



eclipse

Melanie Miller



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Private view
14th October 6-8pm

Exhibition
15th October - 13th November 2026

LONG & RYLE

4 John Islip Street, London SW1P 4PX
Tel: +44 (0) 20 7834 1434
Email: gallery@long-and-ryle.com

Tues - Fri 10 am - 5:30 pm

'Queen Annes Lace' 2026 40cmx40cm Oil on gesso

'An eclipse is an obscuring and a revealing, a momentary disappearance, a returning, a half glimpse, a flicker, a slippage.

An eclipse occurs when an object is temporarily obscured, by passing into the shadow of body or by having another body pass between it and the viewer.

An eclipse is a shadow, a memory returning, a revealing.

An eclipse is transient, momentary, unnerving, primal, extraordinary, celestial.

An eclipse is the collective noun for Moths. Drawn to light but defined by dark.'



'Eclipse' brings together a new body of paintings and ceramic works by Melanie Miller, rooted in close observation of the natural world and an enduring fascination with its fragility, transformation and mystery.

Miller's work grows from walking, looking and sustained attention to the countryside around her. Rivers, woodland, hedgerows and the darker places inland become sites of encounter, where cultivated and wild landscapes meet and where plants, insects and birds mark the changing seasons. Her paintings hold these fleeting encounters in suspension, allowing observation to unfold into memory, association and a deeper sense of place.

A significant new element in 'Eclipse' is a series of ceramic moths, extending Miller's painting into three dimensions. As though emerging from the painted world into the gallery itself, the moths take on a new physical presence. Enlarged beyond their natural scale, they are delicate yet insistent, transforming creatures usually encountered at the edge of vision into objects that quietly command attention.

Most of the moths have undergone the unpredictable, alchemic process of Raku firing, in which fire, smoke and chance become part of the making. The transformation of the material echoes the cycles of metamorphosis and change that run through Miller's work, while the moths themselves bring a heightened awareness of the precarious balance of the natural world. They are at once familiar and otherworldly: Ephemeral creatures made strangely enduring.

Across the paintings and ceramics, Miller brings together observation, folklore, scientific knowledge, personal memory and the accumulated associations of place. Her subjects—plants, fungi, insects and birds— become vessels for a wider contemplation of time, disappearance and renewal. There is an awareness of the long ecological and geological histories contained within even the most transient encounter. Drawing on the traditions of seventeenth-century Dutch and Spanish still-life painting, Miller's work attends to both the beauty and impermanence of the living world. Eclipse invites a slower form of looking: an attention to what is easily overlooked, and to the quiet, often fragile connections between ourselves and the world around us.



