

Art for a New Paradigm

The Art of Paradox at Play



Jay Taylor

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Disclaimer: where the words that accompany my art are not my own, I gratefully acknowledge the inspiration and insight provided by their authors. Where the words *are* my own, I must mention that I have no idea what possesses me to spout them: I often wonder what they mean, from whence they originate, and how I can possibly begin to understand and live up to them. Therefore, read them at your own risk: here be dragons, as they say... Jay Taylor, 2012



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blurb



My fascination with the intelligence and playfulness of Life informs and inspires the work you will find in this book. Absolutely individual, yet inseparable from the whole: every life form, every rust bloom, every brush stroke, every atom. The myriad patterns and paradoxes of life amaze me: something and nothing, duality and oneness, living and dying, sound and form, all dancing endlessly...

Feeling the vitality of Life flowing through me and into my work, the joy and spontaneity of the act of creation, this is what drives me to create. Every 'brush baby' I give birth to is an experiment in the dynamics of flow and co-creation; an invitation to the life force within me and around me to join in a process of exploration and play.

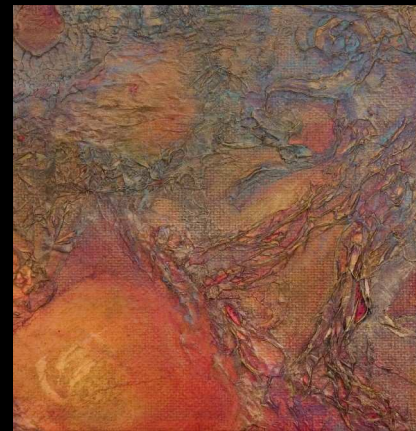
The World which man has imposed upon this beautiful earth is rife with pain, dysfunction, and separation. But within me I sense an underlying harmony, and I open myself to its rhythms. "It need not be this way", life seems to say through me and to me. "There are other possibilities, other worlds, seen through other eyes and birthed by other actions." There is beauty in decay; awakening in the midst of heartbreak. Every "No!" is saying "Yes!" to something.

When you enjoy an image from my portfolio, I feel that you join me for a moment in my celebration of Life. Perhaps you will allow the experience to touch a place inside yourself where wonder and uniqueness are precious, where truth is all and illusion cannot stay. That place is the essence of what I Am, the source of all creation, and it is the same for all of us...

Jay Taylor, 2012



Organic Acrylics
A collection of organically evolving
artwork: clear the mind, feel the
freedom, then add paint...



In late 2009,
I began to
experiment with a
mixture of acrylic
paints and
mediums, layering
a range of
materials and
paints one over the
other to achieve
effects which
appeared organic
in nature,
spreading out
across the canvas,
taking on a life of
their own.

This
experimentation
soon grew into a
sizeable body of
work, elements of
which are
presented here as
the 'Organic
Acrylics'
collection...





Organic, Orange

left

One of my earliest
adventures in
acrylics, and still a
personal
favourite...

Acrylics, acrylic
mediums and collaged
materials on 16" x 20"
box canvas



In Flow, *above*

As the 'Organic Acrylics' collection continues to develop, I am intrigued by the feeling of flow and connection I experience whilst working. This piece is a good example of the type of forms which begin to appear when 'I' get out of the way and allow this creative force to move through me.

Acrylics, collaged materials and acrylic mediums on 5" x 7" boxed canvas



An Act of Creation, *above*
Unwittingly, whilst I work, a miniature dragon is born...

Acrylics, gouache, collaged objects and acrylic mediums on 5" x 7" boxed canvas

The Great Spiral of Life, *right*

When I began to create this piece, I was reeling from the loss of two beloved friends: a pheasant and a bantam. Bonnier lads I never knew, and both of them now 'gone'...

One feather each was all that I had left of their physical forms, and they became the starting point for this tribute to inter-species affection.

(Note to self: in the great spiral of life, "only fear dies...")

Acrylics, collaged objects, fabric paints, gouache and acrylic mediums on 16" x 20" canvas-covered board.



All Made of Sparkles, *left*

My daughter often tells me
that "we are all made of
sparkles, and so is
everything else..."

Daughter, this one's for
you...

