

RWS Artists

Royal Watercolour Society





Elizabeth Butler

She is well known for her miniature paintings of gardens, and her use of pure watercolour. More recently she has expanded her scale to encompass larger scale subject matter. She has always been interested in man's role in changing the countryside and nature, which has recently led her to introduce figures into her new paintings of Morocco and Zanzibar.

Noah Carter

Noah Carter is a filmmaker and artist based in North Essex. He trained as an architect, being nominated for both the RIBA Bronze and Silver medals, before setting up his own film production company, working with other artists and makers to document their work.



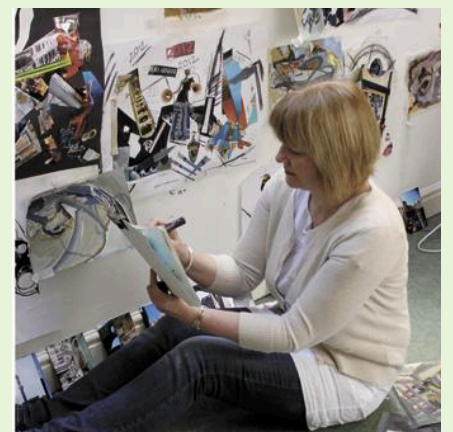
Jione Choi



Jione Choi works express the intangible and ethereal character of memory, which acts as a mechanism to view the world. While the narratives are related to human emotions and intimate relationships, the artist chooses to create poetic works with multiple interpretation possibilities. These days, she especially focuses on painting works depicting people and their minds in exhibition spaces. To be specific, she is observing closely the viewer's emotional reaction when they are appreciating the artworks.

Julie D Cooper

Julie's paintings have emerged from observations of natural forms and places she frequently visits surrounding her studio. With the counterpoints of land and ever-changing sea and light, works have evolved from various starting points, the incidental, the in-between and high viewpoints.





John Crossley

Crossley's works marry colour with form and space. Unlike many of his contemporaries he is attracted to the resonance of colour as a language of emotional experience. Crossley's paintings are bright clear notes ringing out amid the cacophony of contemporary art, characterised by their exuberant, gleaming colours, his paintings transcend our assumptions about 'Englishness' and beguile us instead with an exotic vibrancy.

Edward Elliott

Edward takes an introspective approach to the experience of existence, not only in the tangible world but also in the intangible feelings associated with it, whether angst, joy, confusion, love, or grief. His creative approach blends observation and abstraction (drawn from observation) with the ethereal quality of dreams and aims to capture the transience of existence and the cycle of life and death.



Mark Entwisle



“For me, art at school was an instinctive means of communication,” he says. “It was many years later that I discovered I’m dyslexic “. Mark went on to take a foundation course at the Cambridge College of Art and Technology, specialising in print making, followed by a degree in illustration at Brighton, graduating in 1984.

Suzy Rose Fasht

Suzy's paintings are a response to the nearby moor, forest and garden with its changing seasons and produce. She begins with a simple on the spot pencil sketch which is developed in Watercolour in the studio into more imagined worlds. These lead to larger oils and more defined egg temperas.





James Faure Walker

James says of his work, "I make one large drawing a day as part of a studio routine, usually in watercolour. Just to get started. I think about the colour, the brush, the paper, but little else. I also paint through software, and it feels natural to draw in colour, to improvise without hesitating. I want my pictures to be luminous, to look carefree and unplanned. Getting that illusion needs patience - and some luck."

Chloe Fremantle

Chloe takes photographs as springboards for her work, responding to light, colour and form in what she sees around her. The photos predict paintings, usually gouaches on paper. These ideas then often develop further into acrylics on canvas.



Frances Hatch



She makes site-responsive work whilst on location. Frances has travelled widely over the years to work in environments such as Antarctica, Norway, Finland, etc as well as engaging with the landscape local to her. The Jurassic Coast, within easy reach of her Weymouth studio, offers earth palettes with generous tonal and colour ranges. Indeed, every site suggests and offers a unique palette.

