

jamieprimrose

Reflections on a city

10th Anniversary Exhibition

**Shimmering vistas & impressions of Edinburgh
by Jamie Primrose, contemporary Scottish artist**

Friday 8th – Saturday 16th November 2013
Dovecot Studios, 10 Infirmery Street
Edinburgh EH1 1LT

Open Monday – Saturday, 10.30am – 5.30pm



Dovecot Studios

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Front cover signature painting: **Reflections on a city**, 80cm x 100cm, Oil on canvas



Late afternoon looking towards The Grassmarket
31cm x 24cm, Indian ink on paper



Wintry afternoon looking towards Scott Monument
31cm x 24cm, Indian ink on paper



Looking down towards The Grassmarket
31cm x 24cm, Indian ink on paper



The Royal Mile from The Tron
30cm x 47cm, Indian ink on paper



Afternoon shadows on Victoria Street
31cm x 24cm, Indian ink on paper



Nightfall on the castle from Johnston Terrace
24cm x 31cm, Indian ink on paper



Arthur's Seat from Calton Hill
47cm x 63cm, Indian ink on paper



Winter reflections on St. Margaret's Loch
47cm x 63cm, Indian ink on paper



City skyline from Arthur's Seat
30cm x 47cm, Indian ink on paper

Reflections on a city

10th Anniversary Exhibition

Shimmering vistas & impressions of Edinburgh

'*Reflections on a city*' is Jamie Primrose's 10th Anniversary Exhibition – a celebration of a decade living and working as a professional artist in Edinburgh since 2003, when he returned home to the Scottish capital from London and abroad. This showcase also marks exactly 10 years to the month since the Edinburgh-born painter's very first solo exhibition in the city at The Traverse back in November 2003.

Following no less than 25 solo collections in Edinburgh and London since then due to his prolific creative development, with past sell-out exhibitions to his name, this is the acclaimed contemporary Scottish artist's largest ever new body of work to date – with over 100 atmospheric new oils and Indian inks of Edinburgh. The exhibition is taking place at Dovecot Studios – the unique leading contemporary arts venue, renowned for its collaborations with some of the world's finest contemporary artists.

Although he has travelled extensively in the past and captured destinations further afield in his paintings, Primrose is best known for his Edinburgh artworks – as he is continually inspired by the city he grew up in and where he now lives once again. This extensive major body of work celebrates his passion for the Scottish capital – its unique light and majestic sculptural landscape. It explores his emotional relationship with city locations from his past or present, offering an evocative statement as he captures the transient nature of light from the sky onto land and water. Focusing primarily on autumnal and winter light at its most dramatic – sunrise and sunset, his works evoke a tranquil, ethereal quality as he emphasises luminosity and atmosphere.



Sun setting over Inverleith Park
50cm x 50cm, Oil on canvas

**“Jamie Primrose has an incredible feel for the light
of his native Edinburgh”** *The Sunday Times*

jamieprimrose

Contemporary Scottish Artist



'Reflections on a city'

The Scottish capital represents a strong element of who I used to be, who I have become and it is firmly ingrained in my psyche. I am continually drawn to capturing a timeless view of the majestic, historic city I grew up in as a child – whilst also discovering new aspects, vistas and learning more about myself all the time. In my work I am constantly exploring the juxtaposition of dark, haunting moodiness and uplifting, shimmering light through my usage of medium and technique. With this collection my aim was to reflect on my childhood past, and my present in Edinburgh, pausing briefly to mark ten years back in the city, before I move forward with fresh ideas for the next decade of painting.

Edinburgh & my journey

My passion for Edinburgh has never faltered. Whilst growing up in Trinity, I explored and loved the surrounding city with its contrasts – light and shade, Old and New Town, crags and parklands – which I often sketched as a child. Following school, I left to venture slightly further afield to study Fine Art at Newcastle University. By the time I had finished my degree I was preoccupied (like most of my contemporaries) with a need for travel and experience, so I took time away from my paintbrushes – firstly travelling around the world and then working in London.