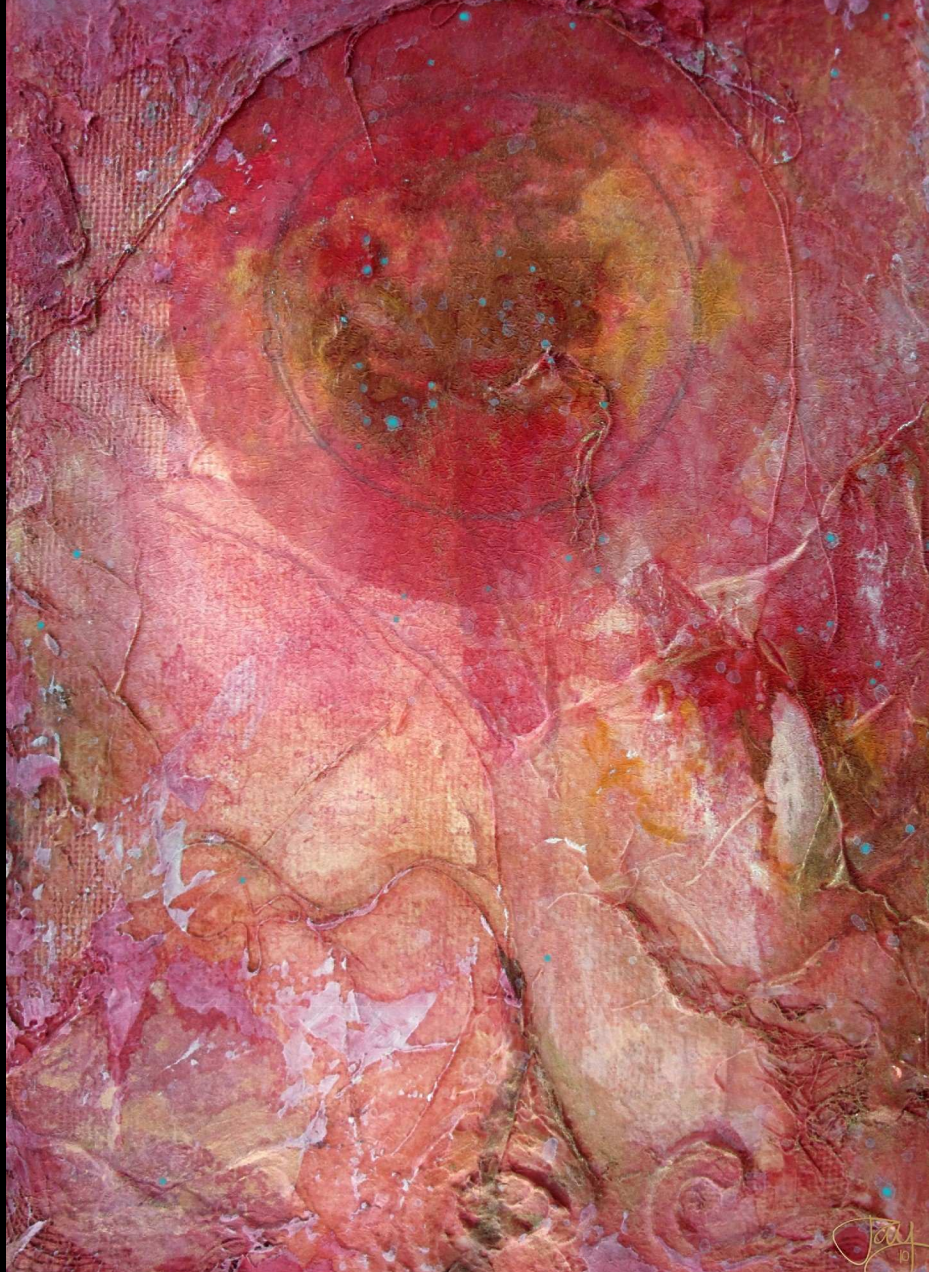
Acrylics, Gouache, acrylic
mediums and collaged materials
on 7" x 10" 300gsm
watercolour paper

The Gift, *right*

"The intuitive mind is a sacred gift and the rational mind is a faithful servant. We have created a society that honours the servant and has forgotten the gift." Albert Einstein

I have not forgotten! I give thanks to Life for its gifts.

Acrylics, acrylic mediums and collaged 'recycled' found objects on 5" x 7" boxed canvas





The Moth Orchid

left

Inspired by my beautiful and ephemeral Moth Orchid, which month after month, year after year, just keeps on producing new blooms.

Acrylics, mixed mediums and collaged found objects on 5" x 7" boxed canvas



Torn to Shreds, *above*

"This Love is beyond the study of theology, that old trickery and hypocrisy. If you want to improve your mind that way, sleep on. I've given up on my brain. I've torn the cloth to shreds and thrown it away. If you're not completely naked, wrap your beautiful robe of words around you, And sleep." - Rumi

Acrylics, collaged objects and materials and acrylic mediums on 30cm x 23cm canvas



Jay
10

Synchronicity, above
Life: it's all a glorious, wonder-full mystery to me, and every bit of it delightfully synchronous when viewed from a wider perspective.

Acrylics, collaged objects and materials and acrylic mediums on 30cm x 23cm canvas



Lilac Nebula, *above*

Nebulous forms appear and take shape, mini galaxies on canvas, echoing the space within and without...

Acrylics, acrylic mediums and collaged found objects on 16" x 20" boxed canvas



Masquerade, *above*

This work took weeks to evolve: layers, textures, colours and forms emerging organically, much like the 'masks' that humans create in order to take part in the great masquerade which we refer to as 'life'. But Life is beyond, behind and *endlessly animating* the masks, the masquerade, and *everything else which exists*. *There is life beyond the masquerade!* The World of Man is built upon the earth, *it is not the Earth itself*.

Acrylics, acrylic mediums and collaged found objects on 16" x 20" boxed canvas



Inner Space, *above*

Your inner space is a microcosm of the macrocosm. Care for it well.

