

MERLIN JAMES

b. 1960, Cardiff

Lives and works in Glasgow

EDUCATION

1983–86 MA, Painting, Royal College of Art, London, UK

1979–82 BA (Hons), Central School of Art, London (now Central St. Martins)

1978–79 Cardiff College of Art

CURRENT & FORTHCOMING EXHIBITIONS

2024 Galeria Wschód, Warsaw, Poland (Solo)

2023 Some Steps, Kunstsaele, Berlin, Germany; curated by Andrew Mummery (Solo, 16–29 September)

SOLO & TWO-PERSON EXHIBITIONS

2023 Double Shuffle, two-person exhibition with Victoria Morton, Kerlin Gallery, Dublin
Arrivals, Chris Sharp, Los Angeles, CA, USA

2022 Far and Near, Anton Kern Gallery, New York, NY, USA

2021 Window, Kerlin Gallery, Dublin

2020 Paintings for Persons, Sikkema, Jenkins & Co., New York, NY, USA

2019 Untitled (Sex), SELECT, Berlin, Germany

2018 A View of the Clyde River at Glasgow, A-M-G5, Glasgow, UK

Long Game, OCT Boxes Art Museum, Shunde, China; OCT Art & Design Gallery, Shenzhen, China

2017 Raucci e Santamaria, Milan, Italy

2016 Paintings for Persons, Sikkema Jenkins & Co, New York, USA

To the Present, Kerlin Gallery, Dublin, Ireland

Long Game, CCA, Glasgow, UK

2015 Meeting at the Building, Gallery 2, Douglas Hyde Gallery, Dublin, Ireland

Genre Paintings, Sikkema Jenkins & Co., New York, NY, USA

2014 Freestyle, Kunstverein Freiberg, Germany

Paintings, Drawings, Prints, Aanant & Zoo, Berlin, Germany

In Penombra, Raucci/Santamaria, Naples, Italy

2013 Signal Box, KW Institute for Contemporary Art, Berlin, Germany

Sex Paintings, OHIO, Glasgow, UK

Merlin James, Parasol Unit, London, UK

Painting, Galerie les Filles du Calvaire, Paris, France

SOLO EXHIBITIONS CONTD.

- 2012 In the Gallery, Douglas Hyde Gallery, Dublin, Ireland
New Paintings, Kerlin Gallery, Dublin, Ireland
- 2011 Sikkema Jenkins & Co., New York, NY, USA
- 2010 Frame Paintings, Mummery + Schnelle, London, UK
- 2008 Birds, Places, Other Things, Kerlin Gallery, Dublin, Ireland
- 2008 Paintings, Mummery + Schnelle, London, UK
- 2007 Painting to Painting, New York Studio School, New York, NY, USA
Merlin James: Painting, Galerie Les Filles du Calvaire, Brussels, Belgium
Galerie les Filles du Calvaire, Paris, France
- 2006 Paintings of Buildings, Sikkema Jenkins & Co., New York, NY, USA
Andrew Mummery Gallery, London, UK
- 2005 Sea, Kerlin Gallery, Dublin, Ireland
Sikkema Jenkins & Co., New York, NY, USA
- 2004 Easel Painting, Talbot Rice Gallery, Edinburgh, travelling to Bay Art, Cardiff, UK
Vitamin Arte Contemporanea, Turin, Italy
- 2003 The Middle Distance, Kerlin Gallery, Dublin, Ireland
New Compositions, Andrew Mummery Gallery, London, UK
Brent Sikkema, New York, NY, USA
- 2002 Pictures, Brent Sikkema Gallery, New York, NY, USA
Pictures, Galleria Ceribelli, Bergamo, Italy
New Paintings 2002, Kerlin Gallery, Dublin, Ireland
- 2001 Galerie Yves Hoffmann, Paris, France
Andrew Mummery Gallery, London, UK
- 1998 Painting, Wooster Gardens, New York, NY, USA
- 1997 Francis Graham Dixon, London, UK
Andrew Grant Gallery, Edinburgh College of Art, UK
Critical Pictures, Andrew Grant Gallery, Edinburgh College of Art, UK
Wooster Gardens, New York, NY, USA
- 1996 Kettle's Yard, Cambridge, UK
Critical Pictures, Picker Gallery, Kingston University, Kingston upon Thames, UK
- 1995 Poussin's Phocion, National Museum of Wales, Cardiff, UK
Poussin's Phocion and Other Works, Standpoint Studios, London, UK
- 1992 Eagle Gallery, London, UK
- 1991 Albermarle Gallery, London, UK

