

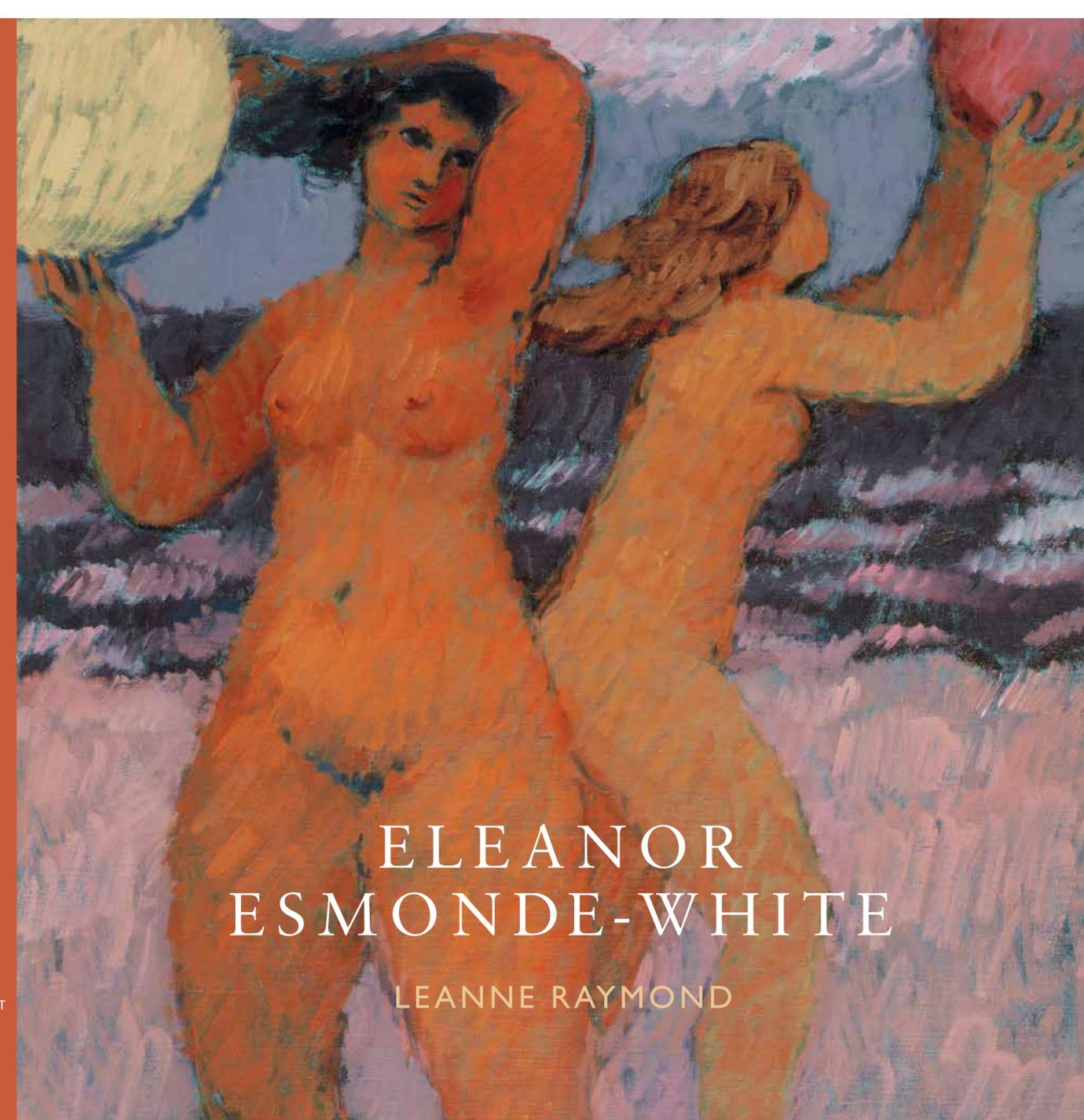
BACKCOVER  
*Mother and Child*  
oil on canvas  
40.5 x 30 cm



ELEANOR ESMONDE-WHITE

LEANNE RAYMOND

MAIN  
STREET



# ELEANOR ESMONDE-WHITE

LEANNE RAYMOND

Renowned South African artist Eleanor Esmonde-White (1914–2007) lived an extraordinary life. This book provides an insight into her life and the influences on her art from her own perspective and largely in her own words, along with an extensive collection of her work.

Eleanor survived two world wars. At 19 she won the Herbert Baker Scholarship to the Royal College of Art in London with Le Roux Smith Le Roux. Their first commission was to paint scenes of Zulu tribal life in South Africa House in Trafalgar Square, the only mural from egg tempera in Britain today. Eleanor remained in London during the war and returned to South Africa to establish the Department of Design at the University of Cape Town's Michaelis School of Fine Art. She designed enormous tapestries and mosaics for public buildings, including for the Artscape and Baxter Theatres. Eleanor was a member of the celebrated New Group and held regular exhibitions of her award-winning graphic and easel work, which has since become increasingly sought-after.

Prominent art critic at the time, Neville Dubow, wrote this discerning review of Eleanor's work for the *Cape Times* (29 January 1963): 'What is so special about Eleanor Esmonde-White's work is that there is an additional quality of warmth, of fullness, of a monumentality which comes as much with a broad regard for people as it does with her training as a muralist.' 'Liberty, freedom, compassion, call it what you will, it is there for those who want to see it, as the mark of a most talented and genuine artist who thinks as deeply as she feels and who has the power to communicate all of it.'

FRONT COVER  
*Women on the Beach*  
oil on canvas  
75 x 60 cm