Acrylics, fabric paint and acrylic mediums and collaged materials on 5" x 7" 300gsm watercolour paper



Beloved, *above*

In celebration of Earth, Air, Sky, Water...and my Beloved

Acrylics, collaged found objects and acrylic mediums on 31 cm x 23cm canvas



Portal, *above*

"What are those of the known, but to ascend and enter the Unknown?
And what are those of life, but for Death?" - Walt Whitman

Acrylics, Gouache, acrylic mediums and collaged materials on 7" × 10" 300gsm watercolour paper



Becoming, *above*

"It is never too late to become what you might have been." – George Eliot

Acrylics, acrylic mediums and collaged materials on 16" x 20" box canvas



Turn of the Tide, *above*

"The lowest ebb is the turn of the tide." Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

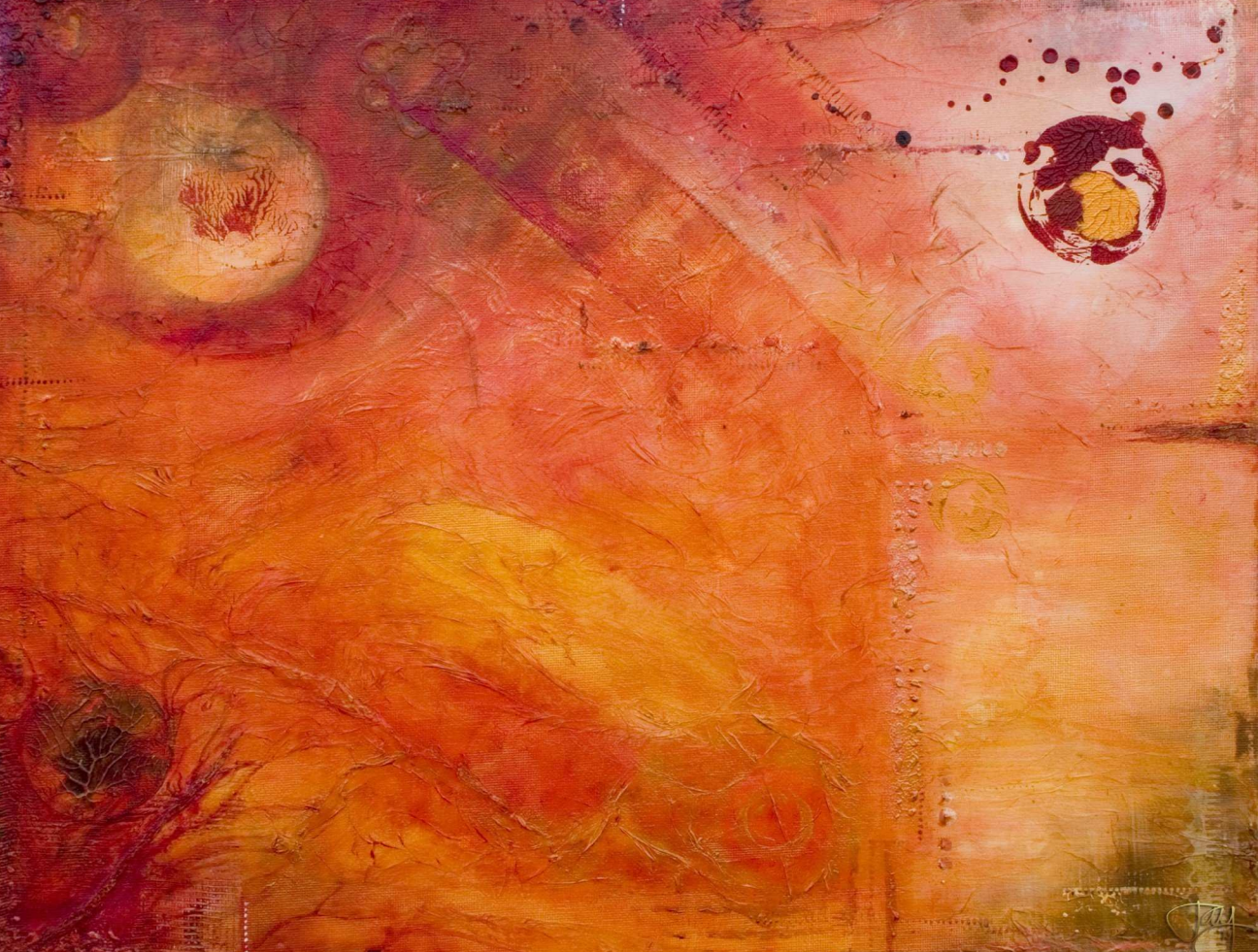
Acrylics, acrylic mediums and collaged materials on 7" x 10" 300gsm watercolour paper



And So It Is, *above*

And so it is ... and always was, and always and ever will be ...

Acrylics, acrylic mediums, found objects and collaged materials on 30.5cm x 22.5 cm acrylic board



Random Convergence, *above*

Is it all just the random convergence of seemingly unrelated events...? Or is there a pattern playing out on a scale at once so grand and yet so exquisitely simple that our limited point of awareness is simply unable to comprehend it?

Acrylics, acrylic mediums and collaged objects on 16" x 20" box canvas



The Great Below, *above*

This piece manifested at the height of the disastrous Deepwater Horizon BP oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico. Its working title was, 'They're *Burning Turtles?*', an image which haunts me to this day...

