

Hannah Shergold

THE WILD COLLECTION



- Hannah Shergold -



# THE WILD COLLECTION

- by Hannah Shergold -

In partnership with and raising money for  
THE BORN FREE FOUNDATION



*"Our love and concern for animals should go beyond those within our personal environment. We should see the world as a whole, see nature in its entirety and realise the importance of humans being part of the animal world and animals being part of theirs. It is only in this way that we can prevent the complete destruction of our environment and perhaps, ultimately, of ourselves."*

**Virginia McKenna OBE**





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## THE ARTIST

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Since leaving the Armed Forces in April 2018 Hannah Shergold has established herself as one of the most exciting contemporary painters in the United Kingdom. In little over a year she has produced two entire collections of original artwork, both of which have been, or are due to be, exhibited on the prestigious Pall Mall in the heart of London's art district.

But Hannah's journey to this point in her art career has not been a traditional one. She graduated from Cambridge University in 2006 having studied pre-clinical Veterinary Medicine and quickly established herself as a highly respected bronze sculptor. Her work was exhibited internationally and focused primarily on private commissions.

In 2009, still eager for adventure and personal challenge, Hannah joined the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst and commissioned into the Army Air Corps. Following a ground tour of Afghanistan with the infantry she qualified as a Lynx helicopter commander and has served all over the world including Germany, Canada and Kenya.

Hannah was awarded several prestigious sculpture commissions during her time in the Army including the Leaping Lynx for the Army Air Corps and the Charging Rhino for the 1st (UK) Armoured Division in Germany. But it wasn't until her deployment to Kenya in 2015 to conduct medical evacuation tasks that she began to paint, taking inspiration from the wildlife that she was camped next to. Her work quickly drew a following for its unusual use of colour and pattern and she continued to paint on her return to the UK in 2016. Since then the demand for her pieces now far exceeds the rate that she can produce them.

Still an Army Reservist and passionate supporter of military charities, in 2018 Hannah raised over £50,000 for the UK Invictus Games team through the donation of her artwork. She travelled to Sydney, Australia, in the autumn of 2018 having been selected as the UK Invictus Games artist-in-residence.

She also featured in the 2019 Sky Arts Portrait Artist of the Year competition having won the only Wildcard slot for a place in the heats. Her portrait, produced



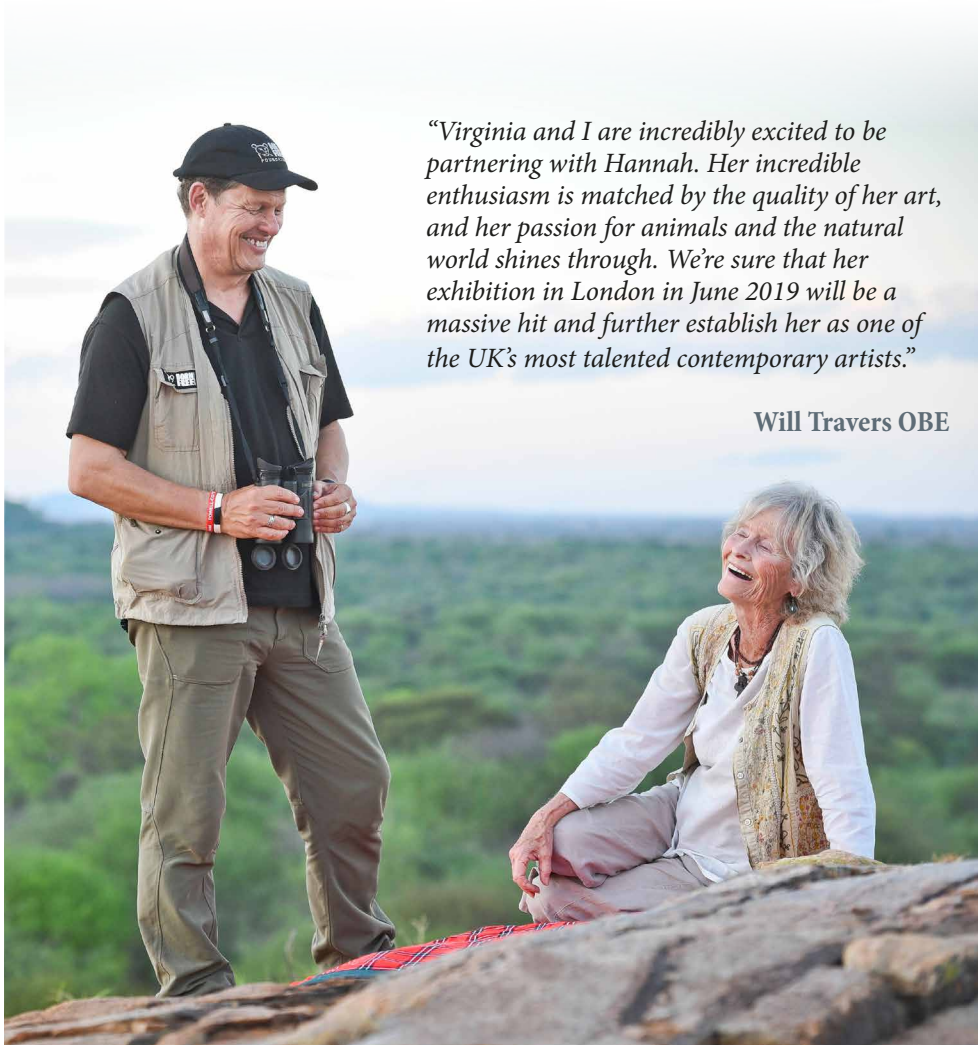
live in only 4 hours, was selected by her sitter to keep as his own.

