



# The Deserted City

Painting in a time of  
Corona

## **The Deserted City: Painting in a Time of Corona**

**MORRIS NITSUN**

**Saturday 3rd October 2020  
15:00 - 17:30 UK time**

### PROGRAMME

15:00: Presentation and Talk

15:45: Breakout groups

16:30 Break

16:45-17:30 Discussion with Large Group

**Morris Nitsun, group analyst and artist, will present a series of paintings he produced during lockdown in the months March to August 2020. Struck by the panic that swept through Europe in the early outbreak of the virus, transforming vibrant cities and towns into empty, desolate places, he was moved to capture images of these places in paint. The result is a striking body of work, evoking the dread that haunted communities - and still does.**

In addition to the online exhibition, Morris will speak to the paintings, putting them in the context of his own experience of the corona virus, his background and interests as an artist, and the sense he tried to make of the massive social and existential impact of the pandemic. While much of this touches on themes of illness and loss, there are glimmers of hope in the dark - of a renewed world, of the creative and collaborative spirit that survives trauma.

After the presentation, there will be breakout groups in which participants will be invited to share their impressions and associations. This will be followed by an open discussion with all participants.

***Morris Nitsun** is a clinical psychologist, psychotherapist and group analyst who recently retired from the NHS after 51 years of service. He is in private practice at the Fitzrovia Group Analytic Practice in London and a training group analyst at the Institute of Group Analysis. In 2015 he was awarded the Royal College of Psychiatrist President's medal for services to mental health, including group psychotherapy. He is the author of "The Anti-group: destructive forces in the group and their creative potential" (1996, 2015) and "The Group as an Object of Desire" (2006), both of which have been described as classics in the field. His most recent book is "Beyond the Anti-group: survival and transformation" (2015). As an artist, he has painted for many decades and has held regular exhibitions of his work in London galleries. His work is in collections across the world.*