Michele Haris

'Return' (2025), Graphite on paper

Michele Harris is a figurative artist whose work depicts emotional narratives using symbolic visual language. She graduated with a BA (hons) in Visual Communication at BIAD in 1999. Since then, she has been a fine artist and educator with work acquired by public and private collections across the UK.

'Return' celebrates Emmy Bridgwater's connection to Solihull and her return to the Midlands in later life; it also references her interest in depicting birds and nature. The central fleur de lis is morphing into a bird

box with roots; this is a symbol of home while referring to the fleur de lis on the Solihull coat of arms.

Returning home are hybrid creatures made from feathers, branches and oak leaves. The feathers are from local birds including the Red Kite which has been reintroduced to Solihull and the leaves are inspired by the Oak tree featured on the coat of arms.

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