

FORBIDDEN COLOURS

STEVE JOY

3rd May - 28th June 2025

PRIVATE VIEW

Friday 2nd May 6pm - 8pm

All Welcome



Steve Joy, *Samurai*, Mixed media and oil paint on wood panel, 2025

Velarde is delighted to announce our forthcoming exhibition *Forbidden Colours* by renowned abstract artist **Steve Joy**. Joy's work explores themes of cultural connection and the passage of time. Born in Plymouth and having spent much of his life travelling between the US and Europe, Joy's works have been exhibited in public galleries and institutions around the world.

Drawing inspiration from the shapes of the Kimono and Samurai armour, the works are influenced by the artist's extensive travels, particularly his engagement with Japanese culture and most notably the work of Japanese author Yukio Mishima. Joy uses abstract forms to bridge the gap between past traditions and contemporary perspectives. His paintings are a meditation on how art can build a universal language that transcends geographic and cultural boundaries. Rich pigments and gold and silver leaf from Kyoto, materials traditionally used in Kimono printing, are incorporated into his oil paintings on panel, further grounding his exploration in Japanese artistic heritage.