'Flicker' 2026 80cmx60cm Oil on gesso



'Enwind' 2025 70cmx50cm Oil on gesso



'Collector' 2026 50cmx40cm Oil on gesso



'Tamarisk' 2026 40cmx40cm Oil on gesso



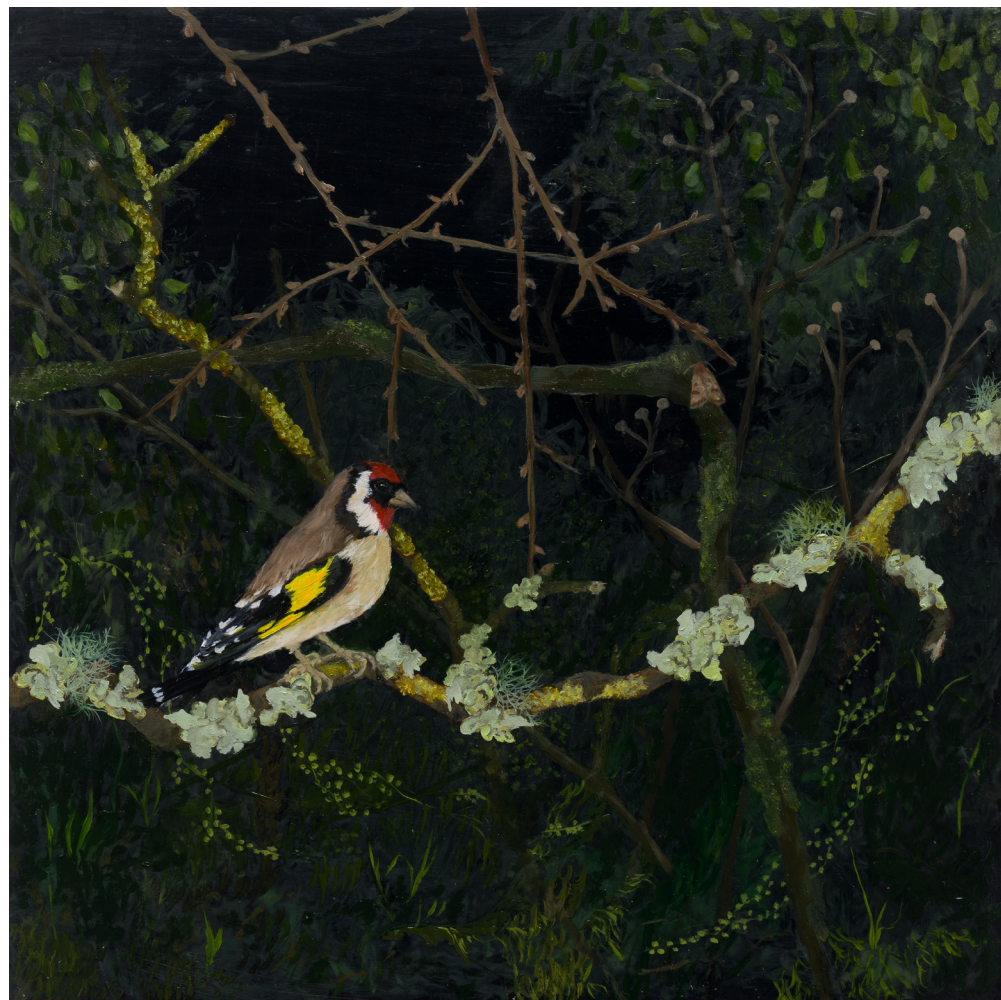
Selected ceramic Raku fired moths. Sizes variable