Julie Held

Julie studied at Camberwell and the Royal Academy Schools. She has exhibited in many group exhibitions including The Royal Academy Summer Exhibition, The London Group Exhibitions, The Jerwood Drawing Prize, The Threadneedle Prize, Flowers Central and The Barbican, London.



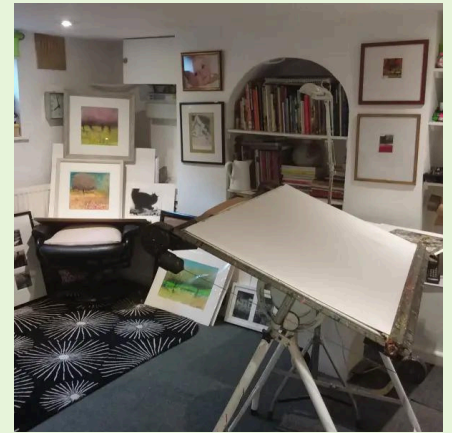


Sarah Holliday

Paintings mark a moment in time and Sarah's work extrapolates that moment, using a classical concept of 'beauty' to mark events of significance around the world. The events disappear, but their echo lives on in Sarah's paintings. Her work has evolved through many degrees of representation and abstraction, but now uses very tangible and beautiful objects as metaphorical comments.

Sue Howells

Sue says of her work, "I don't usually plan my paintings in advance. Starting with a loose wash, I let one brush stroke lead to another, always looking for the perfect composition, cropping along the way to get the right balance. The enjoyment of using pure watercolour is important to me, exploiting the effect of this elusive medium, letting the beauty of the paper shine through."



Davina Jackson

Davina's work is predominantly centred around exploring the human form and a search for poetic simplicity. The way we inhabit our bodies, how we express ourselves through subtle gestures and reveal inner truths through our eye contact and body language. Her inspiration comes from everyday observations, poetry, theatre, photography, story telling and her own personal lived experiences

Wendy Jacob

Wendy grew up and went to Art School in London. She was an illustrator for many years, working for national newspapers, magazines, advertising and publishing. Wendy's usual medium is gouache, and her subject is landscape, often boundaries, edges and fences, seeking the spirit of a place rather than a topographical rendering.





Martin Jacobs

Martin is a painter who is interested in finding meaning in the plain, the poignant and the profound. Often embedded in place as a point of departure, Martin's works explore and share his emotional connections, where with strong tonal composition and limited palette

Jane Lewis

Jane paints in watercolour and oil - abstracts which invariably have reference to the East Anglian landscape where she lives. The discipline of regular life drawing feeds into the process of looking, understanding and recording.

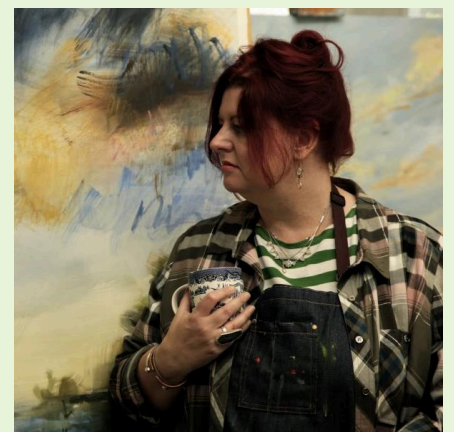


Anne Lynch

Anne Lynch, born in Edinburgh, studied at Edinburgh Art College then moved to London where she now has a studio, and another in France. She has always worked in watercolour and uses collage to sustain the mark and luminosity.

Lucy Marks

Lucy works en plein air in both oil and watercolour working directly from the subject, out in all weathers and seasons. Observation is key and her compositions are drawn from real places. She works to capture an impression of the mood, atmosphere, and light.





