

—Martin Finnin
Renegade Amongst the Dusty Nouns

30 October - 23 November 2013

John Martin Gallery

38 Albemarle Street | T +44 (0)20 7499 1314 | Mon-Fri 10–6, Sat 11–4
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—Martin Finnin and Caspar, Cork 2013



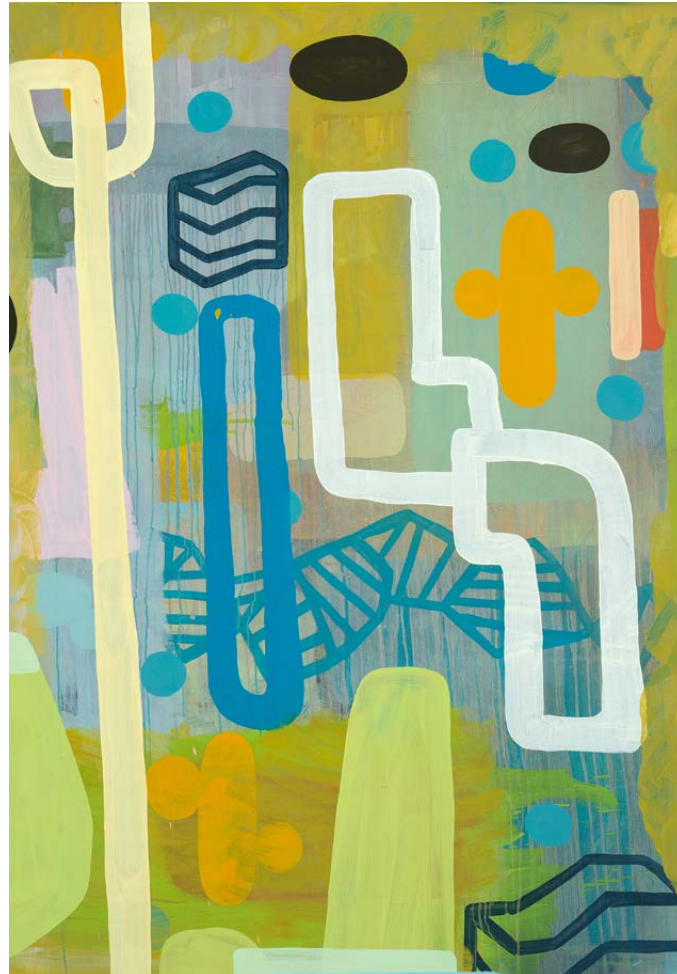
— *Renegade Amongst the Dusty Nouns*
Oil on canvas, 47 x 72 ins, 120 x 183 cm



