



WILDER

LYDIA BAKER

ENCOUNTERS
LONDON ART FAIR

STAND P13
17-22 JANUARY 2023

BUSINESS DESIGN CENTRE
ISLINGTON

Wilder gallery is pleased to exhibit a new series of drawings and monotypes by Lydia Baker. This is the artist's first exhibition with the gallery and first presentation in the UK.

Undulating mountainous peaks, flowing rivers and pools of water demark the landscape of Lydia Baker's alluring and mysterious world. The recurring motif of water symbolises vitality, fertility, purity, rest and respite. These landscapes make reference to female anatomy, sometimes subtly with fluid and feminine forms and at times more directly, such as the abstracted torso in *Only Under The Light Of The Moon*. Natural, physical elements are animated and humanized. In *Two Worlds Collide*, roots look vein-like and soil horizons take on the appearance of human tissue. The artist references ovulation with clusters of egg-like seed pods and the recurring motif of the glowing moon. These are matriarchal environments where fantasy, anatomy and the spiritual intermingle confidently, poetically and unapologetically and intrigue, awe and haunt.

Rich harmonious spectrums of respective pink or blue palettes colour the drawings. Popular conceptions of pink allude to sweetness, playfulness, nostalgia and nurturing. When combined with magentas and corals they become complex and full-bodied, taking on a more serious and fiery intensity. Blue is often understood as a calming, tranquil, peaceful and spiritual colour. Conversely, it also has associations with depression, anxiety, gloom and feeling 'blue'. Baker describes the colour shifts as depicting the same dreamscapes at different times of the day and taking on different moods. In *Only Under the Light of the Moon*, a figure is seen emerging with small spikes across her body and in *Two Worlds Collide*, a blue figure with red thorns seemingly trespasses the pink fantasy world. Lighter values allude to distant memories and dreams whereas darker values denote the present. When these highly contrasted values are used together, reality is hazy, the time of day becomes unclear and waking life, dreams and imagination confound. In *Memories* and *a Small Body of Water*, the dark blue figure is relaxing but confronted with 'memories' of the floating

figures of her past. With day turning to night and the ebb and flow of colour, there is a sense of shifting temperatures, changing seasons, phases of the menstrual cycle, and of one's internal ticking clock. Time is at the forefront of what has transpired, memories revisited and anticipation for what is still hopeful

Dotted within the landscape are watchful, matriarchal figures; gentle giants that oversee, cradle, offer guardianship and protection, and perhaps both observe and learn. The juxtaposition of scale of the landscape and figures further heightens the unsettling, uncanny and surreal nature of these dreamscapes. In the monotypes, the maternal figures take the centre depicting nurturing, devotion, sacrifice and universal life stages of menstruation, conception, and birth.

The artist's choice of working with colour pencil is deliberate. For many, childhood memories recall moments spent sitting and drawing with colour pencils, creating from imagination. There is a familiarity and beautiful tenderness to this connection that the artist builds upon. Informed by her own experience of living within a female body and interpretations of cycles of time and change, she engages with multiple layers of experience. Furthermore, Baker is also challenging preconceptions of drawings as preliminary studies for paintings and invites a dialogue about the misconceptions of material hierarchy in the art world. Created with a tremendous amount of labour-intensive mark-making, a mastery of colour development and layering, and using high quality museum grade pigments, Baker contributes a compelling argument to the ongoing conversation and expands dialogues of what her medium can deliver.

Instagram: [@wilder.gallery](https://www.instagram.com/wilder.gallery)

For Enquiries contact: info@wilder.gallery

Lydia Baker (b. 1990, Norfolk, VA) lives and works in Brooklyn, NY. Baker graduated with an MFA in painting from the New York Academy of Art, 2020.

Solo & Duo Exhibitions

- 2023 *London Art Fair* with Wilder Gallery, London,
- 2022 *In Between* (solo), Massey Klein Gallery, New York, NY
- 2021 *Exit Point* (duo), Sugarlift Gallery, NYC

Special Projects

- 2022 *Platform Art*, Massey Klein Gallery in partnership with David Zwirner (online presentation)

Selected Group Exhibitions/Fairs

- 2023 *A Suitable Accomplishment*, Trotter & Sholer, New York, NY (forthcoming January)
- 2022 *Charta*, Fortnight Institute, New York, NY (online)
- 2021 *Chubb Insurance booth*, Art Basel Miami, Miami Beach, FL
Chubb Fellows, Wilkinson Gallery, NYAA, New York, NY
New York Academy of Art booth, Art Miami, Miami, FL
Artists for Artists benefit auction, Sotheby's, New York, NY
Six New Voices for the Twenties, Susan Eley Fine Arts, New York, NY (online)
- 2020 *Chubb Insurance Viewing Room*, Art Basel Miami (online)
Artists for Artists benefit auction, Sotheby's, New York, NY (online)
The Feminine Agenda, Women's Work Art Gallery, Poughkeepsie, NY
- 2019 *IPCNY Printfest*, International Print Center, New York, NY

Residencies, Awards & Fellowships

- 2023 *Vermont Studio Center Residency*, Johnson, VT (forthcoming January)
- 2021 *Constance Saltonstall Foundation Residency*, Ithaca, NY
High Line Nine x Sugarlift Artist Residency, New York, NY
City Artist Corps Grant, via NYFA, DCLA, MOME & Queens Theatre
- 2020-21 *Post Graduate Chubb Fellowship*, New York Academy of Art, New York, NY
- 2020 *Art Heals Grant*, R&F Handmade Paints & IEA
- 2018-19 *Academy Merit Scholarship*, New York Academy of Art, New York, NY
- 2019 *Artist Teaching Residency*, The Grier School, Tyrone, PA
- 2013 *Women's Artist Residency for Transcendental Awareness*, Seneca Forest, WV

Press

- 2022 *New American Paintings*, No.158- pgs 162-165, Northeast Issue
Art Maze Magazine, London, UK, Issue 27- pgs 98-99, Print Publication
New Visionary Magazine, Issue 2- pgs 86-87, Print Publication
- 2021 *Art Maze Magazine*, London, UK, Issue 22- pg 141, Print Publication
Artsin Square Magazine, Issue 1- pgs 96-97, Print Publication
Friend of the Artist, Volume 14- pgs 34-37, Print Publication
Artsy: How to responsibly collect work by MFA students, Online Publication
- 2020 *Juxtapoz Magazine: Art in Uncertain Times*, Online Publication



