

TAG  
Tubes Artists Gallery

# madcaps and scapegoats



**exhibition catalogue**

original paintings by Gregory Evans

**21st to 31st October 2020**

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# "madcaps and scapegoats"

an exhibition of paintings by  
Gregory Evans

## introduction



*TAG Exhibition catalogue: written by Denis Taylor Curator.*

### ***"a very warm welcome to the exhibition preview catalogue"***

*As the curator for Tubes Artists Gallery it has been a great pleasure to design and install this show in our excellent new solo TAG VR gallery.*

*Gregory is an artist that has been known to painters TUBES magazine for some time. He has featured in TAG showcase review and the magazine with not only his art but with articles on a variety of art related subjects - His latest article (issue #14) is a great essay on Hieronymus Bosch, one of his all time favourite 'thinkers' about Art. And that is appropriate, as Gregory Evans is definitely a serious thinker about Art and how it is created and why.*

*Greg was born in the UK, but spent a great deal of time in California USA. It was here that he formed his artistic individualistic style - which many will realise is in the same tradition as the artists that grew up along with the likes of George Condo. The artist became engrossed in the culture of the West Coast of the United States, which inevitably centred around the 'Surfers' social circle of music, visual art and of course the Waves - It is this undulating repetitive motion that pervades the artists work, not only of the environment his characters populate, but also of the very shapes of figures he invents.*

*This constant ebb and flow of the waves do reflect the dynamic motion of all the forms he carefully fills the canvas with and the freshness of the his colour palette is also clearly in sympathy with the vast expanse of the Pacific Ocean. It's a relationship that the artists simply cannot deny as it embedded in his very soul, despite his current studios being located in rural France (Europe).*

*Gregory also hides a seriousness of what is perhaps first seen as a light hearted, almost a comical, appearance in many of his painting. Take 'Pray Your Gods' for example (the words remembered from a Californian rock bands song). The dystopian implications behind the visual is thought provoking, almost Orwellian. Especially when one considers what state the political world is in today - Greg conveys this 'feeling' of concern in many ways in his works. Closer introspection is advised.*

**"Madcaps and Scapegoats."**

**Paintings by Gregory Evans Solo Gallery - [www.painterstubes.gallery](http://www.painterstubes.gallery)  
21 October to the 31 October 2020.**



## *"wild is the wind"*

*750mm x 1050mm (29.5 inches x 41.3 inches)  
oil on canvas. Can be shipped flat and mounted or rolled*

*Available for collectors:  
UK and Europe £1700 - €1880- \$2197  
UK+ Europe shipping included.  
USA -Shipping cost to be advised*

*note: UK residents only: 12 month interest free purchase plan is available*



*If you know something about the work of a certain Spanish born artist who made it big in the metropolitan area of the French capital, then you will be aware where this particular painting is coming from.*

*"The Three Dancers" (1925) by Picasso is probably one of his most admired and most reproduced of his paintings. At the age of 92 Pablo died of a heart attack (1973). Which is not a bad innings for an artist who lived his life to the full and right to the end.*

*Here Gregory has re-envisioned the scene of Pablo puffing on a Gauloises whilst painting imaginary people dancing to imaginary music. The contorted figures are positioned to reflect the composition of the Picasso painting, however Greg has made it his own by the use of his unique figurative style. The palette also wanders between European (Spanish) and the colours of the American star and stripes. Although this maybe a homage to the painting of Picasso, what Greg has created is a stand-alone work of art of 21st century sensitivity peppered with dash of of humour.*



## *"Six Cubed, where the fool becomes Magus"*

900mm x 900mm (35.4 inches x 35.4 inches). Acrylic and ink on canvas.

Can be shipped flat and mounted or rolled. Available for collectors £1150 - €1272 - \$1486

UK + Europe shipping included. USA-Shipping cost to be advised.

UK Residents: 12 month interest free purchase plan is available.

## Can a painting ever be said to be finished?

below is an extract from one of Greg's blogs where he talks about painting as a success or a failure? This demonstrates how he thinks about his process and how he presents himself with the sort of challenges that helps him progress to develop originality and authenticity.