Nine years passed by and I suddenly had an inner urge to return home to become an artist, with a visceral need to create again. This epiphany was fuelled by a period of travel in Central and South America, where the awe-inspiring light and contrasting landscapes had rekindled and reawakened my passion for painting.

I was also drawn back home by past memories and reflections on Edinburgh's unique light and atmosphere, the 'four seasons in a day,' which are still so inspiring to me. In the past I had always been motivated by the city's hazy early morning winter mist, the colourful transition from

late afternoon towards sunset and the quiet eeriness of dusk. I knew I wanted to rediscover the city and made the life-defining decision to return home to begin my artistic journey again. That was a decade ago and since then painting has become my life, my love and my living too. Edinburgh continues to have a huge influence on me – as there is so much inspiration right on my doorstep.

Locations in my work

In this new body of work I am reflecting on my relationship with 'Auld Reekie'. I revisit and capture familiar locations, which uncover a rich depth of meaning and sense of awareness from my past or present. Some of these places are well-known iconic views, while others are hidden lesser-known vistas – they are all very personal to me.

In my paintings I am expressing my emotional response to these locations. From my past I remember clearly the spires and darkness of the majestic Old Town, the elegant grandeur of The New Town and parts of Stockbridge – where I grew up and went to school. Childhood emotions return with memories of chasing squirrels and feeding ducks in The Botanics, walking my dog in Inverleith Park around the pond and scuffing my feet while following the Water of Leith path to the Modern Art Gallery. I also vividly recall gazing at the towering New Town mansions overlooking The Dean Village, watching the reflections on The Shore with my Grandpa (a very proud Leither), then sledging down Arthur's Seat in the sparkling snow and being mesmerised by the haze of colours in the late afternoon sky stretching far beyond the magnificent city below.

Over the past decade since being back in Edinburgh again, I have loved rediscovering these locations by myself and with my young family, but I've also explored new areas, which keep me excited, energised and inspired. I watch ethereal light shadows through the trees and ever-changing patterns of colour on The Meadows throughout the seasons on my daily journey to and from my Stockbridge studio from my home in Marchmont. I take in the idyllic stillness of The Union Canal from Fountainbridge to Polwarth where I often walk. I also often revisit the hilltops of Arthur's Seat, Calton Hill and Blackford Hill – to marvel at the breathtaking skyline vistas and gain my own perspective of the 'Athens of The North.'

The inspiration & process

As well as being drawn to specific Edinburgh locations, I have an obsession for the fleeting nature of light. I aim to encapsulate the city's unique light and shade on its landscapes and waterscapes in the development of my work, whilst capturing and expressing luminosity and atmosphere.

I find that the quality of light is best in autumn and winter – the water glistens brightly, the trees are sculptural, the clouds evocative, the buildings are cold, stark structures in front of vibrant transitory skies beyond. In front of me rich warm emerald hues turn to winter light dancing onto snow. I take a series of photos of the same vistas or motifs at different times of the day and over many days. I get lost in the varying light and sky formations, my thoughts, reflections and ideas about each location.

I also aim to capture that special, fleeting, single moment in time or 'snapshot' from

dawn onwards and from sunset to sundown, at the most dramatic and transient times of the day when the light is changing rapidly. It is my emotional response to and my perception of the relationship between the light in the sky, the myriad of colours, the atmosphere, architecture, landscape or water – which I am conveying at that very moment. Sometimes my feelings are communicated through a brilliant shaft of light streaming through the clouds, the eerie calm before a storm or the very last glimmer of light before twilight.

Whilst concentrating on light and shade and the transition of these two contrasting seasons, motifs in my work include vast skylines beyond the city's bold silhouette, a closer architectural perspective on individual streets or my keen interest in the more natural elements of the city's open spaces, parklands, shimmering lochs and waterways. To me, each artwork is a historical snapshot as I leave out most elements of modern life (except the architecture which is constantly evolving). I want what is happening to the light, sky, land, water and other natural elements to come alive and shine forth.

