



Gay  
Grossart

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*The Nude*

I have followed the career of Gay Grossart as a painter and I have observed that she has the energy and the mind set of the long-distance runner. She obviously has the gift of working hard, no matter where she is on her extensive travels.

Over a period of many years, she has paced herself to move steadily towards a point at which her achievements as an artist can be linked to those artists who express in their work a compassion for the human condition.

Gay Grossart has increased her steady pace in recent times to focus her subject matter on the unclothed human figure rather than on landscape, and, in doing so, she has revealed her new-found capacity to test herself, taking risks with her methods of applying paint to canvas. Indeed, she is now prepared to reveal her preparedness to question the very act of painting, demanding an effort not just of will but of physical energy in the handling of paint.

In so doing, she is thus providing ample proof that she has set forth on a life-long commitment to the act of painting and that such a commitment can be linked to the physical and mental effort demanded of any marathon runner.

Richard Demarco CBE, OBE, HRSA  
August 2011



Front cover

MONOCHROME  
NUDE

(Detail) Indian Ink  
84 x 59.5 cm



LINEAR NUDE,  
RED AND YELLOW

Oil • 84 x 59.5 cm



*The artist has a call  
and must answer  
the challenge....  
He lets his work  
speak for itself.*

Rabindranath Tagore

NUDE,  
RED AND BLUE

Conte, oil and oil bar  
74 x 57 cm

## The Nude

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There are few art forms which have more immediate impact than studies made directly from life. When that immediacy is combined with effortlessness and fluidity, it can result in the exposure of an indefinable quality which resonates between artist, model and viewer. This exhibition by Gay Grossart is concerned with attempting to capture that raw creative moment.

Despite using carefully pre-mixed palettes, her application of colour is always intuitive and her preferred medium is the wettest paint; each drip and smudge a visible manifestation of momentum and energy. The relationship between her colours is at times strained and at others harmonious; suggestive of liveliness, languidness, tension and tranquillity by turn. The resulting works aim to explore the elusive connections between colour and emotion, model and artist.

As Richard Demarco rightly says, this show is a contrast to the worked studio canvases for which she is best known and more concerned with capturing the spirit and values of spontaneity. These studies have much in common with the vivid *en plein air* paintings created on her travels abroad. With a particular love of France, India and Greece, she takes great inspiration from vibrant cultural environments. The resulting freedom of technique has clearly impacted on her approach to the study of the nude, where bold tonal experimentation and an obvious love for her materials - be it oil, acrylic, ink or charcoal – combine to lively effect.