Hannah now lives and works in Winchester, UK. "I feel privileged to have worked in such different fields and to have had such wonderful experiences along the way. It has given me the skills and confidence to experiment and to maintain the integrity of my work."

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# THE BORN FREE FOUNDATION

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*“Virginia and I are incredibly excited to be partnering with Hannah. Her incredible enthusiasm is matched by the quality of her art, and her passion for animals and the natural world shines through. We’re sure that her exhibition in London in June 2019 will be a massive hit and further establish her as one of the UK’s most talented contemporary artists.”*

**Will Travers OBE**

Since its formation some 35 years ago by Virginia McKenna OBE and Bill Travers MBE, stars of the 1966 film *Born Free*, along with their eldest son Will Travers OBE, Born Free has been committed to protecting threatened species in their natural habitats and preventing wild animal suffering.

The charity’s purpose is to conserve and protect wild animals, natural habitats and functioning ecosystems in perpetuity, and to end any activities that exploit and negatively impact wild animals whether living in captivity or in the wild.

From small beginnings, Born Free has grown into a leading conservation and wildlife organisation which operates sanctuaries, conservation activities and educational outreach programmes in over 20 countries across the globe. Born Free rescues vulnerable animals from appalling conditions where they have been confined, exploited or abused. The animals are rehabilitated and, whenever possible, released back into the wild. Sadly, many animals have been too badly damaged by captivity to complete this journey. Instead they are taken to Born Free sanctuaries where they are provided with lifetime care and spacious environments in which to live out their days in peace and with the respect they need and deserve.





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## THE ART

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Since returning to the UK from Kenya in 2016 Hannah has developed her style and technique using oil paints and palette knives. Her unique use of horizontal and vertical strokes to break up her paintings brings a geometric element to a subject matter not usually associated with straight lines.

Hannah captures the energy and movement of her subjects with a bold use of impasto paint in vibrant, often unnatural colours. She works quickly to capture a likeness while the paint is still wet, moving the medium across the canvas to create the network of layers that are threaded through her work.

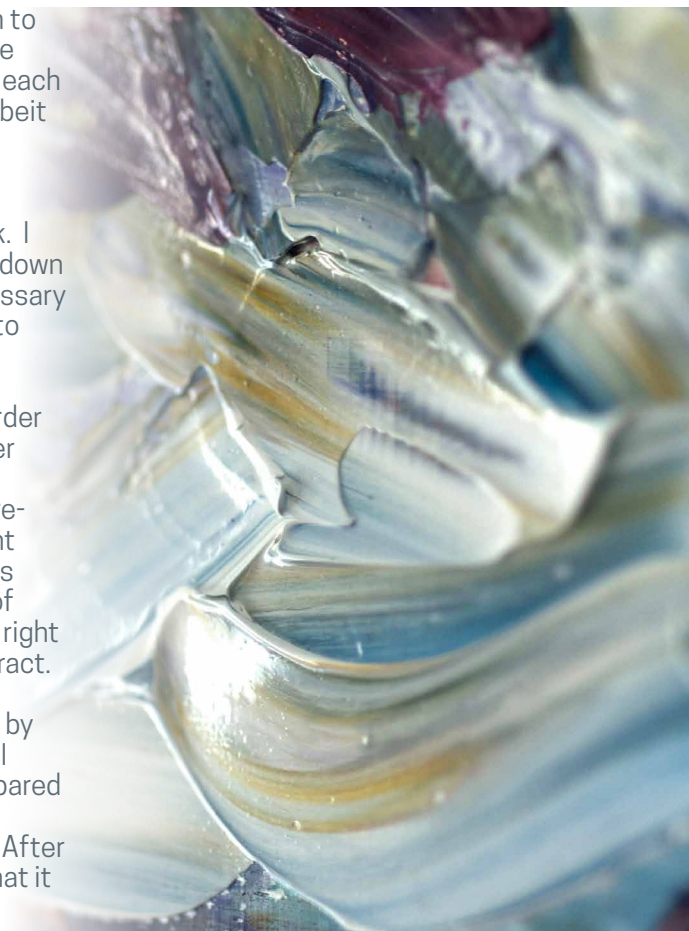
Hannah is often asked how she developed this particular style: “The process came about by what I would call the “happy accident”. I am, at heart, a scientist and perhaps a perfectionist, so my work would have a habit of becoming too tight and controlled in favour of achieving anatomical correctness. It was my frustration at yet another painting losing its life and fluidity that meant I suddenly took a builders’ scraping tool to a canvas, intending more