Rika Newcombe

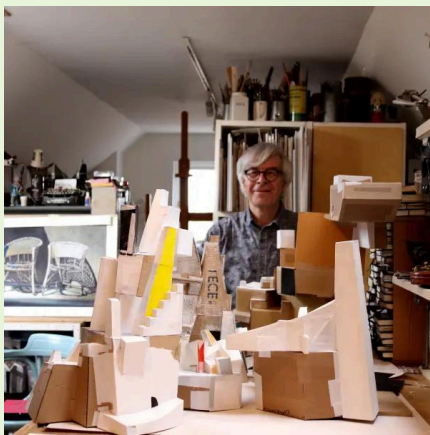
Rika's work is inspired by traces from the past: fossils, ruins and relics. By collecting fragments, categorizing pieces and imagining missing parts, her works explore the woven history of the earth. Rika was born and grew up in Tokyo. Her interest in the origins of life began in childhood.

Olivia O'Sullivan

Olivia's work is based upon on- and off-site sketchbook drawings and paintings as well as still and moving digital images collected on her iPhone. Sketches use charcoal, ink, watercolour and pastels. Her work is mostly on paper using acrylic, watercolour, ink, charcoal and crayon. Olivia wants the images she creates to demonstrate a sense of commitment to a place.



David Paskett



While David is known primarily for his precise tonal and personalized realism, abstract imagery and spirited linear drawings are also an integral part of his oeuvre. David lived in Hong Kong from 1986-1990 and exhibits there annually. He has also been Artist in Residence at the Pitt River's Museum, Oxford and has published a limited edition book 'A Vision of China'.

Tessa Pearson

Tessa Pearson is a painter and printmaker living in the Surrey Hills, south of London. She graduated from the Royal College of Art in Printed Textile design, winning the Courtauld prize, and had a successful career selling hand painted fabrics all over the world from her London studio and gallery.



Simon Pierse



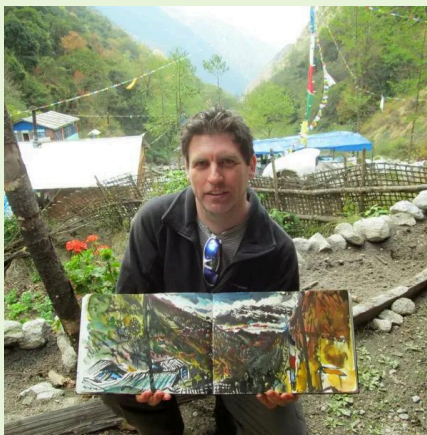
In 2005 Simon was elected Artist Associate of the Alpine Club. Although originally trained as an oil painter, since 1990 Simon Pierse has worked predominately in watercolour and mixed media on paper. His subjects are mainly landscape, and he is best known for his paintings of Ladakh, central Australia and the Italian Alps. He is also an art historian and author of *Australian Art and Artists in London 1950-1965*, published by Ashgate.

Geoffrey Pimlott

With early art school work concentrating mainly on portraiture, life drawing and painting, and landscape painting, He taught Art & Design in FE, and secondary education, for 27 years, and worked for the Papua New Guinea government, as head of expressive arts at Aiyura National High School. Married, he lives and works in the Surrey Hills, and Chiang Mai, North Thailand.



Neil Pittaway



Neil Pittaway RWS RE was born in Wakefield, Yorkshire in 1973. He studied at Cheltenham School of Art from 1993-96, the University of Bradford from 1996-1998, the Royal Academy Schools, London, 1998-2001 and the University of Huddersfield, 2004. Neil is a Fellow of both the Royal Watercolour Society (RWS) and the Royal Society of Painter-Printmakers (RE) and an exhibiting Member of Leeds Fine Artists.

Salliann Putman

The inspiration for her work may come from visual or emotional experience and memory and imagination play their part in the creative process. She says of her work, "As soon as I make a mark or places a colour, then the painting has its own life and makes its own demands. It is my concern as a painter to respond to these demands."



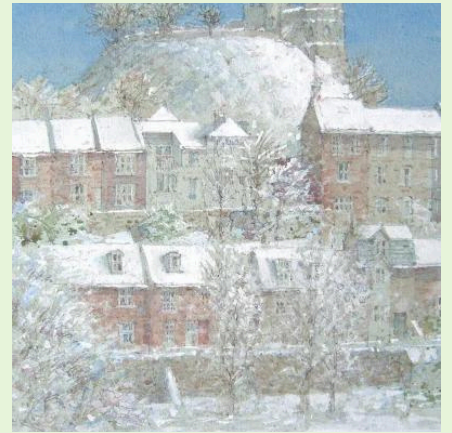


Paul Regan

After five years teaching in Secondary schools, Paul founded Insight School of Art; a school dedicated to providing an 'Art School education for everyone', which today has more than 400 adults and children coming to their Whetstone studio to learn about painting each week.

