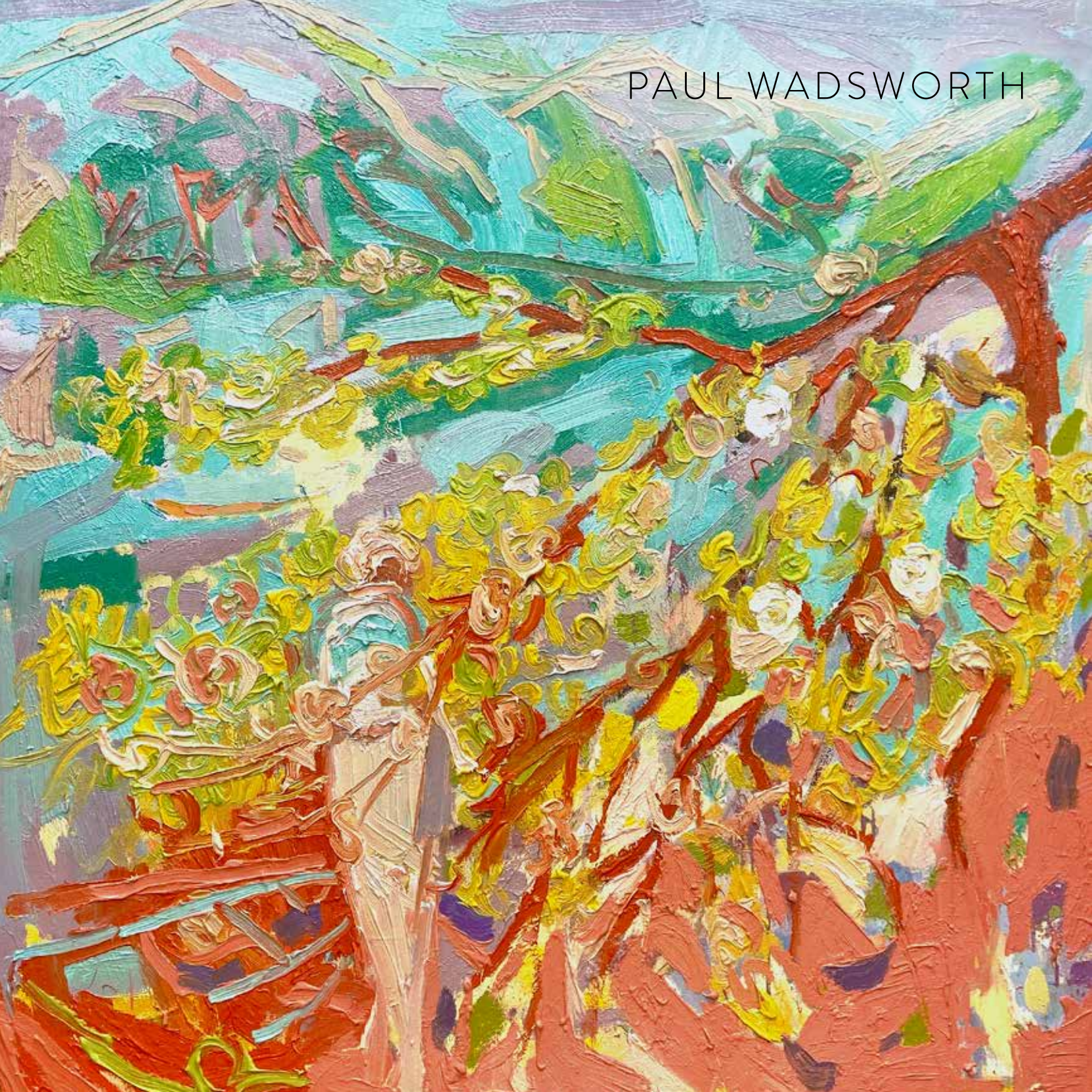


PAUL WADSWORTH





Canvas Home acrylic on paper 30 x 30 cm

PAUL WADSWORTH

Return to India

27 MAY – 17 JUNE


campden
gallery

Return to India

Travel and the experience of new places has always been a way of gathering ideas and stories to use in my painting. Over the last ten years my choice of destination has been India, a place of colour, chaos, beauty, the sacred and the profane and a place of many stories.