KNEELING, STUDY

Oil · 86 x 60 cm



THINKING

Oil · 85 x 55 cm



## HANDS CLASPED

Oil, oil bar, acrylic and  
graphite · 84 x 59.5 cm



LINEAR NUDE,  
SHADOW

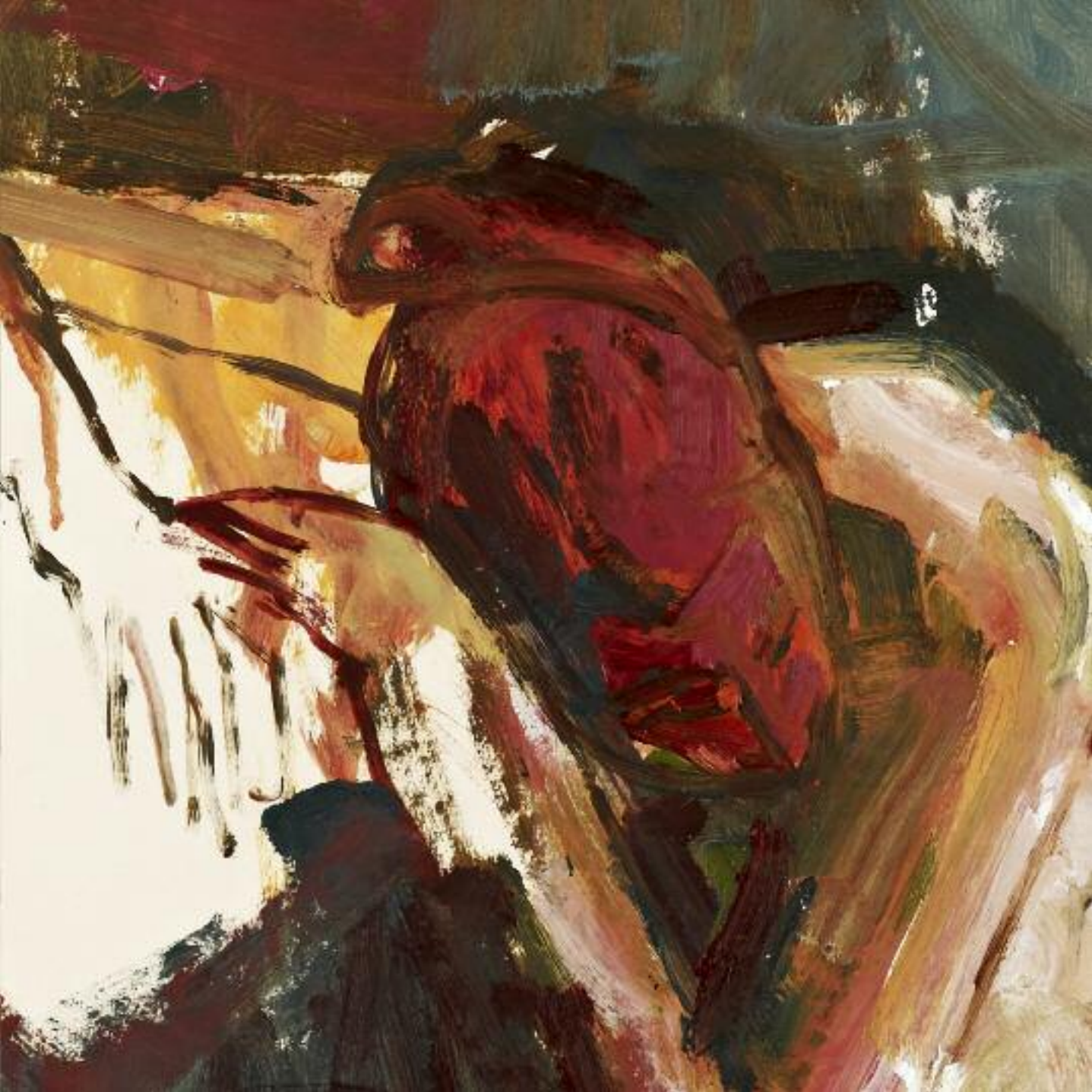
Oil • 84 x 59.5 cm





LILAC NUDE

Oil and charcoal  
84 x 59.5 cm





IN REPOSE

Oil • 84 x 59.5 cm



Left

RED AND PINK NUDE

Signed, oil and oil bar  
84 x 59.5 cm

Right

NUDE,  
GREEN THROW

Oil and oil bar  
67 x 59.5 cm





ABSTRACT NUDE

Oil and charcoal  
84 x 59.5 cm

LINEAR NUDE,  
BLUE AND YELLOW

Oil • 88 x 58 cm

YELLOW NUDE

Oil · 84 x 59.5 cm





ABSTRACTED

Oil, acrylic and Indian  
Ink • 84 x 59.5 cm





NUDE,  
BLUE CHAIR

Oil, oil bar and Indian  
Ink · 84 x 59.5 cm



CONTORTED

Oil and oil bar  
87 x 62 cm



Above

**NUDE, LEANING**

Oil and graphite  
84 x 59.5 cm

Below