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2023 Landschaft, Galerie Khoshbakht, Cologne, Germany
I've never met anyone quite like you before, Queens Park Railway Club, Glasgow
- 2022 To be a giant and keep quiet about it, Margot Samel, New York
Moderato Cantabile, Stoppenback & Delestre, London
Gracie DeVito/Gabriel de la Mora/Merlin James, Art Alliance Philadelphia, PA, USA
- 2021 Mixing It Up: Painting Today, Hayward Gallery, South Bank Centre, London, UK
Prunella Clough, A small thing edgily, with works by Amy Sillman, Hayley Tompkins and Merlin Hames, June, Berlin, Germany
Feel the Soul?, Willumsens Museum
- 2020 Double-M, Double-X, Kerlin Gallery, Dublin, Ireland
Slow Painting, The Levinsky Gallery, Plymouth, UK.
- 2019 Slow Painting, Leeds Art Gallery, Leeds, UK.
Soto Voce, Bortola Gallery, NYC, USA.
last day of May, Kerlin Gallery, Dublin, Ireland.
Uptown Painting, Peter Freeman Gallery, New York, USA.
- 2018 Salon 007, Saatchi Gallery, London, UK.
Painting Amongst Other Things, Drill Hall Gallery, Australian National University, Canberra
- 2017 La vita Materiale, The Goma, Madrid, Spain.
Park, Holly's Gallery, Guangzhou & Hong Kong (co-presented by Kerlin Gallery)
Il Paesaggio Invisible, Rauchi e Santamaria, Naples, Italy.
- 2016 The Public Body .01, Artspace, Sydney, Australia.
Cuts, Shapes, Breaks and Scrapes, Seventeen Gallery, London, UK.
Ghosts of Other Stories, The Model, Sligo, Ireland.
Towards Night, Towner Art Gallery, Eastbourne, UK.
- 2015 Out There, Thataway, CCA Derry, Derry, Northern Ireland.
basal, Aanant & Zoo, Berlin, Germany.
Vital Signs: 12 London Artists, Clifford Chance, London, UK.
- 2013 The Parergon and The Gutter, David Risley Gallery, Copenhagen, Denmark.
The Room and its Inhabitants, Susan Hobbs Gallery, Toronto, ON, Canada.
Inevitable Figuration, Museo Pecci, Prato, Italy.
Gallery 400, University of Illinois, Chicago, IL, USA.
Picture Show, Gallery of Modern Art, Glasgow, UK.
SS Blue Jacket, KARST, Plymouth UK.
- 2012 A Bucolic Frolic, Mummery+Schnelle, London, UK.
One Night Stand, Goat Major Projects, Cardiff, Wales; Trade Gallery, Nottingham, UK

