

KUMAR SARAFF

'My work has developed along many avenues and exists on several levels. However, its initial inspiration is drawn from my personal encounters with places, some very familiar, others seen for the first time. It is with a catalogue of varied marks I explore the random play of light on my subject, always on the lookout for colour and form combinations, to describe these transient moments in a manmade environment governed by nature.

My work has, since my first pre-degree questioning, had a concern for environment.

The very earliest paintings, and indeed sculptures, were based in the fragmentary landscape of Uxbridge at the western end of the London underground, caught somewhere between town and countryside, always under attack from the town planner. It was the observation of this contrasting world, and the discovery of artists as disparate as Paul Nash and Anslem Kiefer that helped me develop a fascination for mark making and texture.

Over the years I have developed a painting vocabulary that has given me the means to react to my experiences in many various ways. Whilst at the Royal Academy Schools in central London, painting large pieces, borrowing images from the cityscape, I began to see my work, not as individual pieces, but rather as a body of work, each image leading on from the next, sometimes several works will form a sequence, but all will return to this underlying concern for an exploration of my experience within the places I visit.

My greatest concern is not to allow painting to become too easy. I don't want to find a technique, for me that would be missing the point. My wish is to use and develop a language that expresses my understanding of the world. I will often visit galleries to see how others have answered those problems I encounter in my work. It is with this wish for variety that one might understand the eclectic nature of my influences; Bonnard, Gainsborough, Howard Hodgkin, Paul Nash, Baselitz, Fiona Rae, Norman Ackroyd, Kurt Jackson among others.'

THE ART SHOP

No 8. , Cross Street, Abergavenny, Monmouthshire. NP7 5EH

Tel. 01873 852690 E-mail info@artshopandgallery.co.uk

www.artshopandgallery.co.uk

Opening times: Tues - Sat 9.15 - 5.00 or by appointment

KUMAR SARAFF

EDUCATION

- 1990-93 Nottingham Trent University BA (Hons.) Fine Art
1993-96 Royal Academy of Arts Postgraduate Diploma in Painting

AWARDS

- 1995 SJ Solomon Silver Medal for Painting (RA)
1995 David Murray Scholarship for landscape painting
1996 Vincent Harris Prize (RA)
1996 John Purcell Print Prize
1996 Crest Co Ltd - Art for Crest
1996 Andre Dunoyer De Sogonzac Travelling Scholarship

TEACHING

- 1997-2002 Lecturer Art & Design, Uxbridge College, West London.

SELECTED SOLO & GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 1994 226th Royal Academy Summer Show
1995 David Murray Scholarship Exhibition
1996 227th Royal Academy Summer Show
1996 New English Art Club Open Exhibition- Mall Galleries, London
1997 228th Royal Academy Summer Show
1997 National Print Exhibition- Mall Galleries, London
2002-03 Argoed Mill Gallery- Newbridge-on-Wye
Oriel Ffynnon-Llandeilo
Attic Gallery-Swansea
The Real Art Gallery- Shrewsbury
The Art Shop -Abergavenny
Fountain Fine Art, Llandeilo
Sculptural Benches, A community project for Llandrindod Wells Rock Park, Llandrindod Wells
Brecon Cathedral Choir Endowment Appeal, Small Picture Show
Royal West of England Academy 152 Autumn Exhibition
Y Tabernacle, Museum of Modern Art Wales
Listening artist, Llandrindod Wells Rock Park, Llandrindod Wells
Focal- festival of contemporary art & light, Ruthin, Denbighshire

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