"...One could say a painting is done when there's nothing left to do that could improve it" (quote from Odd Nerdrum the famous Norwegian realist painter). Sadly, things cannot be so simple, since the same can be said about a painting that has failed. This isn't a bad thing, having a painting fail. Failure has happened to the best of us and the worst of us, with the best of us moving on to happily paint some more, and the worst of us making great contributions towards the image of the emotionally haunted, tortured artist.

Some artists will seemingly abandon a painting for a year or more, only to return with the solution that will bring things to a successful completion. Perhaps my failure is just an unfinished painting with a yet-to-find solution, but for the life of me and my left hand (I refuse to offer up my brush hand, the right one), I can't think of what to do next – there's nothing I can do at this point to improve it.

Of course, maybe, as I might not have said, it doesn't need improving and is fine as it is. Maybe I'll awaken tomorrow and see that. By now, you must be seeing the myriad of possibility that surrounds a so-called "failed painting."

And yet, here's another possibility – it needs be said that not all drawings are destined, or should become, paintings. That's like saying that every napkin doodle needs to become a developed line drawing, or that every line drawing needs to have tonality added – not every drawing is destined to be matted and framed and hung. And not every drawing should become a painting

If every drawing were meant for such a grand existence, the job of an artist would be so overwhelming, every one of us would end up in a Bellevue or Montpon or any one of those clinical type places that gave birth to both the frontal lobotomy and true outsider art. If I had to paint every sketch or drawing I've ever done, my backlog would be listed as uncountable and uncomfortable to consider. I'd have to burn the lot! Its a painter's job to recognize what needs to be painted, and what should never be pursued."

Gregory Evans

Curators comment..." In the painting to the left, I feel Gregory has given an admiring glance in the right direction towards that extraordinary artist, Hieronymus Bosch..."





## “Late for Supper”

*Is this the last supper? There are twelve characters dressed in pink - and one in Blue. So maybe it is the last supper. In Greece Blue is a very holy colour and used in icon art. In the middle ages and later, the paint pigment Lapis Lazuli (Blue) was reserved for paintings of the Virgin Mary. and other important Christian figures. The colour became known as Marian Blue, a tone of the colour Celeste.*

*Gregory has perhaps depicted a holy scene by accident? And made light of the circumstances which surround the famous story of the last supper of Jesus and his disciples. Is it irreverent? Well maybe so, but in these days of the lack of belief in the Western World, where only money rules as a God, then the artist is making a point with humour, but also with a serious undertone.*

## “Pray Your Gods”

*“Bend your head and kneel before me”.*

*The great Eye God tells the people of the Earth. The Gods flag (a computer sign ) waves in the distance, simply to give the audience an idea of who it is they are worshipping. The title of this work comes from a line in a song that the artist knows well. It was a band that became part of the social scene in his home town in California.*

*For me it represents browser cookies and the whole network of CCTV cameras recording everything and everybody. The eye also could be your mobile phone - where everyone has a finger on the screen, constantly connected to the machine, a base addiction that is masked as communication, but is in fact our own manipulated ego that has gone quite insane.*





top: "Late for Supper" 470mm x 1660mm (18.5 x 65 inches).  
Can be shipped flat and mounted or rolled. Available for collectors: UK and Europe £1100 - €1215- \$1422 shipping included to the UK and Europe. USA -Shipping cost to be advised note: UK residents only a 12 month interest free purchase plan is available on request

bottom: "Pray Your Gods" 1000mm c 1500mm (39 x 59 inches). Can be shipped flat and mounted or rolled. Available for collectors: UK and Europe £1450 - €1600 - \$1874  
Shipping included to the UK and Europe.  
USA -Shipping cost to be advised note: UK residents only: 12 month interest free purchase plan is available on request