'Bower' 2024 60cmx40cm Oil on gesso



'Wolf Tracks' 2024 62cmx55cm Oil on gesso



'Outlook' 2025 30cmx30cm Oil on gesso



'Stonechat' 2026 50cmx50cm Oil on gesso



'Yarrow Moths' 2026 30cmx30cm Oil on gesso



'Mugwort' 2026 30cmx30cm Oil on gesso



'Garden Spider' 2026 30cmx30cm Oil on gesso



'Mugwort' 2026 30cmx30cm Oil on gesso



'Dark Bordered Beauty' 2026 25cmx25cm Oil on gesso



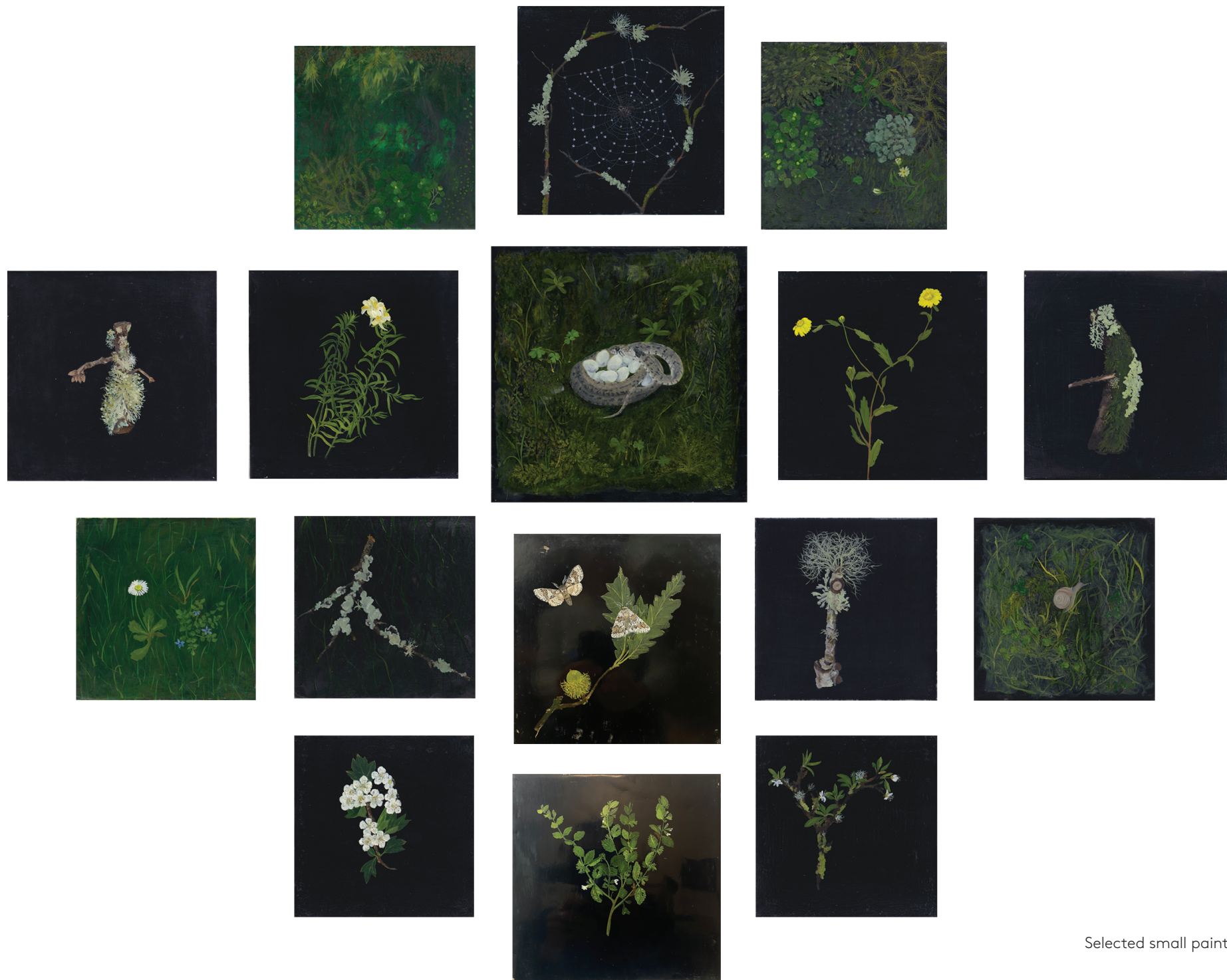
'Nettle' 2026 25cmx25cm Oil on gesso



'The Blues' 2026 30cmx20cm Oil on gesso



'Wild Carrot' 2026 20cmx25.5cm Oil on gesso



Selected small paintings. Oil on gesso. Sizes variable



‘The Space Between’ 2026 100cmx25.5cm Collaged drypoint on Awagami paper

Melanie Miller

Education:

Maidstone College of Art B.A honrs Fine Art.

Wimbledon School of Art M.A in Painting.

Solo Exhibitions:

2024 ‘Understory:Sous-Etage’ Salon Vert Geneva Switzerland

2023 ‘New-Unknown’ Long and Ryle London

2020 ‘Finite Things Long and Ryle . London

2020 ‘Solace 2020’ an online exhibition of lockdown paintings. Long and Ryle London

2018 ‘The Form Of Things Unknown’ Le Salon Vert Geneva Switzerland

2014 ‘Natural History’ Long and Ryle.London February

2011 ‘Close: Still’ Millenium St Ives June

2010 ‘Moth Boy and Bees’ Long and Ryle. London September

2009 ‘Small Truths’ Millennium St Ives October

Selected recent exhibitions include:

2026 ‘Summer Exhibition’ Royal Academy Of arts London

2025 ‘On The Way to The Well’ Newlyn Art Gallery Penzance

2025 ‘All Small’’ Pamela Salisbury Gallery Hudson New York.

2024 ‘Understory: snakes, snails and the forest floor’’ Pamela Salisbury Gallery New York.

2023 Contemporary British Painting Prize (Shortlisted) Huddersfield Art Gallery

2023 Contemporary British Painting Prize Thameside Gallery London

2021 ‘Model:Maquette’ Cello Factory London

2021 “Landscape:Unstiled Life” Darl E and the Bear Woodstock

2020 ‘The Seventh View’’ C24 gallery New York

Competitions:

2023 Finalist Contemporary British Painting prize

2017 Finalist Threadneedle Painting Prize

Commissions

2024: Wine label for Special edition year of the snake. Castiglion Del Bossco Brunello,Italy

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