

ARABELLA CACCIA

Namaqualand



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Namaqualand

25 April – 22 May 2025

PAINTINGS
ON BOARD

Pages 6–11



WORKS
ON PAPER

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EMBROIDERY
AND APPLIQUÉ

Pages 16–29





Namaqualand

Everard Read London presents an exhibition of new work by Cape Town-based artist, Arabella Caccia.

Caccia draws inspiration from the natural light that generously blesses the southern tip of the African continent where she lives, and the wild places to which she travels to find solitude and silence. The feeling of calm and quiet in her work embodies the environment she attempts to create around her, to find inspiration and feed her creative instincts.

This new collection of work is a personal reflection of the places Caccia explored during 2024. Through her work, she seeks to awaken a playful curiosity and a profound appreciation for the natural world. These places were not just destinations – they became integral to her creative process, subtly yet enduringly shaping her work.

Caccia's work is fundamentally rooted in the importance of process. Using an 'alphabet' of glyphs derived from her study of nature, she employs two- and three-dimensional mark-making to express a state of being. This journey is brought to life through a variety of mediums, including oil, embroidery, and mixed media.

Namaqualand is an extension of this exploration – a tribute to the ephemeral beauty of one of the most

extraordinary landscapes on Earth. Inspired by the seasonal transformation of the Namaqualand desert, where barren terrain bursts into a spectacle of wildflowers, this collection captures the interplay of resilience and fragility in nature. The shifting hues, fleeting blooms, the play of light and dark on natural forms and the vast, open spaces mirror the ever-evolving relationship between place and perception.

'My hope is that my art and the journey that shaped it inspires others to cultivate a playful curiosity about nature', says Caccia. 'I believe that focused, meditative creation leads to work of honesty and integrity. Through my work, I aim to invite others to experience the beauty and magic of nature with the same appreciation I've been fortunate to encounter. It is my hope that my creations serve as a bridge, connecting people to the beauty and magic of the natural world.'

By immersing herself in wild places, undisturbed by human activity, Caccia seeks to deepen her exploration of the natural world, its flora, rock and land formations, and so refine and challenge the language and the expression of her work.

This is Arabella Caccia's first solo exhibition with Everard Read London.





Casim 2024



Keurboom Woodland
oil on board
20 x 50 cm



Blue Scepters II
oil on board
20 x 50 cm



Renosterveld
oil on board
25 x 60 cm







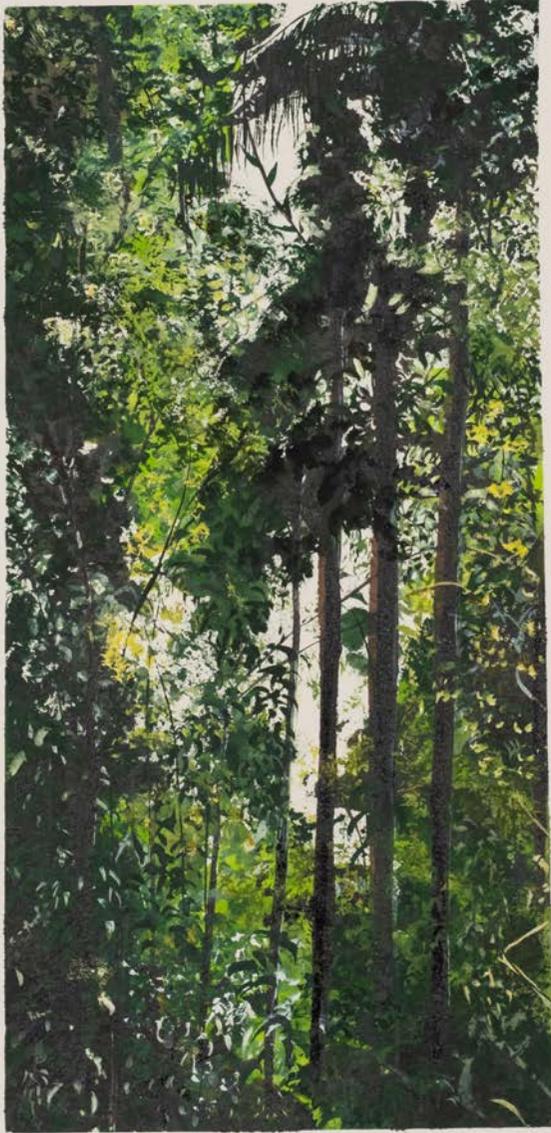
Namaqualand Flowers
oil on board
25 x 60 cm



