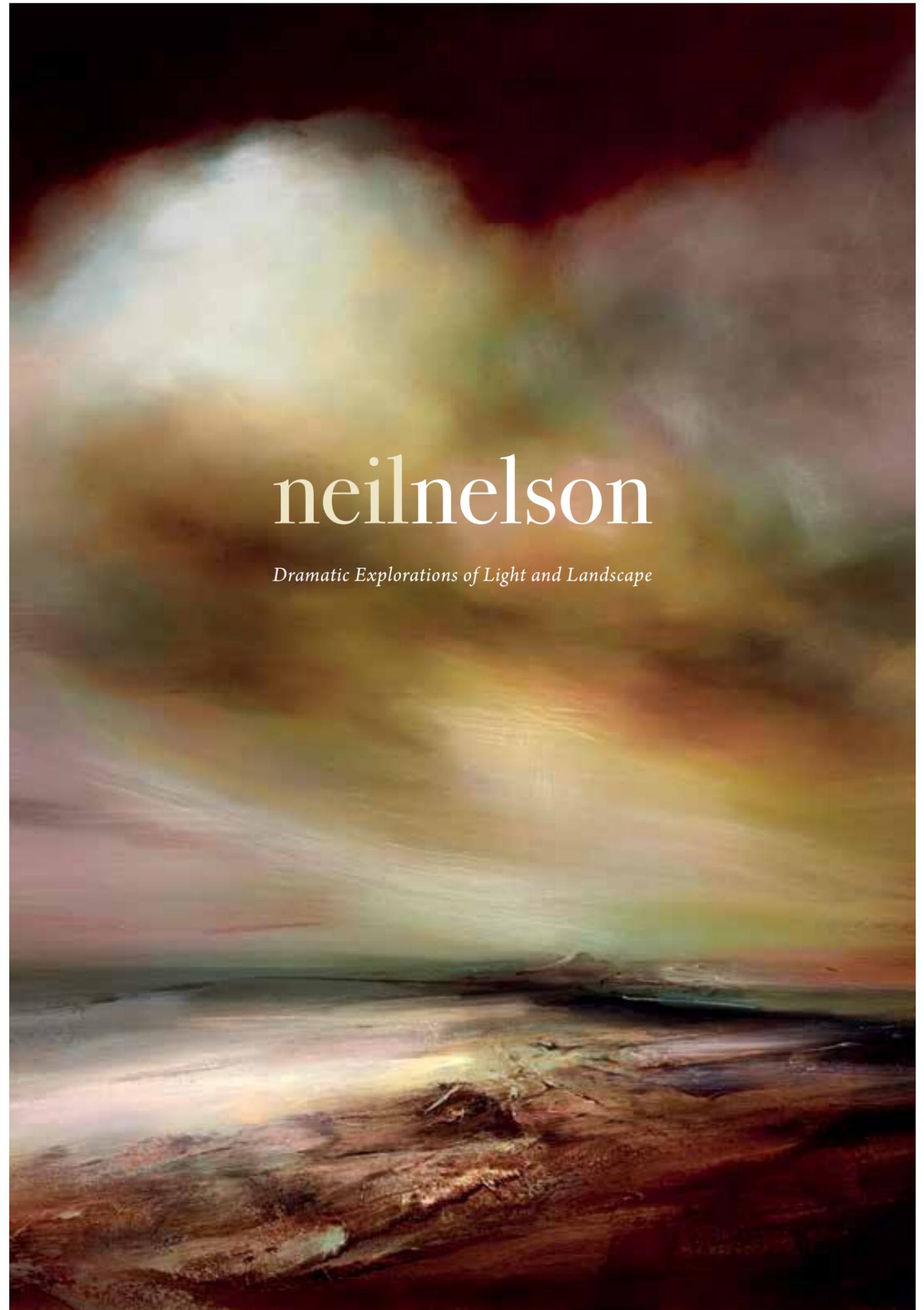


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neilnelson

*Dramatic Explorations of Light and Landscape*





## depicting a world forged by time and the elemental forces of nature

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From his remote studio near the coast of Northumberland, Neil Nelson produces large, brooding landscape and seascape paintings. Moving between realism and abstraction, they offer a glimpse of a powerful and timeless prospect; vast panoramic expanses, dark chasms, distant pools of light, icy wastelands, raging seas and brewing storms - Neil depicts a world forged by time and the elemental forces of nature.

