

How your team
could benefit
from jumping
up and down
in Stratford

PAGE 32

ON THE
BOUNCE



The abstract

Rachel Clark's
colourful works
go on display

P39



Poke me up

Hawaiian dishes
of raw fish arrive
in Canary Wharf

P34



Job creators

How JP Morgan
and Allia are
helping Hackney

P36

WHAT'S ON



Thank You
Wandsworth
And Goodbye

Oil be damned

Abstract artist on why she destroys her work before it's really finished

Olivia Palamountain

paint because it's who I am – the motivation is like living and breathing," said abstract artist Rachel Clark. "But inspiration only comes from working."

Rachel has been painting in her current studio in the former Spratt's dog biscuit factory on Limehouse Cut for 33 years and also runs life drawing classes from the space.

"I love this area," she said. "But it's changed so much over the years."

"There used to be a tarmac factory over the road where everyone congregated for lunch and Crisp Street market was full of proper East Enders."

"The stalls were run by generations of the same family – it was the sort of place where everyone knew your name."

Rachel will be exhibiting a selection of her work in the Canary Wharf Window Galleries until December 1 alongside a show at her studio until December 3, where anyone is welcome to drop in.

"I travel through Canary Wharf every day and I really like it," she said. "Some of the students who come to my life drawing classes work there and a major collector used to be based there, so I have a good relationship with it."

Rachel has shown prints at Clifford Chance and has also exhibited at the Royal Academy Of Art, the National Portrait Gallery and Curwen Gallery amongst others.

Her work in the Window Galleries and studio show includes paintings, limited edition prints and ceramics.

"I mainly paint in oil, which I love," she said. "It's organic and temperamental but the quality of life within an oil painting is second to none."

"I work in layers, applying paint, overpainting, scraping it off and re-applying."

"The surfaces are rich in colour and often quite sumptuous, but to arrive at the completed work much has to be destroyed and re-worked."

At her light-filled studio many of Rachel's prints and paintings are on display, including *Feasting On The Wind*, a vibrant artwork now starring in the Window Gallery.

“

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Artist Rachel Clark



Her art costs from £100 for a print up to £20,000 for a large painting. But who buys it?

"All sorts of people," she said. "One company wanted something uncompromising for their boardroom because they felt it reflected the adventurousness of their company."

"But often it's people who want to own an original work of art in their office or home and find they can have an endless conversation with a work of art."

Rachel's dialogue with her work is equally engaged.

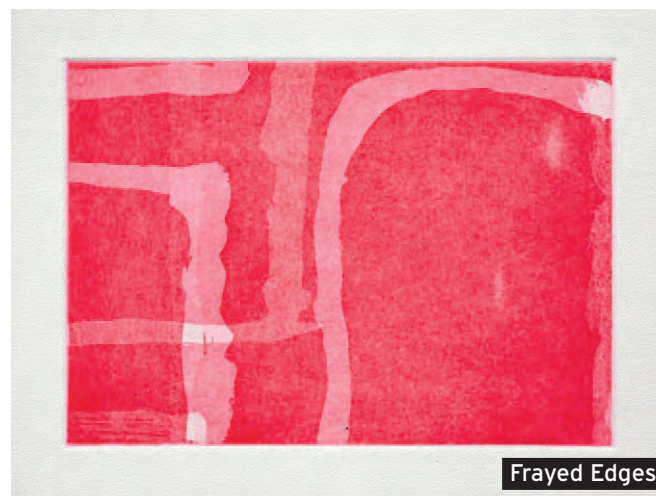
"We have a balanced but lively relationship," she said.

"Listening to what the painting tells me it needs and deciding what I think it needs is like a battle of wills with an inanimate object – no wonder people think artists are eccentric or mad."

Rachel's studio show will be open from Nov 24-26 and from Dec 1-3. Go to rachelclark.com for more information. Rachel Clark, Canada Place Window Galleries, Canary Wharf, until Dec 1, free, canarywharf.com



Rachel
in her studio



Frayed Edges



Feasting On The Wind



Riddle Of Timnath