Isabella Kuijers | Coming Back, Leaving, and Coming Back Again

This series of watercolor and ink drawings explores the spaces we pass through—places that are not final destinations, not designed to be seen but rather experienced or used. These include art studios, workshops, airports, alleyways, hospitals, and even homes when no visitor is expected.

The visual language of Coming Back, Leaving and Coming Back Again is inspired by the backgrounds of graphic novels and film settings—spaces that serve as vessels for narrative content. When empty, they are at rest.

The first seven pieces in the series were completed during a ceramics residency in Meteora, Greece, celebrating the unintentional beauty of active, functional spaces—filled with uncurated still lifes and unchoreographed movement. Many of the other works were created on-site in the UK and South Africa, while some are based on photographic reference, reflecting the difference between direct observation and the act of looking back, memorializing.

In this way, the series also traces the artist's relocation from London to South Africa. Moving disrupts and scatters belongings, creating a temporary chaos that, through both painting and lived experience, slowly settles into order. The process of making—both in art and in life—becomes an act of filtering, arranging, and finding a sense of place. In the desire to preserve, there is an underlying nostalgia—an acceptance that we move on, find ourselves elsewhere, and are left with only an approximate memory as a souvenir.



ISABELLA KUIJERS

print room, forrest, bed, 2025

Watercolour on paper

30 x 30 cm

Framed: 37.5 x 37.5 x 3.5 cm



ISABELLA KUIJERS
rooftops, austria, 2025
Watercolour on paper
30 x 30 cm
Framed: 37.5 x 37.5 x 3.5 cm



ISABELLA KUIJERS
Signets, 2025
Watercolour on paper
30 x 30 cm
Framed: 37.5 x 37.5 x 3.5 cm

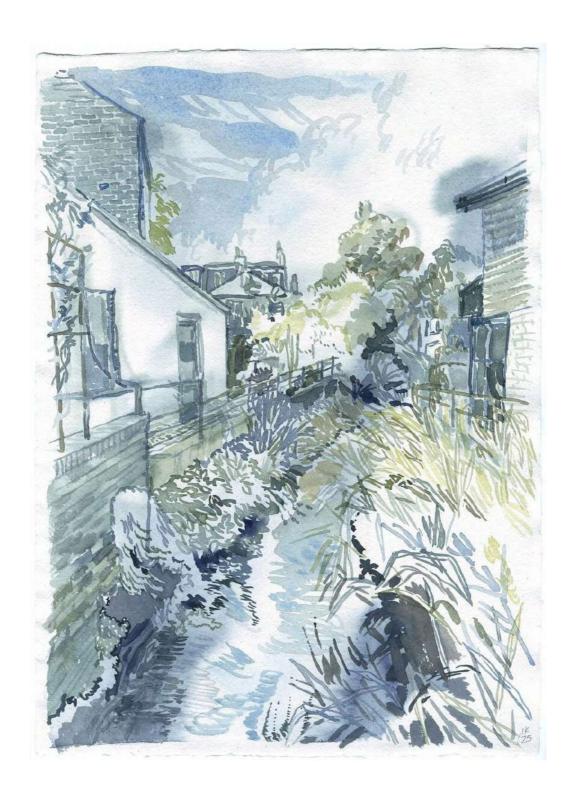


ISABELLA KUIJERS

kitchen 1, 2025

Watercolour on paper
29 x 29 cm

Framed: 37.5 x 37.5 x 3.5 cm



ISABELLA KUIJERS
channel, 2025
Watercolour on paper
41 x 30 cm
Framed: 48.5 x 37 x 3.5 cm
ZAR 14,000



ISABELLA KUIJERS

kitchen 2, 2025

Ink on paper

30 x 30 cm

Framed: 37.5 x 37.5 x 3.5 cm



ISABELLA KUIJERS
market, tiblisi, 2025
Ink on paper
30 x 30 cm
Framed: 37.5 x 37.5 x 3.4 cm



ISABELLA KUIJERS
a painters garden, 2025
Ink on paper
30 x 30 cm
Framed: 37.5 x 37.5 x 3.5 cm