to dispose of the piece rather than to improve it. But the way in which the colours had been dragged through each other produced some incredible, albeit accidental, effects.

“I now use this method as a tool to keep the life and energy in my work. I force myself to break the painting down before reintroducing only the necessary details that will enable the viewer to once again read the form.

“I like to force the brain to work harder to find the image so that the viewer is continually surprised by shapes and lines that disappear and then re-emerge when viewed from different angles. It is a push and pull process that draws the subject in and out of focus - the challenge is to find the right balance between realism and abstract.

“Now, rather than being frightened by the prospect of making a mistake, I keep in mind that one must be prepared to ruin a painting for the benefit of experimentation and progression. After all, the worst that can happen is that it ends up in the bin!”









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# PORTRAITURE

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Portrait  
Artist  
OF THE YEAR

In 2017 Hannah competed for the Wildcard place in the 2019 Sky Arts Portrait Artist of the Year competition. Her painting of Emeli Sandé was selected by the judges and she went forward to the heats to paint Ashley Walters, or Asher D of So Solid Crew.

Hannah's painting was a clear winner for her sitter, who was so impressed by the likeness and unique style that he selected the work to keep as his own. Sadly she was not selected by the judges to progress further in the competition and the journey ended there.



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## COMMISSIONS

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### Self Portrait

*Oil on canvas  
70 x 90 cm*

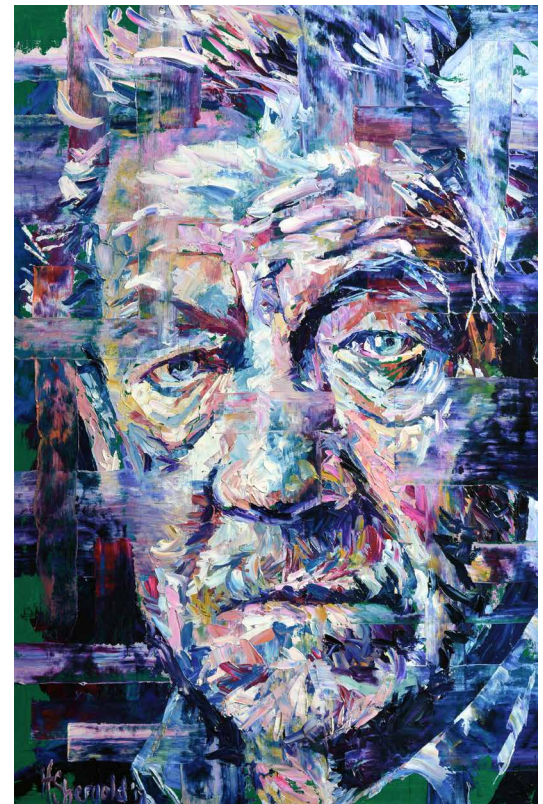


Hannah accepts a small number of portrait and wildlife commissions each year. Her work blends painterly technique with fluidity, colour and abstract style to make each artwork truly unique.

Pricing information is available upon request.