Dennis Roxby Bott

Architecture and the man made environment have been the inspiration for many of Dennis' paintings, subjects well suited to his keen eye for perspective and detail. He has had many exhibitions at galleries throughout England.



Sula Rubens

Sula Rubens has practiced as a painter and printmaker, living, working and exhibiting in many countries. She has immersed herself in various landscapes, buildings and their people and collaborated with artists, poets and musicians nationally and internationally.

Linda Saul

Linda retains her love of the coast and her work often features landmarks such as lighthouses and harbours. However, living in landlocked Berkshire, she has found herself looking to London for inspiration, exploring the collage of textures of the city as modern structures engulf the architecture of previous centuries.



Lisa Traxler



Traxler's work is multidisciplinary, combining painting and 3D form responding to landscape and architectural spaces. A former fashion editor and costume designer, the natural evolution of her thought process is evident in her artworks from spacial configuration to the intricacy of colour. She calls her sculptural works space paintings suggesting their evolution off the wall and into the place we inhabit.

Annie Williams

Annie Williams' recent work has been almost entirely still-life. She enjoys playing with shapes, pattern and colour, mixing the familiar with some abstraction, and precision with suggestion. Her foregrounds are a few simple objects, usually pots, and backgrounds are created from textiles or old newspaper cuttings, and even some unfinished paintings as a starting point.



Charles Williams

Charles Williams is an artist and writer. He works in oil, watercolour, bronze, ceramics and graphic mediums, and his interests are in the figurative, narrative tradition, although the work is informed by a fascination with formal elements of 2D and 3D design.

David Wiseman

David Wiseman has been painting for over 35 years since leaving the Royal College of Art in 1975, mostly in his garden studio. He has taught painting in numerous art schools across the country and has exhibited widely both as an individual and in many important selected group exhibitions.



Gertie Young



Each of Gertie's paintings is like a little journey that makes its way out into the unknown. The images that arise are based on a mixture of observation, emotional memory and imagination. Ultimately her pieces often deal with the meeting of opposites: whether near or far, natural or man-made, personal or global. Fairy stories, poems, dreams, imaginary or real objects and places all provide her with a constant stream of ideas.

RWS Story

The origins of the Royal Watercolour Society can be traced back to the formation of the Society of Painters in Water Colours in 1804. Born out of a sense of grievance by a number of such artists who practised in watercolour and felt that they were discriminated against by the Royal Academy, the only professional artistic body of the day.

On Friday 30 November 1804 the first meeting of 'The Society Associated for the purpose of Establishing an Annual Exhibition of Paintings in Water Colours' was held at The Stratford Coffee House on Oxford Street, London. Founder Members include Samuel Shelley, William Frederick Wells, William Sawrey Gilpin and brothers, John and Cornelius Varley.

The Royal Watercolour Society was born!

In 1823 the Society was offered a lease at 6 Pall Mall East which they gladly accepted and remained there for 115 years. When that lease came to an end in 1938, little did the Members at that time know, that they would return less than 100 years later when the Society would sign a further lease in 2020, for 250 years no less!

In 1881 Queen Victoria granted the Society a Royal Charter, and agreed to sign the certificates that each RWS Member receives on election to the Society. This tradition continues to the present day. King Charles III became Patron of the Royal Watercolour Society on 3rd May 2024.

Today, the RWS is an artist-led society made up of an elected Membership who are amongst the finest practitioners in contemporary water-based painting. Artists work in a variety of water media including gouache, acrylic, pen & ink, pigment, collage, mixed media as well as traditional watercolour. The aim of the Society is to promote, by example and education, the understanding, appreciation and enjoyment of these exciting media.