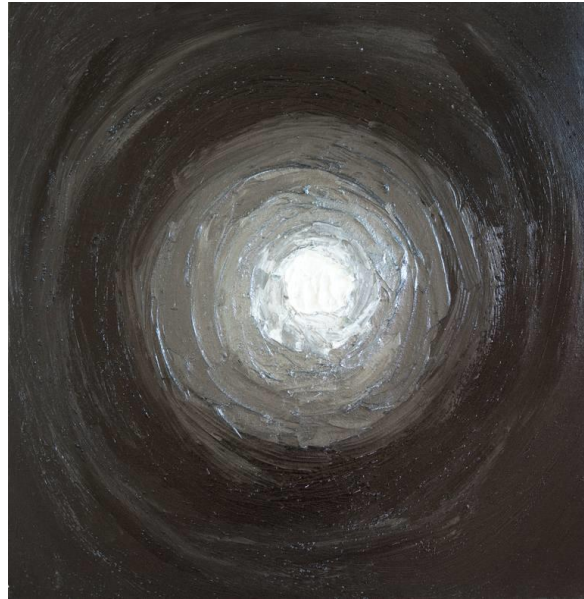


PARSHAT BO  
8 SHIVAT 5781/21 JANUARY 2021



*Light Into Darkness*  
Painting by Lisa Brugger

BEFORE A GOING THERE IS A COMING

1. וַיֹּאמֶר יְיָ אֶל־מֹשֶׁה בֹּא אֶל־פַּרְעֹה (Exodus 10:1)
2. Why does it say, “Come to Pharaoh”? It should have said, “Go to Pharaoh.” God brought Moses into a chamber within a chamber, to the supernal and mighty serpent from which many levels evolve which Moses feared to approach himself... When the blessed Holy One saw that Moses was afraid, the blessed Holy One waged war against him [Pharaoh]. (Zohar 2:34a)
3. “None of you shall go outside the door of his house until morning.” (Exodus 12:22)  
  
...it was in the month of Aviv at night that Adonai your God freed you from Egypt. (Deuteronomy 16:1)
4. מִהַ הָעֵבֶדָה הַזֹּאת לָכֶם (Exodus 12:26)
5. “...that you may recount (*t’saper*) in the hearing of your children and your children’s children...” (Exodus 10:2)

6. Texts that testify do not simply report facts but encounter...strangeness; testimony is not a simple medium of historical transmission but the unsuspected medium of a healing. (Shoshana Felman, *Testimony: Crises of Witnessing*)