India is a large country, each area with its own distinct character. I have travelled from southern India to Rajasthan in the north, by train, plane, car, tuk-tuk, motorbike, each offering a glimpse into India's wonders and diverse landscape. Covid restricted my travels, but finally in January, I made it back out to India.

During past trips I used large thick sketchbooks I had made in Pushkar in Rajasthan, to refer to when back in the studio. On this trip I took heavy weight paper to create paintings directly there to bring back as finished work.

My trip started in Kerala, where I rented a shack near the beach surrounded by palm trees with coconuts occasionally falling onto the roof. I was surrounded by nature, birds of all kinds, the stream was full of frogs and snakes and the palms were the shelter for numerous creatures including one large spider who liked popping through the toilet window.

Fishermen were busy with their nets and the sea was calm and warm. Painting the coconut collectors as they climbed the palms or the weathered pink shack which was my home for a month. The backwaters of Kerala are magical, and I go on slow punted boat rides taking in the atmosphere. On one occasion to Golden Island, a small island in the middle of a large lake with a Hindu temple. I decided to paint there for a few hours.

After my stay in Kerala, I moved on to Rajasthan, a place of beautiful palaces, forts, and colourful chaotic cities. First stop Jaipur where I painted on the roof of a Haveli where I stayed and at various temples, palaces, and forts around Jaipur before moving on to Bundi, by way of a four-hour white-knuckle taxi drive. Bundi has an amazing palace and has the feel that the last residents only left

yesterday. It has beautiful wall paintings all around the palace and barely visited so a place to paint and imagine it when it was full of life and colour. I painted *'The Small Windows of the Past'* there.