### Sir Ian McKellen

*Timed practice for the Sky Arts competition  
Oil on canvas, 50 x 75 cm  
Price on application*



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# THE WILD COLLECTION

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*20% of the VAT-exclusive sale price of each artwork will be  
donated to the Born Free Foundation*

Artwork	Dimensions	Price inc VAT (£)	Price exc VAT (£)	20% Born Free donation (£)	Page
Zebras at War	150 x 100 cm	16,800	14,000	2,800	page 16
Wildebeest Stampede	150 x 100 cm	16,800	14,000	2,800	page 26
A Crash of Rhinos	150 x 75 cm	15,600	13,000	2,600	page 18
Elephant March	150 x 75 cm	15,600	13,000	2,600	page 14
Cheetah in Full Flight	120 x 75 cm	14,400	12,000	2,400	page 22
Leopard Looking	90 x 120 cm	13,200	11,000	2,200	page 42
Polar Bears	100 x 100 cm	13,200	11,000	2,200	page 20
The Blue Lion	90 x 90 cm	12,000	10,000	2,000	page 24
Chimpanzee Gaze	90 x 90 cm	For sale by auction, please enquire			page 28
Elephant Embrace	120 x 75 cm	For sale by auction, please enquire			page 36
Crimson Tiger	70 x 100 cm	10,800	9,000	1,800	page 30
Wading Tiger	70 x 100 cm	10,800	9,000	1,800	page 46
Grouse Covey	120 x 60 cm	10,800	9,000	1,800	page 40
The Sleeping Lion	100 x 70 cm	10,800	9,000	1,800	page 48
Curious Hares	60 x 60 cm	7,200	6,000	1,200	page 32
Urban Bear	60 x 45 cm	6,600	5,500	1,100	page 38
The Tortoise	60 x 50 cm	6,600	5,500	1,100	page 44
The Gorilla	50 x 50 cm	6,000	5,000	1,000	page 50
Gentle Giraffe	50 x 50 cm	6,000	5,000	1,000	page 52
Wolf Stare	30 x 30 cm	4,800	4,000	800	page 34
Wolf Howl	30 x 30 cm	4,800	4,000	800	page 34
Wolf Fight	30 x 30 cm	4,800	4,000	800	page 34
The Blue Robin	30 x 30 cm	4,800	4,000	800	page 54
The Kingfisher	30 x 30 cm	4,800	4,000	800	page 54
The Eagle Owl	30 x 30 cm	4,800	4,000	800	page 54