I love to experiment with mark making and layering of Indian ink and white acrylic washes in my monochrome works on paper. I often use these drawings as initial reference points for my oil paintings – together with a series of photographs of the same scene taken over a time lapse. For my oils I start off working with thick textured impasto, gradually building up with multi-layers of thinner translucent glazes over the top of the thicker oils. In the studio I work on one series of artworks at a time in a day – with each piece playing off one another.

Whilst letting those dry for a few days I start a further series...and so on, going back to rework the first... until the entire collection evolves over many months. I have created this body of work with the gallery spaces at Dovecot Studios never far from my mind...

10th Anniversary collection & exhibition

The concept and thinking behind my 10th Anniversary collection and exhibition at Dovecot Studios started to evolve a couple of years ago – with initial ideas, taking photographic research and drawing sketches. Most of these pieces have then been painted in my studio over the past nine months. Although I capture many destinations further afield, including France, Italy, London and the Scottish East and West coasts, I wanted to mark a decade of living and working in the city as a professional artist in some way and a new body of work about my home just felt right. I was also keen to challenge myself to create a series of larger-scale pieces than I had ever done before and Dovecot Studios has given me that opportunity, with its beautiful vast, light spaces.

These large format paintings act as key focal points in the North & South Galleries within their different series, which are curated by theme, motif, or in the most part by location. Over the following pages I have also grouped my artworks by location – on their own each offers an evocative snapshot from my past or present and collectively they depict a very personal, yet timeless journey through the Scottish capital's landscape... which I hope you will enjoy.

