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#artistsupportpledge Artists in Lockdown



Fiona Grady at pledge work

The scheme initiated by Sussex-based painter Matthew Burrows has proved a roaring success: over 70,000 works have been posted for sale via Instagram at #artistsupportpledge, and business has been brisk, with some £15m of sales

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generated to date. Works are offered for up to £200, and when an artist sells £1,000-worth they pledge to spend £200 supporting another artist. I gave myself a budget of that same £1,000 as a way to support artists whose works I like, and in several cases the covid-appropriate charitable causes towards which they in turn are donating some of their receipts. The set also acts a commemoration of these strange and alarming times.



Fiona Grady: *Rainbow (yellow, orange, red) III, 2020*

Fiona Grady's work is at its most characteristic when installed on windows, where the light floods through her colourful vinyl geometries to intoxicating effect. So there's a sense in this lockdown production (as per image at top) of the artist stuck inside. Her motif in a seductive new series of ink drawings is upbeat, it's true, but let's not get carried away: these are only partial rainbows, and feature only some of their usual colours.



About Paul Carey-Kent

Art critic and curator, based near Southampton.
I write most regularly for Art Monthly, Frieze,
Elephant, State, Photomonitor... and, of course,
FAD.