**Elephant March**

*Oil on canvas*

*150 x 75 cm*





**Zebras at War**  
*Oil on canvas*  
*150 x 100 cm*





**A Crash of Rhinos**

*Oil on canvas*

*150 x 75 cm*







**Polar Bears**  
*Oil on canvas*  
*100 x 100 cm*



**Cheetah in Full Flight**

*Oil on canvas*

*120 x 75 cm*



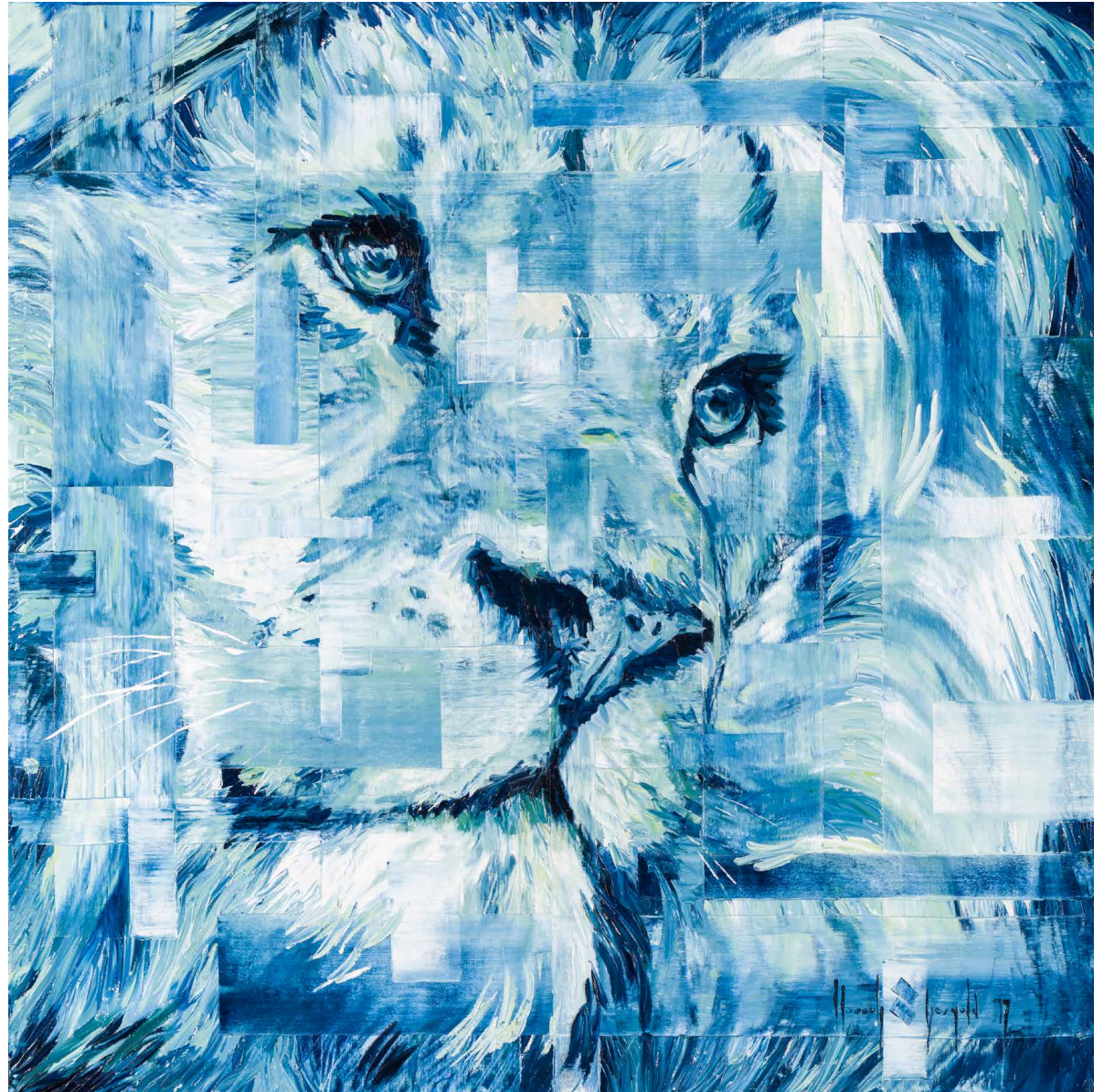


**The Blue Lion**

*Oil on canvas*

*90 x 90 cm*





**Wildebeest Stampede**

*Oil on canvas*

*150 x 100 cm*







**Chimpanzee Gaze**

*Oil on canvas*

*90 x 90 cm*

*This artwork will be sold at auction at the Private View of Hannah's Pall Mall exhibition in June 2019. All proceeds will be donated to Born Free.*

*For information on how to bid please contact Hannah using the details on the rear cover of this catalogue.*



**Crimson Tiger**  
*Oil on canvas*  
*70 x 100 cm*





**Curious Hares**

*Oil on canvas*

*60 x 60 cm*





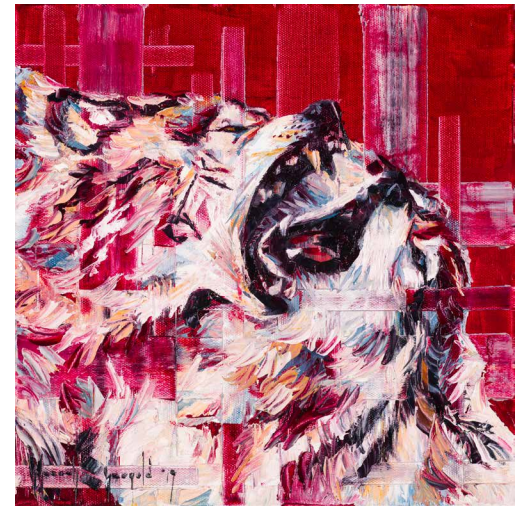
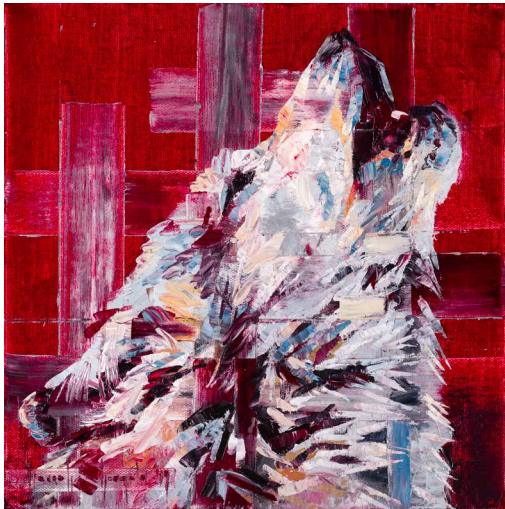


