ANTIPODEAN PALETTE 2020 'IN ISOLATION' ARTISTS

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In The Approaching Storm, I am exploring the new world in which we find ourselves the strange disharmony between humanity and nature – through the metaphor of a storm. Recent events have made many of us feel a pervading sense of isolation, an awareness of the constantly changing environment, and the impending threat of danger. We are now reminded that we are no match for Mother Nature, we wait out the impending storm together yet apart, fearing and hoping that it passes quickly, leaving minimal damage in its wake. The storm highlights every human being's vulnerability in the natural world—and our modern alienation from it. This painting depicts the coastal region in which I found myself at the start of

this pandemic, as the perfect holiday suddenly became a nightmare, and this artwork reflects the sudden tumult of the whole world. When the realisation of how life would change and how quickly, I needed to convey how I felt in an expressive style rather than my usual realistic manner. The seascape, so familiar and comfortable until that day, became unpredictable and violent — hence the contrast of dark and light colours, of the beautiful in the midst of the challenging and foreboding.

We should never underestimate the power and the untameable force of the natural world.

