



claudia gurwitz

adaptation

03.04.22 - 03.05.22



# adaptation

Gurwitz's recent body of work was born during South Africa's lockdown phase and explores interrupted plant imagery. What stemmed from the feeling of collective disharmony that disturbs our existence during the COVID pandemic has led to a new direction in her painting.

As organic beings in this world, we are an integral part of our natural world. While humanity feels off centre during this time, we are having to find new ways of navigating this altered reality of engaging with each other and with our environment. While we feel a disconnect, our environment, in turn, feels out of sync. These paintings allude to a subtly distorted perspective of natural form, reflective of a disrupted environment.

"Attention to detail is vital to me. I have always observed the detail of structure and shapes in nature; the parts that make the whole. Through a micro-setting, I capture a magnified perspective of seemingly unremarkable plant matter, which I term 'micro-landscapes.'"

It is in this detail that the artist's painting exposes the sacred geometry of each form and explores the relationships between these structures. Through her painting she has always experienced the intrinsic unity that pervades nature - this gives her a sense that we live in a beautiful and orderly world.

*"My interrupted compositions are composed through a process of deconstructing, cropping and isolating my subject matter. I further reassemble and realign this imagery in fragments. This reconstructed plant matter disjoins these vital structures, redefining my plant imagery. In this way I create a revised hyper-real landscape which is slightly unhinged."*

While these paintings express our disconnected reality it also finds beauty in their distortion. These slightly uncomfortable combinations give the viewer pause. Perhaps this alternate beauty reflects nature's resilience and power to heal. There is hope and inspiration as we reshape our new normal.

Claudia Gurwitz is a Cape Town based artist. In 1996, after completing 2 years towards a BAFA at Michaelis, UCT, Claudia left the university to do her yoga teacher's training and completed national certifications in various therapeutic disciplines. Since 1997 Claudia has run her own established yoga centres in Cape Town and Riebeeck Kasteel. In 2005 Gurwitz returned to painting and a three-year mentorship under Julia Teale at Spencer Street Studio. In 2007 Gurwitz embraced working as a professional artist, adopting Riebeeck Kasteel as her hometown. In 2008 Julia Teale curated and hosted Claudia's first solo exhibition, 'PLANT'. In 2010 Claudia won the SASA (South African Society of Artists) Merit Award and in 2012 Gurwitz had her 2nd solo exhibition, 'Rooted', at the Irma Stern Museum. She exhibited at Turbine Art Fair in 2016. From 2016 to 2019 Gurwitz participated alongside the other local Riebeeck artists in the annual collaborative art event, Solo Studios. Gurwitz in 2019 returned to Cape Town where she now lives and creates. In 2021 Claudia had her 3rd solo exhibition, 'Interrupted', at the Association for Visual Arts (The AVA Gallery).

The artist works is featured in collections such as Old Mutual, Spier Estate, University of Cape Town, Countess Antonia Labia Hardres-Williams, Hout Bay Manor, The Bay Hotel, Qasar al Sarab Hotel in Abu Dhabi and Nando's UK.

adaptation



adaptation



*Facet I*  
2020  
Oil on canvas  
65cm diameter

**R 16 000-00**



# adaptation



*Facet II*  
2020  
Oil on canvas  
65cm diameter

**R 16 000-00**

# adaptation



*Adaptation II*  
2022  
Oil on canvas  
140cm x 100cm

**R 38 000-00**



# adaptation



*Adaptation I*  
2022  
Oil on canvas  
100cm x 140cm

**R 38 000-00**



adaptation



*Interrupted III*  
2021  
Oil on canvas  
100cm x 140cm

**R 38 000-00**



adaptation



*Interrupted IV*  
2021  
Oil on canvas  
100cm x 140cm

**R 38 000-00**

# adaptation



*A Secret in My Garden III*  
2021  
Oil on canvas  
40cm diameter

**R 6 000-00**



*A Secret in My Garden IV*  
2021  
Oil on canvas  
40cm diameter

**R 6 000-00**



# adaptation



*Purdah I*  
2021  
Oil on canvas  
32.5cm x 32.5cm (framed)

**R 5 000-00**



*Purdah II*  
2021  
Oil on canvas  
42.5cm x 42.5cm (framed)

**R 6 000-00**

# adaptation



*Sanctum*  
2021  
Oil on canvas  
32.5cm x 45.5cm (framed)

**R 6 000-00**



adaptation



*Welcome to Wherever You Are III*

2021

Oil on canvas

42.5cm x 42.5cm (framed)

**R 6 000-00**

# adaptation

*Welcome to Wherever You Are IV*  
2021  
Oil on canvas  
42.5cm x 42.5cm (framed)

**R 6 000-00**





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