Lydia Baker

Only Under The Light
Of The Moon

2022

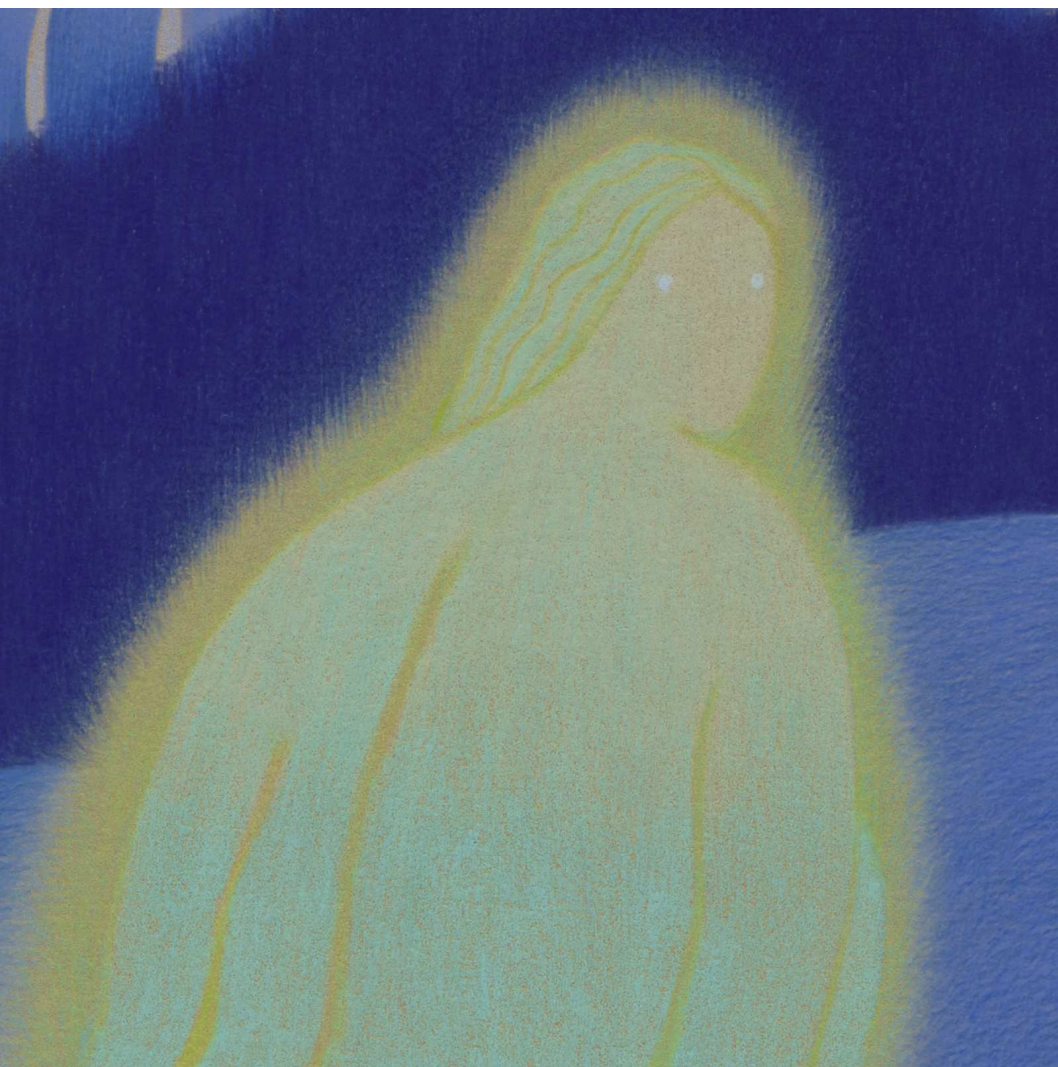
Coloured pencil & wax
pastel on paper

57.15 x 73.66cm / 22.5
x 29 inches

Oiled Walnut frame 68
x 84.5 x 3.7 cm

£2900 excluding vat

£3480 including vat





Lydia Baker

Permission to Pass Through

2022

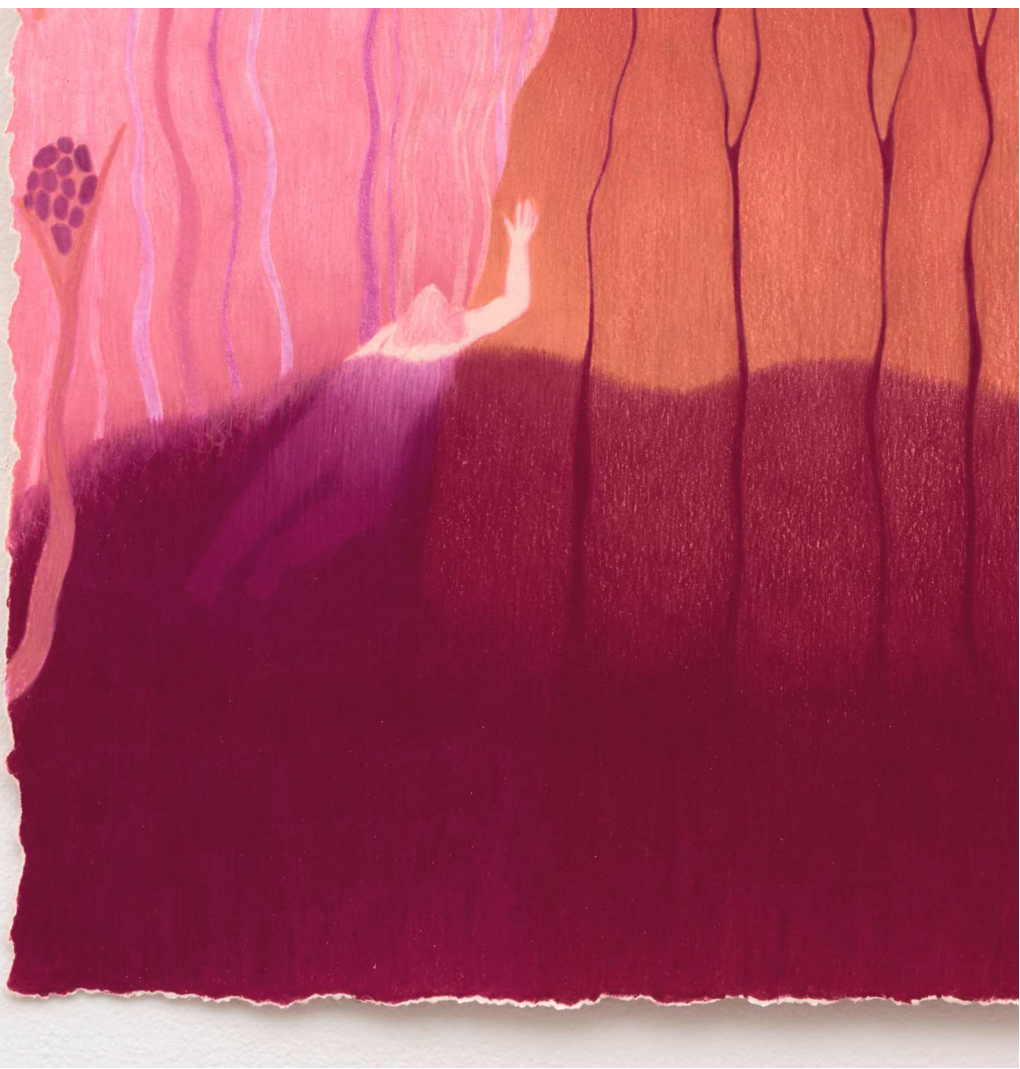
Coloured pencil & wax pastel
on paper

73.66 x 57.15 cm / 29 x 22.5
inches

Oiled Walnut frame 84.5 x