Namaqualand
oil on board
60 x 180 cm



Window to the Wood I
mixed media on paper
54 x 76 cm



Cacera 2024



Cacera 2024

Spice Garden I
mixed media on paper
54 x 38 cm

Spice Garden II
mixed media on paper
54 x 38 cm



Window to the Forest I
mixed media on paper
54 x 76 cm



Window at Dawn I
mixed media on paper
54 x 76 cm



Veld Flowers
embroidery and appliqué on hand-painted silk
108 x 103 cm







Spring Flowers
embroidery and appliqué on hand-painted silk
98 x 106 cm



Tree Canopy
embroidery and appliqué
on hand-painted silk
35 x 35 cm



Scorched Earth
embroidery and appliqué
on hand-painted silk
35 x 35 cm



Blue Scepters

embroidery and appliqué on hand-painted silk
90 x 130 cm





Woodland
embroidery and appliqué on hand-painted silk
40 x 40 cm



Trees
embroidery and appliqué on hand-painted silk
40 x 40 cm



Window to the Forest II
embroidery and appliqué on hand-painted silk
54 cm diameter
62.5 x 62.5 x 5.5 cm framed

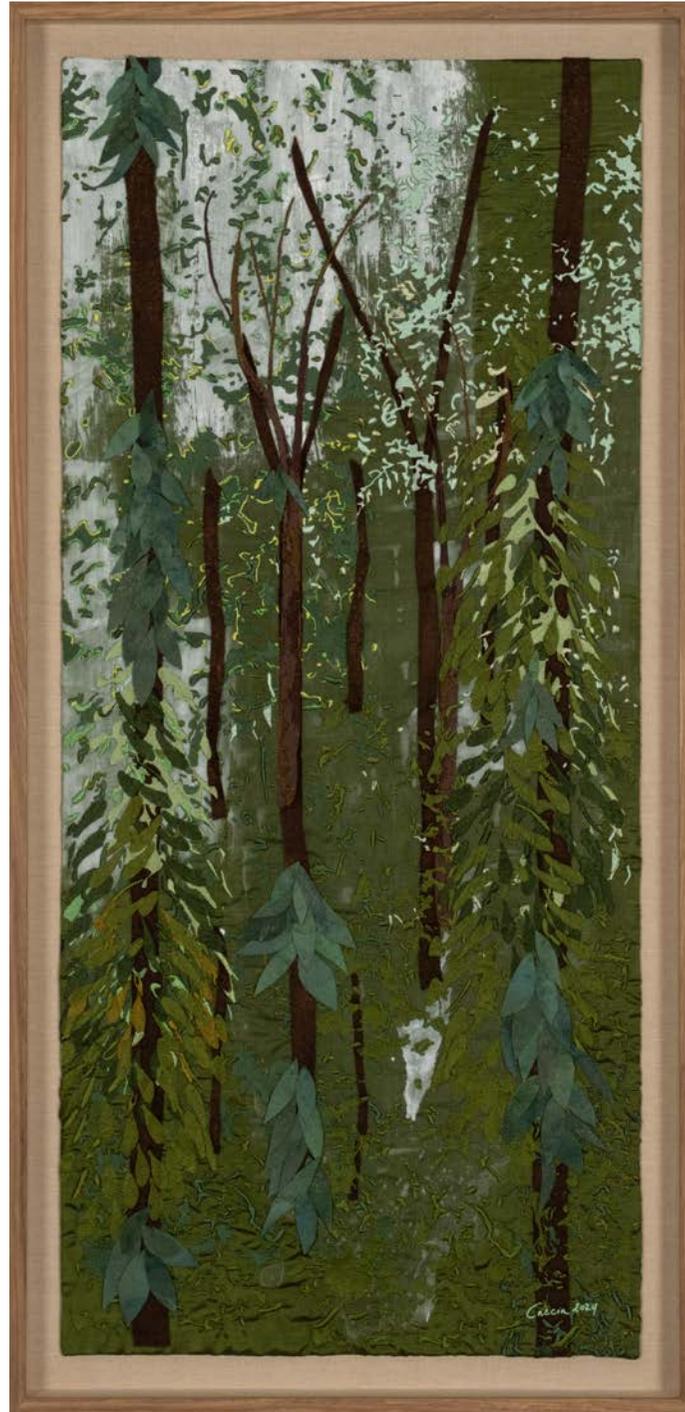


Window at Dawn II
embroidery and appliqué on hand-painted silk
54 cm diameter
62.5 x 62.5 x 5.5 cm framed





Window to the Wood II
embroidery and appliqué on
hand-painted silk
54 cm diameter
62.5 x 62.5 x 5.5 cm framed



Spice I, Sri Lanka
embroidery and appliqué
on hand-painted silk
99 x 44 cm

Spice II, Sri Lanka
embroidery and appliqué
on hand-painted silk
99 x 44 cm



ARABELLA CACCIA

b. 1965 London, U.K.

