

SENIOR ACADEMICIANS

Ballintoy, Richard Croft, Oil on Canvas, 56 x 75 cms



ARTISANN GALLERY

1ST NOV – 16TH DEC 2023

WELCOME TO THE ARTISANN GALLERY

The ArtisAnn Gallery is delighted to highlight the ongoing artistic triumphs of four senior members of the Royal Ulster Academy.

The ArtisAnn Gallery is well known for its support of young, female, and emerging artists, but this time we'd thought we'd showcase the other end of the artistic spectrum and highlight the ongoing artistic endeavours of the 'old masters'.

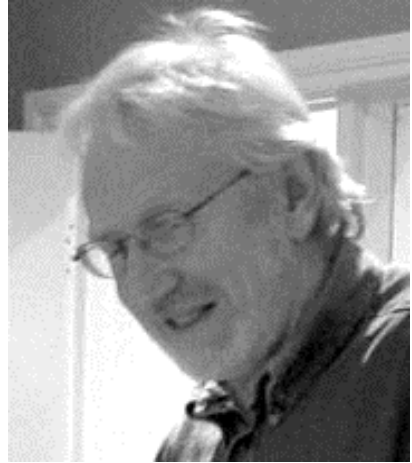
Collectively, they have over three hundred years' experience in the art world, often passing on their knowledge of the craft to younger, aspiring artists by teaching in various art colleges and schools. For students of art history, their influence can be traced in the work of many of today's successful artists.

This is a rare chance to see these esteemed artists in one exhibition, an exhibition not to be missed!