ISABELLA KUIJERS

a patch of lawn, 2025

Ink on paper

30 x 30 cm

Framed: $37.5 \times 37.5 \times 3.5 \text{ cm}$ ZAR 12,000

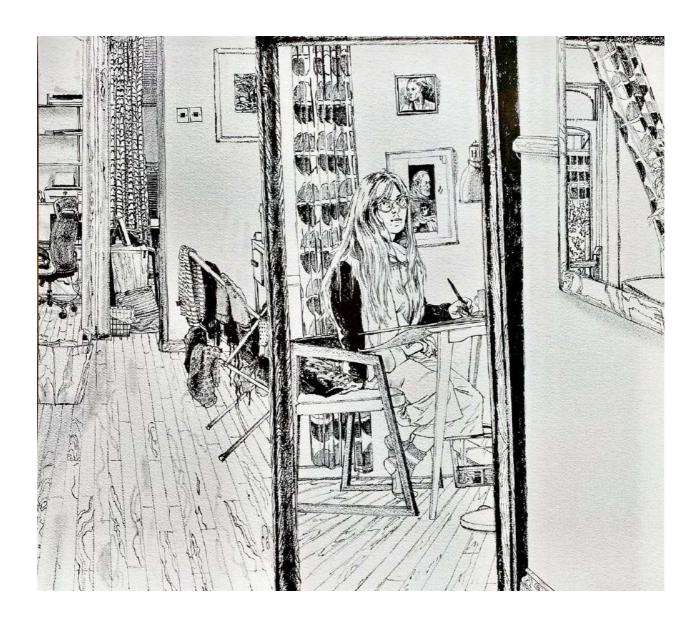


ISABELLA KUIJERS

Monastery, Meteora, 2025
Ink on paper
30 x 30 cm
Framed: 37.6 x 37.6 x 3.3 cm



ISABELLA KUIJERS mother of Georgia, 2025 Ink on paper 30 x 30 cm Framed: 37.5 x 37.5 x 3.4 cm



ISABELLA KUIJERS

Self Portrait, 2023

Brushpen on paper

Framed: 47.5 x 54.5 x 3.5 cm

ZAR 18,000



ISABELLA KUIJERS
seedlings, 2025
Ink on paper
45 x 60 cm
Framed: 47.5 x 62.6 x 3.5 cm

