



MARC CHALMÉ



The Soul is Organic (sculpture)

Welcome to the world of artist Marc Chalmé. Actually, it might be more appropriate to say: Welcome to the hour. Why? Because it's the particular time of day that makes the artist's paintings so intriguing. For the most part, Marc's paintings are set in the moment just after the sun disappears – an in-between time when the certainty of the day gives way to the mystery of the night.

It takes great skill to memorialise the inky skies and long shadows of dusk in paint. Marc does so effortlessly. In this new collection for the Catto, he reveals his craft again. Works such as *Purple Sky* and *Shimmerings* depict deserted streets illuminated by street lights and the faint glow of the slowly setting sun. The effect is eerie. It's meant to be. In other works, Marc dials up the disquiet. One features a shop bearing the name *Dream Theory* – a major hint that the real setting for these scenes might be the deep subconscious.

And Marc goes even deeper into the realm of the surreal in paintings such as *Into The Shell* and *Parks*. Here he returns to one of his favourite motifs: a giant orb floating in space. No explanation is given. The spheres just hover incongruously, maybe even a little ominously. The orb also appears in *Water and Dreams*, one of the many works in which Marc switches his focus to interior spaces. But again, nothing is straightforward here. Are we inside or out? There's a similar ambiguity in *Our Realities*, where the model cathedral inside the room mimics exactly the one outside.

All of Marc's signature ideas come together in the focal point of this new show: an installation he calls: *The Soul Is Organic*. It comprises three paintings featuring respectively a floating orb, a forest at dusk and an empty room, which nature is clearly reclaiming. The installation is completed by a sculpture of an angel that references elements in the three paintings.

The parallel universe that we see in Marc's works springs entirely from the artist's imagination – and from the skill cultivated over nearly four decades as a professional painter. Marc was born in 1969 in Lorient in Brittany, and studied art history in Nantes and Rennes, then later with the acclaimed artist Georges Pichon. He hosted his first solo exhibition in 2005. Since then he has shown in galleries across Europe, New York and Boston to great acclaim. His first ever UK show came in 2023 at the Catto. It's fantastic to welcome him back.



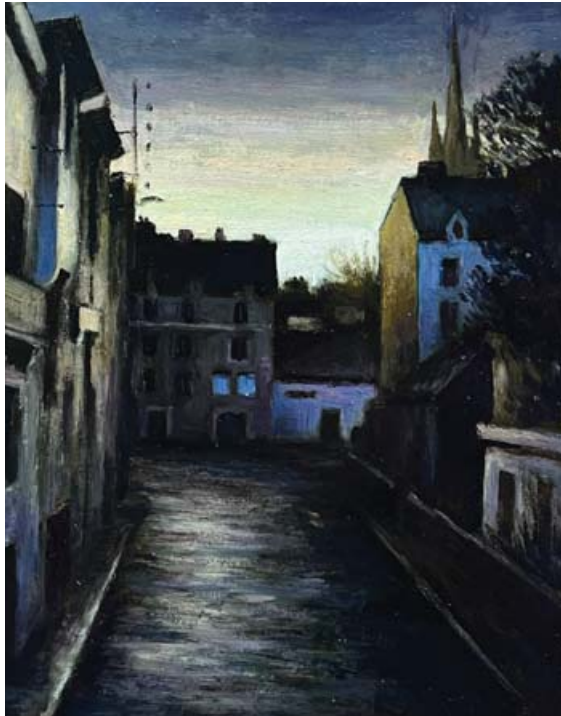
The Soul is Organic I, 200 x 300cm, Oil on Canvas



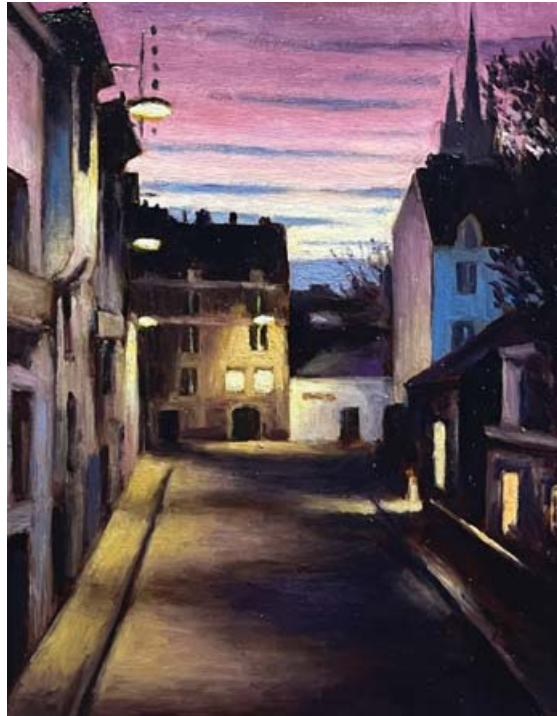
Into the Shell, 89 x 116cm, Oil on Canvas



