

**Daisy Dew-diamond  
Louise Sheldon**

by  
**Allison Mann**



May 26th - June 25th, 2023

## **Daisy Dew Diamond:**

### **A Fluvial Dreamscape**

Louise Sheldon's latest collection, "Daisy Dew Diamond," enchants us into a wondrous, undulating universe where the figurative familiarity of homey tablecloths and 19th-century wallpaper, of faces, daisies, anemones and tulips – transform before us into watery expressionist portals between waking life and the oneiric – between memory and longing – between discomfort and ease – between nostalgia and its inevitable wounds, winking at us all the while with a playfulness which reminds us not to take it all so seriously.

Her chosen medium – water color – water – expresses and occupies these places of egress as much as it transmutes, distorts, and subverts them. Seen through water, nothing's as it seems for long. Inherently resistant to form – inherently resistant to language, the temporal, or even something which could be called space – fluid and lulling – this watery, numinous presence in Sheldon's work also functions as our rhythmic guide, becoming set and setting to our journey through the atmospheric antinomies and tensions felt within Sheldon's recurring themes – grief, joy, fear, humor, yearning and our often-complicated relationships to an inherited past. Through her eyes, none of these human conditions are what they seem, not for long anyway. Like bodies of water, they're always undulating – always shifting – always fluid – always poised to surprise. They possess the power of currents and unpredictable weather patterns. As if these watercolors have themselves become ethereal deposits of Sheldon's (and our own) fluvial dreams, they too exist as palimpsests of memory, bearing traces of recurring mnemonic upwelling. Here, each transmutation becomes a nod to that primal, porous tension between surface and benthic consciousness, which too intuits and channels its own vocabulary – its own power to beguile - to confound.

In Sheldon's universe, the safety of home is just as likely to reveal its undercurrents of unease as the tulip is suddenly to reveal its impermanence. This universe – itself impish, diaphanous, curious – feels through these ever-protean, ever-briny apprehensions not with judgment, or hesitation, or an urge to control or even to understand, but with a gentle hand, and acceptance, guiding us through

**Standard Space**

147 Main Street, Sharon, CT  
917-627-3261

**Daisy Dew-diamond  
Louise Sheldon**

by  
**Allison Mann**



May 26th - June 25th, 2023

dreamscapes and startling phantasma with a whimsical reminder to delight in that which might feel strange – to lean into fear with a shrug and a smirk – to sit with eeriness until it too becomes humorous and vice versa. She invites us into a realm where we might imagine some peace with what’s unresolved – inviting us, coyly, to become comfortable with discomfort – with our past, our memories, our dreams, ourselves. There we undulate with an ominous playfulness like pool floats on the open ocean.

- Allison Mann 2023

**Standard Space**  
147 Main Street, Sharon, CT  
917-627-3261