## **The Wolf Pack**

**Wolf Howl**  
*Oil on canvas*  
30 x 30 cm

**Wolf Stare**  
*Oil on canvas*  
30 x 30 cm

**Wolf Fight**  
*Oil on canvas*  
30 x 30 cm



**Elephant Embrace**

*Oil on canvas*

*120 x 75 cm*

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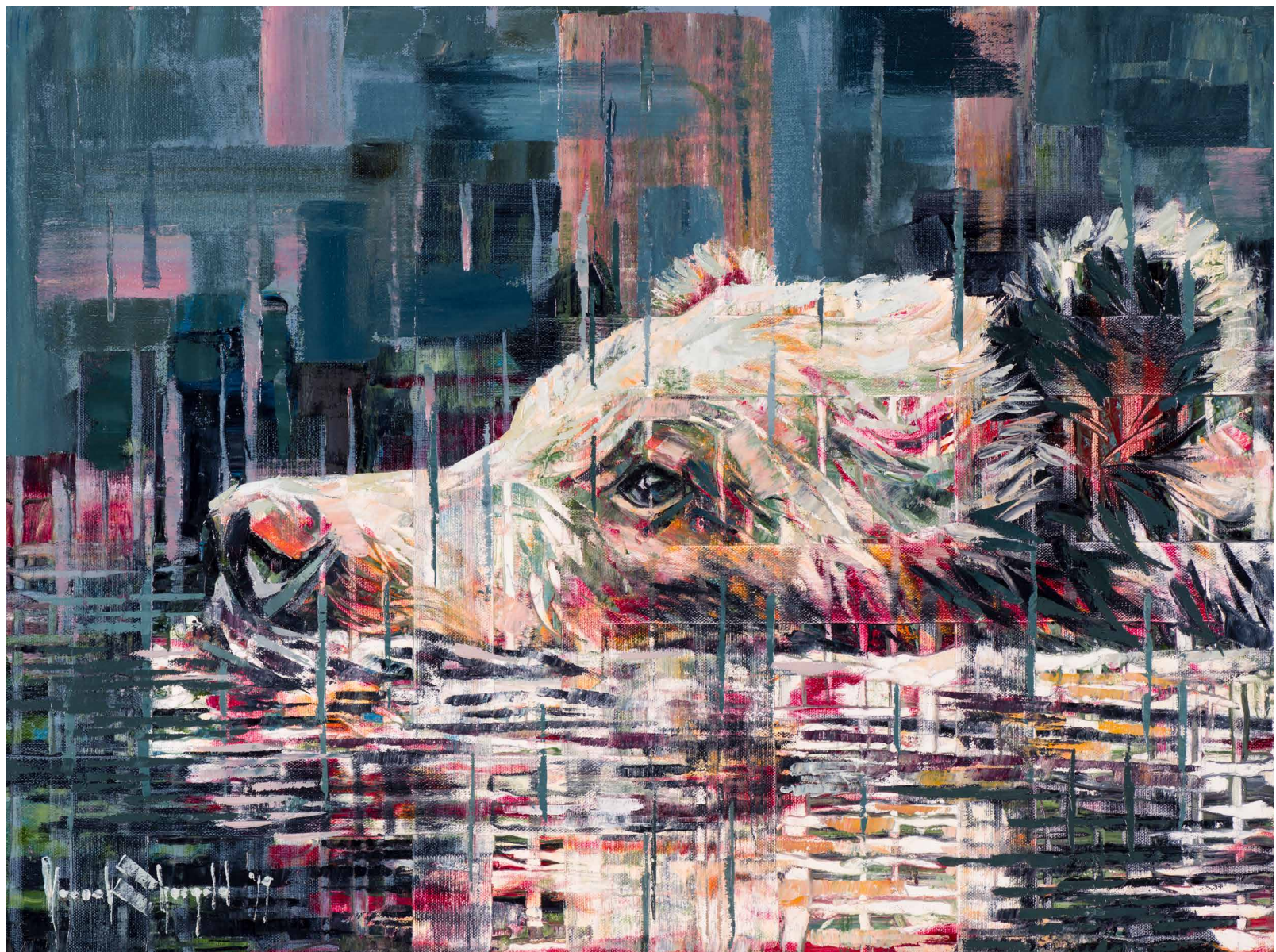
*Source material by kind courtesy of Wolf Ademeit.*