68 x 3.7 cm

£2900 excluding vat

£3480 including vat





Lydia Baker

Memories and a Small
Body of Water

2022

Coloured pencil & wax
pastel on paper

45.72 x 35.56cm / 18 x
14 inches

Oiled Walnut frame 56.4
x 46.3 x 3.7 cm

£1850 excluding vat

£2200 including vat





Lydia Baker

Two Worlds Collide

2022

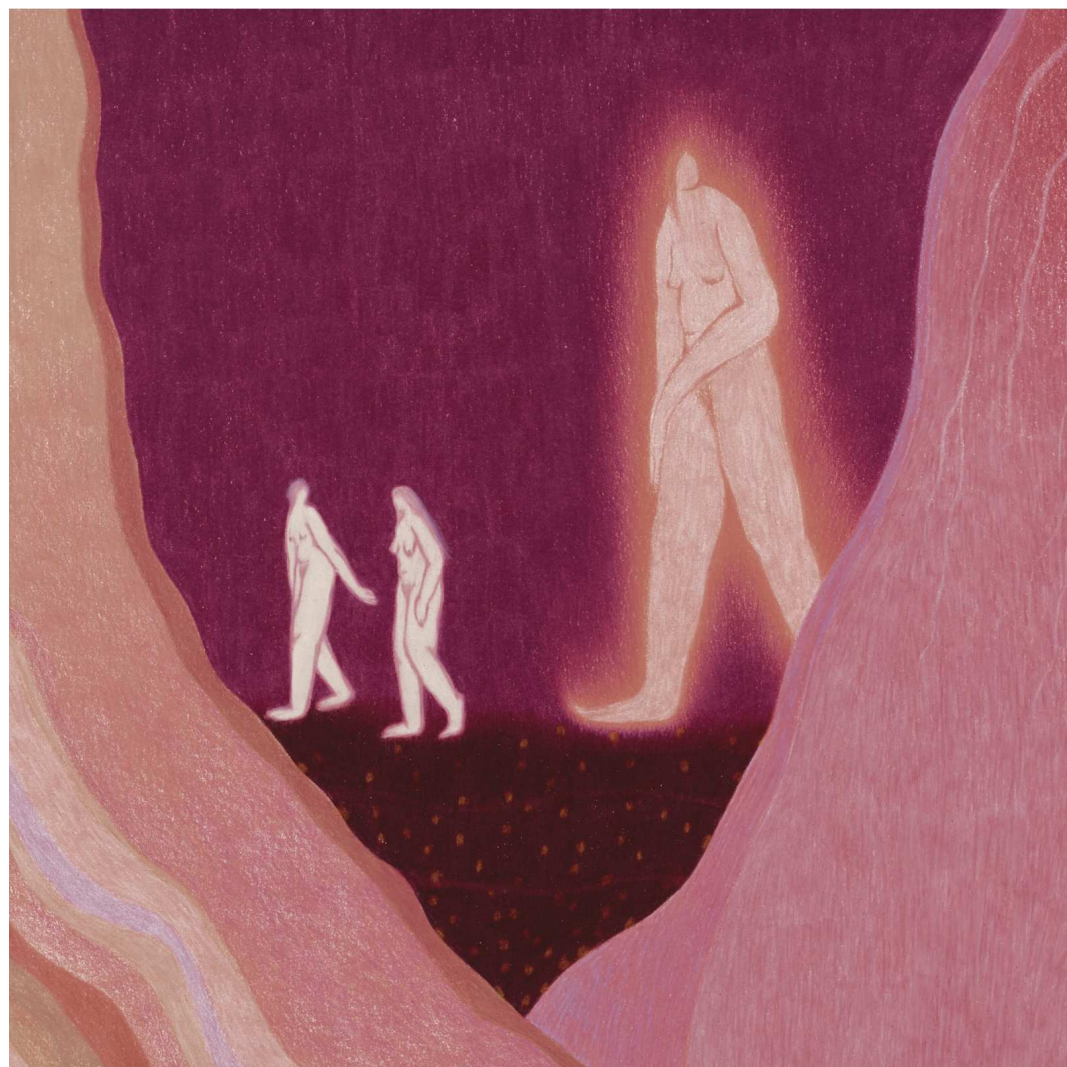
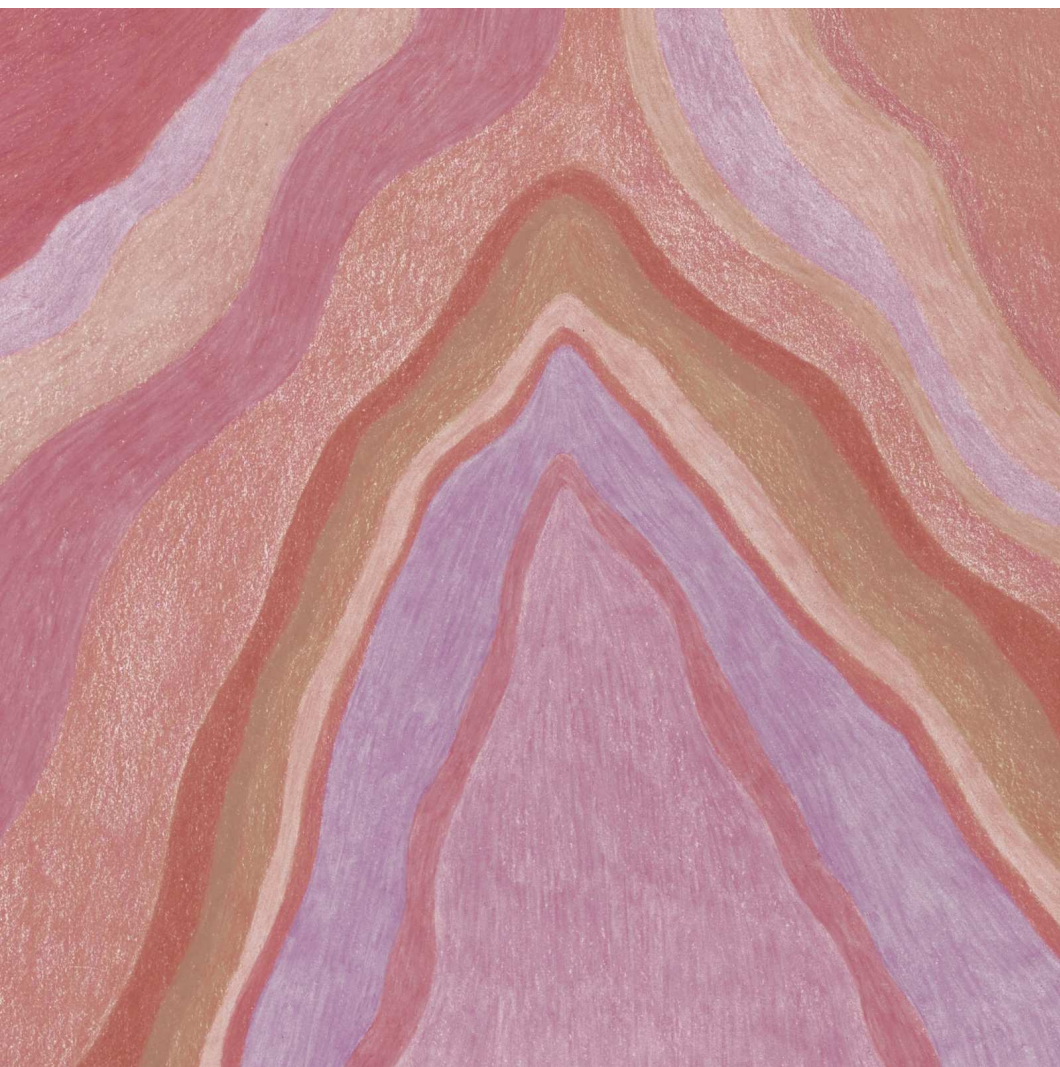
Coloured pencil & wax pastel on
paper