Jamie Primrose, October 2013

Calton Hill skyscapes



Streams of light over Edinburgh
100cm x 140cm, Oil on canvas



Winter sunset from Calton Hill
100cm x 100cm, Oil on canvas



Twilight approaching
40cm x 40cm, Oil on linen



Sunset over the castle
30cm x 30cm, Oil on linen



Transient Skies
50cm x 100cm, Oil on canvas



Last burst of light over the city
33cm x 55cm, Oil on linen



Twilight skies approaching
33cm x 55cm, Oil on linen

Arthur's Seat vistas



Sunset from Arthur's Seat
100cm x 140cm, Oil on canvas



Winter sunset over St. Margaret's Loch
100cm x 100cm, Oil on canvas



Winter light on Duddingston Loch
80cm x 100cm, Oil on canvas



Late autumn afternoon over Dunsapie Loch
80cm x 80cm, Oil on canvas



Winter shadows over the city
60cm x 60cm, Oil on canvas



Last light over Arthur's Seat
50cm x 50cm, Oil on linen



Sunset over St. Margaret's Loch
60cm x 80cm, Oil on canvas



Pentlands skyscape
50cm x 50cm, Oil on linen



Last light over The Pentlands
30cm x 30cm, Oil on linen



Winter haze over The Pentlands
30cm x 30cm, Oil on linen



Last light from Blackford Hill
100cm x 140cm, Oil on canvas



Edinburgh skyline from Blackford Hill
60cm x 60cm, Oil on canvas



Vivid skyscape from Blackford Hill
30cm x 30cm, Oil on linen



Winter clouds from Blackford Hill
30cm x 30cm, Oil on linen

Seasons in The Meadows



Evolving Moods
60cm x 10cm, Oil on canvas



Spring blossom in The Meadows
40cm x 40cm, Oil on linen



Meadows Spring reflections
40cm x 40cm, Oil on linen



Autumnal reflections in The Meadows
80cm x 80cm, Oil on canvas



Ethereal light through The Meadows
30cm x 30cm, Oil on linen



Autumnal light on Middle Meadow Walk
50cm x 50cm, Oil on canvas



Light shadows on The Meadows
30cm x 30cm, Oil on linen



Light reflections on The Meadows
30cm x 30cm, Oil on linen

Reflections on The Union Canal



Afternoon light on The Union Canal
80cm x 80cm, Oil on canvas



Late afternoon at Polwarth
40cm x 40cm, Oil on linen



Polwarth reflections
50cm x 50cm, Oil on linen



Serene Impressions
50cm x 50cm, Oil on linen



Polwarth Church
30cm x 30cm, Oil on linen



Late afternoon reflections
30cm x 30cm, Oil on linen



Viewforth shadows
30cm x 30cm, Oil on linen



Union Canal reflections
30cm x 30cm, Oil on linen

Glistening Water of Leith



Early morning in Leith
80cm x 80cm, Oil on canvas



Light breaking over The Shore
30cm x 30cm, Oil on linen



Still waters in Leith
30cm x 30cm, Oil on linen



Winter skies over The Colonies
30cm x 30cm, Oil on linen



Winter skies over Leith
30cm x 30cm, Oil on linen



Late afternoon in The Dean Village
30cm x 30cm, Oil on board



Light falling on The Water of Leith
50cm x 50cm, Oil on board



Reflections in The Dean Village
30cm x 30cm, Oil on board



Afternoon shadows in The Dean Village
30cm x 30cm, Oil on board



Autumn reflections
30cm x 30cm, Oil on board



Light and shade on The Water of Leith
50cm x 50cm, Oil on canvas



Late afternoon on The Water of Leith
30cm x 30cm, Oil on linen



New Town reflections
30cm x 30cm, Oil on linen

Autumnal hues in Inverleith & The Royal Botanic Garden



Autumnal pond reflections in The Royal Botanic Garden
80cm x 80cm, Oil on canvas



Royal Botanic Garden shimmers
50cm x 50cm, Oil on canvas



Chinese Garden
30cm x 30cm, Oil on linen



Sunset on The Royal Botanic Garden Pond
30cm x 30cm, Oil on linen



Pond reflections in The Royal Botanic Garden
30cm x 30cm, Oil on linen



Sunset on Inverleith Pond
50cm x 50cm, Oil on canvas



Autumn in The Royal Botanic Garden
30cm x 30cm, Oil on linen



**Edinburgh skyline from
The Royal Botanic Garden**
30cm x 30cm, Oil on linen



Autumn shadows in Inverleith Park
30cm x 30cm, Oil on linen

Winter light in the city



Snow clouds on Inverleith Place
50cm x 50cm, Oil on board



Snow in Inverleith
30cm x 30cm, Oil on board



Winter overlooking Inverleith Park
30cm x 30cm, Oil on board



Ethereal afternoon in Inverleith Park
30cm x 30cm, Oil on board



Streams of light in Inverleith Park
30cm x 30cm, Oil on board



Snow patterns in Inverleith Park
30cm x 30cm, Oil on board



Icy afternoon in The Stockbridge Colonies
30cm x 30cm, Oil on board



Late afternoon in Stockbridge
30cm x 30cm, Oil on board



Snow clouds over The Meadows
30cm x 60cm, Oil on canvas



Snow shadows looking towards Arthur's Seat
30cm x 60cm, Oil on canvas



Snow on Arthur's Seat
30cm x 30cm, Oil on board



Last light looking towards Bruntsfield
30cm x 30cm, Oil on board



Snow reflections
30cm x 30cm, Oil on board



Sunrise on The Meadows
30cm x 30cm, Oil on board



Early morning clouds over Marchmont
30cm x 30cm, Oil on board



Winter on Middle Meadows Walk
30cm x 30cm, Oil on board



Winter skies over The Meadows
50cm x 50cm, Oil on canvas



Winter clouds in The Meadows
30cm x 30cm, Oil on linen



Winter skies over Bruntsfield
30cm x 30cm, Oil on linen



Twilight skies towards Quatermile
30cm x 30cm, Oil on board



Winter light in Bruntsfield
40cm x 40cm, Oil on linen

Biography

Jamie Primrose

Jamie Primrose was born in Edinburgh in 1972. He attended the Edinburgh Academy where he won first prize for his art in the SCIS Exhibition of Independent Schools. He then attained a BA Honours in Fine Art at The University of Newcastle Upon Tyne (1990-1994).

