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SARA DARE 2025

HYSTERA I

ACRYLIC ON CANVAS

1150 x 1150MM

£3,500

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HYSTERA II

ACRYLIC ON CANVAS

1150 X 1150MM

£3,500

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HYSTERA III

ACRYLIC ON CANVAS

1150 X 1150MM

£3,500

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HYSTERA IV

ACRYLIC ON CANVAS

1150 X 1150MM

£3,500

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VOID I

ACRYLIC ON CANVAS

850 X 850MM

£1,900

www.saradare.com

VOID II

ACRYLIC ON CANVAS

850 X 850MM

£1,900

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FLASH

OIL ON CANVAS

610 X 610MM

£950

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PINK FLASH

OIL ON CANVAS

610 X 610MM

£950

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VAULT I

COLOURING PENCIL ON WATERCOLOUR PAPER

360 X 260MM

www.saradare.com

VAULT II

COLOURING PENCIL ON WATERCOLOUR PAPER

360 X 260MM

VAULT III

COLOURING PENCIL ON WATERCOLOUR PAPER

360 X 260MM

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HYSTERA

Sara Dare's practice is marked by a distinctive manipulation of simple and familiar, shapes, and colours and altering them in ways that elicit curiosity, confrontation, or amusement. Her works seek to strike a balance between the playful and provocative.

Her current body of work, titled *Hystera*, explores the intersection of the 'V' shape with personal and cultural narratives of womanhood. Drawing inspiration from Kenneth Noland, Dare reclaims the 'V' - a symbol that is visually bold and embraces it's meaning. Within the context of Dare's practice, the chevron or 'V' is a symbol of feminine empowerment, asserting itself with relevance to Dares previous works. The title *Hystera*—the Greek word for uterus, tying the theme of female bodily experience directly to the work. This personal connection is underscored by Dare's recent hysterectomy, which introduced new terminology to her in her 40's - the "Vault," where the cervix once was, and the "Void," where the uterus once existed. Dare's exploration of the 'V' shape within this context reflects both a reclaiming of feminine symbols and a meditation on the profound changes in her own body. The assertive forms in her compositions push against the edges of the canvas, unlike the softer, more fluid shapes she previously employed. These more angular compositions now forcefully engaging with the periphery.

The 'V' symbol has a long and potent history within feminist culture. Historically, it has been used to represent female genitalia, with the "V" shape evoking the idea of a woman's body and its inherent power. The feminist movement of the 1970s embraced this symbol in its iconic form - the raised "V" hand gesture, often accompanied by the slogan "Victory" or "Viva," used to signify empowerment and solidarity. This gesture became a universal sign of resistance, pride, and autonomy in the face of patriarchal oppression. In addition, the 'V' is linked to the concept of the Divine Feminine, an archetype that embodies qualities of creation, nurturance, and transformation. In sacred geometry, the 'V' shape is also connected to the Vesica Piscis, the overlapping of two circles that form an almond shape—a symbol of fertility and femininity.

Dare's paintings within *Hystera* are deeply integrated into the canvas itself. She stains the canvas, creating an intimate relationship between the surface and the image, allowing the shapes to emerge as part of the object, rather than merely an image on a surface. This technique deobjectifies the form, playing with the interaction of positive and negative space. The blurred edges between colours add to the organic, fleshy texture of the works, giving them a pulsating quality. This subtle, tactile bleed of colour further emphasises the work's intimate connection to the body, avoiding any sense of artificiality and instead evoking a sense of the natural, the visceral, and the real.

Through this series, Dare invites the viewer to reconsider the symbolism of the 'V' not only in a visual context but also as a deeply embedded symbol of femininity, bodily autonomy, and the transformation of personal experience into cultural expression.

Selected Exhibitions, Art Fairs and Projects include:

2025/26
Postcards for Seyðisfjörður, HARD PAINTING | Sluice | LungA School, Seyðisfjörður, Iceland / Icelandic Embassy, UK & Denmark

2024
Painters, Group exhibition, HANSA, Nordic Art Agency, Malmo, Sweden.

2022
Cabinet de Curiosites, La Galerie Valerie Eymeric, Lyon, France.

2021
Turner Prize, Production/Curation Team & Lead Artist, Project Art Works. UK.
A Generous Space, Artist Support Pledge, Group Show, Hastings Contemporary, Hastings, UK.
Rhythm Adjust, The Breath Project, Groups Show, TM Lighting Gallery, London. UK.
Studio: Response 01, Group exhibition, Saatchi Gallery, London.
London Art Fair, After Nyne Contemporary, LAF Edit.

2020
Kite Circus, Group exhibition, Sidney & Matilda, Sheffield.
Dear Painting, Group exhibition, Nordic Art Agency, Malmo, Sweden.

2019
2022, Group exhibition, Studio 2,The Ark, Bembridge, Isle of Wight.
Object Meditation, After Nyne Gallery, London, UK.
Putting Ourselves in the Picture, Artist-in-Residence. Fabrica Gallery, Brighton, UK.
Black Stuff, Group exhibition, Unit 3 Projects, ASC Studios. London, UK.
Solo Show, Rye Creative Centre. Rye, East Sussex, UK.
Solo Show, Sid Motion Gallery, London, UK.

2018
C'est De La Peinture. Bankley Studios & Gallery, Manchester.
Not 30%. Curated by Kate Bryan, The Other Art Fair. Saatchi Art. London.
Featured at 100% Design. London Design Festival. Olympia. West Kensington.
Featured at Decorex International. London Design Festival. Syon Park. London.
Girls Just Wanna Have Fun. Unit 3 Projects. ASC Studios. London.
Featured at Clerkenwell Design Festival. London.
Third Order. Group exhibition, Unit 3 Projects. ASC Studios. London.
The Other Art Fair, Saatchi Art, Victoria House, London.

Press and Acknowledgements:

2024
Design Milk. Interior Design Article.

2023
Wallpaper* Architecture Article.

2022
Way of Life. The Gessner. Artist in Residence. Interview.

Nordic Art Agency. Malmo. Sweden. Podcast. Interview with Jo Hummel

The Bellslip. Brooklyn. Pato Paez & Michael Souter Curation. Article

2020
The Commission Project, Artology, Interview.

2018
Living Etc Magazine. November issue.
The Other Art Fair. Press Campaign. Spring 2018.

2017
Winner of The Winter Salon Exhibition. Selected by Paula MacArthur - Contemporary British Painting and Victoria Howarth - Jerwood Gallery.