Neil's studio sits in a hidden and remote spot on the edge of a wood, where it takes the brunt of some wild weather. The location is perfect for the kind of work he is doing with a clear view of the Cheviot hills in one direction and the Northumberland coast and sea in the other. The studio has a large north-facing window which provides a consistent neutral light which allows him to work intensively over a long periods, as well as giving him the space and solitude he needs to work undisturbed.

The hills around his Northumberland home and the Scottish Borders are a frequent destination for Neil, as well as the coast and sea. As he walks he makes working drawings and oil sketches to be used in the studio later, or takes photographs for reference, as well as simply absorbing the sense of place. He is constantly searching for remote and hidden places, attracted by the idea of being the first person to have stood in a particular spot or seen a particular view.

Neil enrolled in art college to study fine art at the earliest opportunity. On the strength of an exhibition in New York he was accepted into Studio Escalier, a classical art school in the South of France. This was an intense period of learning and growth which had a profound effect on Neil, and on his return to England he began a successful career as an artist.

Over the years he has exhibited in galleries from London to New York to Australia, and has undertaken many commissions for private collectors. He has also been featured widely in publications including the Daily Mail Weekend magazine and the New York Arts magazine, and has talked about his work at the Scottish National Portrait Gallery.



## wilderland

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Original Painting

40" x 40"

