

COVE PARK

Louise Hopkins

Double Flower

30 June to 15 September 2023

Double Flower is a new body of work by the artist Louise Hopkins. Commissioned by Cove Park, the prints, paintings, and performance were developed through a series of site visits and research residencies which allowed Louise to work in Cove Park's studios and directly in the landscape overlooking Loch Long.

Double Flower is presented within the Jacobs Building and in communal spaces used by residents and visitors for meetings, gatherings, and study. Facing south, with views of Loch Long down towards the Firth of Clyde and the Isles of Arran and Bute, the Monument Trust Room is also a space for those working with dance and music. The relationships between drawing and painting, dance and music – the rhythms of mark making, the reverberations of repeated pattern, and the vibrations of colour – have been central to Louise's practice for some time. The works *Double Flower Performance* and *Double Flower Performance Outtake* stem from this concern, capturing an act of performance as the artist walks across the site bearing the print *Double Flower*, and highlighting Louise's ongoing exploration of how painting can exist in relation to landscape and architecture: how painting can simultaneously heighten and disrupt our experience and understanding of our environment. Here, from the elevated vantage point of Peaton Hill on the western edge of the Rosneath Peninsula, this exploration is intensified by the movement of clouds, of light and shadow, of birds, and of the ebbing and flowing of the tide.

Installed at the time of the summer equinox, *Double Flower* will end as the season changes in September. During this time the Monument Trust Room will continue to function as a space for individual and collaborative work, hosting artists, writers, researchers, and makers for quiet study or collective discussion during residencies lasting up to three months. *Double Flower* can therefore be encountered at different times of the day and night, sat with quietly or lived with as collaborative projects unfold; revisited, and remembered as time passes and visitors come and go. Thinking of residencies taking place after *Double Flower*, Louise has asked that the maple and birch table of *Table Painting*, with its vitrine-like cover, can remain at Cove Park for other residents and visitors to use, offering a new experimental space in which paintings, sculptures, objects, texts and books can be considered, presented, and shared.

The artist, writer and former resident Sarah Tripp has written a new text in response to *Double Flower*. Thinking specifically of *Double Flower Performance* - the limited-edition postcard offered to residents and visitors as part of this project – Sarah described this work as ‘... small texts I imagined writing on a postcard, in a short letter.’ Just as the prints, paintings and performance in *Double Flower* resonate with dance and music, so the postcard and *World Map (clay)* evoke connections and journeys between places, regions, and continents, and the physical and emotional experience this involves. As a residency Cove Park welcomes individuals and groups from across Scotland and from all seven continents. The Jacobs Building is therefore not only a workplace but also a temporary home, a place where travel is paused and ideas, conversations and connections are given lasting foundations.

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