



Nancy Haslam-Chance
Gentle, Gentle (2022)

This painting was based upon drawings from an ongoing series I have called 'Caring Drawings'. They focus on my part time job as a care worker, working with adults with learning difficulties. They are about the relationships I have formed with my clients. I am interested in the practicalities of these relationships, my clients require support and it is my job to support them. Yet within these practicalities there are moments of intimacy, tenderness and companionship. I try to capture these careful and caring moments in my drawings, which I do from memory, when I get home from work in the evenings or when I am back in my studio.

The figures in these drawings are not identifiable, they might have an essence of someone but they do not realistically look like the real people they are based on. They are my memories, from my perspective and there are things I have changed. Care work and these drawings are political. I hope they do not romanticise anything about people's situations, care work or the job of being a carer. It can be hard, lonely and is often very low paid. But it is such important work and often joyful too!