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JULIET CLOUGH writes: -

A fresh, colourful, often lessthan-reverent treatment of African wildlife, the result of a recent safari-with-paintbox through the Kenyan game parks, is the subject of Sally Oyler's highly-successful watercolour exhibition at Flying Colours, Edinburgh.

With a graphic artist's eye and a textile designer's feel for the formal possibilities inherent in the patterning of the bush, Miss Oyler uses a bold, pointillist technique, which at its most successful, blends both animals and backdrop in an impressionistic, often witty whole.

Zebra rumps emerge out of stripey grass, invisible crocodiles becoming menacingly apparent among rows of patient

pelicans, a whole forest of acacias materialises out of the stippled Meru haze.

These are eminently accessible paintings, in line with Flying Colours' ambition to encourage a broadening in the spectrum of those who buy works of art. The gallery opened 15 months ago in William Street, under the management of Jane Houldsworth, who specialises in the work of contemporary Scottish and Italian artists.