Acrylics, acrylic mediums and collaged materials and objects on 16" x 20" boxed canvas



Paradox at Play
A playful and paradoxical collection
of art straight from the heart...





The Myth That Came To Life, *above*

Walking into legend: sentient life on earth.

Acrylics, acrylic mediums and collaged materials on 16" x 20" box canvas



The Big Picture, *above*

"You can't see the room when you're looking at the fly..." Harry Pütz

Acrylics, acrylic mediums and collaged materials on 16" x 20" box canvas



Imagine That!, *above*

Buy your Limited Edition £5 John Lennon tribute coin today, just £44.95, all proceeds to the Royal Mint and the Crown: irony presumably unintentional but entirely unavoidable...

Acrylics, acrylic mediums, graphic pens and and collaged materials on 5" x 7" box canvas



Dream Painting, *above*

I awoke from a dream of finding a case full of my own 'forgotten' paintings: about 20 in total, of a style in which I have never painted during my waking life. I grabbed a canvas and started work on this before the image faded...

Acrylics, acrylic mediums and collaged materials on 7" x 10" 300gsm watercolour paper



When Darkness Asked the Light to Dance, *above*

Eventually I stopped fighting the darkness, and simply turned on the light...

Acrylics, fabric paint and acrylic mediums and collaged materials on 5" x 7" 300gsm watercolour paper



Seeing Clearly, *above*

"How can you say, 'Brother, let me take the speck out of your eye,' when you yourself fail to see the plank in your own eye? You hypocrite! First take the plank out of your eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye."

Acrylics, acrylic mediums and collaged materials on 5" x 7" boxed canvas



Déjà Vu, above

Do you ever get the feeling that you've seen it ALL before? This painting speaks to that part of me:
"It is time, humanity, to tire of the ceaseless repetition, and create something entirely new!"

Acrylics and collaged materials on 16" x 20" boxed canvas



Clarity, *above*

Clarity - we're always seeking more of it here...

Acrylics, oils, graphic pens, acrylic mediums and collaged materials on 30cm diameter card



Heaven Within, *above*

I know that heaven is within me now...

Acrylics, acrylic mediums, pencil, graphic pen and collaged materials on 30cm diameter card



Celebrating Chaos, *above*

"If I don't know what I'm going to do next, neither do they!" - Guy Taylor
In celebration of chaos, and with love to my friend Veronica of the Chapman family, a shining light to those who would reclaim their individual sovereignty.

Acrylics, acrylic mediums, oils and collaged materials on 30cm diameter recycled card



The Veil (Between Worlds), *above*

Painted during Autumn's progression towards the ancient festival of Samhain, this work has clearly incorporated the season's atmosphere and colours into itself: bonfires and dark figures, and 'the veil between worlds' growing thin...

Acrylics, fabric paint and acrylic mediums on 5" x 8" 300gsm watercolour paper



Deeper, *above*

The more I let go and just allow the paint to flow where it will, the deeper it seems to take me. I see so much going on in these paintings of 'mine' which I never intended to paint...

Acrylics, acrylic mediums, collaged materials and oil paints on A3 300gsm cartridge paper



The Field, *above*

"Out beyond ideas of wrongdoing and rightdoing there is a field. I'll meet you there.
When the soul lies down in that grass the world is too full to talk about." - Rumi

Acrylics, fabric paints and acrylic medium on 5" x 7" 300 gsm watercolour paper



Continuities, *above*

"Nothing is ever really lost, or can be lost, No birth, identity, form – no object of the world, Nor life force, nor any visible thing." - Walt Whitman

Is this dissolving or forming? Can one really differentiate between the two...?

Acrylics, acrylic mediums, collaged materials and oil paints on A3 300gsm cartridge paper



When Roses Bleed, *above*

"...Man has come to plough the tide: the oak lies on the ground.
I hear their fires in the fields; they drive the stallion down.
The roses bleed both light and dark, the winds do seldom call.
The running sands recall the time when love was lord of all."

– The Quiet Joys of Brotherhood, Sandy Denny

Acrylics, acrylic mediums, collaged materials and and oil paints on A3 300gsm cartridge paper

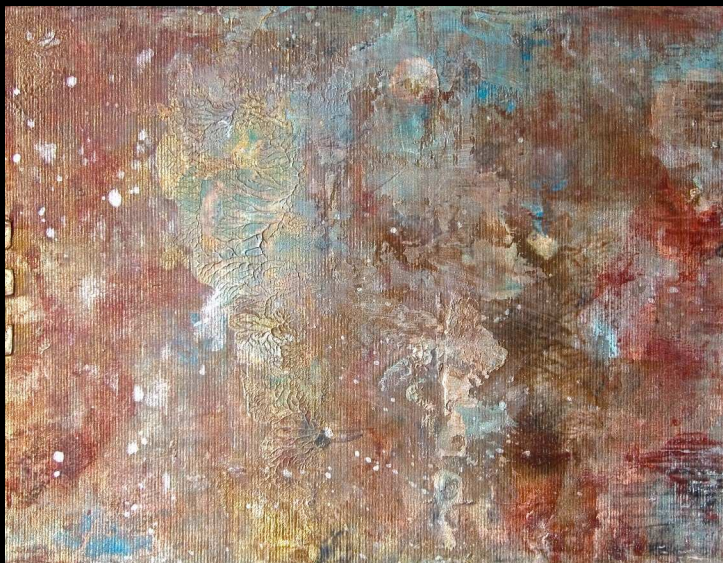
When I speak of 'my art,' I refer to an intuitive process involving total openness to whatever manifests during a painting session. These artworks often incorporate found items and materials which 'ask' to be included, or sometimes suggest themselves as a starting point.