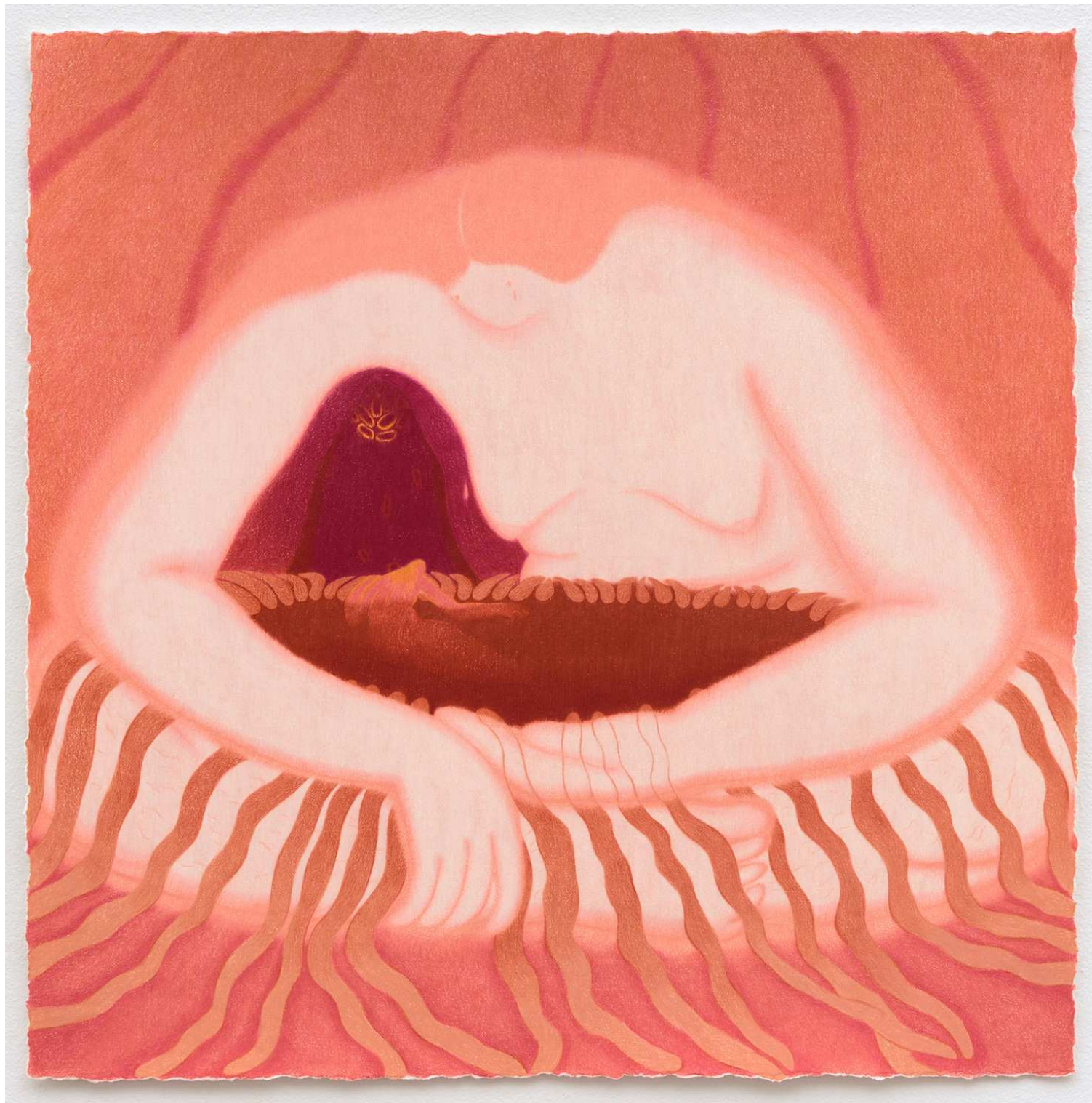
35.56cm x 45.72 cm / 14 x 18
inches

Oiled Walnut frame 46.3 x 56.4
x 3.7 cm

£1850 excluding vat

£2200 including vat





Lydia Baker

Water, Flower and Melancholia

2022

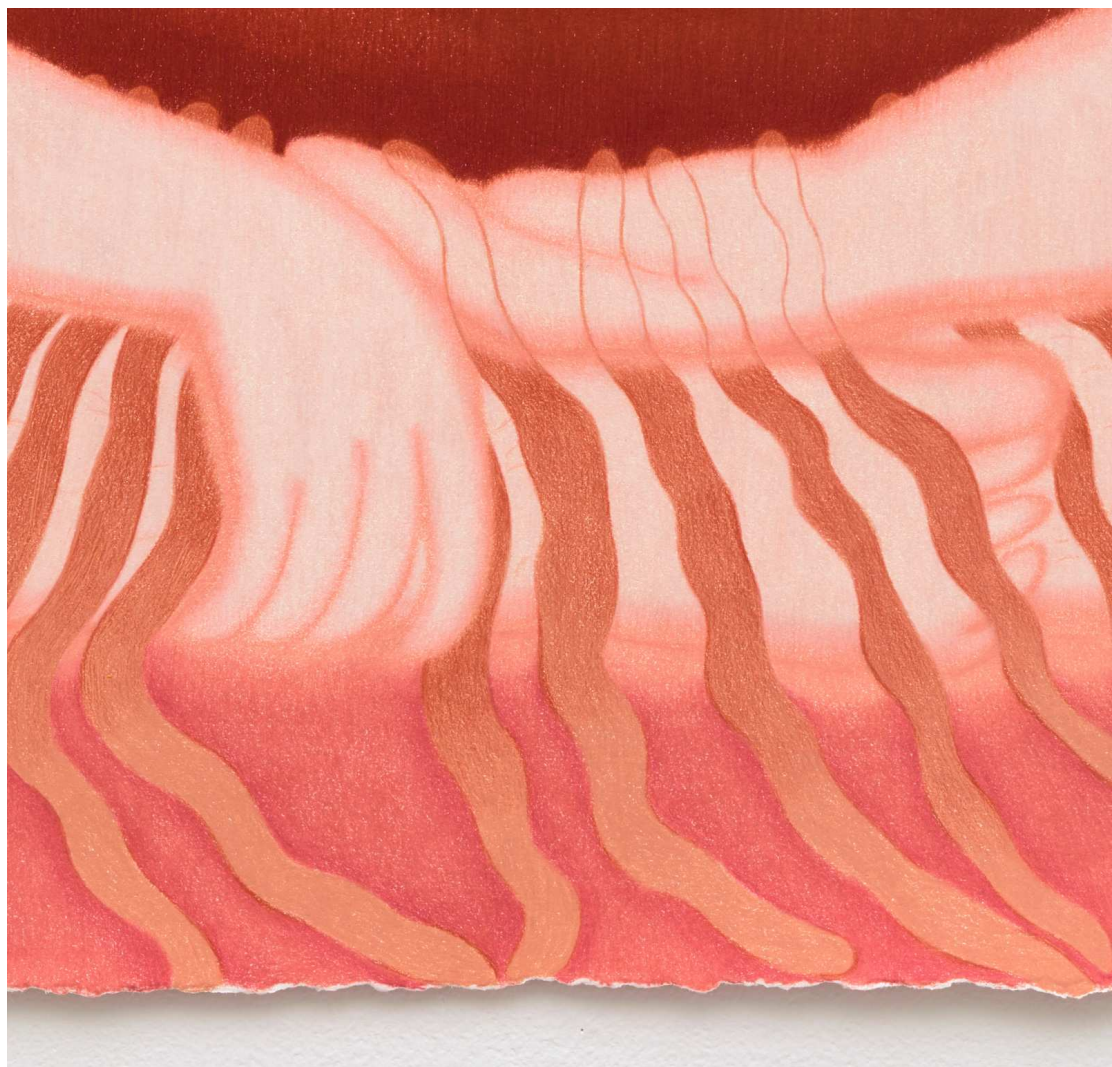
Coloured pencil & wax pastel on
paper

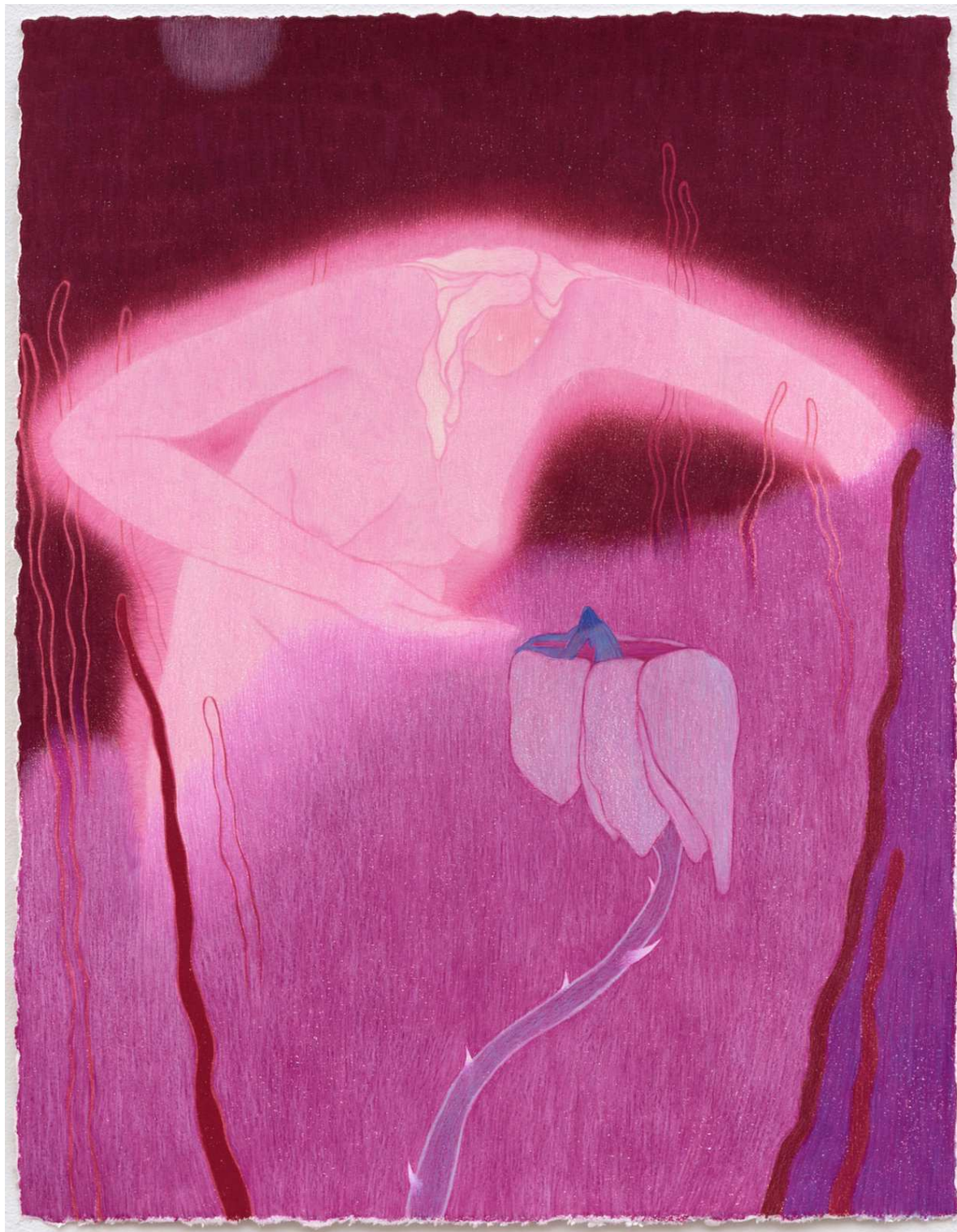
40.64 x 40.64 cm / 16 x 16
inches

Oiled Walnut frame 51.3 x 51.3
x 3.7 cm

£1850 excluding vat

£2200 including vat





Lydia Baker

What Blooms at Night

2022

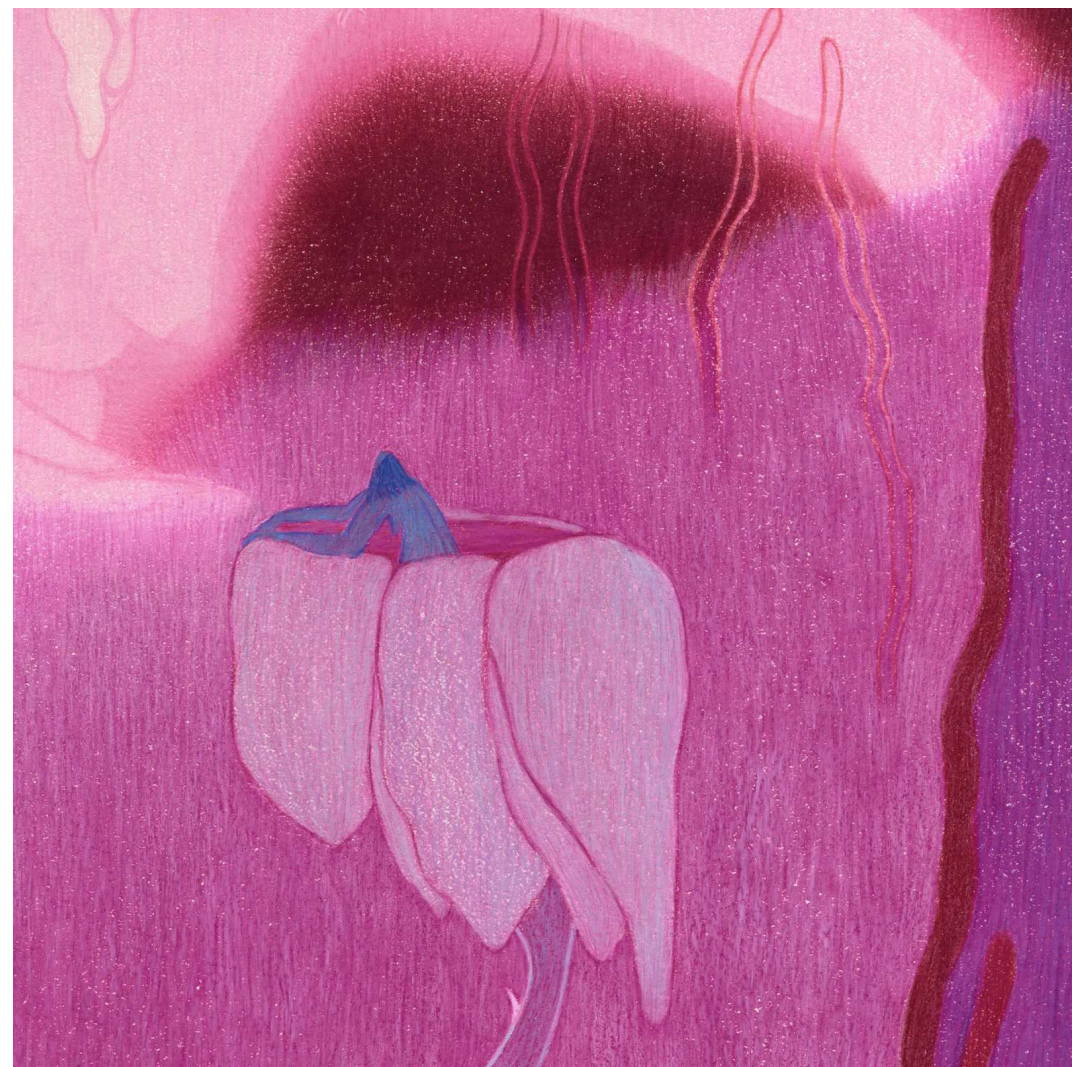
Coloured pencil & wax pastel
on paper

45.72 x 35.56 cm / 18 x 14
