

## ***Process Debris (2020)***

The artefacts created by the processes of making art, the paper or cloth originally left out to catch the drips and splashes from the painting process, seem to me to hold the key to something residual about the mind of the person making the work. The resulting images have a spontaneity and honesty that the deliberately composed piece can never possess. For several years, I have been saving the absorbent paper squares I use to wipe my brushes on while painting. After a time of use, the drips and stains on the paper started to take on interesting forms, which were completely random and intuitive, and if the image resonated with me I preserved it. The only conscious choices made regarding the creation of these were the colour palettes, already being used on a finished work, or ongoing work development, and the size and quality of the absorbent paper. This collection of normally discarded items, became for me a psychological exercise, a painted version of automatic writing, and, in the same way that a psychiatrist may examine a patient's Rorschach test, I search for hidden meanings within the images.

Having pondered for some time about what to do with this collection, I have started to experiment with turning them into digital works. It seemed disingenuous to simply repaint them onto better quality paper, I felt they had to undergo a greater transformation in order to make sense as deliberate works. The process of transferring from a detailed and often messy physical original to a clean and clear digital work presents a different set of challenges to painting. Unlike the creation of the original which was effortless and spontaneous, this involves constant complex problem solving in order to understand and convey how the elements of the source piece interact and overlap.