

Georgina Gratrix Sunday Painting

6 NOVEMBER–14 DECEMBER 2025

DIRIMART PERA



Bon Bon Bouquet, 2025
Oil on canvas
80 x 60 cm

Dirimart is delighted to present *Sunday Painting*, Georgina Gratrix's first solo exhibition with the gallery. The exhibition takes its title from the artist's most productive days in her studio, which happen to be Sundays. In the calm and quiet of her workspace, away from noise and bustle, still lifes, object studies, depictions of the birds in her garden and glimpses of her life with six dogs become the focus of the exhibition. The title also carries a lightly ironic undertone, alluding to the popular English term 'Sunday painting', which refers to painting undertaken as a pastime.

Born in Mexico and based in South Africa, Gratrix brings an ironic and critical eye to everyday life. Still lifes and portraits occupy a central place in her practice, often depicting friends, family and occasionally well-known figures. Her vivid palette, layered impasto technique and playful, dynamic approach to both ordinary and attention-catching subjects distinguish her work through striking and intense colour. Through her sculptural layers of paint, Gratrix explores the possibilities of the medium while questioning classical ideals of beauty and the conventions of art history. Drawn to the flamboyant, the obvious and the mundane, she investigates the boundary between desire and the grotesque through a distinctive visual language.

The term 'Sunday painting' – or 'Sunday painter' – has a particular meaning in the art world, traditionally referring to someone who paints as a hobby rather than professionally: an amateur whose primary occupation lies elsewhere but who paints in their spare time, often on Sundays. The expression can sometimes carry a slightly dismissive tone, implying amateurishness or lack of seriousness. For Gratrix, however, it takes on a positive connotation associated with freedom, sincerity and a naïve approach to art – evoking work created for pleasure, without concern for academic rules or conventions.

In the exhibition, the addition of materials such as brightly coloured beads, glitter or jewellery introduces a new sense of form and perspective. Colourful floral arrangements and birds, inspired by her upbringing in Durban on South Africa's eastern coast, frequently appear throughout her practice. Kitsch and theatrical compositions establish her exotic world within the gallery space, revealing new layers of colour and material with every viewing.

Many of Gratrix's paintings focus on interior studio scenes and objects, mediating her relationship with people, things and the painting itself. Birds, dogs, cats, flowers and vases disrupt the disciplined structure of academic painting through the wild and liberating energy of her brushwork. For the artist, beauty and truth are not objectives; balance and harmony emerge naturally within her compositions. Works that move between figuration and abstraction explore the space between the real and the imagined, liberated from the constraints of form and perspective.



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Sunday Painting, a series that navigates between types of still life, creates a playful and immersive atmosphere. On canvases that accumulate like sculptures, Gratrix presents paintings that both reference and critically interrogate artistic tradition. The exhibition can be visited at Dirimart Pera from 6 November to 14 December 2025.

Georgina Gratrix (b. 1982, Mexico City) graduated from the Michaelis School of Fine Art at the University of Cape Town in 2005. In 2018, she was awarded the Discovery Prize in honour of Art Brussels' 50th anniversary. Her solo exhibitions include *Love like a sunset, a summer playlist*, Stevenson, Cape Town (2025); *Notes from the Studio*, Monica De Cardenas Gallery, Milan (2025); *The Cult of Ugliness*, Irma Stern Museum, Cape Town (2022); *This Must Be The Place*, Kwa-Zulu Natal Society of Arts (KZNSA), Durban (2021); *The Pleasure is Mine*, Nicodim Gallery, Los Angeles (2020); *On Repeat*, SMAC Gallery, Johannesburg (2017) and *Puppy Love*, SMAC Gallery, Cape Town (2016). Her group exhibitions include *Some Dogs Go to Dallas*, The Green Family Art Foundation, Texas (2024); *You to Me, Me to You*, A4 Arts Foundation, Cape Town (2023); *Recent Acquisitions by the Homestead Collection*, Norval Foundation, Cape Town (2020); *Hollywood Babylon: A Re-inauguration of the Pleasure Dome*, Jeffrey Deitch, Nicodim Gallery, Los Angeles (2020); *Everybody Loves the Sunshine*, Plus One Gallery, Antwerp (2018) and *Thinking, Feeling, Head, Heart*, New Church Museum, Cape Town (2016). Her works are held in prominent collections, such as the Beth Rudin DeWoody Collection, Miami; Iziko South African National Gallery, Cape Town; Nando's Arts Collection, and the Norval Foundation, Cape Town. Georgina Gratrix lives and works in Cape Town.

For more information, please contact the gallery at press@dirimart.com or +90 212 232 66 66. All images are protected by copyright law and may not be used without the gallery's approval.



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Georgina Gratrix

Oyalantı Resimleri *Sunday Painting*

6.11–14.12.2025

- 1 *The Stuckest*, 2025
Tuval üzerine yağlıboya
Oil on canvas
30 x 23 cm
- 2 *The Jane Austen of Flower Paintings*, 2025
Tuval üzerine yağlıboya
Oil on canvas
120 x 100 cm
- 3 *Cocteau Twins*, 2025
Tuval üzerine yağlıboya
Oil on canvas
23 x 30 cm
- 4 *The Birth of the Venus Flytrap*, 2025
Tuval üzerine yağlıboya
Oil on canvas
80 x 60 cm
- 5 *Hilton Nel Vase with Parrots and Prawns*, 2025
Tuval üzerine yağlıboya
Oil on canvas
160 x 120 cm
- 6 *The Parrot that Forgets to Call Back*, 2025
Tuval üzerine yağlıboya
Oil on canvas
30 x 23 cm
- 7 *Paint Brush Pot with Yellow Lillies*, 2025
Tuval üzerine yağlıboya
Oil on canvas
60 x 50 cm
- 8 *A Bird That Has Been to Argentina*, 2025
Tuval üzerine yağlıboya
Oil on canvas
30 x 23 cm

- 9 *The Birthday Present (Hodgins Vase on Green Table)*, 2025
Tuval üzerine yağlıboya
Oil on canvas
80 x 60 cm
- 10 *Spring Muse*, 2025
Tuval üzerine yağlıboya
Oil on canvas
160 x 120 cm
- 11 *The Anatomy of a Collection (Birds)*, 2025
Tuval üzerine yağlıboya
Oil on canvas
50 x 60 cm
- 12 *A Dedicated Follower of Fashion*, 2025
Tuval üzerine yağlıboya
Oil on canvas
30 x 23 cm
- 13 *A Poodle and a Parrot Walk into an Arrangement*, 2025
Tuval üzerine yağlıboya
Oil on canvas
60 x 50 cm
- 14 *Bird Resting After Reading Too Much News*, 2025
Tuval üzerine yağlıboya
Oil on canvas
30 x 23 cm
- 15 *Four Vessels in the Studio*, 2025
Tuval üzerine yağlıboya
Oil on canvas
60 x 80 cm

- 16 *Asiatic Lilies in Ardmore Vase*, 2025
Tuval üzerine yağlıboya
Oil on canvas
50 x 40 cm
- 17 *Heaven or Las Vegas (A Gathering)*, 2025
Tuval üzerine yağlıboya
Oil on canvas
170 x 140 cm
- 18 *Sunday Studio (Sleeping Dogs)*, 2025
Tuval üzerine yağlıboya
Oil on canvas
80 x 60 cm
- 19 *Bon Bon Bouquet*, 2025
Tuval üzerine yağlıboya
Oil on canvas
80 x 60 cm
- 20 *The Enthusiast*, 2025
Tuval üzerine yağlıboya
Oil on canvas
30 x 23 cm

