PRESS RELEASE

**Joanna Logue**

***Recent Paintings***

12 September – 6 October 2023

John Martin Gallery, 38 Albemarle Street, London, W1S 4JG

Monday to Friday 10 – 6pm

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About the exhibition

This September John Martin Gallery will present the first UK exhibition of the Australian painter, Joanna Logue. Growing up in New South Wales and having built a career as a painter deeply rooted in the Australian landscape, her move to the Maine coast in 2017 demanded a new approach to the landscape. For the last six years, Mount Desert Island has been her year-round home and she has immersed herself in its waterways, marshes and creeks learning a new visual vocabulary to express this new environment.

From the Exhibition Catalogue

“We all know what it feels like to be immersed in a new culture and landscape,” she says, “everything shifts, particularly perception. What I discovered and hadn’t predicted was how helpful it was to look towards other artists who have painted North America for visual tips and clues. I saw two seminal exhibitions when I first came to Maine: ‘Marsden Hartley’s Maine’ at the Met Breuer in New York and ‘John Walker - From Seal Point’ at the Centre for Maine Contemporary Art. Both exhibitions not only inspired a new way of seeing but opened my heart up to this place. And then last year I was lucky enough to be in London and saw the Milton Avery exhibition at the Royal Academy of Arts, which seemed to be the hidden key. All three painters are best known for taking inspiration from the Maine landscape and there seems to be a cohesive homogenous language running through the work. They have all adopted a reductive approach by paring down and doing away with extraneous detail, stylizing the landscape with a strong undercurrent of pattern. And curiously, this is the way I began to experience the landscape in Maine, through the eyes and guidance of these painters.”.

In painting the landscape of Mount Desert Island, Joanna Logue follows in the footsteps of some of America’s greatest painters. From Frederic Church, Thomas Cole and George Bellows, Mount Desert Island not only exemplified the majesty of the American wilderness, but more importantly turned it into a metaphor for the spirit of freedom that artists have always craved. Wilderness demands the artist takes on the role of explorer and in setting out to learn every aspect of this land, Logue’s journey has been no less demanding. Her achievement has been to bring a new, fresh voice to the artistic story of one of America’s most iconic locations.

About Joanna Logue

Joanna Logue was born in the Hunter Valley in NSW Australia. She graduated from the City Art Institute, Sydney in 1987 followed by a graduate diploma in professional art studies, majoring in painting. Since then she has exhibited extensively in major cities throughout Australia with over 22 solo exhibitions. Joanna’s paintings have been collected by major corporations, regional galleries and universities. She works from her studio in NSW, Australia and on Mount Desert Island, off the coast of Maine in the USA. Logue is represented by King Street Gallery Sydney and John Martin Gallery London

Further information, interview requests and images please visit our website or contact Tatiana Lowther – Pinkerton: tatiana@jmlondon.com / 020 7499 1314