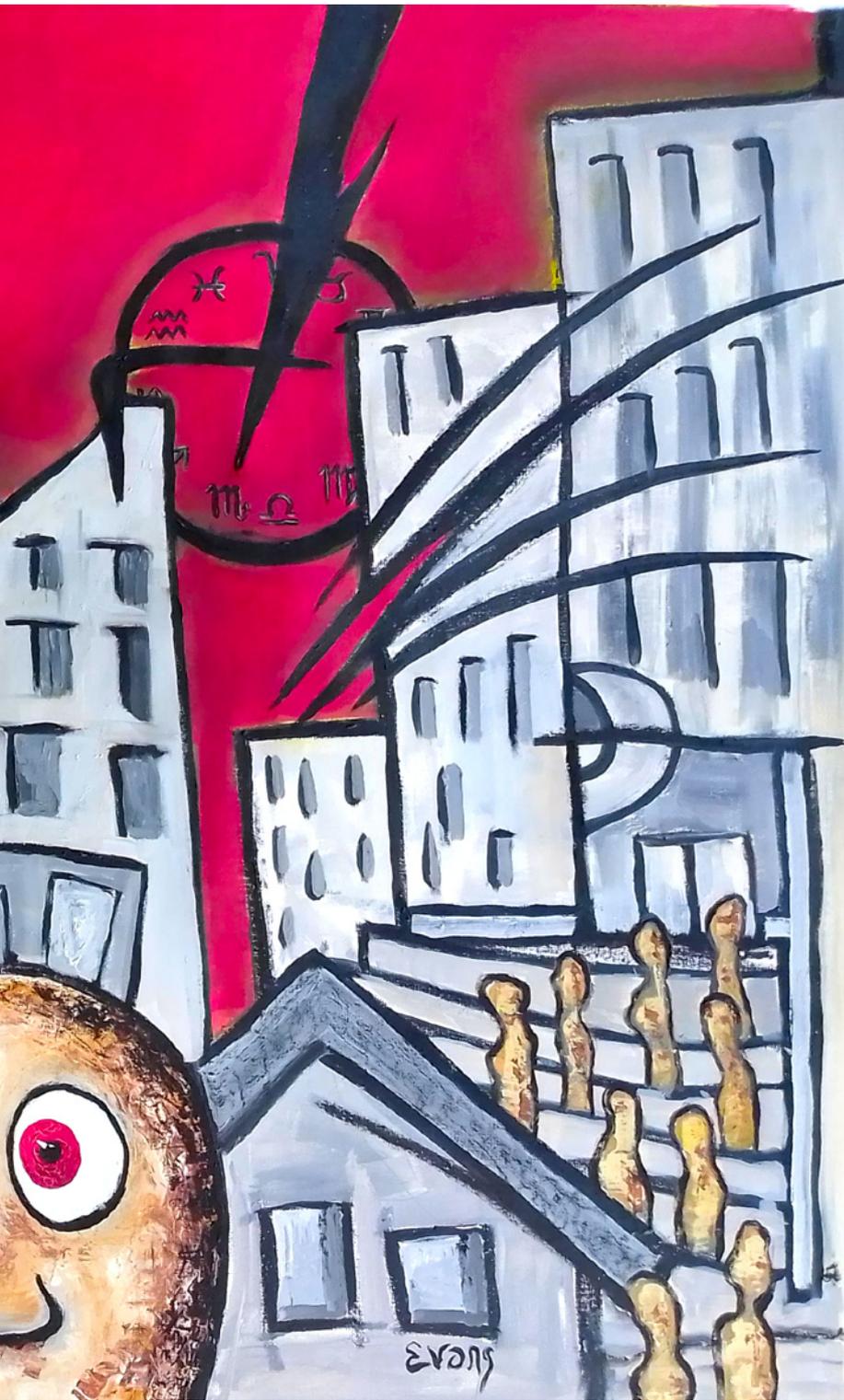




## “new Lords of Karma”

*This seems to be in the tradition of the 16th century art, whose painters left personal ‘breadcrumbs’ as clues to read their paintings, Gregory has the Zodiac clock finger pointing to Virgo (the artist's birth sign). Perhaps it's a warning of impending doom or the coming of the Messiah (when the hand reaches Libra).*

*A blood red sky hangs over the City of lost souls, whilst in the foreground is a confusion of abstracted angry or fearful creators. Smaller faces pop their heads over the gates of the building.....is it clear to come out yet, they ask? In October 2020, apparently it's not or is it?*



*"New Lords of Karma"*  
1000mm x 1500mm. Oil on canvas.  
(39 x 59 inches)  
Available to collectors: £1450 - €1600-  
\$1874 - Shipping included to the UK/Europe.  
USA -Shipping cost to be advised note:

*UK residents only a 12 month interest free  
purchase plan is available on request*

those who do you wrong  
will eventually face their  
own Karma



*"the Back Garden."*

1050 mm x 1450mm (41 x 57 inches) Acrylic and oil on canvas. Can be shipped rolled or stretched. Available: £1250 - €1380 - \$1616. (shipped rolled or stretched)



## "new kids on the block"

600mm x 600mm (23.6 x 23.6 inches)  
Acrylic and Ink on canvas. (ready stretched)

*New Kids on the block - points in time of where people and their curiosity take over. Two 'eyeballs' are swapping booze for a baseball bat, looked on by two young kids who seem to know these strange creatures. Other kids walk off into the distance having missed the bus...all seem to heading in a direction that indicate somewhere of importance, but we simply do not know where that is? The houses, that look on the scene are alive with human eyes - or is that the Grown ups inside?*

### *The Back Garden (left)*

*Keeping secrets from all except this small group of six people. They huddle together, some smirk with knowledge known only to them, some make a smug teathy grin. What secret do they know - are they talking about you? Perhaps this work reflects the down side of groups and private clubs. Maybe it's all hot air, smoke and mirrors and gossip, made up stories, not unlike social media, the television, and the tabloid press, but please, keep that to yourself.*



*"Black Madonna,  
Godling and three  
Priests"*

*A religious subject treated with modernist vein  
running through it, maybe a nod in the direction  
towards the M. L. King equal rights movement?  
1500mmx 1000mm (59 x 39 inches) Oil on  
canvas. £1350 - €1490 - \$1745  
Rolled or stretched - Shipping UK/EU included.  
USA Shipping quoted on enquiry.*



*"the Fall from Grace."*

*One of my own personal favourite painting by Gregory. It reminds me of a film about 'Time'. Although I think it actually relates more to a Surfer falling off his board.*

*500mmx 600mm (19.6 x 23.6 inches) Acrylic and ink on canvas. Stretched on timber frame. £950 - €1050 - \$1230 Shipping UK/EU included. USA Shipping quoted on enquiry.*



"that's Amore"



"the waiting room"



The painting (above) is a story. Leading In the same way in which Roy Lichenstein introduced comic book imagery as Art. The world went Pop in the late 1950's with Warhol taking the bows with his Brillo Pad Boxes and screen prints of the stars of the screen and the leaders of Communists states. Here Gregory extends the idea into a complex story-board.

This story is in three parts and gives alternates views on Love (amóre) - the title harks back to a famous song, one that Dean Martin had a world wide hit with "That's Amóre" in 1953.