inches

Oiled Walnut frame 56.4 x 46.3
x 3.7 cm

£1850 excluding vat

£2200 including vat





Lydia Baker

Whirlwind

2022

Trace monotype on Kitakata
paper

38.1 x 30.38 cm / 15 x 12 inches

Oiled Walnut frame

£900 excluding vat

£1080 including vat





Lydia Baker

Moving In Different Directions

2022

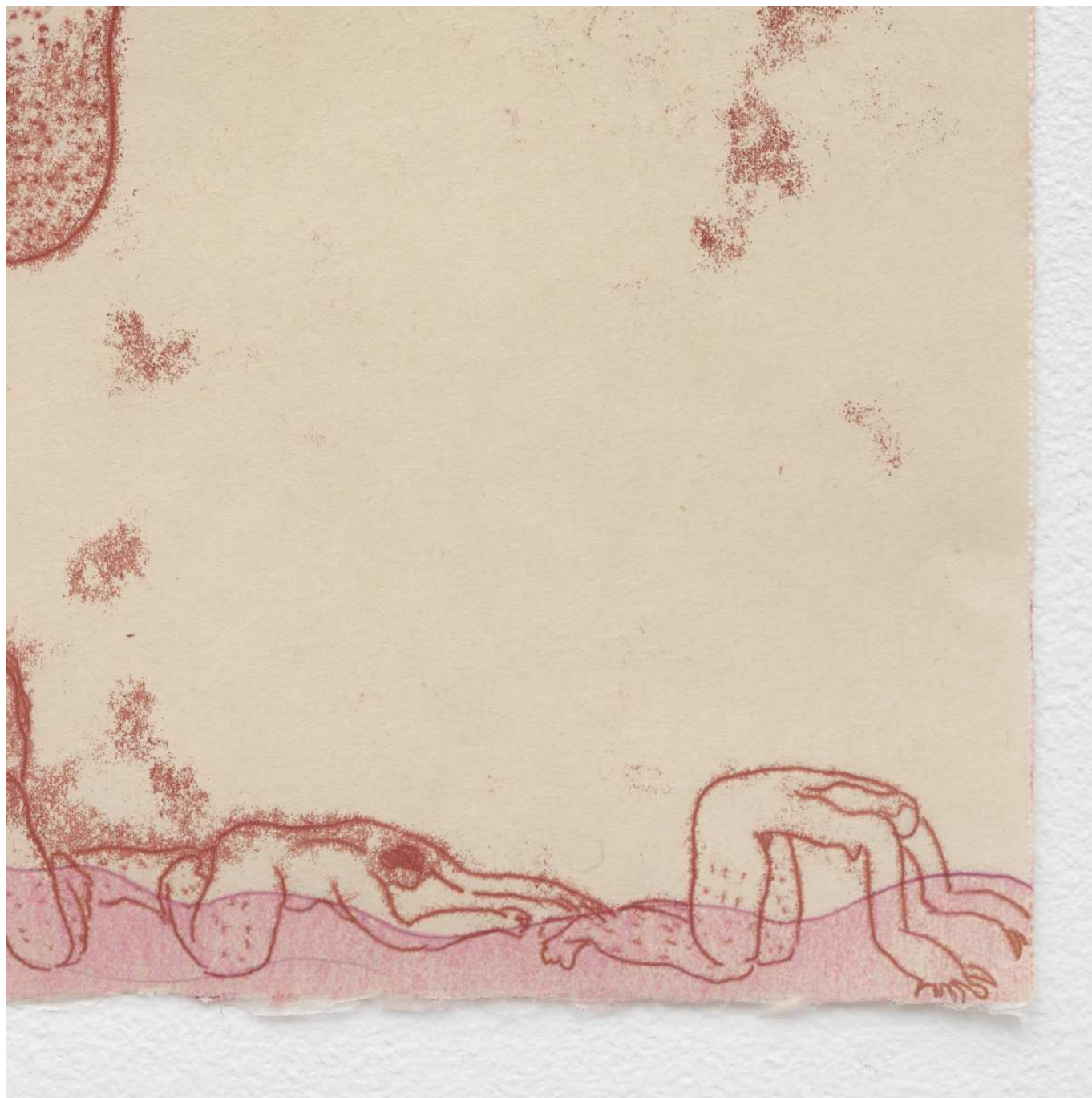
Trace monotype on Kitakata
paper

35.56 x 30.48 cm / 14 x 12
inches

Oiled Walnut frame

£900 excluding vat

£1080 including vat





Lydia Baker

A Giant and Two Pools

2022

Trace monotype on Kitakata
paper

35.56 x 26.67 cm / 14 x 10.5