Although born in London, Caccia grew up in Tuscany before moving to Johannesburg, where she spent her teenage years. She studied at Edinburgh University after which she lived and studied in Florence, London and New York. She returned to South Africa in 1990 where she lives and works in Cape Town.

Caccia draws inspiration from the people, places and objects around her; from the light where she lives and the wilderness where she goes to find peace and silence. The feeling of quiet and perhaps stillness in the work reflects the ambience she creates around her, in order to find inspiration and access her creativity.

'I firmly believe that the energy and focus put into making a work, a deep meditative concentration, produces work of honesty and integrity, with a powerful energy. It is the process which is of utmost importance' says the artist.

Caccia's recent work is inspired by an exploration of patterns found in the play of light and dark on natural forms. Her paintings and sculptures use an abstract language of semi-symbolic glyphs discovered in these patterns. The primary principal underpinning her work is the belief in the importance of process. Caccia's paintings and sculptures use

an alphabet of symbols derived from an investigation into forms found in nature. She uses a combination of both 2 and 3- dimensional mark making to express a state of being.

Caccia's work has most recently found expression through the study of trees, first the Baobab tree studied in Botswana followed by work in the ancient Milkwood forests of the Western Cape and then the Tsitsikamma forest biome. Her exploration has included detailed drawings of plants and trees followed by a thorough investigation into the patterns created by the bark formations of various indigenous trees. Drawing, taking moulds and printing has lead to uncovering of an alphabet of glyphs which are found in all forms and which when further abstracted form a script like visual language. Caccia uses these universal forms to recreate two and three dimensional works that by their intrinsic universality aim to create experiences that echo those of nature herself.

By steeping herself in un-spoiled expanses of the planet Caccia seeks to deepen her exploration into the plant kingdom, rock and land formations, and so refine and challenge the language and the expression of her work.