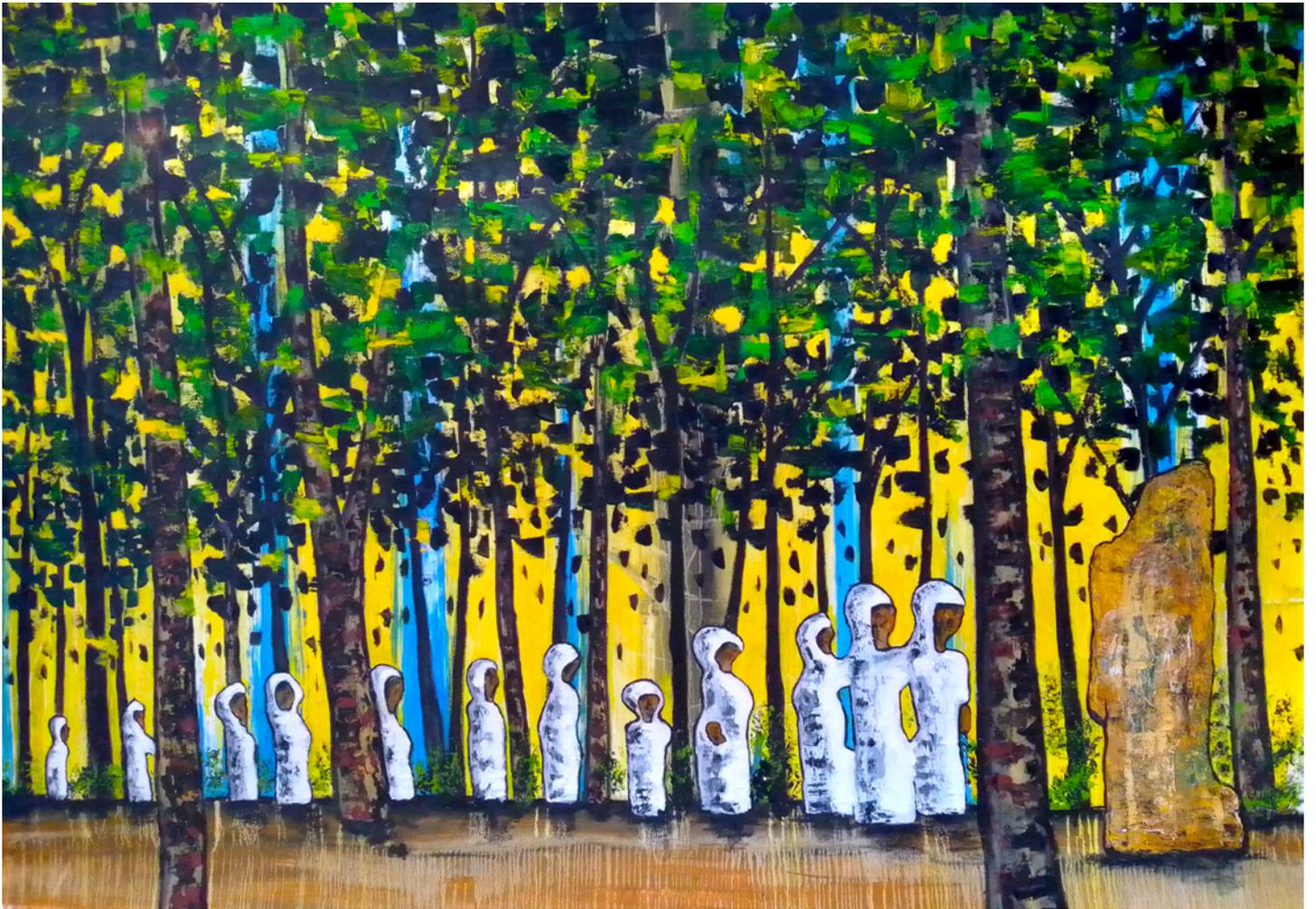
The painting to the left is a sideways look at humanity in a Doctors waiting Room...The green sign (in French) on the wall says: "waiting is the death of all rational things"....but the English sign to right says, Dont' Worry..be Happy. (Reggae song by Bobby McFerrin) Which goes in part, to illustrate the Anglo-French contradiction, and how one looks at the world, c'est la vie.

above:

That's Amóre: 400mm x 1200mm (16 inches x 47 inches) Acrylic and ink on canvas. Stretched on timber frame. £1250 - €1380 - \$1616 Shipping UK/EU included. USA Shipping quoted on enquiry.

left: "the Waiting Room." - 380mm x 760mm (15 inches x 30 inches) Acrylic and ink on canvas. Stretched on timber frame. £800 - €882 - \$1033 Shipping UK/EU included. USA Shipping quoted on enquiry.





## *"a Particular Rendevous."*

*1000mmx 1500mm (59 x 39 inches) Oil on canvas. £1350 - €1490 - \$1745*

*Delivered rolled or stretched - Shipping UK/EU included.*

*USA Shipping quoted on enquiry.*

*I have to admit to being slightly perplexed at this title and work. It could well be the artist giving a nod or homage to Paul Gauguin. For this work is not unlike Paul's 'idol' island worshipers paintings, in theme, but this seems to indicate a more sinister comment.. "faceless people worshipping a faceless God.. maybe?"*

*"Gregory Evans, who was born in the UK, is an artist who is continually embracing the future of his own work with an intellectual understanding of the the role art history plays in its foundation.*

*His work sits comfortably between George Condo and Sandro Chia, enabling it to contribute to the current rich vein in the continuing development of the Transavantgarde movement.*

*An art of which can be seen more frequently exhibited on both sides of the Atlantic. The artist has lived in California for many years where his work is collected. His studio's are now based in rural France.*