For the next few years Primrose travelled around the world, visiting countries including the USA, Canada, French Polynesia, Australia, New Zealand, Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand and Hong Kong. On returning to the UK in 1996 he moved to London and worked for the next six years – firstly in the travel industry as a Senior Travel Consultant for Trailfinders and latterly, in more creative roles as a Senior Account Manager at Getty Images and in Creative Acquisitions at Digital Vision Picture Library.

In 2002, Primrose left London for a trip to Central and South America, visiting countries such as Mexico, Guatemala, Belize, Costa Roca, Ecuador, Peru, Bolivia, Paraguay, Argentina and Brazil. Inspired by the light and landscapes on his travels and with a calling back home to Edinburgh, he returned to the Scottish capital in 2003, intent on becoming a full-time artist – although having not painted for almost a decade since leaving university in 1994.

Since then he has achieved outstanding success with over 25 solo collections in Edinburgh and London and sell-out exhibitions – establishing himself as one of the UK's most prominent landscape artists and exciting artistic talents. In 2006 he was chosen as one of *Scotland on Sunday's* 'rising stars' and in 2007 he was shortlisted for the prestigious Jolomo Award for his Scottish landscape paintings, the same year as launching his own limited edition prints collection. With an ever-growing UK and international clientele, Primrose's artworks can be seen in many exclusive private and corporate collections worldwide and his sought-after work has received critical acclaim (see back cover).



Solo Exhibitions

London

Scotch Malt Whisky Society, Greville Street:

Nov 2006 - Feb 2007 *'Destinations'* – Landscapes, seascapes and skies from Latin America, Italy & Scotland

The Arndean Gallery, Cork Street:

Nov-Dec 2007 *'From Dawn to Dusk'* – Atmospheric oils and Indian inks

Edinburgh

The Traverse:

November 2003 *'Tierra de la Luz' – land of light.* Landscapes of Central & South America

The Dundas Street Gallery:

July 2004 *'Reflections'* – Dramatic Scottish lochs and landscapes
April 2005 *'New Horizons'* – Unique landscapes from the East and West Coasts of Scotland
July 2005 *'Riflessioni di Luce'* – New Italian artworks of Tuscany and Venice
October 2005 *'Visions of Light'* – Seascapes and skies
March 2006 *'Water Music'* – Lochs, seascapes and waterfalls
July 2006 *'Magical Vistas'* – An atmospheric journey through Edinburgh
October 2006 *'Secrets of Venice'* – The timeless waterways of Venice
March 2007 *'Moods'* – Ethereal scenes of Edinburgh
July 2007 *'Before Sunset'* – Expressive Scottish seascapes and skies
November 2007 *'Memories'* – Atmospheric cityscapes of Europe (Edinburgh, London, Paris and Venice)
July 2008 *'Serenity'* – Ethereal vistas of Edinburgh
October 2008 *'Streams of Light'* – Lochs, seascapes and river cities
March 2009 *'Vivid Skies'* – Magical vistas of Edinburgh
July 2009 *'Tranquil Shores'* – Atmospheric Scottish seascapes
November 2009 *'Twilight Hues'* – Ethereal Edinburgh cityscapes
March 2010 *'Shimmering Echoes'* – Enchanting river cityscapes of Edinburgh, Glasgow, London & Venice
July 2010 *'Ethereal Vistas'* – A tranquil journey through Edinburgh
November 2010 *'Luminous Skies'* – Atmospheric Scottish seascapes from the East & West Coasts
March 2011 *'Auld Reekie'* – A timeless journey through Edinburgh
June 2011 *'Evolving Moods'* – Ethereal autumn & winter hues in Edinburgh