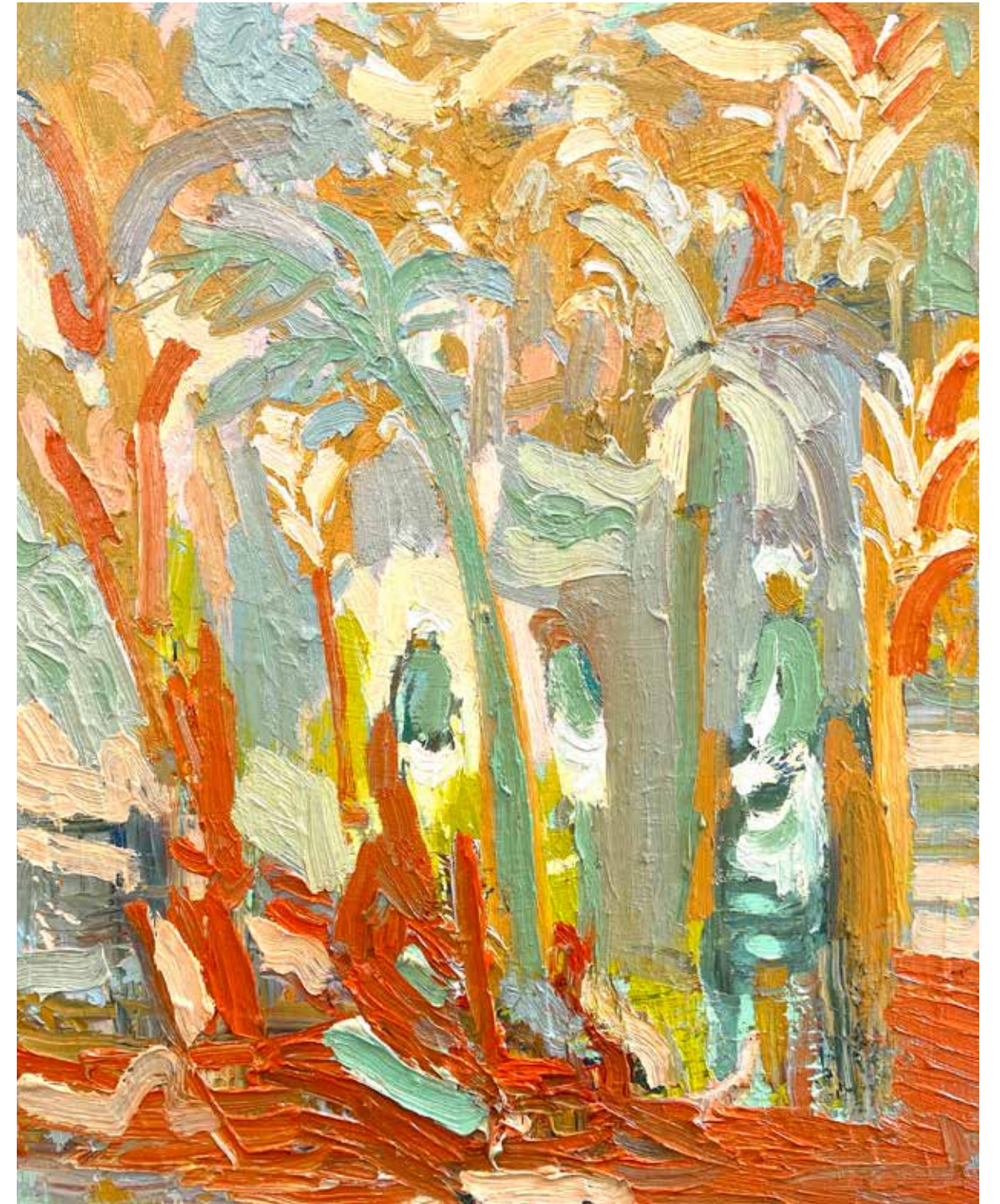
Next stop Pushkar which I always love going back to. A sacred lake surrounded by pink hills and with the only temple in India dedicated to Lord Brahma. People visit the lake to bath in its sacred waters. I stop to paint around the lake taking in the serenity of the surroundings. There I work on the *'The Sacred Mountain Lake'*.

My trip, before heading back to Mumbai, finishes in the blue city of Jodhpur. The narrow winding streets take you through the blue painted buildings whilst looking up to an ancient fort on the hill. *'Temple Steps'*, which I paint later, back in my studio, was influenced by this stay.

My two-month trip comes to an end in Mumbai but not without thoughts of a return soon.

