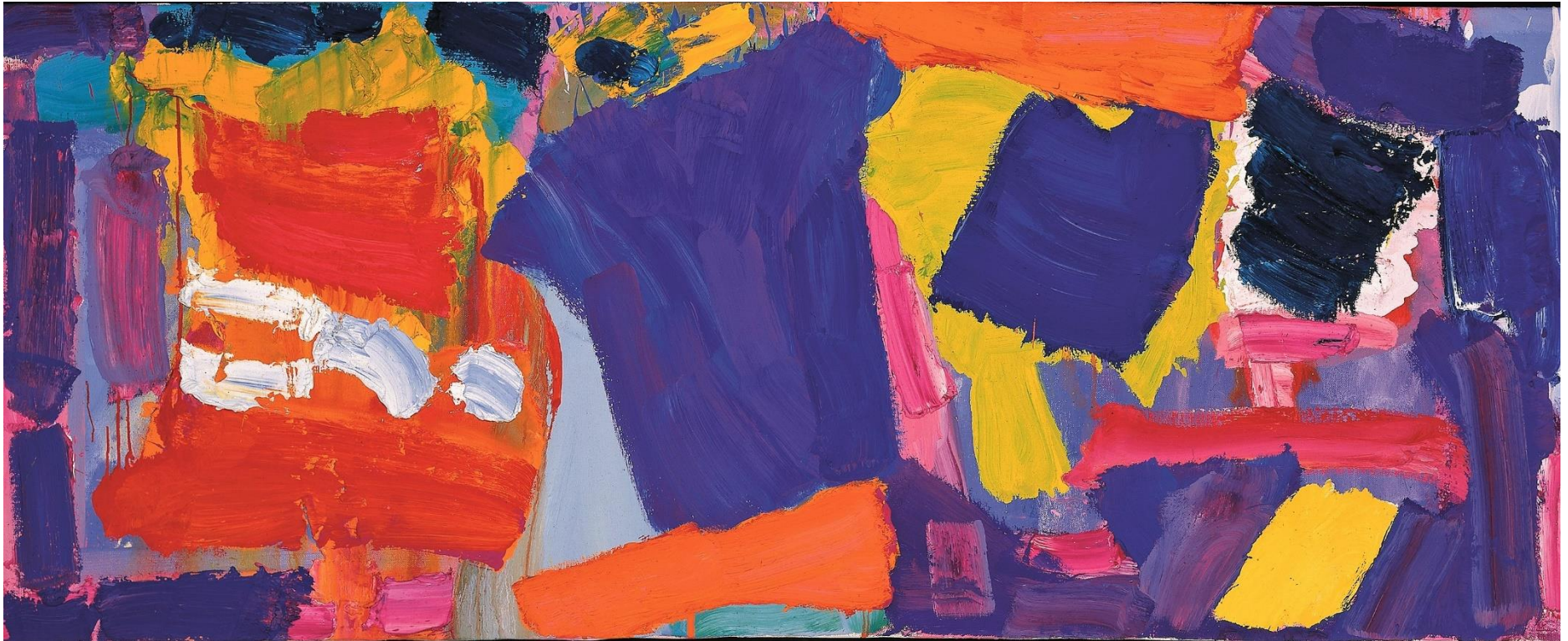
Un Limon por Civilion, 1999, 71 x 102 cm, oil on canvas