The process is absolutely spontaneous: no conscious intent regarding any element of the finished work is imposed.

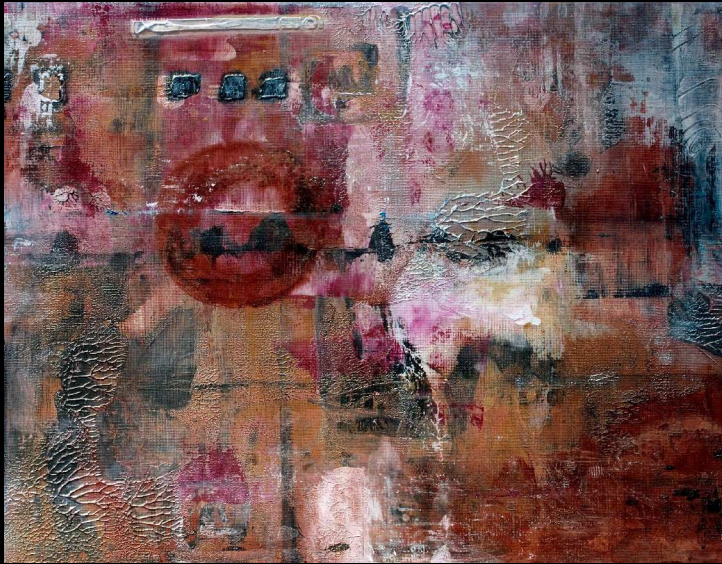
Each painting is an end unto itself, which I observe with great interest and alertness as the experiment continues to unfold.

There may or may not be accompanying words, which appear of their own volition during painting or shortly thereafter. And yes, I do still discover new things to see in these works, even many months later...

Ephemeral
above right

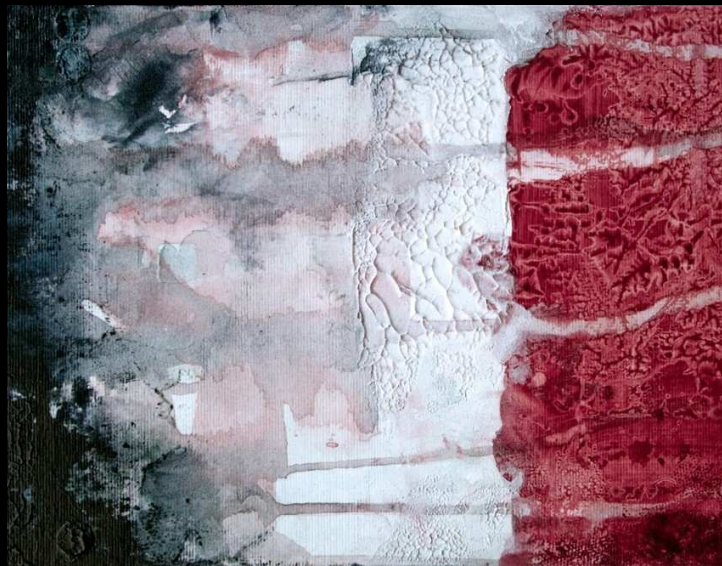


Stranger Than Fiction
below right



A Glorious Mess, *left*
Do you ever feel like you've
made a mess of your life? Is it
not truly glorious?!

Acrylics and acrylic mediums on
300gsm 10" x 7" Acrylic canvas
textured paper

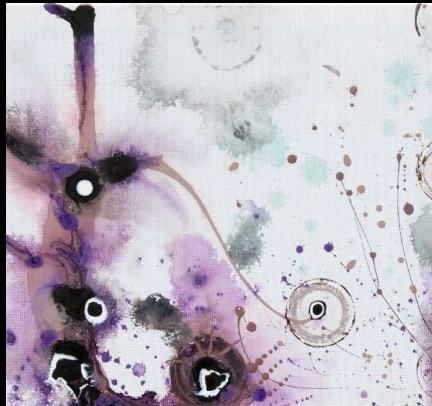
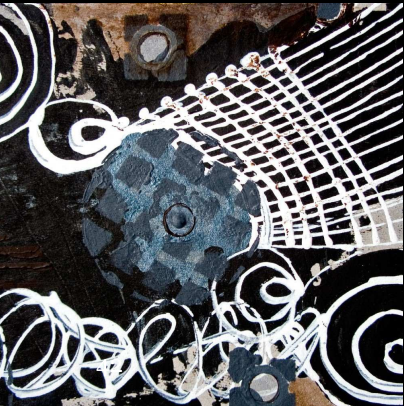


Shadow Flag, *left*
"I will walk with my hands
bound; I will walk with my face
blood; I will walk with my
shadow flag into your garden of
stone." - Eddie Vedder

Acrylics and acrylic mediums on 6" x 9"
acrylic board



A New Paradigm
Make no mistake, a
new paradigm is emerging.
The road ahead will doubtless be
challenging and uncomfortable for
a while, but ultimately, Life will
prevail...





