

Arcs

Richard Mackness, 2023

In some parts of the world it is readily apparent that process equals place; geography, geology, meteorology - the great shapers of the world, in certain special locations forge the sublime. And in certain individuals, sensitive beyond the norm, a sympathetic resonance is struck. Shawn Dulaney is an artist possessed of such a sensibility. While there is no easy reference in her work, with the simplest of the tools of her trade - a single brush, colour, a heavy paper and importantly, quantities of pure water, Dulaney sets out in sweeps of colour the terms and principles of place. The ebb and flow of tide, the alchemy of sun, sea and sky where Fire and Water seem to fuse; her response to these gigantic phenomena is to witness the supernatural at work. The artist's brush perhaps in analogue of the sun, sweeps in a broad arc. Subtle diffusions of colour flood the paper like an incoming tide. So the elements of painting vie for supremacy like so many elemental forces. An artist at the height of her powers laying out for us in ecstatic form the drama the beauty and the power of place.