November 2011 *'Serene Impressions'* – Glistening waterscapes in & around Edinburgh
June 2012 *'Transient Skies'* – Vivid vistas & skylines of Edinburgh
November 2012 *'Glistening Light'* – Illuminating impressions: South of France, London & Venice
June 2013 *'Ethereal Journey'* – The first 10 years 2003-2013 (Retrospective)
Magical glimpses of Central & South America, France & Italy, London to Scottish East & West Coasts

Exhibitions with Selected UK Galleries

1994 The Hatton Gallery, Newcastle University 'Final Year Degree Show'
1994 The Collective Gallery, Edinburgh 'Gallery 111'
1994 The Fruitmarket Gallery, Edinburgh, Sotheby's London 'Adam and Co./The Spectator 7th National Art Award'
2004 The Morningside Gallery, Edinburgh
2004 Tracey McNee Fine Art, Glasgow and The Irish Art Fair, Dublin
2004 On the Wall, Grand Hall Olympia, London
2004 Artco, Leeds
2004 Mansfield Park Gallery, Glasgow and The Glasgow Art Fair, Glasgow
2004 The Atholl Gallery, Dunkeld
2004/5 Art at Five, Brighton
2004/5 Taurus Gallery, Oxford
2004/5 Anstey Galleries, Harrogate
2005 The Di Rollo Gallery, Edinburgh & 2005 The Atholl Gallery, Dunkeld
2005 Frames Contemporary Gallery, Perth
2005 Tracey McNee Fine Art, Glasgow and the Affordable Art Fair, London
2006 Scotlandart, Edinburgh and Glasgow
2006 The Strathearn Gallery, Crieff and The Affordable Art Fair, London
2007 Edinburgh Festival 2007 and Edinburgh Art Fair – Scotlandart, Edinburgh
2007 Kings Road Gallery, London and The Affordable Art Fair, London
2008 Edinburgh Festival 2008 – Scotlandart, Edinburgh and Glasgow
2008 Kranenburg Fine Art, Oban
2008 Jolomo Lloyds TSB Scotland Award 2007 Finalists Exhibition, London
2009 City Lights (Glasgow) – Scotlandart
2009/10 Edinburgh Festival 2010 – Scotlandart, Edinburgh and Glasgow
2012 Observed – Gullane Art Gallery