Follow Your Heart, *above*

Dedicated to Joseph Chilton Pearce, whose lifetime of work has inspired and informed the last several years of my own in many ways. Thank you, Joe, champion of the 'Magical Child', from my magical daughter and me. You are a shining example of intellect pursued with heart intelligence

Acrylics, watercolours, collaged materials and acrylic mediums on 29.5 cm x 21 cm 300 gsm watercolour paper



Lines of Growth, *above*

"Every thought of form, held in thinking substance, causes the creation of the form, along lines of growth and action already established." Wallace D. Wattles

Oils, acrylics, acrylic mediums and collaged materials on 7" x 10" acrylic paper



Joining the Dots, *above*

When you start to join the dots;
When the bigger picture starts to emerge;
When the truth finally hits you...

Remember, it is the holding on that hurts, not the letting go.

Acrylics, collaged objects, acrylic mediums on 20cm x 30cm smooth cartridge paper



Evolution Revolution, *above*

My 9 year old is "practising levitation" in the bedroom, my partner is assisting the evolution of the species via Sentient Bodywork in the living room...and the only contribution I can make is to pick up a paintbrush and start tearing up magazines in the kitchen...?!

Acrylics, pastels, pencil, pen, acrylic mediums and collaged materials on 7" x 10" 150gsm smooth cartridge paper.



Into The Unknown, *above*

In the week before the Great Japan Earthquake and the Fukushima disaster, I was painting this and wondering, "What the heck IS it...?" Now, of course, I know.

Acrylics and oils on 16" x 20" boxed canvas

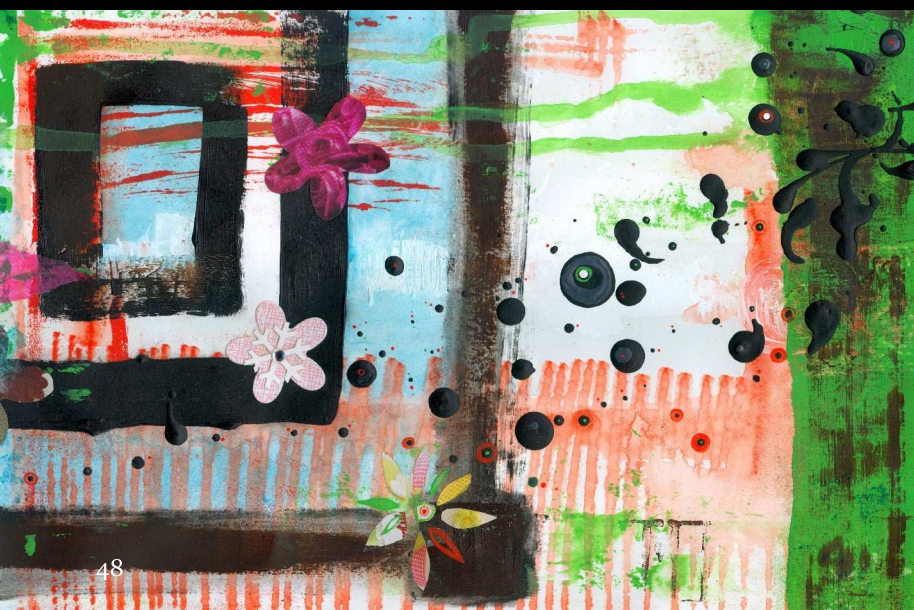


Bring Spring In

left

I for one am always ready!

Acrylics, pastels, collaged materials, gel pen and pencil on 7" x 10" 150gsm smooth cartridge paper.



My Secret Garden

left

What secrets do we keep in that hidden place where our most treasured flowers are always blooming?

Acrylics, pastels, acrylic mediums and collaged materials and objects on 150 gsm smooth cartridge paper

Off the Grid

right

...and into the
unknown: hold onto
your seat as a new
paradigm begins to
emerge!

Acrylics on 4" x 5" card



oOIoO

right

Because sometimes
there simply *are* no
words - only
something and
nothing, and the
spaces in between...

Acrylics, pastels and
ballpoint pen on 4" x 5"
card





Being Square

left

Incorporating several found objects which my daughter brought to me as I was painting: I do like to keep things 'alive'! The title is really a little joke: as a confirmed 'outsider', I am incapable of 'being square', but I can BE, and incorporate squares into my work...

Acrylics, acrylic mediums, pastels and collaged materials and objects on 7" x 10" card



What Goes Around Comes Around, *left*

The sooner one learns that particular lesson, the smaller the gap between action and price paid becomes - and then one begins to truly live at last: instant karma, if you like...

Acrylics, pastels, acrylic mediums and collaged objects and materials on 200gsm A3 cartridge paper

For Redemption

right

Because there's always
something to be grateful
for...