— *A Yellow Yes at Large*
Oil on canvas, 47 x 63 ins 120 x 160 cm



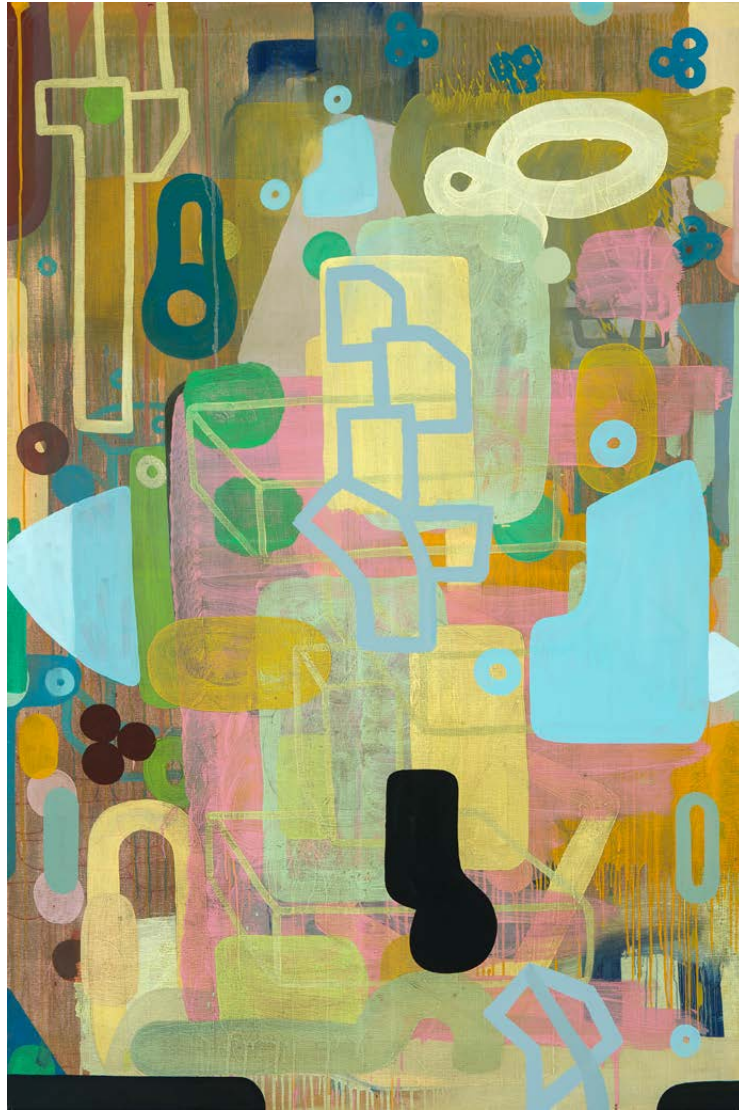
— *Unmasking an Army of Metal Memories*
Oil on canvas, 47 x 72 ins, 120 x 183 cm



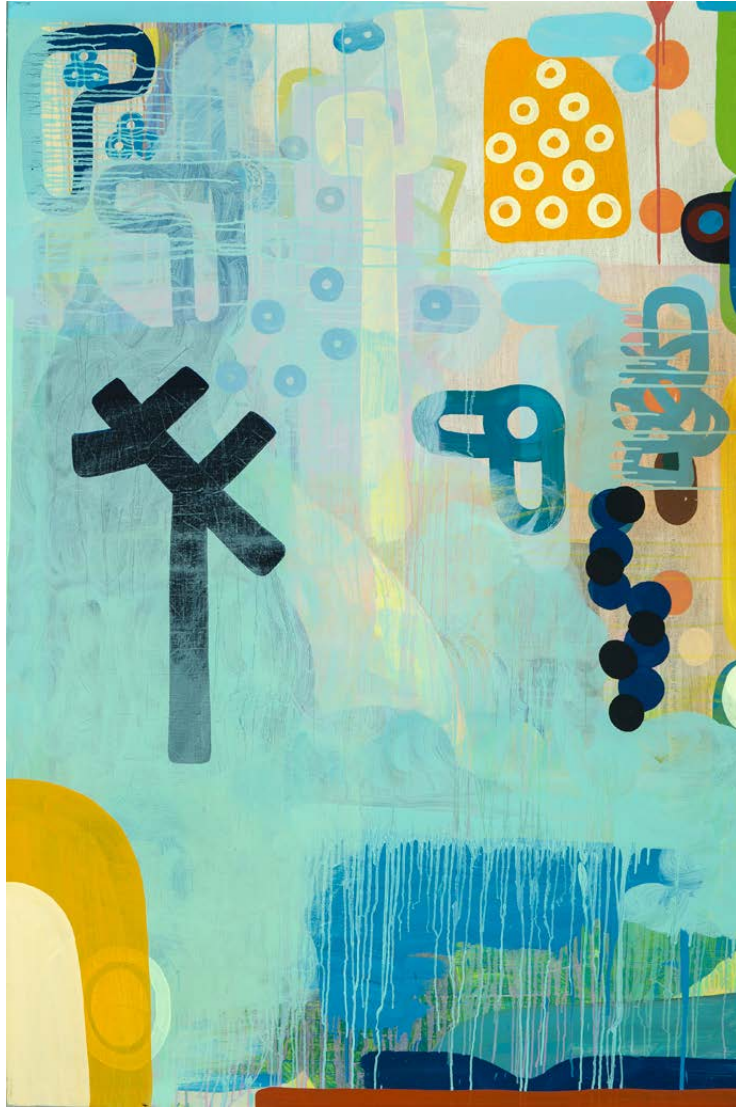
— *The Rakish Progression of Orange*
Oil on canvas, 63 x 47 ins, 160 x 120 cm