inches

Oiled Walnut frame

£900 excluding vat

£1080 including vat





Lydia Baker

Inner Part

2022

Trace monotype on Kitakata
paper

35.56 x 26.67 cm / 14 x 10.5
inches

Oiled Walnut frame

£900 excluding vat

£1080 including vat





Lydia Baker

Pieces in the Light

2022

Trace monotype on Kitakata
paper

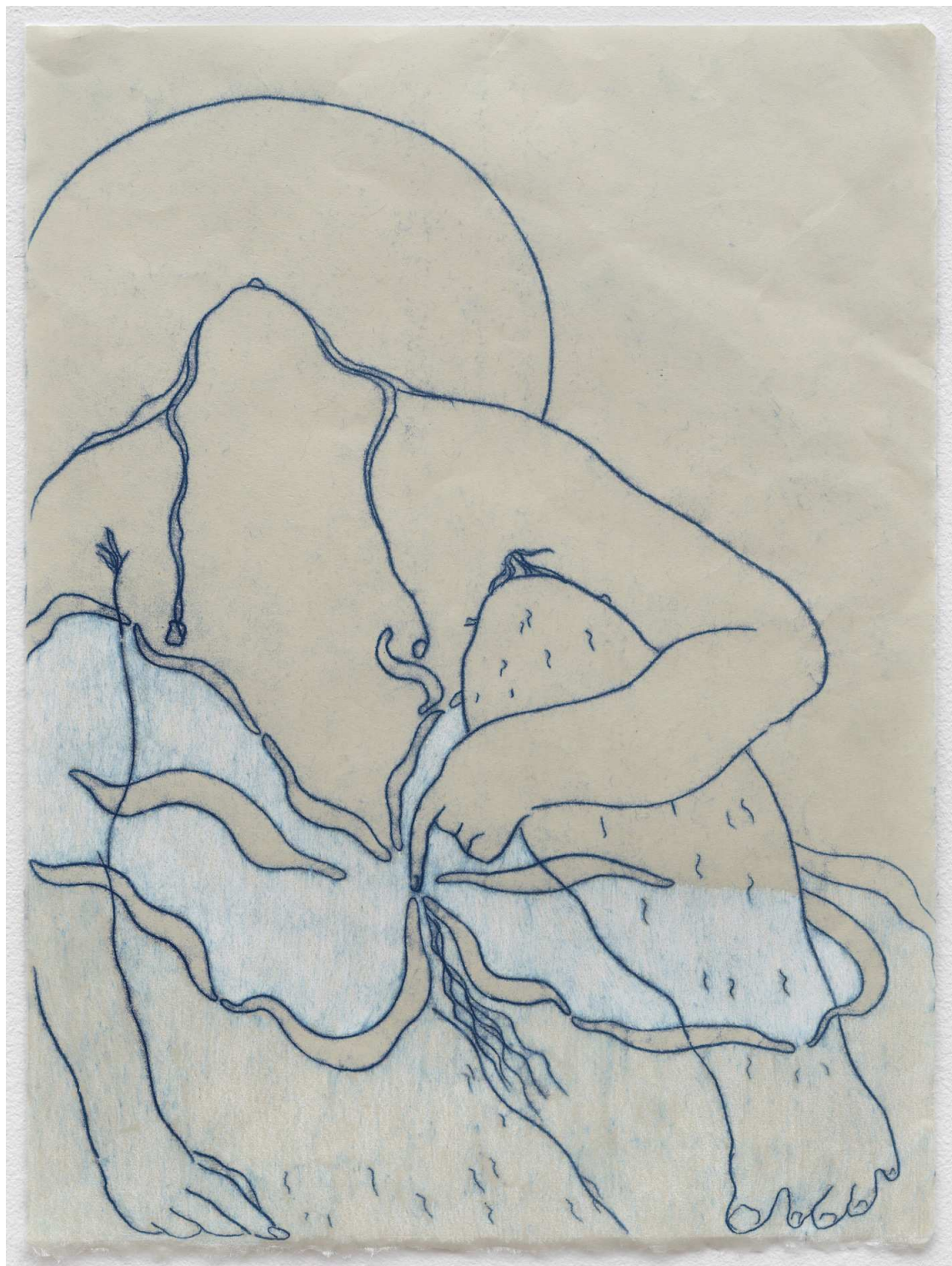
35.56 x 26.67 cm / 14 x 10.5
inches

Oiled Walnut frame

£900 excluding vat

£1080 including vat





Lydia Baker

Conception

2022

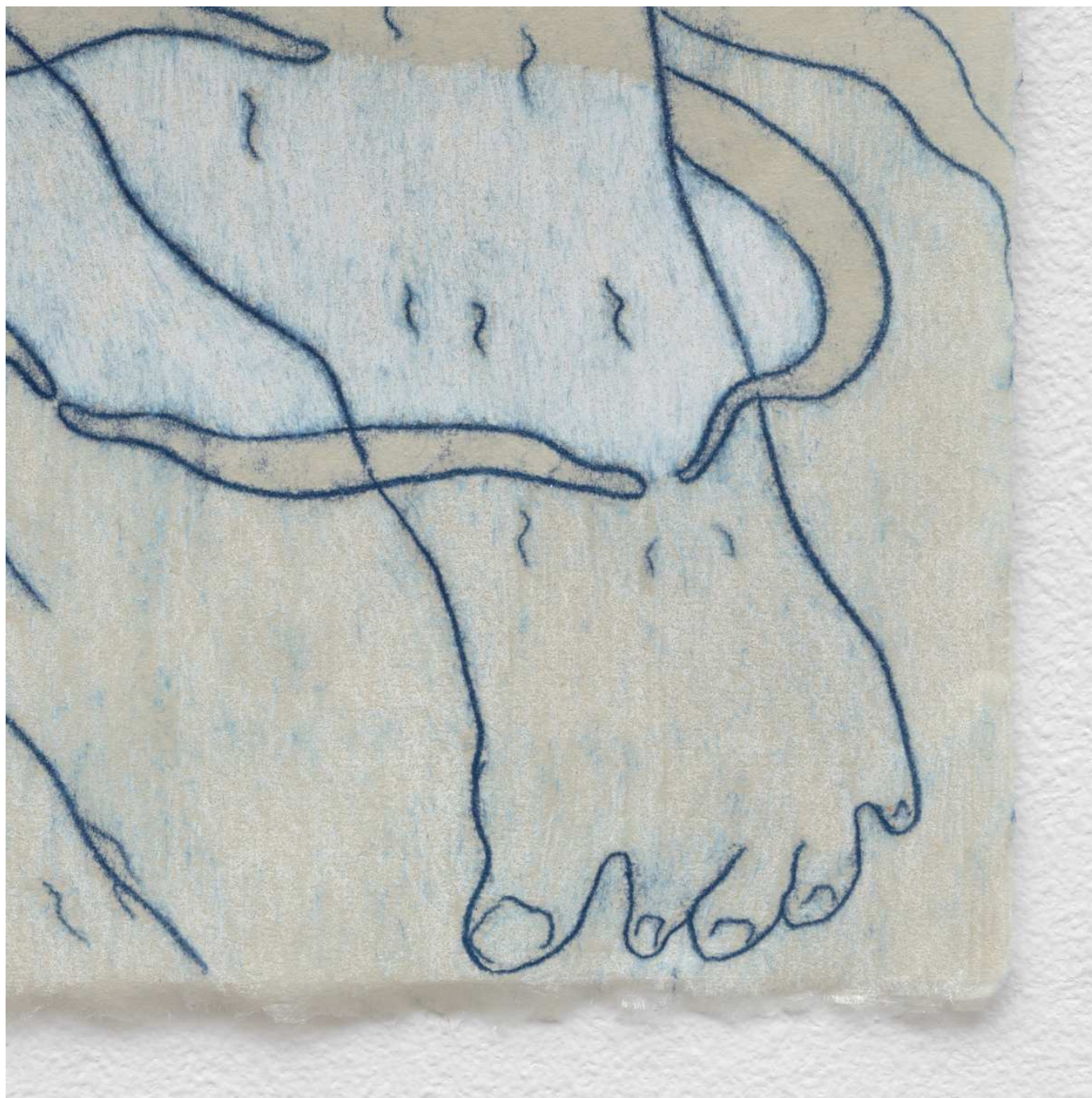
Trace monotype on Kitakata
paper

35.56 x 26.67 cm / 14 x 10.5