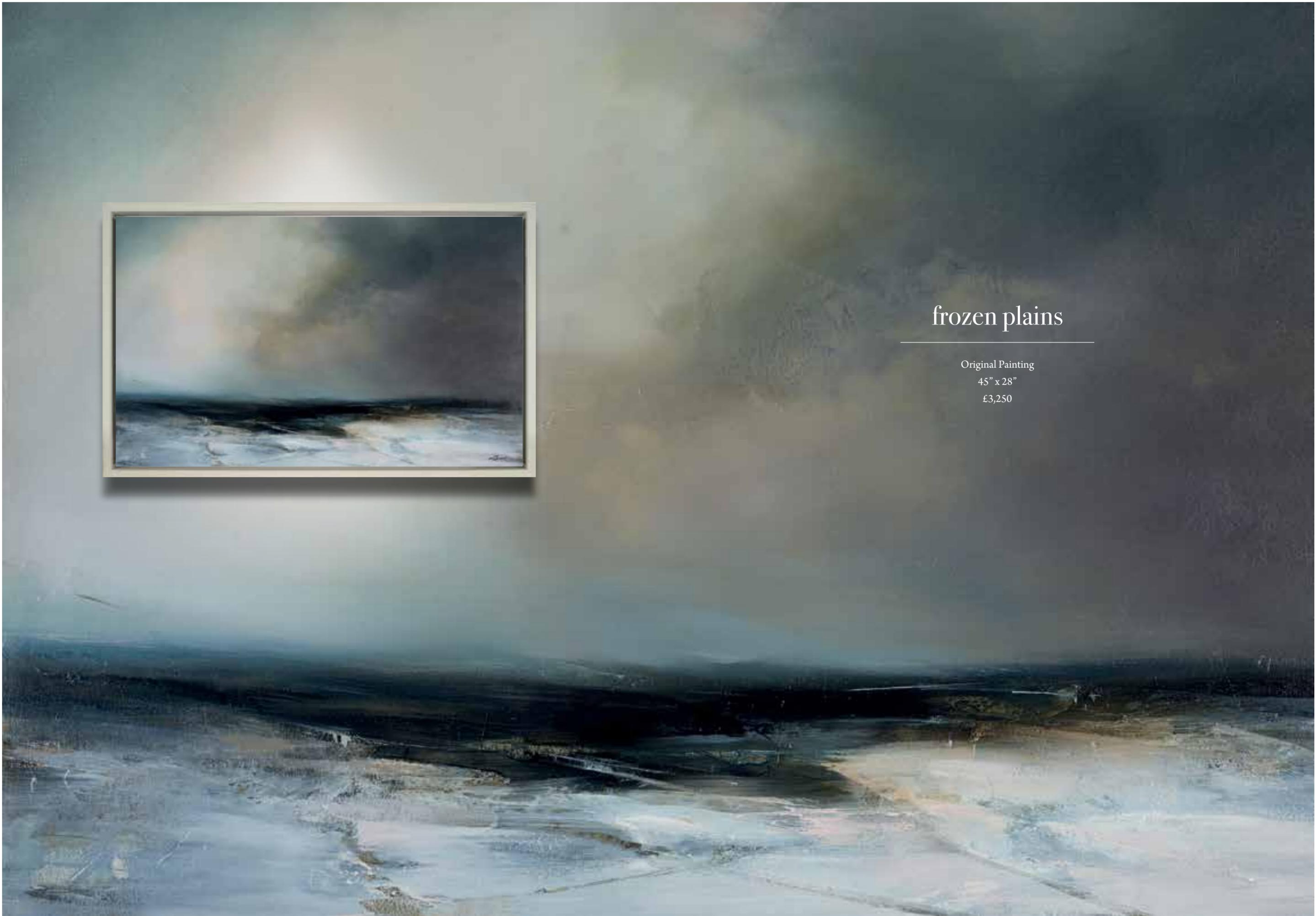
£3,500



## frozen plains

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Original Painting  
45" x 28"  
£3,250





Neil paints in oils finding them the most versatile and expressive of mediums.

*He says:*

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”Oil can be used thickly and built up into rock hard ridges and layers, or it can be thinned and applied repeatedly to make jewel-like glazes. It is the perfect medium for the landscape paintings I’m doing because so many of its properties mimic the effects of nature.

Exploring the possibilities of oil paint is one of the driving factors in my current work.”



## kingdom

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Original Painting

40" x 36"

£3,395



The paintings display a raw and instinctive approach, in some ways as untamed and energetic as the natural world they portray. Formed by gouging, scraping, slicing, erasing and rebuilding, they are a vehicle through which Neil explores not only the physical characteristics of the land and sea, but the abundant and tactile properties of oil paint.

He adds various other materials into the paint – marble dust to add body and thicken the paint, as well as beeswax and sand mixed amongst other things. “It all goes towards creating the texture I’m looking for. I quite like the idea of having actual materials from the earth going into my landscape paintings.”

Born in 1977 in Berwick upon Tweed, Neil grew up in what he recalls as a very wild environment, with mountains in one direction and rugged coastline in the other. As a child he was in awe of the power of nature and fascinated by the constructive and destructive qualities of the elements. He remembers watching weather patterns emerging and storms forming miles away over the hills and sea and from an early age he felt at one with the rhythms of nature.

Nearby there were ancient neolithic hill forts and standing stones and he was always fascinated by the markings which had been etched into the stones during the Bronze Age thousands of years ago. “The idea that primitive people were making their mark on their environment and communicating in a visual way fascinated me” says Neil, “and this idea of simple and primitive mark-making has certainly carried over into the work I’m doing now.”

# snowdonia

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Original Painting  
36" x 36"  
£3,250



## vista II

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Original Painting  
45" x 28"  
£3,250