Watercolour, acrylics, pencil,
graphics pens and collaged
objects on A5 150 gsm
smooth cartridge paper.

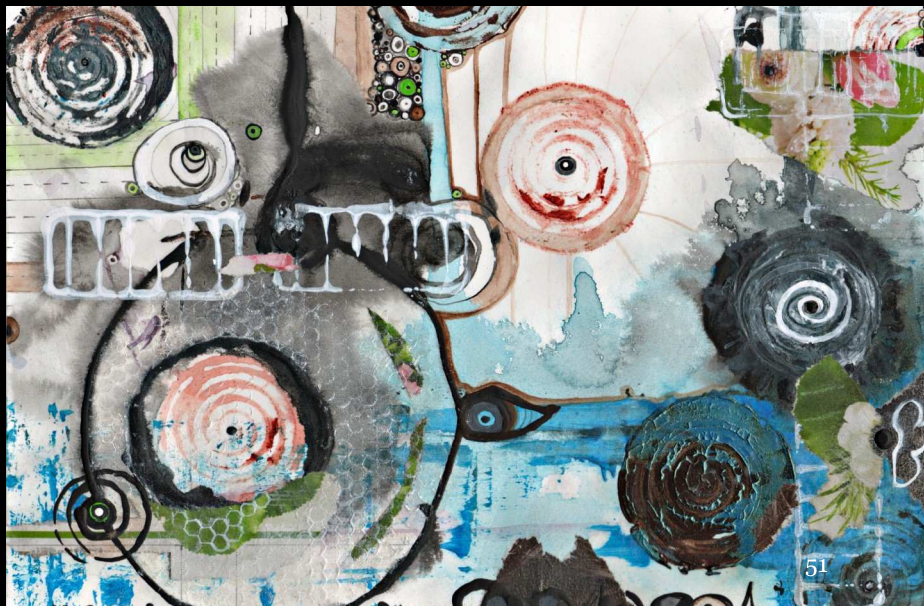


A New Paradigm

right

A new mode of being is
emerging, ushering in a
new era in human
history

Acrylics, fabric paint, pencil,
acrylic mediums and collaged
materials on 7" x 10" 150gsm
smooth cartridge paper.





Rise, *above*

One day we WILL rise to embrace our true potential! Leaving behind primitive striving, competitiveness and self-obsession, each individual upon our beautiful planet will fully realise their own unique nature whilst acknowledging the interconnected nature of all beings. One day we MUST rise, lest all of us shall fall...

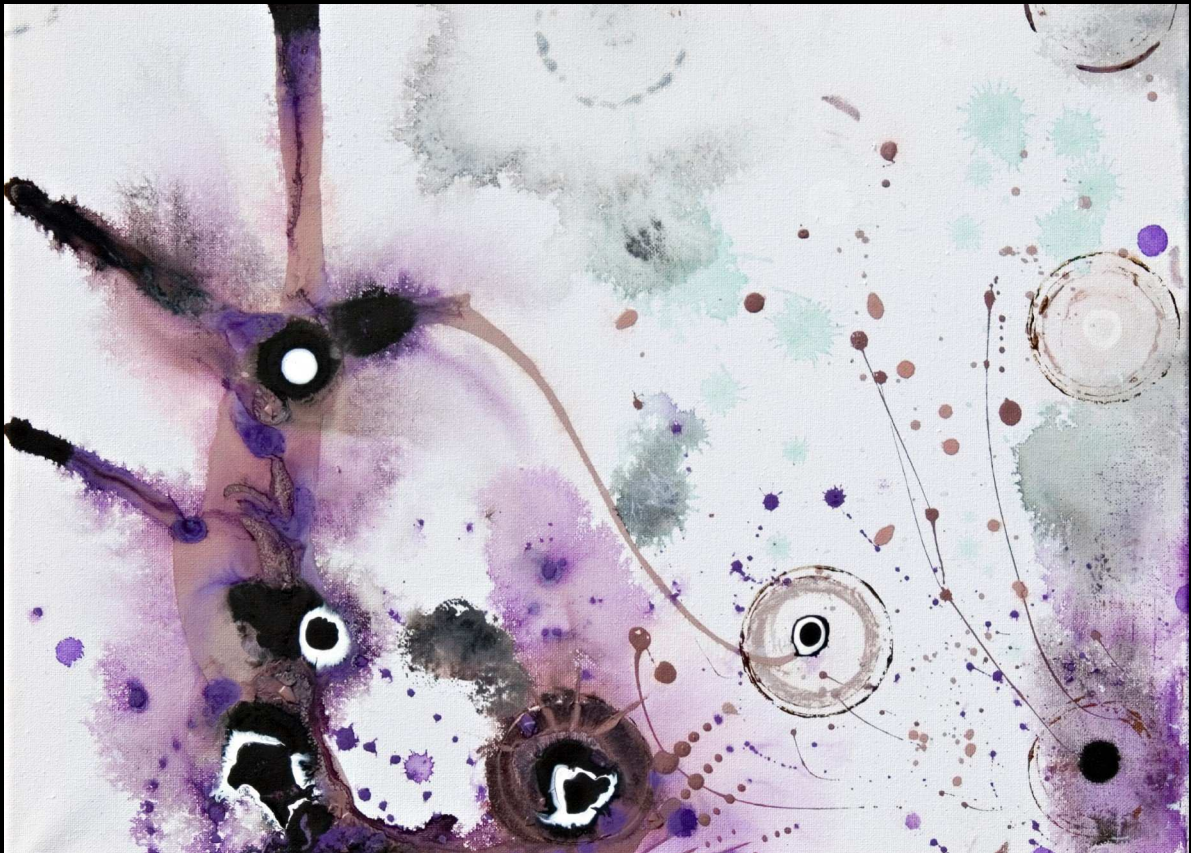
Acrylics, acrylic mediums & collaged objects and materials on 18" x 24" boxed canvas.