Ann & Ken

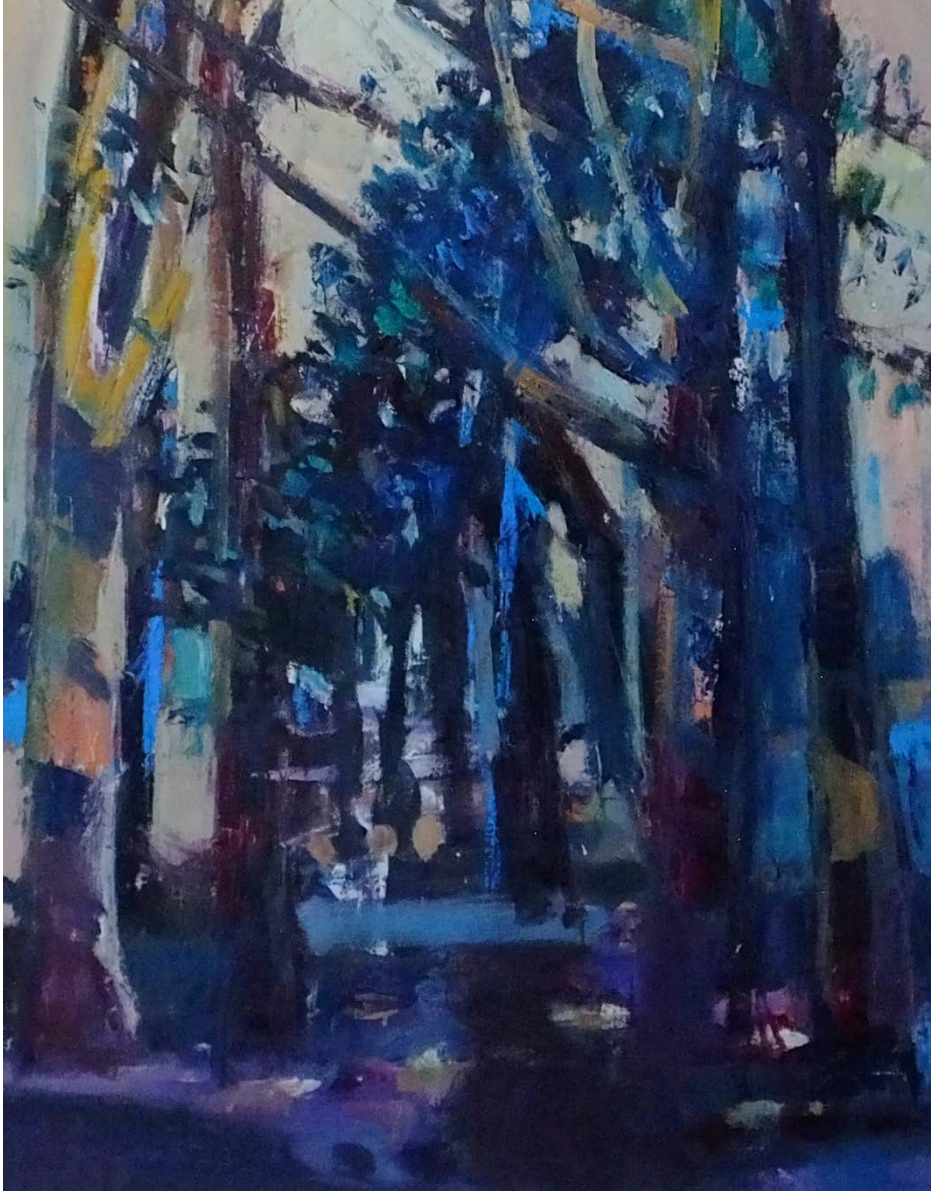
BRIAN BALLARD, RUA

Born in Belfast, Brian Ballard trained firstly at the College of Art, Belfast and then at the College of Art, Liverpool. He still lives in Belfast but enjoys spending time in his second home on the remote and rugged island of Inishfree, off the coast of Donegal, an area that inspires many of his artworks. Other favourite subjects are flowers from his garden, household objects and, of course, Cyprus Avenue, where he can often be found beside his VW camper van, painting *en plien aire*.



Brian is a rich colourist and is interested in the contrasting colours and textures in his subjects. Painting directly onto the canvas with vigorous brushstrokes, he uses bold slashes of rich colour with fluid paint, the bristles leaving the mark of the speed and pressure applied. He also makes frequent use of mirrors in his artworks, in order to allow the viewer to see the objects from two different viewpoints at once.

A long-standing member of the RUA his works are held in many significant collections including: Ulster Museum, Crawford Municipal Gallery, An Comhairle Ealaíon, Arts Council of Northern Ireland, Great Southern Hotels, Haverty Trust, AIB, Saltzburg Seminar, National Trust, Ulster Television, Belfast Education and Library Board, Royal Bank of Scotland, Waterford Wedgwood, Conrad International Hotel, the Irish Intercontinental Bank and the Office of Public Works, Dublin.



Dark Trees, Cyprus Avenue, Oil on Canvas, 110 x 88 cms



Sunflowers on Red, Oil on Canvas, 78 x 58 cms

RICHARD CROFT RUA, PPRUA NDD ATC

Born in London in 1935, and educated at Bromley and Brighton Colleges of Art, Richard Croft moved to Belfast in 1959 to teach art -firstly at Dunlambert School at Fortwilliam and latterly, as Head of the Art Department at Annandale Grammar School until 1986 when he retired to paint full-time in his studio in Dundrum Co. Down, where the proximity to the beach provides a wealth of material for his artworks.



Well known for his exceptional prints, Richard continues to work from his own Print Workshop and Studio, using some very impressive old presses married to modern techniques. His painting technique, on the other hand, he has as described “funambulism or tightrope walking”.

A founder member of Group 63 and the Octagon Gallery and President of the Royal Ulster Academy from 1997 to 2000, he has, over the past sixty years, exhibited regularly throughout Ireland and his work is represented in public and private collections around the world, including the Arts Council of Northern Ireland Collection, the National Self-portrait collection at Limerick University, the Government of Northern Ireland Collection, The Irish Embassy in Beijing, the Northern Bank, Belfast Education and Library Board, Downe Museum, Ulster Television, London University, Oxford University and the Queen's University of Belfast.