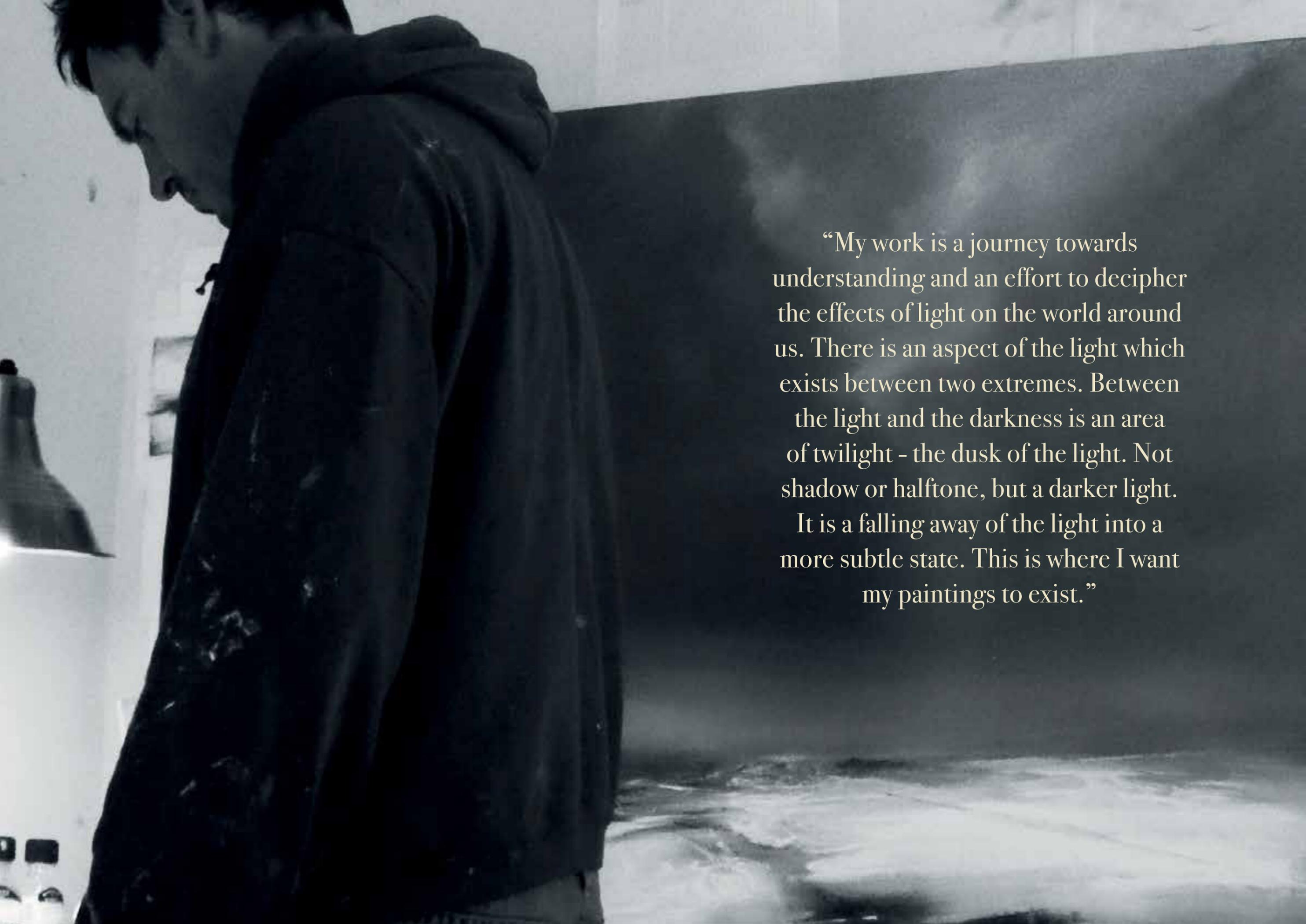




majesty

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Original Painting  
40" x 40"  
£3,500



“My work is a journey towards understanding and an effort to decipher the effects of light on the world around us. There is an aspect of the light which exists between two extremes. Between the light and the darkness is an area of twilight - the dusk of the light. Not shadow or halftone, but a darker light. It is a falling away of the light into a more subtle state. This is where I want my paintings to exist.”

The painting depicts a vast, atmospheric landscape. The upper two-thirds of the image are dominated by a heavy, layered sky in shades of grey, blue, and white, suggesting a storm or a thick layer of clouds. Below the sky, a wide, flat expanse of land stretches across the middle ground, rendered in soft, blended tones of blue, green, and white, possibly representing a glacier or a frozen body of water. The foreground is more detailed, showing dark, craggy rocks and patches of reddish-brown earth or low-lying vegetation. The overall style is impressionistic and atmospheric, with a focus on light and color rather than sharp detail.

glacier

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Original Painting  
40" x 30"  
£3,250



## tiderays

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Original Painting

40" x 30"

£3,250