PAUL WADSWORTH May 2023

Temple by the Sea oil on canvas 102 x 82 cm





A Day for Coconut Milk acrylic on paper 61 × 43 cm



Mountain Waterfall oil on canvas 80 × 70 cm



The Chess Game oil on canvas 60 × 50 cm



Palace of Rajasthan oil on canvas 77 × 63 cm



Nature's Boatman acrylic on paper 43 × 43 cm

The Gypsy Mountain Dancers oil on canvas 120 × 120 cm





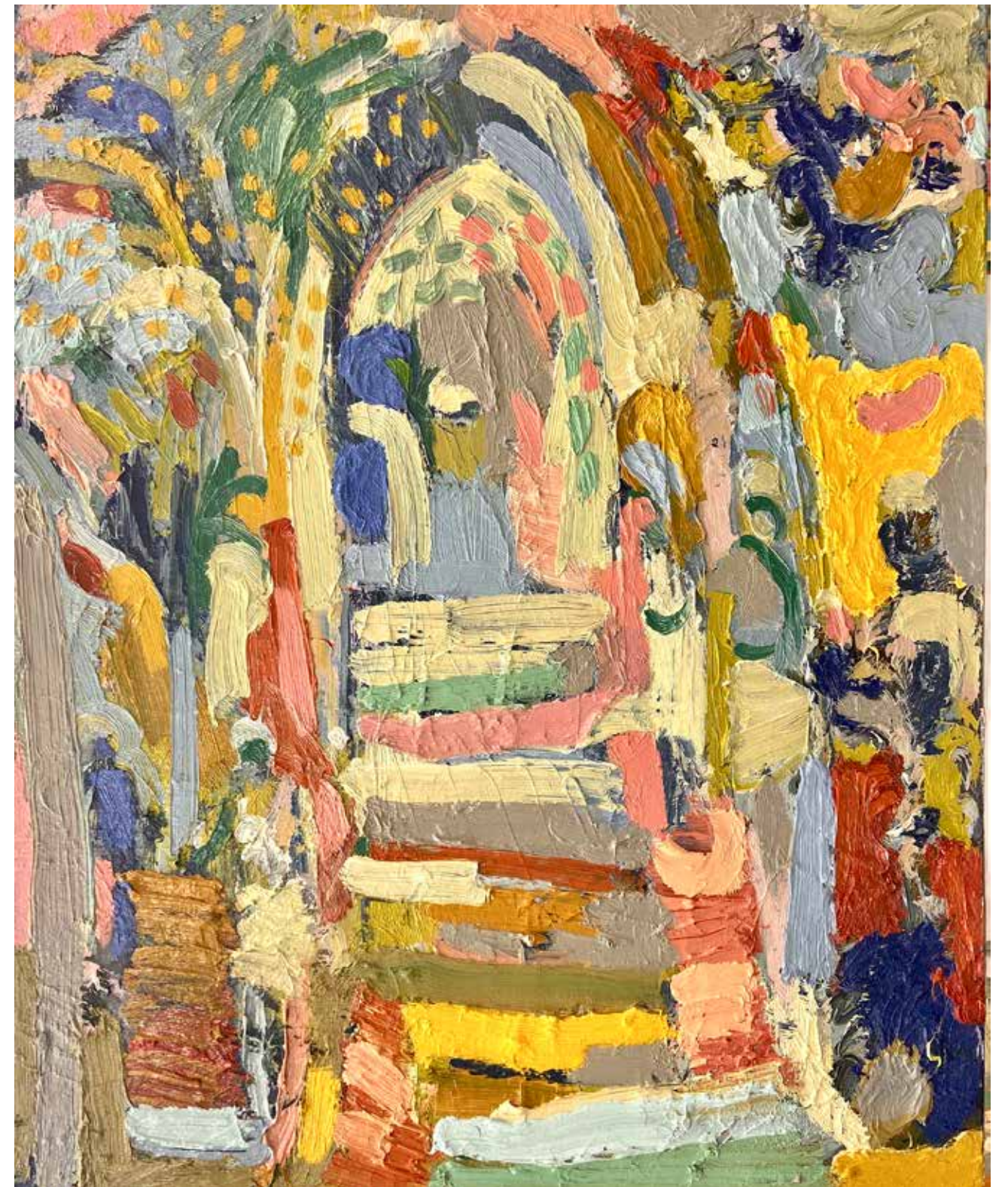
Dreams of Love oil on canvas 77 × 63 cm



Palace Gardens oil on canvas 80 × 100 cm



House Under the Palms oil on canvas 80 x 70 cm



Temple Steps oil on canvas 102 x 82 cm



The Forest Home acrylic on paper 43 × 61 cm



Looking over to Pink Mountain acrylic on paper 43 × 30 cm



Reflection oil on canvas 60 × 60 cm



Monkey Tree acrylic on paper 61 × 43 cm



Under the Night Sky oil on canvas 50 × 50 cm

The Dance of Aarna and the Maharaja oil on canvas 100 × 100 cm

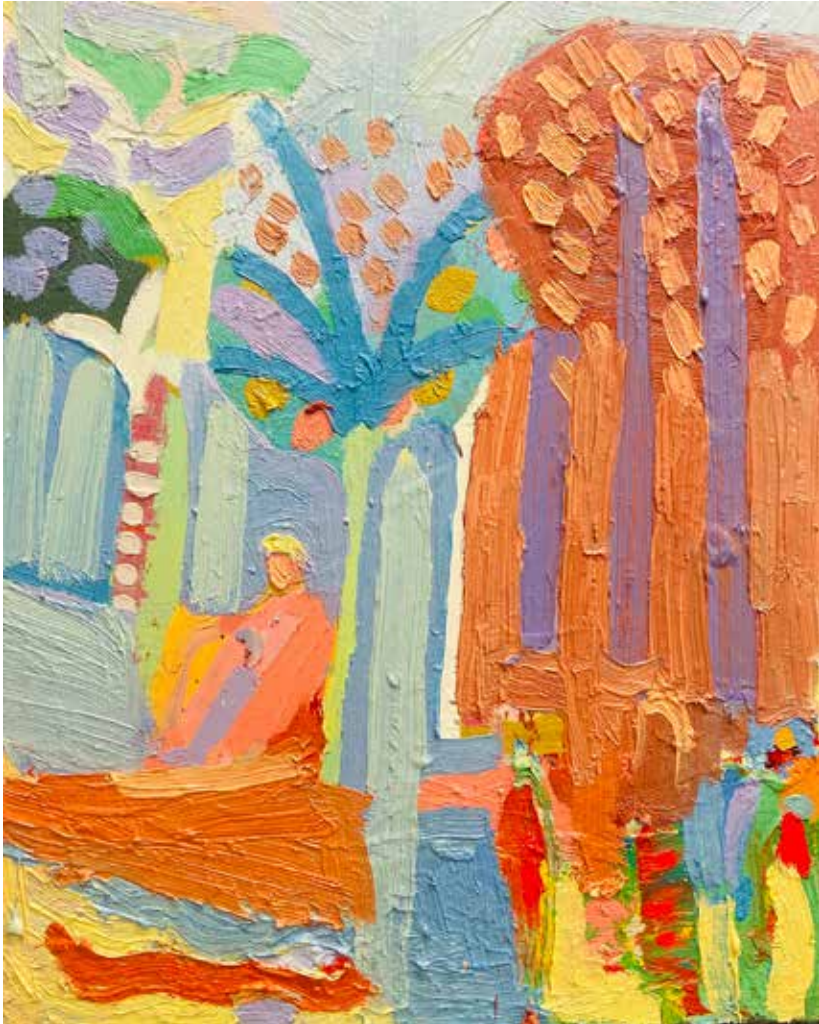




The Sacred Mountain Lake acrylic on paper 43 × 43 cm



The Small Windows of the Past acrylic on paper 43 × 61 cm



Afternoon Shade oil on canvas 76 x 60 cm



Going to the Fair oil on canvas 76 x 76 cm



Rose Pickers oil on canvas 90 x 90 cm



Indian Sweet Shop oil on canvas 77 x 63 cm

PAUL WADSWORTH

From a young age painting has been a major part of Paul Wadsworth's life. He went first to Ipswich College of Art in 1982, then a degree in fine art at Falmouth Art College in Cornwall. He stayed in Cornwall, influenced by its landscape and a desire to continue to paint its wild beauty.

Travel has also been important to his work. The Middle East, Oman and the Arab Emirates was a destination for many years, painting in the old towns and Souks and the deserts and along the coast of Oman, exhibiting in Muscat and Dubai,

Over the last decade his chosen destination has been India, which has become a great source of ideas and colour in his work. A two-month trip allows him the time to get fully immersed in India's diverse character and landscape. Paul is now planning to spend more time in the country, having rented a house and studio in the south.

FRONT COVER

Golden Island oil on canvas 140 x 140 cm

BACK COVER

By the Waterfall acrylic on paper 30 x 30 cm

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