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- The Big Picture, Sikkema Jenkins & Co., New York, NY, USA.
Interior Visions, Colby College Art Gallery, Waterville, ME, USA.
The Man Don't Give..., Motorcade/Flash Parade, Bristol, UK.
Les Misérables, OHIO, Glasgow, UK.
Broken/Window/Plane, curated by John Yau, Tracy Williams Gallery, New York, USA
- 2011
Royal Hibernian Academy, Dublin, Ireland.
Between My Head and My Hand..., PNCA Feldman Gallery, Portland, OR, USA.
White Columns Benefit Auction, New York, NY, USA.
- 2010
The Beholder's Share, Mummery+Schnelle, London, UK.
Merlin James, Andrew Taylor, Tom Varley, Southside Studios, Glasgow, UK.
Long, Long Gone, Leo Koenig, New York, NY, USA.
- 2010
Self-Consciousness, Veneklasen Werner, Berlin, Germany.
Le Tableau, Cheim & Read, New York, NY, USA.
Building on a Cliff – Merlin James, Matt Conners, Arturo Herera, Sikkema Jenkins, New York, USA
- 2009
Doppo Gobbo, Fuxia Gallery, Milan, Italy.
New Ideas in Abstraction, APSU, Clarkesville, Tennessee, USA.
Nudes, Galeria Fortes Vilaça, Sao Paulo, Brazil.
Turps: Part Two, Galleria Marabini, Bologna, Italy.
- 2008
21: Selections of Contemporary Art, Brooklyn Museum, Brooklyn, NY, USA.
- 2007
Mutineer, Atelierhaus Mengerziele, Berlin, Germany.
Things We Lost in the Fire, Leicester City Art Gallery, UK.
An Eclectic Eye, Tucson Museum of Art, Arizona, USA.
And so it goes, Welsh Pavilion, 52nd Venice Biennale, Italy, travelling to Chapter Gallery, Cardiff, UK.
- 2005
Short Stories About Painting, curated by Jeffrey Dennis, Michael Richardson Contemporary Art, London, UK.
Seeing Things, curated by Davide Ferri, Galleria Fabjbasaglia, Rimini, Italy.
- 2006
Things We Lost in the Fire, Transition Gallery, London, UK.
Faces of a Collection, Kunsthalle Mannheim, Germany.
(Re)markable, Andrew Mummery Gallery, London, UK.
Interested Painters, Gallery 400, Chicago, IL, USA.
- 2004
Direct Painting, Kunsthalle Mannheim, Germany.
The Five Corners of Painting, curated by Jane Lee, artconnexion, Lille, France.
On the Edge of Real, Whitechapel Art Gallery, London, UK.
No Particular Place to Go, curated by Mary McLean, APT Gallery, London, UK.

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS CONTD.

- Contemporary Painting, curated by Alex Katz, Colby College Museum of Art, Waterville, ME, USA.
- The Edge of the Real, Whitechapel Gallery, London, UK.
- Sidelonging, crated by Andreas Leventis, 117 Commercial Street, London, UK.
- Les Cinq Coins De Peinture, artconnexion, Lille, France.
- 2003 Dirty Picture Show, The Approach Gallery, London.
- Yes! I am long way from home, The Nunnery Gallery, London, UK, travelling to Wolverhampton Art Gallery, UK; Northern Gallery for Contemporary Art, Sunderland, UK; The Herbert Read Gallery, Canterbury, UK.
- The Lazarus Effect, curated by Helena Kontova, Luca Beatrice and Lauri Firstenberg, Prague Biennale, Czech Republic.
- 2002 Closer, curated by Peter Jones, Standpoint Gallery, London, UK.
- Landscape, Saatchi Gallery, London, UK.
- 2001 Painters Painting, The Approach, London, UK.
- 2000 Not Enough, Velan Centre for Contemporary Art, Turin, Italy.
- 2000 Stephen Lacy Gallery, London, UK.
- Regrouping, The Nunnery, London, UK.
- Brent Sikkema, New York, NY, USA.
- River Deep Mountain High, curated by Kelly Taylor, Cooper Gallery, University of Dundee, Scotland.
- 1999 Another Country: The Constructed Landscape, Brent Sikkema Gallery and Lawrence Rubin Greenberg Van Doren, New York, NY, USA.
- Don't Smoke in My House, Vicki Tarrant, London, UK.
- Art First, London, UK.
- EAST International, selected by Peter Doig, Norwich Gallery, Norwich, UK.
- Stephen Lacy Gallery, London, UK.
- River Deep Mountain High, Gallery Westland Place, London, UK; travelling to Cooper Gallery, University of Dundee (2000), Dundee, UK; Thomas Korzelius Gallery, New York, USA.
- 1998 Raum, Kunstlerhaus Vienna, Austria.
- Critical Faculty, Grand Valley State University, Michigan, USA.
- Painting, Wooster Gardens, New York, NY, USA.
- 1996 Connaught Brown, London.
- Whitechapel Open, Whitechapel Gallery, London.
- 1995 Royal College of Art, London, UK.
- 1994 Kapil Jariwala Gallery, London, UK.
- 1993 Quoi de Neuf?, Delsol et Innocenzi, Paris, France.
- 1990 Albermarle Gallery, London, UK.