inches

Oiled Walnut frame

£900 excluding vat

£1080 including vat





Lydia Baker

Water Birth

2022

Trace monotype on Kitakata
paper

35.56 x 26.67 cm / 14 x 10.5
inches

Oiled Walnut frame

£900 excluding vat

£1080 including vat





Lydia Baker

Memories and a Small Body of
Water

2022

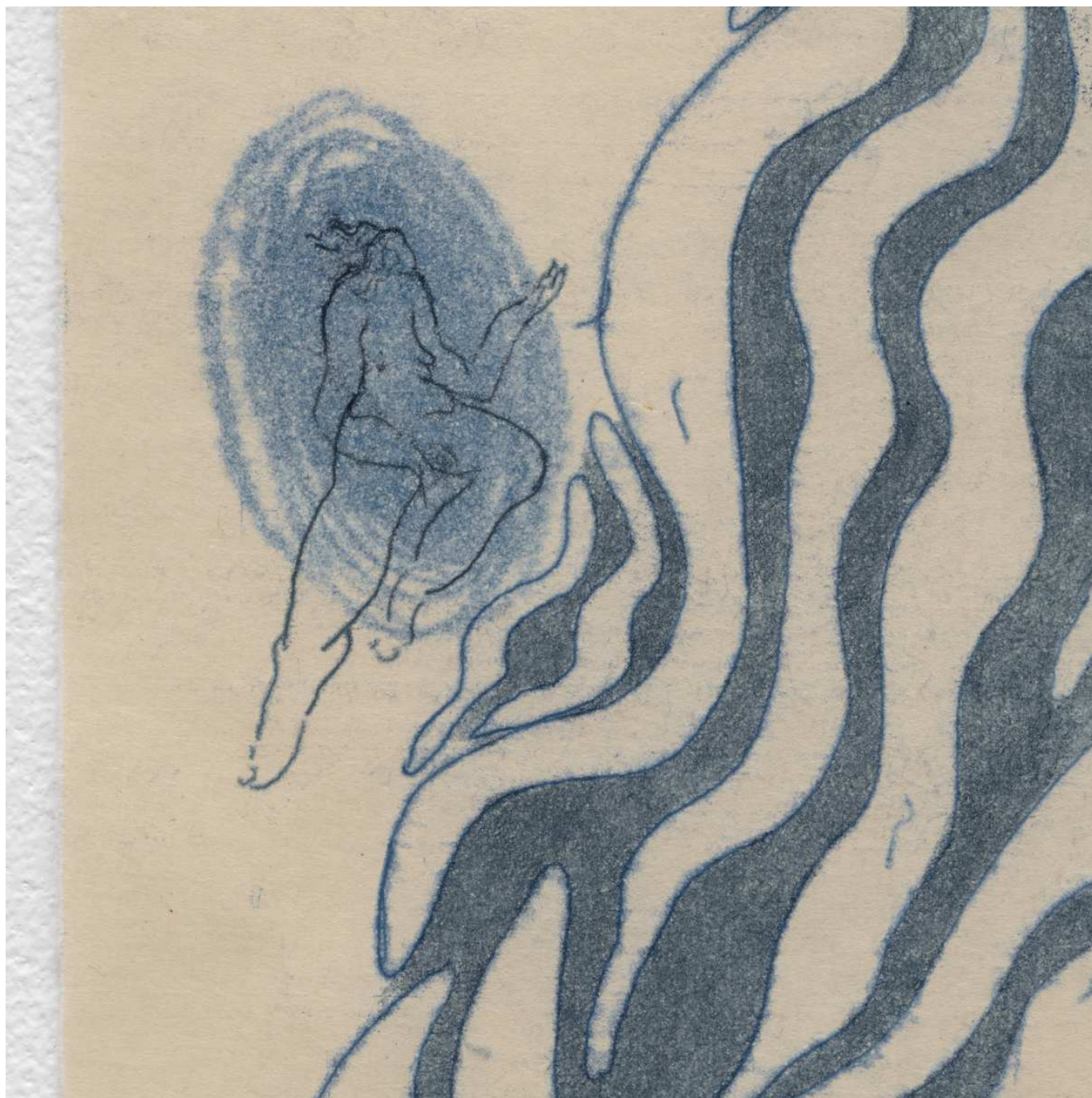
Trace monotype on Kitakata
paper

35.56 x 26.67 cm / 14 x 10.5
inches

Oiled Walnut frame

£900 excluding vat

£1080 including vat



Partnership Programmes:



Wilder Gallery partners with Own Art, enabling art buyers from the UK to acquire work between £100 - £2,500 over a 10 month interest free period. The artwork is delivered immediately and available to enjoy before the first instalment is paid. If you would like to purchase with Own Art or find out more please email Michelle info@wilder.gallery.



Wilder Gallery partners with Art Money, enabling art buyers from the UK, US, Australia and New Zealand to acquire work between £1,000 & £100,000 over a 10 months interest free period. The works is available to deliver immediately. To follow the simple sign up process please [click here](#).

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