

An abstract artwork featuring a dense composition of thick, expressive brushstrokes. The color palette is dominated by vibrant reds, deep blues, and bright yellows, set against a background of textured greens and purples. The strokes are fluid and dynamic, creating a sense of movement and depth. Some areas show more defined shapes, like a red form in the upper left and a dark, swirling shape in the lower right, while others are more blended and textured. The overall effect is one of intense energy and emotional expression.

SYLVIA MARTINS

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Paintings

February 1999

Gallery 27

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This series of paintings marks a change for Sylvia Martins. While it would be disingenuous to talk simplistically of light, colour, influence and era the fact that they have been painted here recently and not in New York over the last two decades already provides a marked difference. They carry a particular atmosphere; with elements, trapped within a shallow illusory envelope, drifting across the surface. Instead of a centralised picturing of more obvious spiritual motifs, the whole picture each time becomes the subject (right up to, and even beyond the edge). The space becomes a pocket for colour; patches and squares of apparently unashamed decoration break the surface of an unconscious playground. An uncanny variety of hints, clues, and suggestions flow from a seamless interplay between drawing and painting. But such "bright" work has little to do with a Northern European search for diffuse spatial ambiguity. It provides, instead, a hard hitting picture of visual compulsion.

Sacha Craddock
London January 99

2 *Arabesque*, 1998
97 x 97 cm
oil on canvas



8 *Kiki's Garden*, 1998
77 x 77 cm
oil on canvas