CURATORIAL PROJECTS

- 2015 Serge Charchoune, Douglas Hyde Gallery, Dublin
- 2014 Christina Ramberg, 42 Carlton Place, Glasgow, UK (Glasgow International), co-curated with Carol Rhodes
- 2012 Other Modernisms: Serge Charchoune (1889-1975), Smart Museum of Art, University of Chicago, IL, USA; Talbot Rice Gallery, University of Edinburgh, UK
- 2009 Primitif Compliqué, Galerie les Filles du Calvaire, Brussels, Belgium
- 2008 Serge Charchoune, Mummery + Schnelle, London, UK
- 2005 Incorrigible, Sentimental, Kerlin Gallery, Dublin, Ireland

COLLECTIONS

- TATE, London
- Musee d'Art Moderne de la Ville, Paris
- Dallas Museum of Art, Dallas
- Sifang Art Museum, Nanjing, China
- National Museum of Wales, Cardiff
- OCT Boxes Art Museum, Shunde, China

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- 2023 Merlin James, published by Kerlin Gallery, Dublin; Sikkema Jenkins & Co., New York; P420, Bologna
- 2018 Long Game, with texts by Declan Long, Merlin James and Christina Y Z
- 2016 Barry Schwabsky, 'For and Against Method: Edgar Degas and Merlin James' in The Perpetual Guest, Verso Books
- 2014 Merlin James: SIGNAL BOX, KW Institute, Berlin
- 2013 Merlin James, Parasol Unit, London, UK
- 2012 Merlin James: In The Gallery, Douglas Hyde Gallery, Dublin, Ireland
- 2011 Between My Head and My Hand There is Always the Image of Death, PNCA Portland, OR, USA; text by Kirsten Kennedy
Vitamin P2: New Perspectives in Painting, edited by Barry Schwabsky, Phaidon
- 2010 Self-Consciousness, VeneKlasen/Werner, Berlin, Germany
Another Country, Estorick Collection, London, UK; text by Brendan Prenderville
- 2009 Kallat, Fluxia Gallery, Milan, Italy; text 'Doppo Gobbo' by Luca Francesconi
- 2007 Merlin James, Wales at the Venice Biennale, Art Council of Wales
- 2006 Things We Lost in the Fire, Transition Gallery, London, UK; text by Gordon Dalton
- 2005 Short Stories About Painting, University of the Arts, London; text by Merlin James
Painting Direct, Kunsthalle Mannheim, Germany; texts by Rolf Lauter, William Feaver

BIBLIOGRAPHY CONTD.

- White Window, Canterbury, UK; text by Jane Lee
- 2004 Merlin James: Recent Paintings, Vitamin Arte, Turin, Italy
Merlin James: Easel Paintings, Talbot Rice Gallery, Edinburgh, UK
Contemporary Painting, Colby College Museum of Art, ME, USA
- 2003 Prague Biennale 1: Peripheries Become the Center, Prague Biennale
Yes! I am a long way from home, The Nunnery, London, UK
- 2002 Merlin James: Pictures, Lubrina Editore/Brent Sikkema/Cerebelli, New York, NY, USA & Bergamo, Italy
- 1999 Landscape, Saatchi Gallery, London, UK
River Deep, Mountain High, Westland Place, London, UK; text by Kier Smith
EAST International, Norwich, UK
Young British Art: The Saatchi Decade, Booth-Clibborn Editions, UK
- 1998 Raum!, Künstlerhaus, Vienna, Austria
Open Drawing, CGCHE, Cheltenham, UK
Critical Faculty, Grand Valley State University, Allendale, MI, USA; text by C. Horrocks
- 1996 Merlin James: Critical Pictures, Picker Gallery, Kingston University; text by Juan Cruz
Merlin James, Kettle's Yard, Cambridge, 1996, exhibition leaflet, interview with Merlin James by Simon Wallis
- 1991 Merlin James, Albemarle Gallery, London, text by the artist

AUTHORED BOOKS, PUBLISHED LECTURES & CATALOGUES

- 2015 Serge Charchoune, Douglas Hyde Gallery, Dublin
- 2013 Serge Charchoune, Talbot Rice Gallery, Edinburgh
- 2012 'Edvard Munch: The Modern Eye', World of Interiors, August, p. 105
- 2011 Alex Katz, James Cohan Gallery, Shanghai
William Nicholson, catalogue raisonne, Modern Art Press, London
- 2008 Live Undead, exhibition brochure, Transmission Gallery, Glasgow
Serge Charchoune, Mummery & Schnelle, London
- 2007 Carol Rhodes, Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art, Edinburgh
- 2005 Alex Katz, Cartoons and Paintings, Albertina Museum, Vienna
Short Stories About Painting, University of the Arts, London, England
- 2004 William Nicholson, Royal Academy of Arts, London
- 2002 Painting per se, published lecture, Cooper Union School of Art, New York
- 2001 Morandi: The Collector's Eye, Estorick Collection, London

AUTHORED BOOKS, LECTURES & CATALOGUES CONTD.

