

RUTH SOLOMONS is from and continues to live in London, and recently began a practice-based research degree at Birkbeck, University of London. She has been practicing as an artist for over ten years, having completed her degree in Fine Art (Painting) at Wimbledon School of Art in 2001. In 2014 she participated in a five person show, *Hey Days!*, at Bermondsey Project, and was part of a group exhibition of painting details called (*detail*) touring from Bangkok to London, culminating in a final show at Usher Gallery, Lincoln in 2015. [www.ruthsolomons.com](http://www.ruthsolomons.com)

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Visual Art

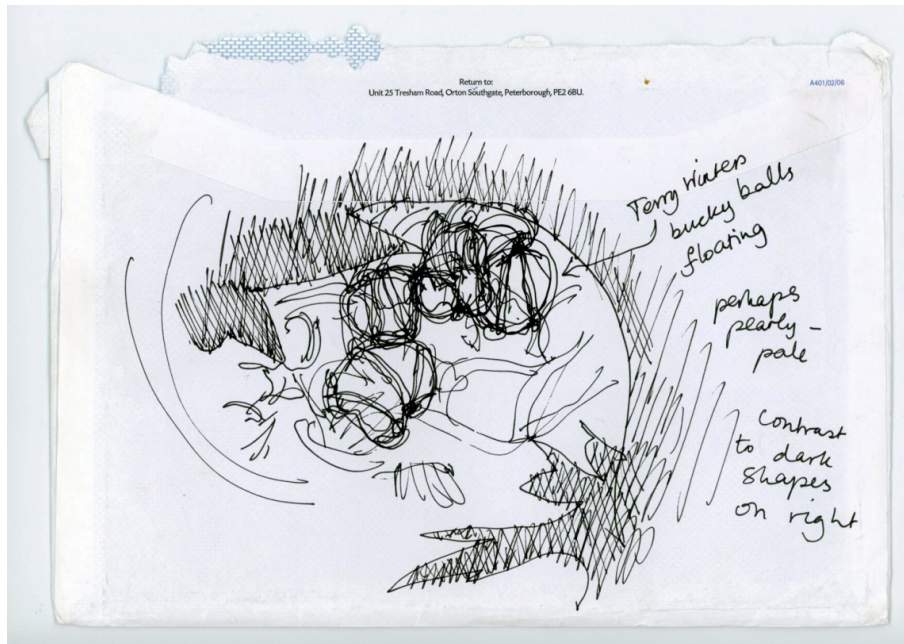
## *Artist's Statement: 'Back of envelope drawings'*

Ruth Solomons



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IN THE STUDIO MY IDEAS EVOLVE ALONGSIDE, IN ADVANCE OF, AND IN RESPONSE TO MY PROCESSES. At times, I find myself visually reconciling my paintings in my mind, ahead of the physical processes of painting and constructing. Multi-layered tiny dashes of paint may build towards a visualised depth of form very slowly, yet in my mind's eye the final effect is held steady throughout. While the glue is setting on a re-configured painting composed of jigsawed wooden panels, I visualise the ways in which I will re-connect the disjointed forms. However, in an art practice which is interrupted by external practicalities, where studio-time becomes squeezed and irregular, these visual reconciliations risk falling away from the forefront of my mind. Over the years I developed a strategy to overcome this, of capturing my thoughts at the end of the studio day on the back of an envelope: a throwaway, un-precious medium. Upon my return to the studio, this strategy helps me to bridge the temporal and physical gaps in my practice. The back of envelope drawings shown here assisted me in resolving the accompanying details of finished paintings.



Ruth Solomons, *Back of Envelope Drawing 20*, 2012, pen on back of envelope



Ruth Solomons, *Fugitive Spaces* (detail), 2011-2012, oil on board



Ruth Solomons, *Back of Envelope Drawing 7*, 2013, pen on back of envelope



Ruth Solomons, *Mobius (detail)*, 2013-2014, oil on board and fixings