**Urban Bear**  
*Oil on canvas*  
*60 x 45 cm*







**Grouse Covey**

*Oil on canvas*

*120 x 60 cm*

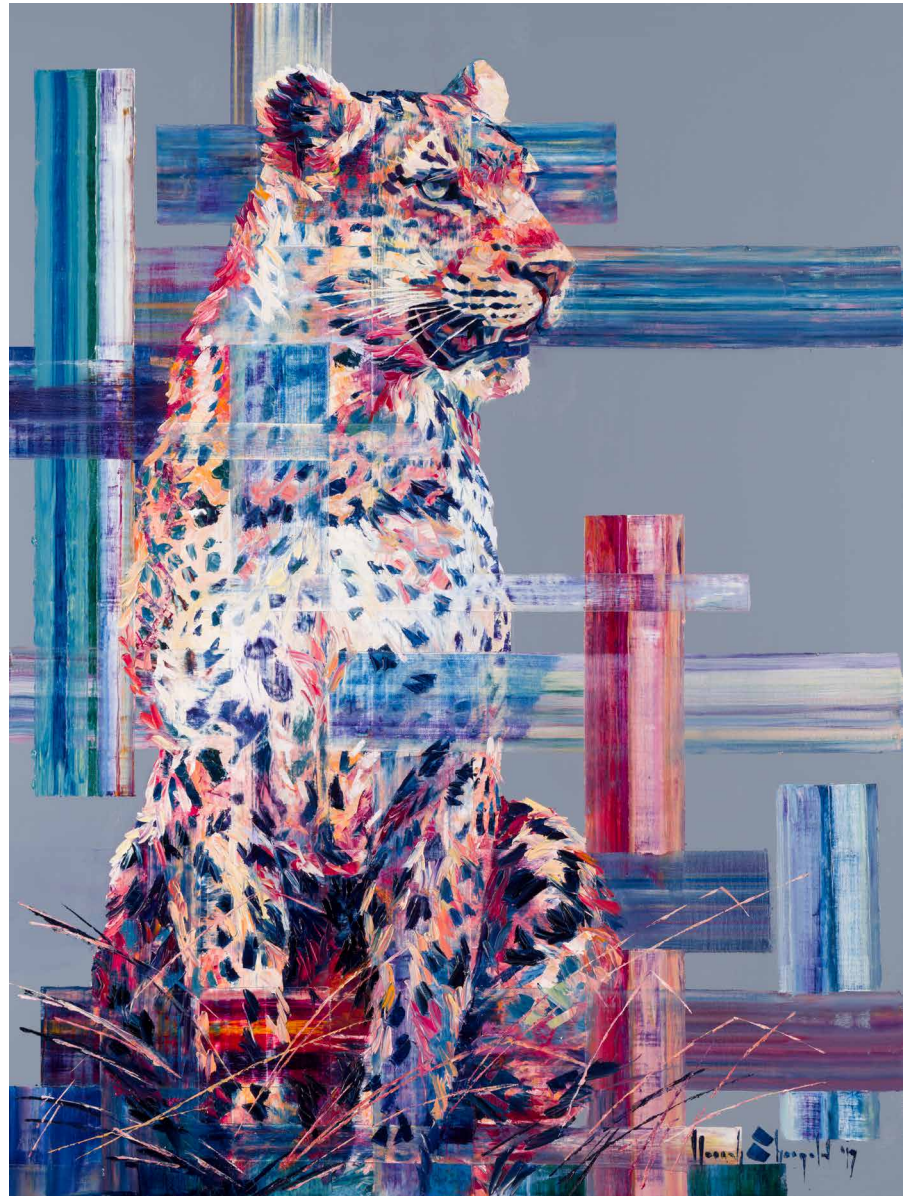


**Leopard Looking**

*Oil on canvas*

*90 x 120 cm*





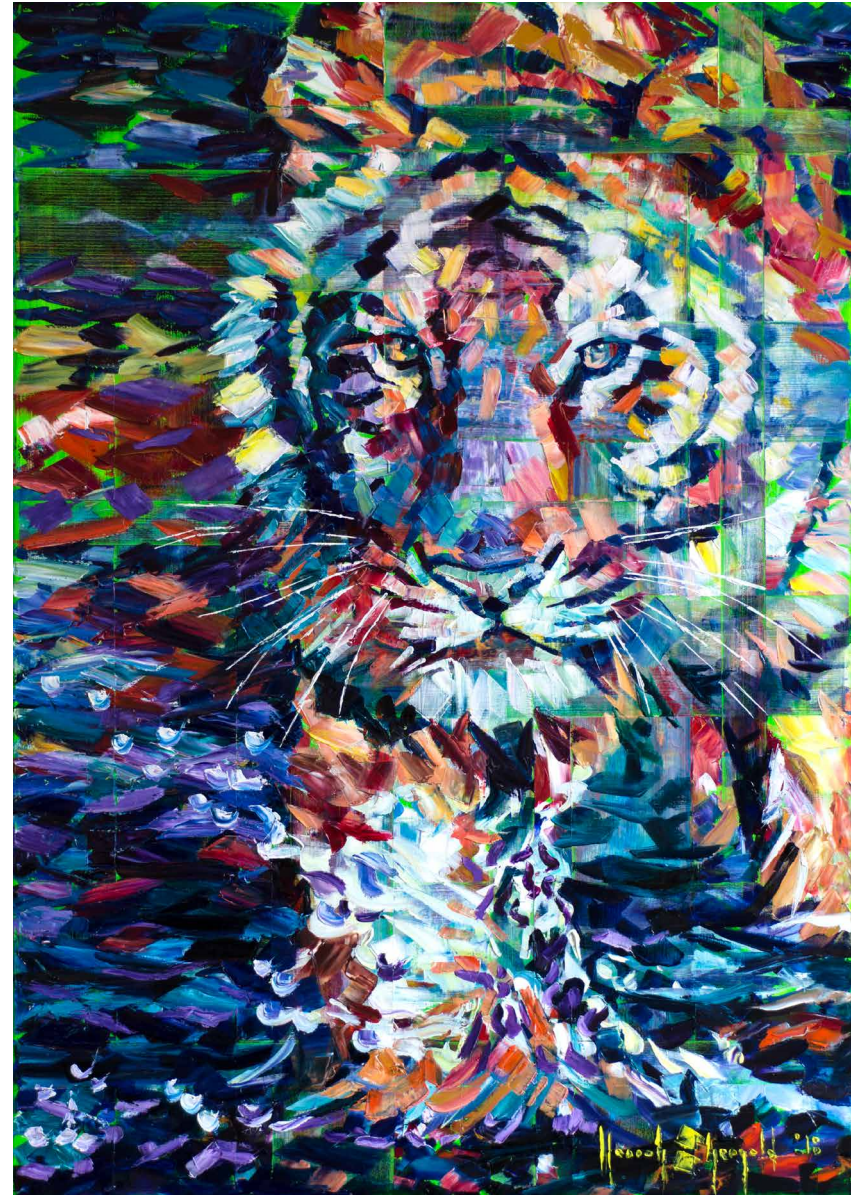
**The Tortoise**  
*Oil on canvas*  
*60 x 50 cm*







**Wading Tiger**  
*Oil on canvas*  
70 x 100 cm



**The Sleeping Lion**

*Oil on canvas*

*100 x 70 cm*





**The Gorilla**  
*Oil on canvas*  
*50 x 50 cm*







**Gentle Giraffe**

*Oil on canvas*

*50 x 50 cm*



## **The Birds**

### **The Blue Robin**

*Oil on canvas*

*30 x 30 cm*

### **The Kingfisher**

*Oil on canvas*

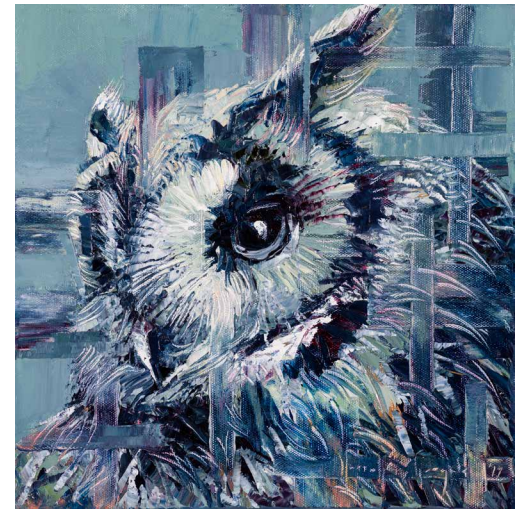
*30 x 30 cm*

### **The Eagle Owl**

*Oil on canvas*

*30 x 30 cm*





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## THE SPONSORS

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*A huge thank you to those that have helped to realise this fundraising endeavour.  
Your support has been humbling.*



Vintage Roots produce 'Wild Thing' wines which are a growing brand developed in association with Born Free. They make a donation for every bottle sold, which goes directly to benefit our conservation and animal welfare projects around the world.



Wolf Ademeit, a German wildlife photographer, kindly gave permission for Hannah to use a selection of his images as reference material. Wolf's distinctive approach makes his works stand out, capturing expressive portraits of zoo animals. His incredibly artistic collection of images offers a wide range of emotions in the animals' eyes.





Proudly partnered with and raising money for



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