- Alex Katz: The Woodcuts and Linocuts, Peter Blum Editions, New York
- 2000 Lowry's People, The Lowry Centre, Salford
Lowry's Places, The Lowry Centre, Salford
- 1999 Edges, Peter Blum Editions, New York
- 1997 Alex Katz: Twenty-Five Years of Painting, The Saatchi Gallery, London
- 1996 The Non-Existence of Art Criticism, The 1996 Stanley Picker Lecture, Tate Gallery; New York Studio School; Kingston University, London
- 1995 David Jones, 1895-1974: A Map of the Artist's Mind, Lund Humphries, London
Poussin's Phocion, National Museum of Wales, hand list, text by the artist
Poussin's Phocion and Other Work, Standpoint Studios, London, UK, text by the artist, limited edition print
- 1992 Engaging Images: Practical Criticism and Visual Art, Menard/Kings College, London

POSTS HELD

- 2002 Alex Katz Chair in Painting, Cooper Union School of Art New York, USA
- 1997–2002 Associate Editor, Modern & Contemporary, The Burlington Magazine
- 1996 Critic in Residence, Kingston University, London, UK
Artist in Residence, Glasgow School of Art, Glasgow, UK

SELECTED PRESS

- 2023 'Merlin James and Victoria Morton', BOMB Magazine, Summer Issue, 1 June (Cover story)
Image Magazine, Summer Issue, June
Tony Clayton-Lea, 'The Guide: Visual art – Victoria Morton and Merlin James: Double Shuffle', The Irish Times – The Ticket, 27 May
Matthew Bourbon, 'One Work, Short Take: Merlin James at Kerlin Gallery, Dublin', Glasstire, 27 April 2023
Jonathan Griffin, 'Merlin James's "Arrivals"', e-flux Criticism, 3 March
- 2021 'Merlin James at Kerlin Gallery', Contemporary Art Writing Daily, 5 October
David Ebony, '"Brandless" Abstractions', ArtNews, 24 March
- 2020 Louis Block, 'Merlin James with Louis Block', Brooklyn Rail, April
- 2019 Aidan Dunne, 'A showcase of pencil and charcoal drawings, and a visual diarist: Last Day of May', The Irish Times, 18 June
- 2018 'Long Game: Merlin James' at Boxes Art Museum, Shunde', Blouin Art Info, 29 March
Elena Martinique, 'Dallas Art Fair 2018 – Celebrating an Incredible Milestone', Widewalls, 28 March

