

# Josie Jenkins

# Assembled Worlds

Sat 5 Dec 2020 – Sun 10 Jan 2021

For her solo exhibition at Bluecoat, Josie Jenkins presents a selection of paintings made from 2012 onwards.

Jenkins uses layering to combine different places in the imagined worlds of her paintings. *Geograph Collage with Paper Clips*, places impossibly large paper clips into a grassy landscape. Beneath the soil we also see a man-made checkered floor that stretches out into the horizon. The improbable scale of objects and materials that Jenkins has landed into the landscape creates a dream like world, manipulated and assembled by the artist.

Pattern often features in Jenkins's work. Tiled floors, for example, spread a grid across her canvases and bring a sense of order to her invented scenes. Two of her paintings, *Willow Pattern Stories – Rewrite History* and *Willow Pattern Stories – Finest of Treasures*, both make playful use of pattern. In both of these works the interior walls have been left as unpainted, blank canvas; leaving a single patterned wall to do the job of creating the illusion of three-dimensional space.

Her most recent work, *After Turner with Lego*, mixes together an unlikely pairing of a children's Lego house with a grand and foreboding landscape. For this painting, Jenkins has borrowed from the 19th century romantic painter J.M.W. Turner. In similar fashion, *After Thomas Cole with Building Blocks*, combines an epic backdrop with humble toy blocks. Taking liberties with scale, the artist elevates the mundane and everyday into grand architecture. *Assembled Worlds* shows how artists can reimagine and reorder the world around them, distorting scale and context to create new perspectives.

## About the artist

Josie Jenkins was born in East Riding of Yorkshire and worked as an artist in Hull and Nottinghamshire, before settling in Liverpool. She was the 2013 recipient of the New Lights Art Prize and has undertaken residencies in the UK and China.

Alongside her work as an artist, she organises exhibitions, talks and events for artists. She is currently working with fellow artist Brendan Lyons on *Refractive Pool*, a project exploring contemporary painting in Liverpool through studio visits, exhibitions, talks, a blog and a forthcoming book.

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