



Josh Dorman
— *Hypnagogia*

John Martin Gallery

Hypnagogia: A transitional state of consciousness that occurs as one is drifting off to sleep when the mind is susceptible to influences from both the conscious and subconscious. Hypnagogia is also a state of unfettered creativity that can be accessed and employed as a source of inspiration and problem solving.

In my work I am constantly wandering, seeking echoes between forms, contrasting ideas from the biological to the mechanical. Spaces, scale and meaning can shift within moments and within centimeters on the painting. For better or worse, as my brain moves between thoughts I follow them with paint and bits of collage. My works are a record of that shifting. They are attempts to gather everything, to relate every possible form to every other possible form coming together to create an internal logic within the painting. I'm seeking what Keats called 'Negative Capability': "that is when man is capable of being in uncertainties, mysteries, doubts, without any irritable reaching after fact and reason".

The starting point for all my recent works have been antique piano scrolls whose beautiful perforated edges looking like DNA code give an inherent rhythm and structure to the subsequent layers. My studio is filled with antique paper gathered for their illustrations and diagrams. On my shelves, you'll find hundreds of old reference books on anatomy, botany, engineering, cellular structure, architecture, crystallography, mammals and aquatic life. You'll find a 1920's catalog of practical joke toys, piles of topographic maps and a hardware store catalog that is a foot thick. These books and manuals are filled with visual information, much of it obsolete, translated by human hands and minds before there were cameras to capture the outer appearance of things. I mine these sources for imagery, forms elegantly or clunkily drawn that call out to other forms across category and function. Connecting these forms is the magic for me... or rather, when it goes well it is like discovering that those connections were already there.

—Josh Dorman



Cover: *Crazy Traffic Again*

Ink, acrylic, antique paper on panel, 36 x 34 ins, 91 x 86 cm

OPPOSITE: *Shipwreck*

Ink, acrylic, antique paper on panel, 24 x 24 ins, 61 x 61 cm

— *London Bridge*
Ink, acrylic, antique paper on panel, 24 x 18 inches, 81 x 45.5 cms





— *Of an Inky Night*

Ink, acrylic, antique paper on panel, 18 x 18 inches, 45.5 x 45.5 cms

fold out spread



— *String Theory*

Ink, acrylic, antique paper on panel, 21 x 33 inches, 53 x 84 cms



— *Nocturne, Coastal*

Ink, acrylic, antique paper on panel, 18 x 18 inches, 45.5 x 45.5 cms



— *Strata*
Ink, acrylic, antique paper on panel, 33 x 21 inches, 84 x 53 cms



— *Picture Show*

Ink, acrylic, antique paper on panel, 8 x 10 inches, 20 x 25.5 cms

fold out spread



— *Red on the Inside*
Ink, acrylic, antique paper on panel, 21 x 33 inches, 53 x 84 cms



— *Of an Inky Night*

Ink, acrylic, antique paper on panel, 18 x 18 inches, 45.5 x 45.5 cms



— *Child's Play*
Ink, acrylic, antique paper on panel, 10 x 8 inches, 25 x 20 cms



— *Roo Kanga*
Ink, acrylic, antique paper on panel, 8 x 6 inches, 20 x 15 cms



Josh Dorman was born in Baltimore in 1966. He studied at Skidmore College, Saratoga Springs before completing his MFA at Queen's College, Flushing, New York. Recent solo exhibitions have included Mary Ryan Gallery, New York and George Billis, Los Angeles, the Craft and Folk Museum, Los Angeles. His work is included in the collections of the Butler Institute of American Art and The Naples Museum. Josh Dorman lives and works in New York City.

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A complete e-catalogue is available on request or can be downloaded from www.jmlondon.com.

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— *Believe You Me*

Ink, acrylic, antique paper on panel, 18 x 18 inches, 45.5 x 45.5 cms

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