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- 2017 Edward M Gómez, 'At the 2017 Dallas Art Fair, Big Ambitions and the Big Mo', Hyperallergic, 10 April
- 2016 ArtReview, 'Five shows to see in Shanghai', 11 November
John Yau, 'Paintings We Need', Hyperallergic, 6 November
Alison Martin, 'Merlin James: Paintings for Persons at Sikkema Jenkins & Co', Arte Fuse, 5 November
Picpus, Issue 17, Summer
Catherine O'Keeffe, 'Artsdesk', Totally Dublin, June
Aidan Dunne, 'The unpredictable magic of Merlin James', 31 May
John O'Sullivan, The Sunday Times Culture, 29 May
Aidan Kelly Murphy, 'Picture This', The Thin Air, 27 May
Moray Mair, Review of To the Present, Mutant Space, 19 May
Declan Long, radio piece, RTÉ Arena, 16 May
The Ticket, 'Going out: The best of what's on this week', 16 May
Zoë Jellicoe, 'Zoë's Dublin Diary', Dublin InQuirer, 10 May
Eileen Kinsella, 'What Are Dealers Bringing to Frieze New York 2016?', artnet News, 3 May
Alex Fialho, 'Big Game', Artforum, 22 April
Eileen Kinsella, 'See the Top Booths at Dallas Art Fair 2016', artnet News, 15 April
Michael Granberry, 'Four artists, nine works: The Dallas Museum of Art beefs up its collection with works being shown at Dallas Art Fair', The Dallas Morning News, 14 April
Sherman Sam, 'Critic's Pick: Merlin James, CCA', Artforum, February 2016
- 2016 Gemma Tipton, 'Critic's Guide: Dublin', Frieze blog, 14 February 2016
Susan Mansfield, 'Merlin James: Long Game', The List, 26 January 2016
- 2015 Phong Bui, 'Merlin James Genre Paintings', The Brooklyn Rail, 5 March 2015
The New York Times, 'Merlin James: Genre Paintings', 27 February 2015
David Ebony, 'David Ebony's Top 10 New York Gallery Shows for February', ArtNet, 25 February 2015
John Yau, 'What Does It Mean to Be a Grown-Up Painter?', Hyperallergic, 22 February
- 2014 Howard Halle, 'Merlin James Genre Paintings', Time Out New York, 12 February
Mark Prince, 'Merlin James Freestyle', ArtReview, April 2014
- 2013 James Cahill, 'Recent Exhibitions, London', The Burlington Magazine, August
Henri Ward, 'Parasol Unit: Merlin James', City Road Online, 30 July 2013
Paul Carey-Kent, FAD, 20 July 2013
Dan Coombs, 'Merlin James at Parasol Unit, Per Kirkeby at Michael Werner', Abstract Critical, 26 June 2013

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- Eddie Frankel, 'Merlin James Parasol Unit' Time Out London, 25 June 2013
- Mr. Hyde, 'The (less dramatic) adventures of Merlin', www.shortlist.com, 13 June
- Amandas Ong, 'Artist re-invents traditional approaches to painting', Elephant Magazine, 9 June 2013
- Culture Critic, 7 June 2013
- Skye Sherwin, 'Exhibitionist: The week's art shows in pictures', The Guardian: Guide, 1 June 2013
- Wall Street International Magazine, 20 May 2013
- artlyst, 'Merlin James: First Major London Solo Exhibition Parasol Unit', 11 April
- Mara Hoberman, 'Merlin James, Galerie Les Filles du Calvarie', Artforum, April
- 2012 Metro, 14 March 2012, p. 14
- Cristin Leach Hughes, 'Merlin James – In the Gallery', The Sunday Times: Culture, 3 March 2012, p. 39
- Aidan Dunne, 'A wizard in the gallery', The Irish Times, 23 February 2012
- James Merrigan, 'Underdog', +billion-, 2 February 2012
- 2011 The Irish Times, '25 things to look forward to in 2012', 31 December 2011
- Matthew Higgs, 'Best of 2011', Artforum, December 2011
- Ara H. Merjian, 'Merlin James, Sikkema Jenkins & Co.', Frieze, November 2011
- Suzanne Hudson, 'Merlin James, Sikkema Jenkins & Co.', Artforum, November
- Charles Marshall Schultz, 'Merlin James, Sikkema Jenkins', Art in America, November 2011, pp. 170–171
- Lance Esplund, 'Mixing Minimalism, Mythology and the Miscellaneous', The Wall Street Journal, 23 July 2011
- Jennifer Coates, 'Merlin James, Sikkema Jenkins & Co.', Time Out New York, 5 July 2011
- 2010 John Yau, 'Merlin James, Louise Hopkins', The Brooklyn Rail, July/August 2010
- 2009 Barry Schwabsky, 'Merlin James/Serge Charchoune', Artforum, February 2009
- Tim Stott, 'Merlin James, Birds, Places and Other Things', ArtReview, Issue 29, January 2009, p. 118
- Merlin James, 'Sex and Picture Framing', Picpus
- 2008 Kate Butler, 'Merlin James: Birds, Places, Other Things', The Sunday Times: Culture, 9 November 2008
- Irish Arts Review, Autumn 2008, p. 44
- Lisa Turvey, 'Merlin James', Artforum, February 2008
- John Yau, 'Merlin James, Paintings of Buildings', The Brooklyn Rail, February
- Sherman Sam, 'Yes Yes Yes', MAP Magazine, January 2008, pp. 74–77
- Ken Johnson, 'Merlin James: Paintings of Buildings', The New York Times, 11 January 2008