Leap of Faith, *above*

The evolutionary process of mankind rests now upon the taking of an extraordinary leap of faith: a revolutionary act of daring; an undertaking to make possible the seemingly impossible - the liberation of the individual self, the species and all sentient lifeforms from our current state of bondage due to self-imposed limitations...

Acrylics, acrylic mediums and collaged materials on 18" x 24" box canvas



Serendipity, *above*

A serendipitous meeting of acrylics and exuberance!

Acrylics on 16" x 20" boxed canvas



Ghost in the Machine, *above*

Do you ever feel its presence...?

Acrylics, pencil and collaged materials on 21 cm x 30cm 200gsm smooth cartridge paper



Cocoi Libre, *above*

Jason Weigner's 'Bolivian Monkey Tree Frog' becomes a living national mascot, winding its way unfettered through the wilderness in this celebration of magic and wonder of freedom in nature. I loathe seeing such creatures in captivity: even a cursory glance at the caged cousins of this splendid, vibrant being will illustrate how sad and limited their lives are by comparison. This work also speaks to the fate of the Ayore and all indigenous peoples as the World encroaches upon their rights to live and move freely through the landbase into which they were born; rights that we here in the so-called 'civilised world' surrendered long ago...

Acrylics, acrylic inks, UniPin fineliner pens and collaged objects on 10" x 12" canvas-covered board



About Birdsong, *above*

There have been moments where birds have quite literally saved my life - given me back the will to keep going. In my experience, the chirping and playfulness of sparrows is an incredibly powerful antidote to the world pain from which we all suffer, more or less...

Acrylics, acrylic inks, graphic pens and collaged materials on 9" x 12" box canvas



Life on the Edge, *above*

Dynamic, ever-changing, fluid, vital - real Life is always lived 'on the edge'. To become static, set in one's ways, immovable, is to become that much less alive: flesh, unlike stone, was never intended to be thus...

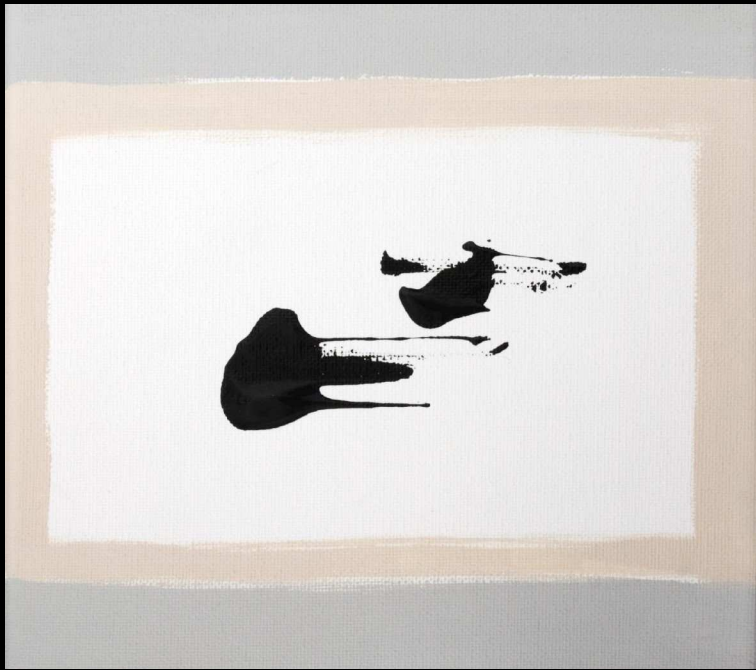
Acrylics, pastels, graphic pen, acrylic mediums and collaged materials on 16" x 20" boxed canvas



Reaching Out, *above*

Follow your innate guidance system, casting aside all else, and you will always reach out to that which is life-serving, and never go far wrong...

Oils, acrylics, acrylic mediums and collaged materials on A3 card.



Accidental Zen, *above*

In closing, I share a confession: 'mistakes', like the one above, often end up becoming favourite elements of my work. I've come to feel that in painting, as indeed in life, there is *no such thing* as a mistake - only living and learning, experimentation and growth...

Acrylics on 10" x 10" boxed canvas





Apparently
the colour of
members of the
most striking
have

There are so many great things about Birds

MUSIC

but...Wait!

What about Art?

HISTORY

British artist Jay Taylor opens her portfolio to share some of her most popular work. Enter an organic world of art from the heart, as boundaries vanish and freedom takes flight in the studio...