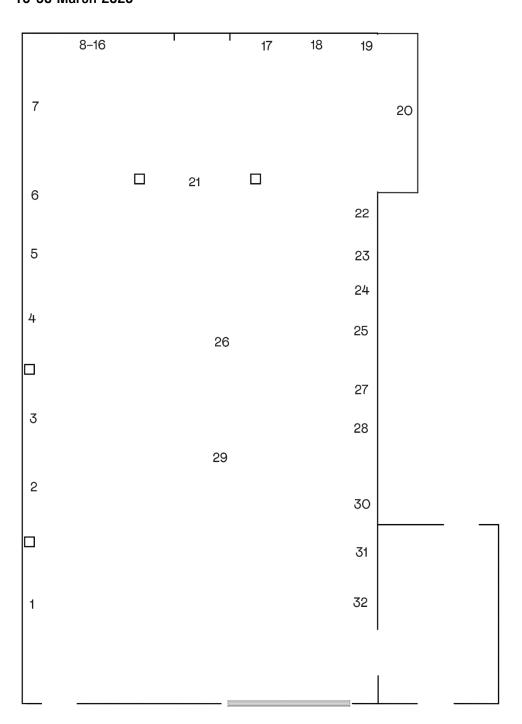
Thames-Side Studios Gallery

Cat Show Curated by Enzo Marra 15-30 March 2025





List of Works

- 1. Lee Johnson, Ceramicist's Studio (Oversized Cardigan), 175x145cm, oil, oil pastel, charcoal on canvas, 2018
- 2. Lee Grandjean, Cat-Kit, 120 x 90cm, acrylic on canvas, 2024
- 3. Vanessa Mitter, *Nine Lives (abject terror, pissing in the wind, miaowing, jumping, carpet defecation, Lola antics, crying, hiding, killing mice.....),* 150 x 120cm, oil on linen, 2025
- 4. Enzo Marra, *birdwatcher for Roger*, 129 x 48cm, acrylic paint, thread, vintage canvas, staples, picture frame moulding, 2025

Thames-Side Studios Gallery, Thames-Side Studios, Harrington Way, Royal Borough of Greenwich, London SE18 5NR Open Thursday-Sunday, 12-5pm, during exhibitions. www.thames-sidestudios.co.uk e. info@thames-sidestudios.co.uk @thamessidese18

- 5. Grant Watson, Cat from the studios, 50 x 63cm, oil on canvas, 2024
- 6. Grant Watson, *Trying and failing to paint a cat*, 118 x 120 x 120cm, mixed media, trolley and palette, tins and brushes, 2024
- 7. Rosalind Faram, Catastrophica, 150 x 120cm, oil and acrylic on canvas, 2020
- 8. Vanessa Mitter, Thought, Nine Lives, 40 x 30cm, oil on linen, 2025
- 9. Vanessa Mitter, Feeling, Nine Lives, 40 x 30cm, oil on linen, 2025
- 10. Vanessa Mitter, Fervour, Nine Lives, 40 x 30cm, oil on linen, 2025
- 11. Vanessa Mitter, Gazing, Nine Lives, 40 x 30cm, oil on linen, 2025
- 12. Vanessa Mitter, Gesture, Nine Lives, 40 x 30cm, oil on linen, 2025
- 13. Vanessa Mitter, Languor, Nine Lives, 40 x 30cm, oil on linen, 2025
- 14. Vanessa Mitter, Perception, Nine Lives, 40 x 30cm, oil on linen, 2025
- 15. Vanessa Mitter, Semblance, Nine Lives, 40 x 30cm, oil on linen, 2025
- 16. Vanessa Mitter, Touch, Nine Lives, 40 x 30cm, oil on linen, 2025
- 17. Peter Jones, Dali, 25 x 20cm, oil on canvas, 2024
- 18. David Harrison, Be My Guest, 61 x 44cm, oil on paper on board, 2013
- 19. Peter Jones, Dante, 30 x 25cm, oil on canvas, 2024
- 20. Rosalind Faram, Startled by Cats, 162 x 100cm, oil, acrylic and other media on canvas, 2020
- 21. Alison Wilding, FURBALL, 8 x 8 x 8cm, aluminium wire and fur, 2024
- 22. Charles Williams, Untitled (Man In Red With Cat), 50 x 40cm, oil on linen, 2025
- 23. Enzo Marra, claw, 24 x 24cm, hammerite and nail varnish on wood, 2024
- 24. Paul Housley, A Cat amongst the Washing, 60 x 80cm, oil on canvas, 2025
- 25. Zebedee Jones, Untitled cat, 65 x 50cm, oil on fabriano paper, 2024
- 26. Lee Grandjean, Cat 2, 84 x 103 x 92cm, wood, plywood, steel mesh, scrim, cement, paint, varnish, 2024
- 27. Enzo Marra, tails, dimensions variable, 37cm (h), tempera, nail varnish, staples, wood, 2025
- 28. Lee Johnson, Shells, Skulls and Cats, 145 x 115cm, oil, oil pastel on canvas, 2023-24
- 29. Enzo Marra, scratch post, 64.5 x 15 x 27cm, hammerite nail, nail varnish, tile samples, glue, wire, squash ball, 2025
- 30. Grant Watson, Cat Painting, 76 x 36cm, oil on canvas, 2025
- 31. Peter Jones, Duberdy, 25 x 20cm, oil on canvas, 2023
- 32. Grant Watson, Long cat, 50.8 x 76cm, oil on canvas, 2025

The demeanour, attitude, role and presence of the cat has been captured by artists as long as cats have been in our lives. Their love and their vengeance, their unwillingness to give up on their wild ways, the mayhem and calm they can be responsible for. Their unwillingness to constant easy fit, imbuing them with a character and personality that demands to be recorded. Their facets stilled and hung on gallery walls, carved, cast, constructed and set on gallery floors and pedestals, distributed on printed page, remaining reminding in artists and observer's magpie minds.

From Picasso and his *Cat Catching a Bird* variations, each simultaneous depictions of feline malice and commentaries upon the onset of the cruelties of war, Baselitz and his fenced off brutish cat headed man, Balthus and Kirchner and their intimate relaxed girls with calm constant cat companions. The more innocent world of Beatrix Potter, all little people despite their fur, Louis Wain who outgrew their clothes and became barely contained electricity, Gwen John who gave them grace and poise with her delicate watercolour strokes. Karel Appel and the childlike abandon of hue and form they became, Bonnard and his perfectly elongated white cat, and of course Warhol's brightly hued lithographed parade of gentler house-trained cats. Their painted and sculpted evocations have been seen and admired, sometimes with as much urgency as their furry source.

The artists included in *Cat Show* also reveal their own contemporaneous considered reactions, through painted expressions, constructed forms, as they are and what they do, as characters and creatures, as loved ones sad departed. The comfort and support and the tribulations of their sharper side, made visible through eleven sets of eyes and hands. Attendants, lingerers, players, resters, fighters, whole clowders of them, their obsessions, their urges, their facsimiles, their long shadow after they have gone, our complicated relationship with what was once feral seen in unison. - Enzo Marra, March 2025