**BACK TURNED, STUDY**

Oil • 87 x 62 cm





RECUMBENT NUDE

Oil and oil bar  
84 x 59.5 cm



RECLINING NUDE

Oil, oil bar and Indian Ink,  
59.5 x 84 cm





Left

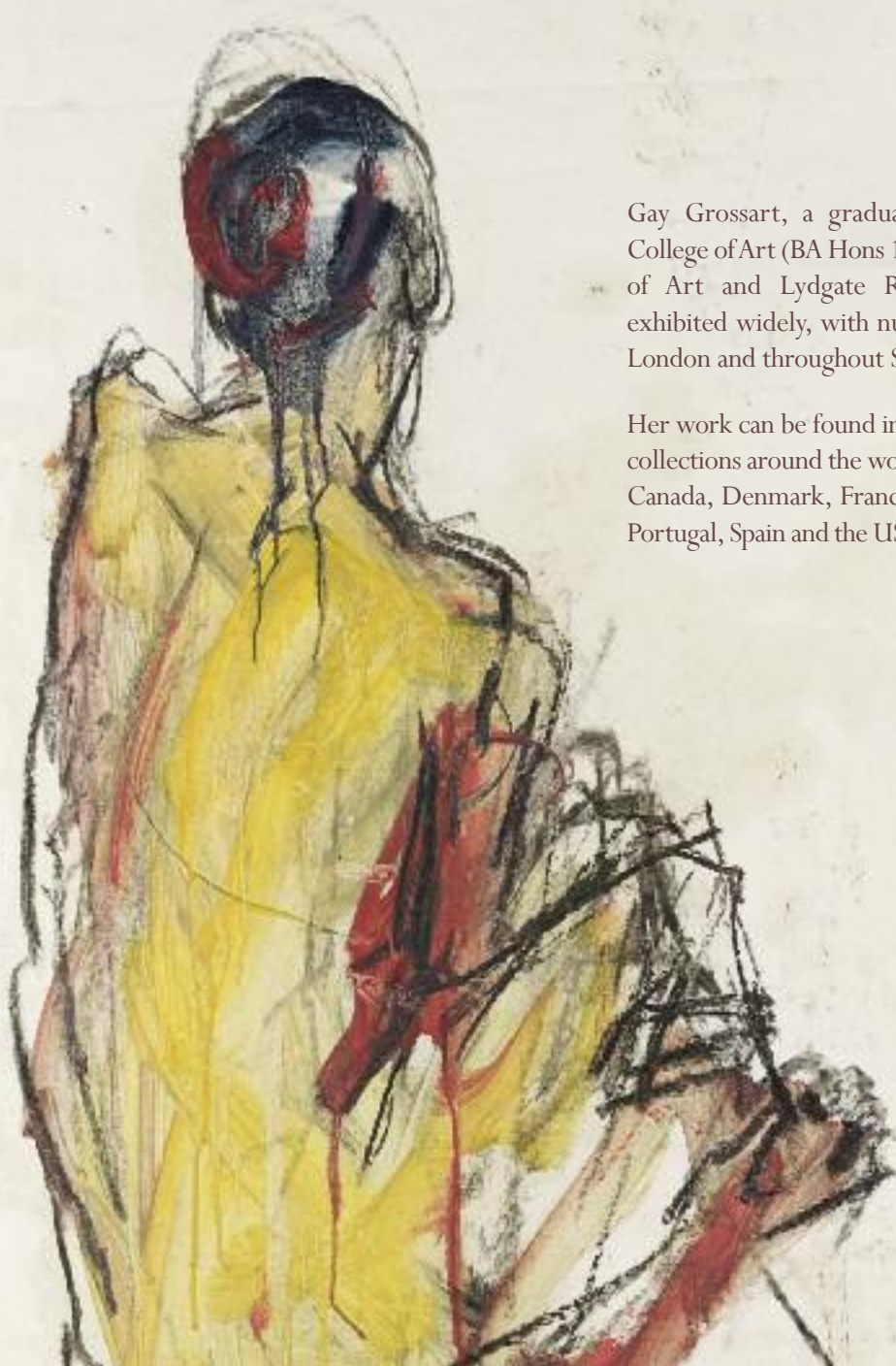
## ORANGE NUDE

Oil • 84 x 59.5 cm

Reverse cover

## CROUCHING, STUDY

(Detail) Oil and charcoal  
74 x 47.5 cm



Gay Grossart, a graduate of the Edinburgh College of Art (BA Hons 1991), The Leith School of Art and Lydgate Research Centre, has exhibited widely, with numerous solo shows in London and throughout Scotland.

Her work can be found in private and corporate collections around the world including Australia, Canada, Denmark, France, Italy, New Zealand, Portugal, Spain and the USA as well as in the UK.

6<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup> August 2011

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