

## February Press Release

### DECAPAGE

Show casing the work of Demeter Haralabaki (mixed media), Vivien Lodge (print-maker) and Penelope MacEwen (painter) this exhibition explores a world of abstract and figurative metaphor through the use of colour, layers and organic shapes.

#### Dreamspace Gallery

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Feb 16-18

Tue- Thu 09.00-17.30

Private View: Thu 18.30-20.30



Demeter's mixed media work using acrylic on a collage-based canvas is abstract. With string emerging from the surface made out of juxtaposed off cuts of magazines, newspapers or flyers, luminescent rich blasts of colour are kept in a dialogue with the imagery of the collage. The work challenges the cursory glance of the spectator as at times (s)he might recognise specific things in the un-showy way images peep through from underneath the layers of paint. Demeter's formal training as a textiles' artist combines with her knowledge of painting to attribute the work with an unassuming but distinct quality of colour, hue and texture.



By contrast Penelope's work reverberates with themes from the cycles of life, the darkness of despair and abuse as well as the joy of re birth and the endeavour for a quest for meaning. There is a wishfullness and robustness about these rough paintings that is unsentimental and emotionally poised. Through the use of cane, stitched canvas, rope and recycled newspaper Penelope creates ravishing and ravaged simplified depictions of everyday events, the significance of which is so often overlooked.



Meanwhile Vivien the print maker has an eye for the particular. A simple mundane item is considered and the details revealed in a new light. A bean or an assortment of greens, a scene from inside the car in the tube take new forms of symmetry that give the spectator an unobtrusive sense of actual presence. Vivien's work encompasses traditional skills, such as drawing and etching as well as using new approaches that may combine computer generated photography for instance. Her painstakingly layered prints create visually captivating pieces of monochrome or scintillating colour that slow you down and enhance your appreciation of the moment.

Dr GB