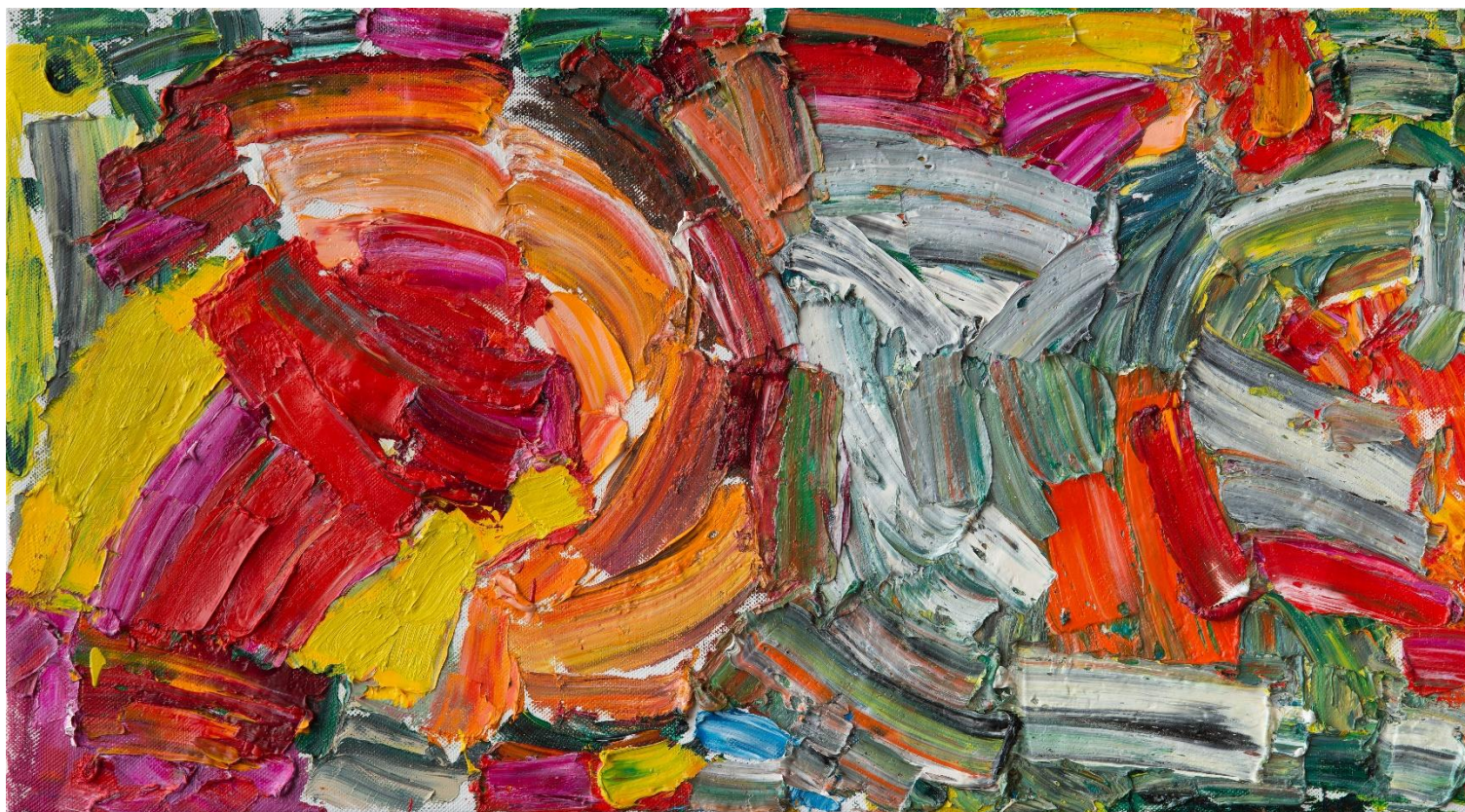
Through the Years, 1999, 61 x 102 cm, oil on canvas





Paysanne Pine Processionary, 2001, 84 x 213 cm, oil on cotton duck





Afternoon in Naples, 2017, 56 x 102 cm, oil on canvas

## **ABOUT ALAN GOUK**

Alan Gouk was born in Belfast in 1939 and studied architecture in Glasgow and London and then psychology and philosophy at Edinburgh University. From 1964 to 1967 he worked as an exhibitions officer at the British Council, helping to organise the British exhibition at the 1966 Venice Biennale, and making contact with many prominent artists of the time, notably Anthony Caro. In 1967 Gouk was a prize winner at the John Moores Liverpool exhibition, and he also began at this time a long and inspirational teaching in the Sculpture Department of St. Martin's School of Art.

In the early Seventies, Gouk's work was included in shows at the Hayward Gallery, London, and the Museum of Modern Art, Oxford, before being instrumental in establishing the painting and sculpture annual exhibitions at Stockwell Depot. He participated in "Four Abstract Painters" at the Fruitmarket Gallery, Edinburgh in 1977, and had an important show at the Woodlands Gallery, Greenwich (with Geoff Ridgen) in 1982, but had to wait until 1987 for his first solo show in London, at Smith's Gallery. Also in 1987, Patrick Heron chose Gouk for "Artist for the Day" at Angela Flowers Gallery, and Gouk subsequently had solo shows at Flowers East in 1995, 1997, and 2001. He also had solo London shows at Sandra Higgins Fine Art in 1990, and at East/West Gallery in 1994 and 2002. In 2002 Gouk was again a prize winner at the John Moores Liverpool exhibition.

Throughout his career Gouk has written extensively about art and has been published widely. His painting is in numerous collections including the Tate Gallery, London; the Arts Council; the Scottish Arts Council; and the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation.



# FELIX & SPEAR

Modern British and Contemporary Art

71 St. Mary's Road, Ealing, London W5 5RG

[www.felixandspear.com](http://www.felixandspear.com)