*And as a last word, I do hope you enjoy the exhibition..."*

**Catalogue written by Denis Taylor, Curator for TAG**



<https://www.artofgregoryevans.fr>

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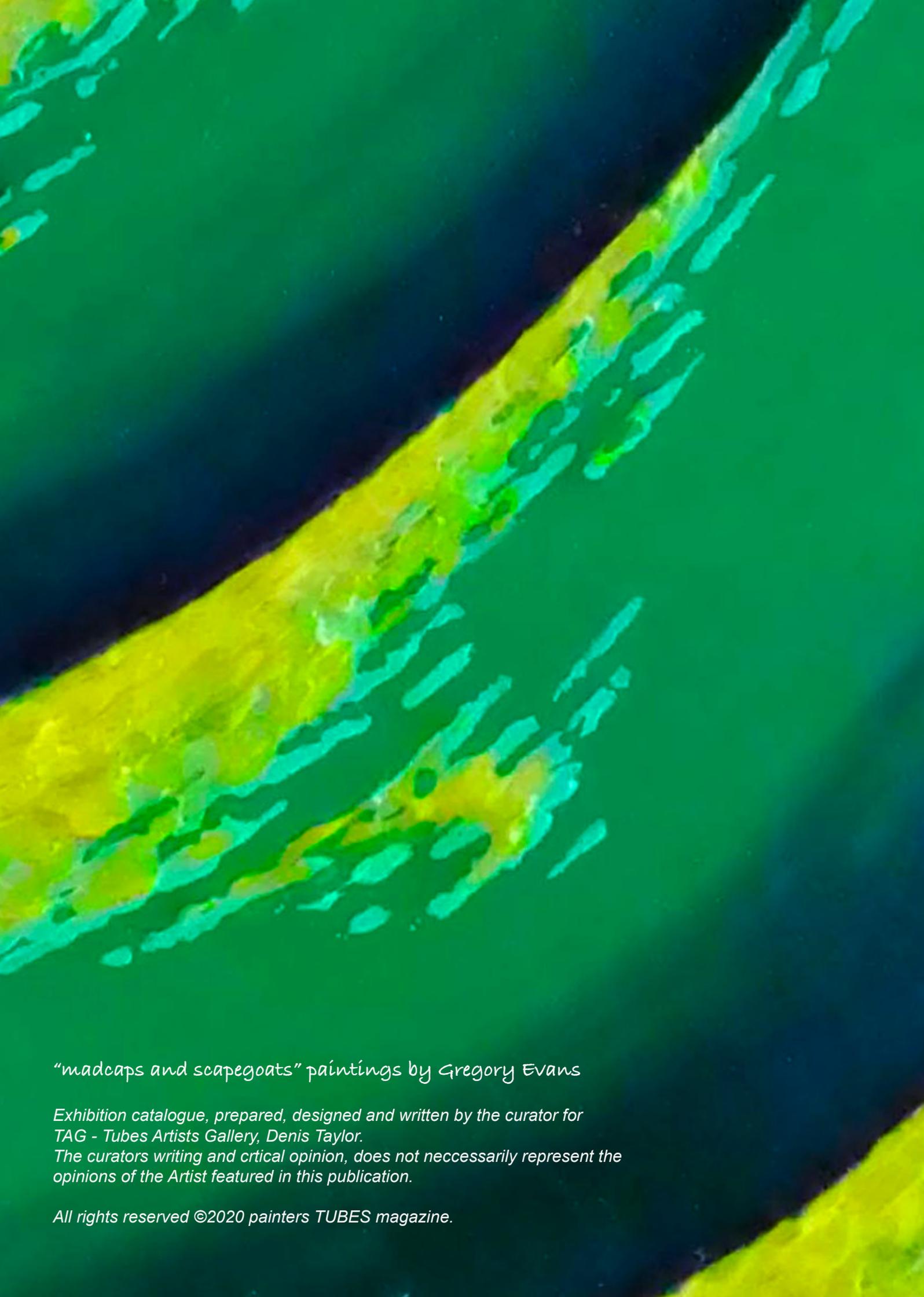
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An abstract painting featuring a prominent diagonal band of yellow and green, set against a dark blue background. The yellow and green areas are textured with visible brushstrokes and some darker, more saturated patches. The overall composition is dynamic and layered.

*"madcaps and scapegoats" paintings by Gregory Evans*

*Exhibition catalogue, prepared, designed and written by the curator for  
TAG - Tubes Artists Gallery, Denis Taylor.*

*The curators writing and critical opinion, does not necessarily represent the  
opinions of the Artist featured in this publication.*

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