

JOY BROADBENT

THE LOOK OF (FLOWERS) THAT ARE LOOKED AT

ARTIST BIOGRAPHY

JOY BROADBENT (b. 1977) lives and works as a painter in Toronto, Canada. She completed her Honours BFA at the University of Western Ontario. Her paintings combine abstraction with representation by way of a diverse range of painterly techniques. The paint itself seems to mask and sometimes reveal bits of organic material and human-made creations in flat planes of ambiguous origins. Her current works present a mystical vision of rose gardens at night, with themes of revelation, time, destruction and renewal.

ARTIST STATEMENT

I love looking at rose gardens along the pipe fences in little Italy. There is something grotesquely beautiful about flowers at night, their Bosch-like shapes in the shadows. They are burning bushes waiting to swallow my flip flops and force my bare feet to walk along dirty summer sidewalks. I take a deep breath of mystery and femininity and danger - all lingering together. Back in the studio, I remember the tapestry of front lawns and plastic Virgin Marys. My warm red feet become brush strokes. Layers and layers and layers cover and uncover abstract and formal icons of my night gardens. Between thorns, where divine eyes and tigers wait.