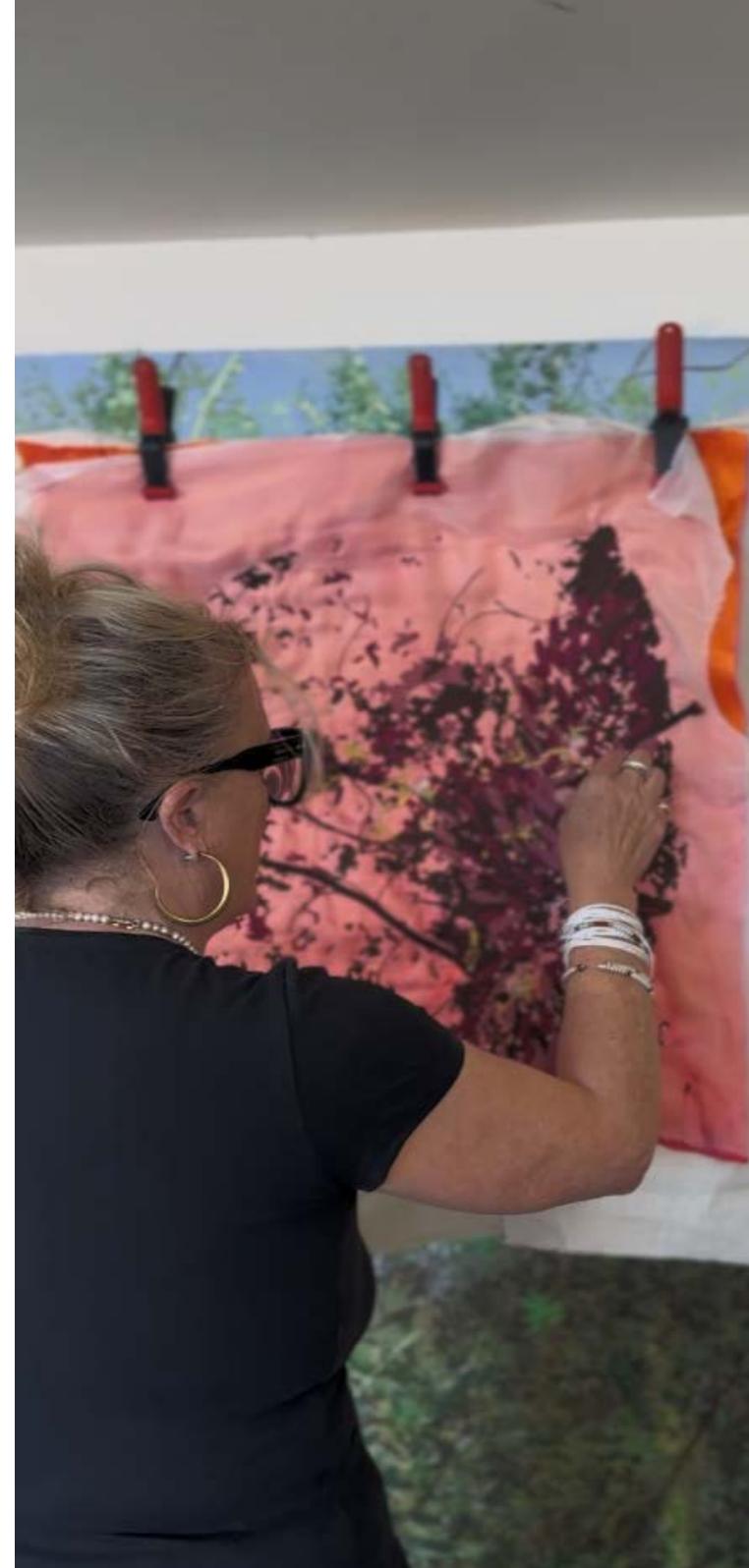


EDUCATION

- 1983** University of Witwatersrand
1984–8 Edinburgh University
1988–9 Parsons School of Design, New York, USA

SELECTED EXHIBITIONS

- 2024** *Summer Light*, group exhibition, Everard Read, London, UK
Winter Collection, group exhibition, Everard Read, Franschhoek, South Africa
To Lake Tanganyika and Back, solo exhibition, Everard Read, Franschhoek, South Africa
- 2023** *What I Feel When I Think About The Cosmos*, group exhibition, Everard Read, Franschhoek, South Africa
- 2021** *CONSTELLATION*, solo exhibition, Everard Read, Franschhoek, South Africa
SUMMER, group exhibition, Everard Read, London, UK
- 2020** *Bronze, Steel, Stone & Bone*, group exhibition, Everard Read, London, UK
On Being, Womxn's Show, group exhibition, Everard Read Franschhoek, South Africa
STILL, online group exhibition, Everard Read, South Africa
- 2019** *Southern Aspect*, group exhibition, Everard Read, London, UK
Into Nature, solo exhibition, Knysna Fine Art, South Africa
- 2018** *Without Words*, solo exhibition, Everard Read, Franschhoek, South Africa
Summer Exhibition, group exhibition, Everard Read, London, UK
Cubicle series, group exhibition, Everard Read/ Circa, Cape Town, South Africa
- 2017** *20th Anniversary*, group exhibition, Knysna Fine Art, South Africa
Cubicle series, group exhibition, Everard Read/ Circa, Cape Town, South Africa
- 2015** The Gallery at Grande Provence, Franschhoek, South Africa
- 2012** InToto Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa
 Roedean School, Johannesburg, South Africa
- 2011** *Caccia and Abraham*, solo exhibition, The White House, Plettenberg Bay, South Africa
Group show, Everard Read, Cape Town, South Africa
- 2010** *Group show*, Everard Read, Cape Town, South Africa
- 2006** *Group show*, Everard Read, Cape Town, South Africa
- 2003** Judith Wall and Sara Pearce Fine Art, New York
- 2002** Spark Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa
- 2000** Sara Pearce Fine Art, London, UK
- 1999** Sara Pearce Fine Art, London, UK
- 1998** Hamilton Russell Vineyards, Hermanus, South Africa
- 1995** Karen McKerron Fine Art Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa
- 1994** Karen McKerron Fine Art Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa
- 1993** Chelsea Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa
- 1991** Mall Galleries, London, UK



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Friday 10 am – 5 pm | Saturdays 12 pm – 4 pm

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PHOTOGRAPHY
Arabella Caccia & Matt Slater