ZAR 18,000



ISABELLA KUIJERS

David's studio, 2025

Watercolour on paper

60 x 45 cm

Framed: 62.6 x 47.5 x 3.5 cm

ZAR 18,000



ISABELLA KUIJERS

Ceramic Studio 1, 2024

Watercolour on paper
29.5 x 29.5 cm

Framed: 37.3 x 37.3 x 3.5 cm



ISABELLA KUIJERS

Ceramic Studio 2, 2024

Watercolour on paper
29.5 x 29.5 cm

Framed: 37.3 x 37.3 x 3.5 cm



ISABELLA KUIJERS

Ceramic Studio 3, 2024

Watercolour on paper

29.5 x 29.5 cm

Framed: 37.3 x 37.3 x 3.5 cm



ISABELLA KUIJERS

Ceramic Studio 4, 2024

Watercolour on paper
29.5 x 29.5 cm

Framed: 37.3 x 37.3 x 3.5 cm



ISABELLA KUIJERS

Ceramic Studio 5, 2024

Watercolour on paper
29.5 x 29.5 cm

Framed: 37.3 x 37.3 x 3.5 cm



ISABELLA KUIJERS

Ceramic Studio 6, 2024

Watercolour on paper

29.5 x 29.5 cm

Framed: 37.3 x 37.3 x 3.5 cm

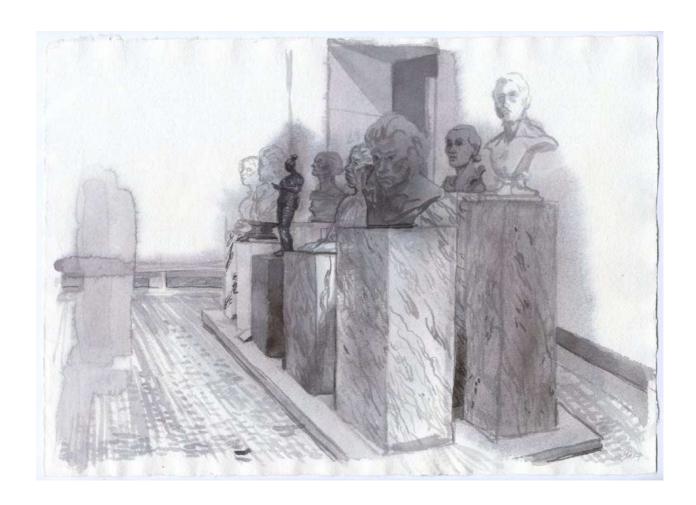


ISABELLA KUIJERS

The Iconographer's Studio, 2024

Watercolour on paper
29.5 x 29.5 cm

Framed: 37.3 x 37.3 x 3.5 cm



ISABELLA KUIJERS

National Portrait Gallery, 2024

Watercolour on paper

30 x 41 cm

Framed: 36.8 x 49 x 3.5 cm

ZAR 14,000



ISABELLA KUIJERS

Beginning To Pack, 2024

Watercolour on paper

30 x 41 cm

Framed: 36.8 x 49 x 3.5 cm

ZAR 14,000



ISABELLA KUIJERS
Wendy's House, 2024
Watercolour on paper
30 x 41 cm
Framed: 36.8 x 49 x 3.5 cm
ZAR 14,000



ISABELLA KUIJERS
Frieze, 2024
Watercolour on paper
30 x 41 cm
Framed: 36.8 x 49 x 3.5 cm
ZAR 14,000



ISABELLA KUIJERS

View From The 14, 2024

Watercolour on paper

41 x 30 cm

Framed: 49 x 36.8 x 3.5 cm

ZAR 14,000



ISABELLA KUIJERS

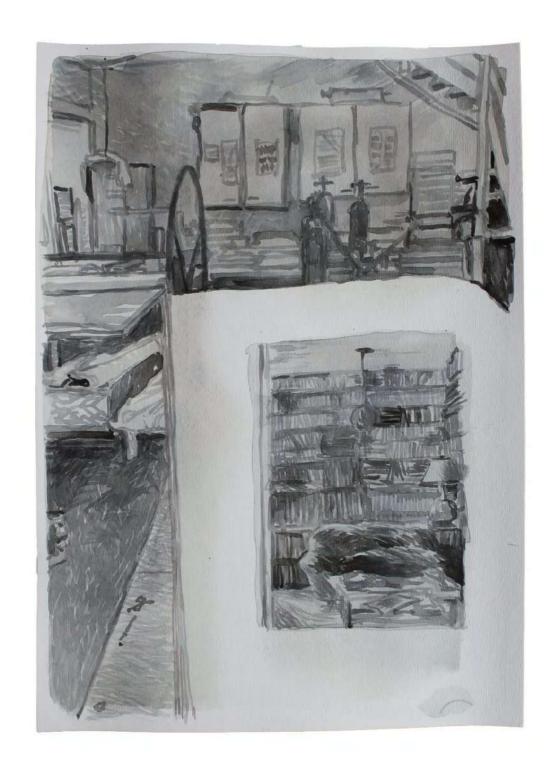
Drawing Fred, 2024

Watercolour on paper

30 x 41 cm

Framed: 36.8 x 49 x 3.5 cm

ZAR 14,000



ISABELLA KUIJERS

Print Room, Reading Room, 2024

Watercolour on paper

41 x 30 cm

Framed: 49 x 36.8 x 3.5 cm

ZAR 14,000

About the Artist | Isabella Kuijers

Isabella Kuijers was born in Cape Town in 1992. She completed a Bachelors of Fine Art with a Major in English Literature at the University of Stellenbosch in 2014 and a Masters of Fine art (with distinction) from London Metropolitan University in 2021. She has had four previous solo exhibitions with 99 Loop in Cape Town and exhibited in group shows at Salon91, Smith, Grande Provence and Barnard Gallery, among others.

Isabella comes from a family of artists and is known for her distinctly illustrative style. Encompassing watercolours, oil sketches and reverse-glass paintings, her style is at once both loose and bursting with detail. More often than not, her practice is concerned with the unabating stream of digital information with which we interact and the unplugged spaces of nature and comfort that we turn to in order to escape. As well as working as a full time artist, she crafts reviews and analysis as an art writer. Isabella currently lives and works in Greyton, South Africa.