— *A Year and a Day of Bliss and Near Misses*
Oil on canvas, 47 x 72 ins, 120 x 183 cm



— *Abandon the Notion of Upward Falling*
Oil on canvas, 72 x 47 ins, 183 x 120 cms



— *Paradise Gene and the Lemon Line*
Oil on canvas, 72 x 47 ins, 183 x 120 cms



— *Untitled with Buffalo Scent*
Oil on canvas, 39 x 59 ins, 100 x 150 cm



— *A Mechanical Memory on Fertile Ground*
Oil on canvas, 48 x 72 ins, 120 x 183 cm



— *A Side Effect of Yellow*
Oil on canvas, 40 x 48 ins, 102 x 122 cm



— *The Clay of Being Blue*

Oil on canvas 40 x 48 ins, 102 x 122 cm



— *Amongst Yellowhammers*
Oil on canvas. 61 x 40 ins, 155 x 102 cm



—*A Wet Wonder Waiting*
acrylic & pigment on paper, 23 x 32 ins, 60 x 80 cm



— *The Tower of Babbling*
Oil on canvas, 39 x 20 ins, 100 x 50 cm



— *Thunder, Sparrow and the Silver of Sin*
Oil on canvas, 47 x 72 ins, 120 x 183 cm



—*Release the Rubber Stillness*
Oil on canvas, 20 x 28 ins, 50 c 69 cm



— *Sugar and the Outside World*

acrylic & pigment on paper, 24 x 32 ins , 60 x 80 cm



— *The Edge Replies*

acrylic & pigment on paper, 24 x 32 ins, 60 x 80 cm



—*Long Winded Bullet Point (India)*
acrylic & pigment on paper, 24 x 32 ins, 60 x 80 cm



— *We Tremble Like Iron Filings*
Oil on canvas, 48 x 72 ins, 120 x 183 cm



—*Hybrids In the Heat of The Moment*
Oil on canvas, 40 x 59 ins, 101 x 150 cm



— *A Natural Light of Powdered Promise*
Oil on canvas, 48 x 72 ins



— *The Night is a Guinea Pig*
Oil on canvas, 48 x 72 ins, 120 x 183 cm



— *The Tree Absconded*
Oil on canvas. 48 x 72 ins, 120 x 183 cm



Martin Finnin
— *Renegade Amongst the Dusty Nouns*

30 October – 23 November 2013

In the late summer I went to Cork with the filmmaker Cathy Sayers to make a short film about the work of Martin Finnin. He had just taken over the dusty, former studio of one of Ireland's last church sculptors. In corners and under ledges, huddled the grey, plaster casts of unpainted Saints and Madonnas who gently looked on as Finnin talked about his work, his ideas and the process of painting. His working day is as much spent thinking about a painting, leaving it alone and then returning to have another look, as it is about applying paint or mixing colours. It may take until the evening before he begins and then he may work late through the night ending up asleep in the studio. Over the last year those plaster Saints had been the only audience for his paintings as they slowly progressed, layer by layer: rubbed back, reworked and sometimes reorientated. Painting is a very private process and can't be conjured up for the camera, so he invited us back later that night - if he was painting, then we could film him at work. Happily, with music masking our return, Finnin was already underway on a canvas in its first stages before applying strong fluid strokes of light green paint onto a red ground, obliterating the careful earlier lines of preliminary drawings. This sudden blooming of colour in the cold, gothic night of the studio was joyously dramatic, breathing oxygen into the walls and statues of this incongruous place. For an artist whose finished paintings accumulate traces of every stage in a lengthy process, a film provides a deeper understanding of the artist, his ideas and the process than any number of books, catalogues and essays. The studio tells the whole story and a film conveys that experience better than anything else.

