

## PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

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# IT'S THE NEW THING

Julie Ann Sheridan

8th -22nd July 2023

Seaside Gallery, Volcano, 27-29 High St, Swansea SA1 1LG

Open 10am-5pm Tuesday - Saturday



Artist Julie Ann Sheridan returns to Volcano with a brand new body of sculptural works made from waste materials. Her new work focuses on 'extended painting' while working with recycled upholstery materials to navigate themes around materiality and the environmental impact of fly-tipped furniture. It's The New Thing is the culmination of two years of MA at Falmouth University.

*"The work explores 'extended painting' and explores themes of production and consumption. I present what remains after combining and altering materials. After production, is an expression of the moment, the new thing."*

*"I want to explore the possibilities of painting, there are no limits, just because the work is not on canvas doesn't mean it's not a painting. I also want to produce work that is both entertaining and amusing, Volcano is an ideal space for creating something that I would not be able to usually achieve, a space of experimentation and absurdity".*

Julie Ann Sheridan (1970) is a visual artist who lives and works in Llangadog, Wales. She graduated from Bradford Art College in 1992 and is about to complete her MFA from Falmouth University, with this exhibition. She has exhibited and participated in residencies nationally and internationally.

For Sheridan, Volcano is an informal place of process, beyond the studio, where painting and sculpture blend and create an opportunity to group objects, examine their materiality and gauge societal context. Her humorous compositions demand empathy between viewer and architecture, activating an interplay with the space around them. In the space, the pieces evolve responding to touch and interaction with the viewer.

Her work emerges from an ongoing dialogue with 'expanded painting' and is an account of the medium's specificity and how it has developed through the use of a wide range of procedures, techniques and methodologies. It also considers how this relatively new concept challenges the meaning of painting.

In the exhibition there is a manipulation of familiar household furniture; materials torn from fly tipped furniture, (taken from the streets of Swansea), reveal edges, interiors and marks from years of use, daily activity and disposal. The artist continues the conversation surrounding materiality through minimalist and abstracted application of paint, reactivating these found objects.

Some of the pieces exhibited encourage lounging and rest. Previously many of us have blended our environments e.g. we work where we sleep, making places that are for relaxation into spaces that deny this. One of the pieces offers a painted, restful embrace. Haptic and tactile encounters through the extension of painting into wearable and interactive sculpture encourage interactive, relational experiences.

Volcano also becomes a subject, its architectural structure extending the conversation by ensuring the works assert, the viewer encounters further dialogue with the space around them.

The installation results in a set of aesthetic and sensory values associated with materiality, process and practise. By altering the material and working with it, what is left is art works that are an expression of the moment, a new thing. Julie will be resident in the space during the two weeks furthering the conversation between viewer, object and architecture through production of site specific works and interventions.

Julie completed her degree in Art and Design at Bradford Art College and began her career as a painter. Since her first exhibition in the late 1990s, Julie developed a distinctive painting language that challenged the static nature of painting. This was explored further through research into Expanded Painting and its potential to immerse audiences in complex, dynamic environments. During her MFA she developed a sculptural based painting practice that brings together painting, found objects and colour through installation

Press are invited to attend an informal private opening at 2pm on 8th July.

You can also visit the artist during installation Tues -Sat, 10am -5pm. Please contact Julie at [sheridanjulieann@gmail.com](mailto:sheridanjulieann@gmail.com) to book a time.

(Untitled, Julie Ann Sheridan, mixed media 2023)JulieAnnSheridan\_ItsTheNewThing\_2023.jpg



(Untitled, Julie Ann Sheridan, mixed media 2023)



JulieAnnSheridan\_ItsTheNewThing\_2023.jpg



For further information, please see the artist's website and CV for more details.

[www.julieannsheridan.co.uk](http://www.julieannsheridan.co.uk) <https://linktr.ee/julieannsheridan>