Last light in Bruntsfield
31cm x 24cm, Indian ink on paper



Afternoon shadows in Warrender Park Road
24cm x 31cm, Indian ink on paper



Winter shadows over Bruntsfield
31cm x 24cm, Indian ink on paper



Moray Place
24cm x 31cm, Indian ink on paper



Twilight over St. Bernard's Well
24cm x 31cm, Indian ink on paper



Danube Street
24cm x 31cm, Indian ink on paper



Drummond Place
24cm x 31cm, Indian ink on paper

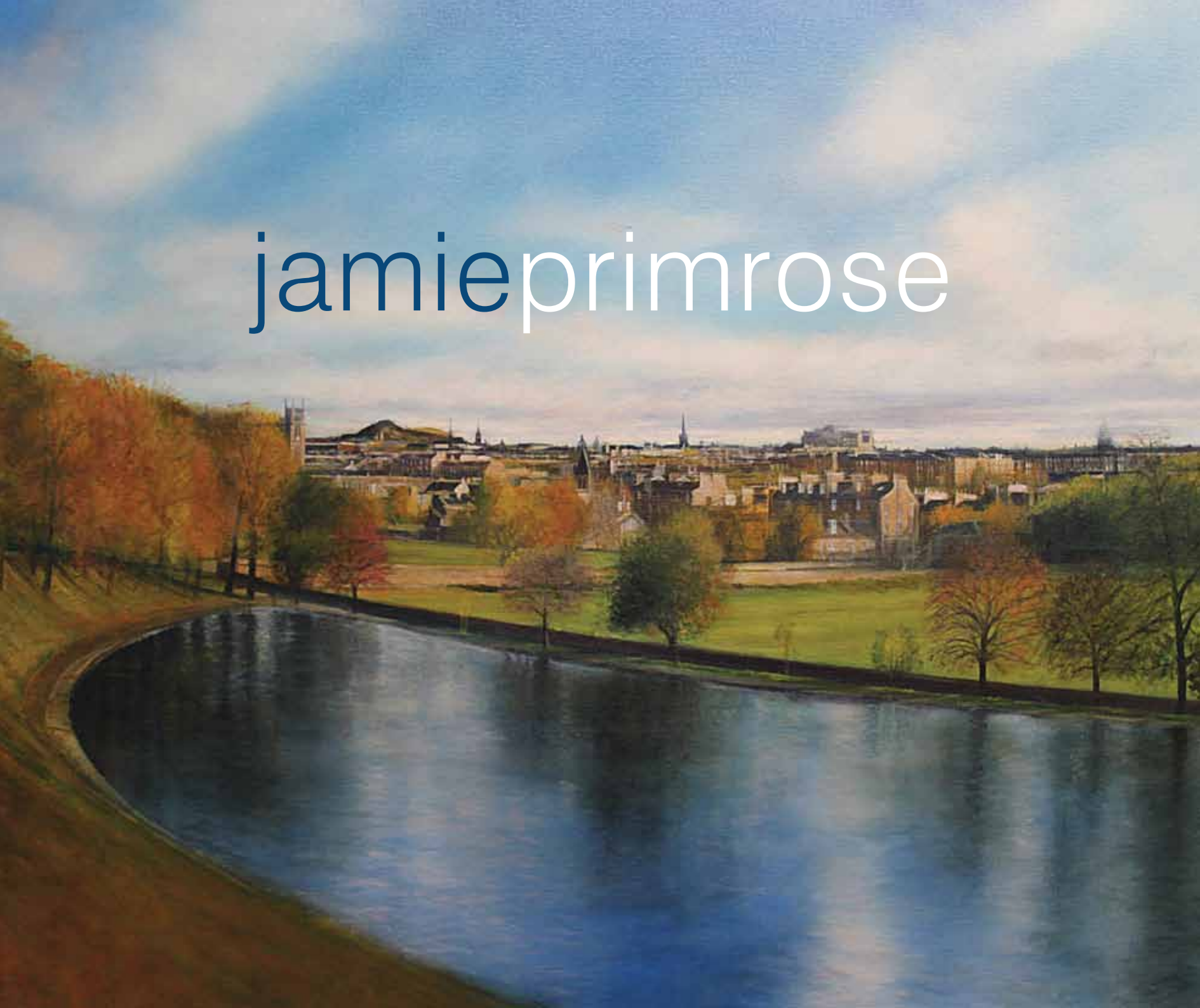


Dean Terrace
24cm x 31cm, Indian ink on paper



Heriot Row looking towards Abercromby Place
24cm x 31cm, Indian ink on paper

jamieprimrose





Winter afternoon on Middle Meadow Walk
50cm x 50cm, Oil on board

“Primrose’s paintings exude a heaven-sent sense of calm” *The Herald*

“Jamie Primrose is a well-known contemporary artist” *The Times*

“Primrose’s work is seen as highly collectable” *Scotland on Sunday*

**“Jamie has had an astonishing degree of success
with his atmospheric paintings”** *Galleries Magazine*

**“Jamie has a growing reputation and an ever-expanding band
of collectors snapping up his work”** *The Herald*

**“Jamie Primrose’s paintings display an atmospheric, ethereal quality
that makes his work so sought-after”** *Scottish Field Magazine*

Jamie Primrose
Contemporary Scottish Artist

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“As a professional artist I feel it’s important to constantly develop creatively, explore, experiment and to hone my craft. I like to challenge myself in a diversity of locations, media and motifs. My aim is to maintain honesty, integrity and passion in my work – which is constantly evolving. This is deep-rooted in the traditional forms of drawing and painting and I take inspiration from the past – in particular artists such as Whistler, Turner, Monet and the colourist tradition of rich Scottish landscape painting.” *Jamie Primrose*

With special thanks to my clients, suppliers, friends and family for all of their support.