Over the next few years we will produce a complete archive of studio films for the artists we work with all of which can be seen on our website, www.jmlondon.com, Youtube or Vimeo.

John Martin

MARTIN FINNIN

- 1968 Born Limerick, Ireland.
1987-88 Limerick School of Art & Design
1989 National College of Art & Design, Dublin

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2013 *Renegade Amongst the Dusty Nouns*,
John Martin Gallery, London
2012 *Dust, Dots and a Day in the Maze*,
John Martin Gallery, London
2011 *The Forgotten Art of Floating*
Corn Exchange Gallery, Edinburgh
2010 *49 Ox Hides and a Lump of Faith*,
John Martin Gallery, London
2009 *The Moon and the Modern World*
Origin Gallery, Dublin
2008 *Turn the Lemon Page*, Cill Rialaig
Arts Centre, Ballinskelligs, Kerry
2007 *A Snippet from the Seventh Soup*,
Vanguard Gallery, Cork
2006 *The world is Blue like an Orange*,
New Urban Retreat Gallery, Dublin
Stepping out of the Stream of Time,
Printmakers Gallery, Limerick
Life Beyond the Hedge, Cill Rialaig
Art Centre, Ballinskelligs, Co Kerry
2005 *A Miracle Outside the Window*,
Form Gallery, London
The Marching Hugs,
Origin Gallery, Dublin
Meanwhile...in a Foreign Land,
Vanguard Gallery, Cork
2003 *The Origins of Optimism*,
Printmakers Gallery, Limerick
Songs of a Recluse, Vanguard Gallery, Cork
In Fall, Ashford Gallery, Dublin;
Printmakers Gallery, Limerick
2002 Vermont Studio Gallery, Vermont
2001 *A Subtle Consolation of Existence*,
Vanguard Gallery, Cork
1997 *Forest of Banquets*, Tig Filí Gallery, Cork

SOLO EXHIBITIONS cont.

- 1996 Triskel Art Centre, Cork
1993 Lost Boys Coffee Shop, Harlem, Holland
1988 La Galleria Lucierna, San Miguel
de Allende, Mexico

COLLECTIONS

Crawford Art Gallery, Cork; Cork Opera House; Department
of Foreign Affairs; The Shelbourne Hotel, Dublin; Office of
Public Works; AIB Bank; Spazio Tiempo Gallery, Florence;
University College Cork; Vermont Studio Centre, USA

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2009 Jack Donovan & Martin Finnin,
Printmakers Gallery, Limerick
2008 *Artists' Choice*
John Martin Gallery, London
2005 Cill Rialaig Arts Centre,
Ballinskelligs, Co Kerry
Tribute to Beckett, Vanguard Gallery, Cork
2002 *Myth and Magic*, Lavit Gallery, Cork
2001 RHA Annual Exhibition,
Íontas 2001, Sligo Art Gallery;
Ormeau Baths Gallery, Belfast
Crawford Art Gallery, Cork

AWARDS AND RESIDENCIES

- 2012 Culture Ireland Award
2009 Dedaldo Art Competition, Tuscany
2008 Cill Rialaig Art Centre
Ballinskelligs, Co. Kerry
2002 Dedaldo Art Competition, Tuscany
Cill Rialaig Art Centre
Ballinskelligs, Co Kerry
2001 Vermont Studio Center, USA
(Painting Scholarship)
Department of Foreign Affairs
(Cultural Relations Committee Award)
Vermont Studio Center, USA
(Fellowship Award)