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- 2007 R. C. Baker, 'Best in Show', Village Voice, 18 December 2007
David Cohen, 'Model Agencies', The New York Sun, 13 December 2007
Duncan Macmillan, review of the Venice Biennale, The Scotsman, 15 June 2007
John Goodrich, 'Merlin James at NY Studio School', The New York Sun, 8 March
Claude Laurent, 'Explorateur Pictural', La Libre Belgique, 21 February, 2007
Dominique Legrand, Le Soir, 31 January 2007
- 2006 Martin Coomer, Time Out London, 12 April 2006
Faye Hersch, Art in America, April 2006
Hilarie Sheets, Art News, March 2006
Neil McClister, Artforum, March 2006
Roger Bridges, The Brooklyn Rail, February 2006
Roberta Smith, The New York Times, 20 January 2006
- 2005 William Staples, Blunt Art Text, Issue 1, October 2005
David Cohen, The New York Sun, 22 December 2005
Aidan Dunne, The Irish Times, 12 October 2005
Peter Jones, 'Painting Pictures', TURPS BANANA, Issue #1, pp. 10–16
Paul Bonaventura and Merlin James in conversation, V&A Magazine, Spring 2005
Neil Tate and Andreas Leventis, Miser & Now Magazine, Issue 5, 2005
Licia Pagnesi, 'Merlin James', Arte Magazine, February 2005
- 2004 Licia Pagnesi, Londra, Arte Magazine, June 2004
Gary McDonald, 'Merlin James', Miser & Now Magazine, Issue 3
Exhibart, 'Vitamin Arte', December 2004
The List, 'Merlin James, Talbot Rice Gallery', March 2004
Susan Mansfield, 'Merlin James, Talbot Rice Gallery', The Scotsman, 25 March
- 2003 Jane Neel, 'Merlin James, Andrew Mummery Gallery', Contemporary, Issue 55
Louisa Buck, 'Merlin James, Andrew Mummery Gallery', The Art Newspaper, June
- 2003 Jim Healy, 'Merlin James, Andrew Mummery Gallery', What's On London, 2 May
Martin Coomer, 'Merlin James, Andrew Mummery Gallery', Time Out, 28 May
- 2002 Mario Naves, 'Merlin James, Brent Sikkema Gallery', New York Observer, 21 June
Peter Schjeldahl, 'Merlin James, Brent Sikkema Gallery', The New Yorker, 17 June
Aidan Dunne, 'Merlin James, Kerlin Gallery', The Irish Times, 18 January
Emma Kay, 'Dirty Picture Show, The Approach Gallery', Contemporary Visual Art, January
- 2001 Philippe Dagen, 'La peinture en Grande Forme', Le Monde, 11th June 2001
Hilarie Sheets, 'Reinventing the Landscape', Art News, March 2001
Martin Coomer, 'Merlin James, Andrew Mummery Gallery', Time Out, 7 February

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- 1999 Modern Painters, 'Merlin James, Joe Fyfe and James Hyde', Autumn 1999
Ken Johnson, The New York Times, 22 October 1999
Barry Schwabsky, 'Suddenly This Summer', Art in America, October 1999
- 1998 Dictionary of Artists in Britain Since 1945, David Buckman, London, 1998
David Cohen, Art in America, February, 1998
Jane Lee, 'Merlin James Interview', Transcript Magazine, Vol III, No 2, 1998
Mark Glazebrook, Galleries, July 1998
- 1997 Martin Coomer, Flash Art, July 1997
Martin Coomer, Time Out, 25 February 1997
- 1996 D. Cohen, 'Painting with Attitude', The Independent, 27 August 1996
Jane Lee, 'Persistently Painting', AN Magazine, July 1996
J. Darracott, 'Merlin James, National Museum of Wales', Museum News, Spring
- 1995 David Cohen, 'A Fine Anxiety', Modern Painters, Spring 1995
- 1991 Art Line, Summer 1991
John Cornall, 'Night-Time Interiors', The London Magazine, June 1991
- 1988 Merlin James, 'Random Notes', The London Magazine, August/September 1988