Purple Sky, 97 x 130cm, Oil on Canvas



The Church 1, 27 x 35cm, Oil on Wood



The Church 2, 27 x 35cm, Oil on Wood



The Church 3, 27 x 35cm, Oil on Wood



Dream Theory, 97 x 130 cm, Oil on Canvas



Water and Dreams, 97 x 146cm, Oil on Canvas



The Bridge, 160 x 200cm, Oil on Canvas



Pink Sunset, 27 x 35cm, Oil on Wood



Sunset 1, 27 x 35cm, Oil on Wood



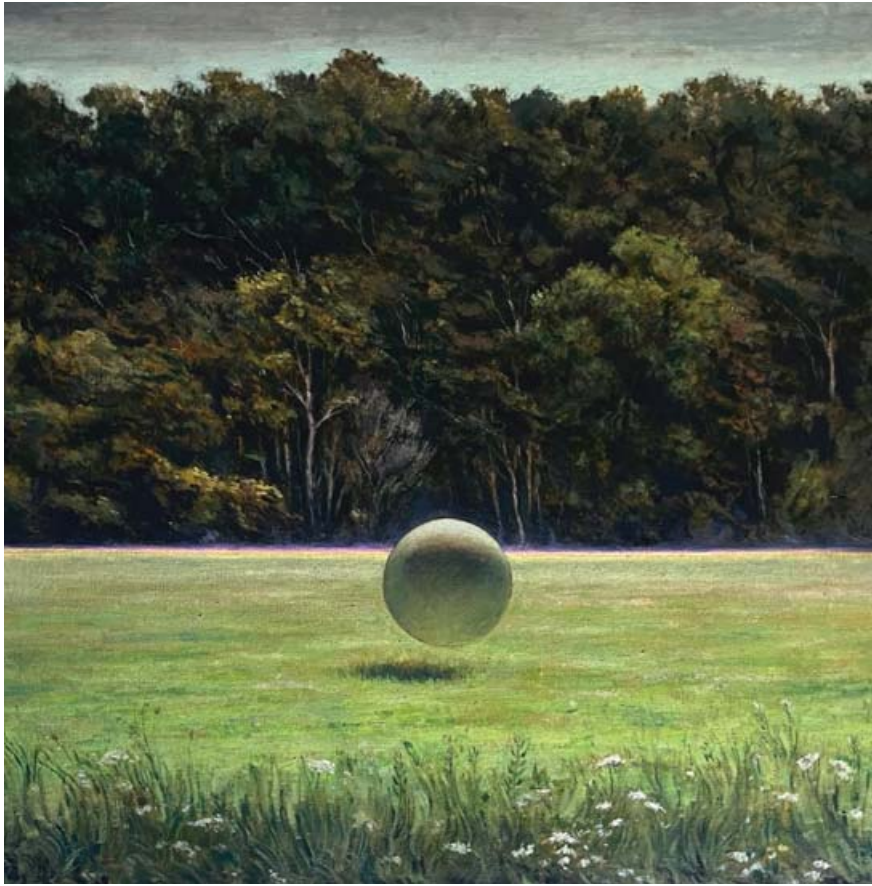
Blue Neon, 27 x 35cm, Oil on Wood



Green Neon, 27 x 35cm, Oil on Wood



Parks, 89 x 116 cm, Oil on Wood



The Soul is Organic II, 90 x 90cm, Oil on Canvas



The Soul is Organic III, 90 x 90cm, Oil on Canvas



Shimmerings, 89 x 116cm, Oil on Canvas

Marc Chalmé Exhibition History

2025

Dreamers, solo show Gallery Elle, St Moritz
Solo show M fine Arts Gallery, Boston

2024

Still Life, collective show Gallery Elle, Zürich
Solo show Gallery Elle, Zürich

2023

Solo show Galerie Elle, Zürich
Solo show Catto Gallery, London

2022

Solo show Galerie Claudine Legrand, Paris
Solo show Hugo Galerie, New York
Winter collective Hugo Galerie, New York

2021

Summer collective Hugo Galerie, New York
Winter Collective M Fine Art, Boston

2020

Solo show Galerie Claudine Legrand, Paris
Summer collective Hugo Galerie, New York

2019

Solo show Hugo Galerie, New York
Summer collective Hugo Galerie, New York

2018

Solo show M Fine Arts Gallery, Boston
Winter collective Hugo Galerie, New York

2017

Solo show Galerie Claudine Legrand, Paris
Summer collective Hugo Galerie, New York

2016

Stanek Gallery in conjunction with Hugo
Galerie Philadelphia

2015

Solo show Axelle Gallery, New York

2014

Solo show Axelle Gallery, Boston

2013

Solo show Axelle Gallery, New York

2012

Solo show Galerie Mouvances, Paris

2011

Collective Galerie Mouvances, Paris

2010

Solo show Galerie Mouvances, Paris
Solo show Galerie Véronèse, Nantes



Back Cover: Alone, 27 x 35cm, Oil on Wood



CATTO GALLERY

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Opening times: 10am - 5.30pm Mon – Sat • 12 - 5pm Sunday • and by appointment

Exhibition Dates: 29th October – 16th November

Opening Night 29th October 5.30 – 8pm