



# Megan Rooney: Echoes and Hours

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<b>ISBN</b>	9781904561712
<b>Publisher</b>	Kettle's Yard, University of Cambridge
<b>Binding</b>	Paperback / softback
<b>Territory</b>	World
<b>Size</b>	290 mm x 242 mm
<b>Pages</b>	162 Pages
<b>Illustrations</b>	80 color
<b>Price</b>	£35.00

- This is the only book on Megan Rooney, a rising star within contemporary art today, that is currently available, and published to accompany an exhibition at Kettle's Yard, Cambridge, from June to October 2024
- Produced in close collaboration with the artist
- Lavishly illustrated with reproductions of an extensive new body of work as well as key paintings from the past five years
- Three new essays which explore – for the first time – Rooney's practice to date, and her significance for contemporary painting

**Megan Rooney: Echoes and Hours** is the first monograph to explore the work of one of the most exciting emerging painters of her generation.

Rooney's sensuous and compelling paintings reinvigorate the power of abstraction. They embody a sense of boundless energy and life, whilst reflecting the artist's deep knowledge of painting and the potential of each viewer's encounter. Vibrant colour and gesture combine in dense, apparently infinite layers. Each canvas captures the ebb and flow of Rooney's process, from repetitive overpainting to the use of abrasives to remove pigment.

This major new book accompanies Rooney's first solo exhibition in the UK. It explores the variations in her painting practice across a series of new works made for the exhibition. The book illustrates these works including a temporary mural at Kettle's Yard painted directly on the gallery walls, as well as documenting earlier, formative paintings. Three newly commissioned essays and an interview with the artist in her studio explore Rooney's practice and the resonances of her hugely captivating work.

**Megan Rooney** (b. 1985, South Africa) works across a variety of media – including painting, sculpture, installation, performance and language – to develop interwoven narratives. She completed her BA at the University of Toronto followed by an MA in Fine Arts at Goldsmiths College, London in 2011. Her work has been shown in solo museum exhibitions, including at the Salzburger Kunstverein, Salzburg (2020–21); Museum of Contemporary Art, Toronto (2020); and Kunsthalle Düsseldorf (2019). Her performance EVERYWHERE BEEN THERE created in collaboration with choreographer Temitope Ajose- Cutting and musician Paolo Thorsen-Nagel, premiered at the Kunsthalle Düsseldorf in 2019. The year prior, she performed *SUN DOWN MOON UP* as part of the Serpentine Galleries' Park Nights programme in London. Rooney's work has also been presented in numerous group exhibitions, including at the Fondation Louis Vuitton, Paris (2022); the Ludwig Forum für Internationale Kunst, Aachen (2021); Lyon Biennale (2019); Museum of Modern Art, Warsaw (2019 and 2017); Palais de Tokyo, Paris (2018); Venice Biennale (2017); David Roberts Art Foundation, London (2017 and 2014); and Fondation d'entreprise Galeries Lafayette, Paris (2014), among others. She lives and works in London.