Still Life with Bottles, Oil on Canvas, 56 x 55 cms

James MacKeever RUA

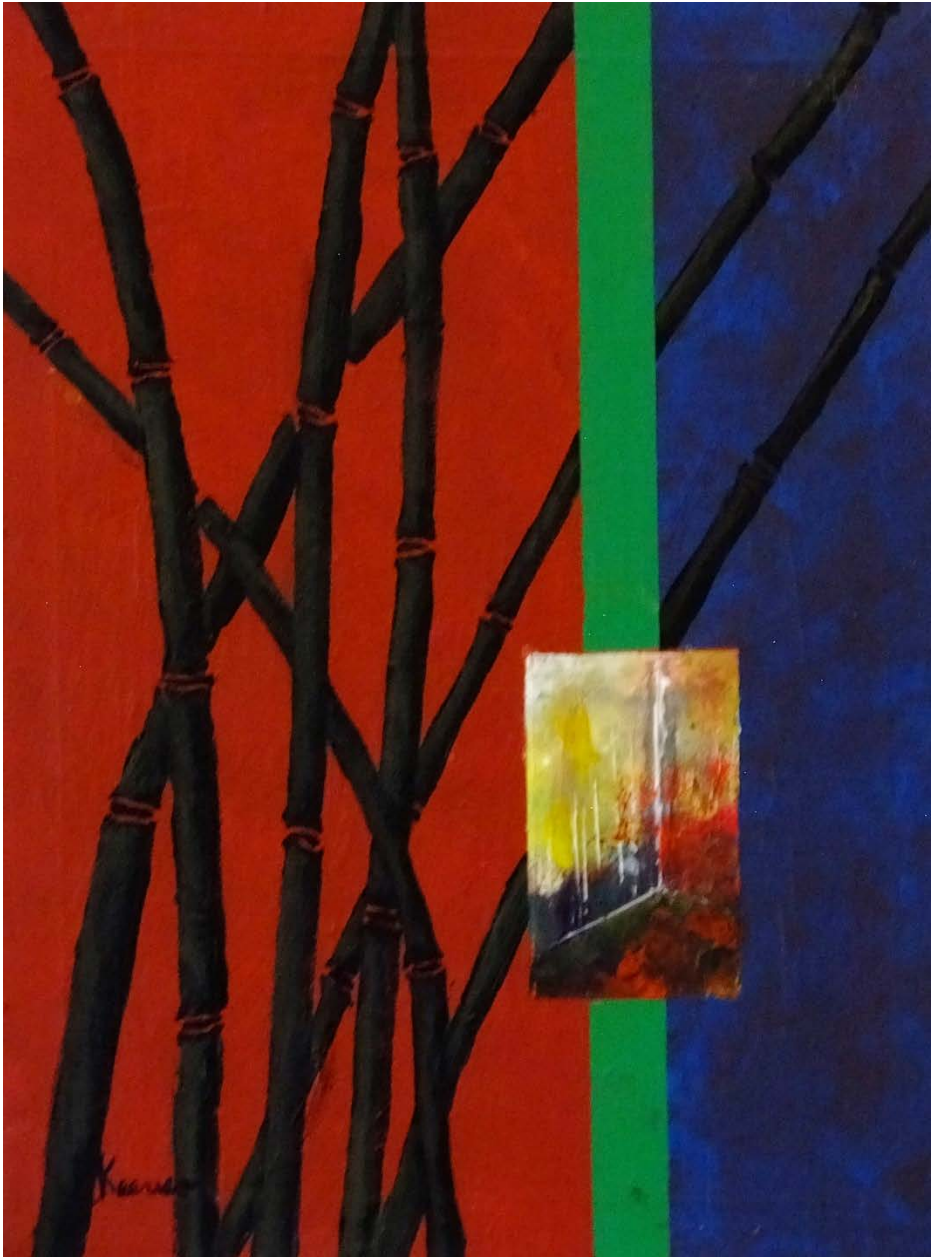
James MacKeever was born in Belfast where he studied and worked for most of his adult life before moving to Dromara in County Down, where he now has his studio. James taught at the Rupert Stanley College of Education for many years and was an inspiring influence on many young students who have since gone on to become household names.



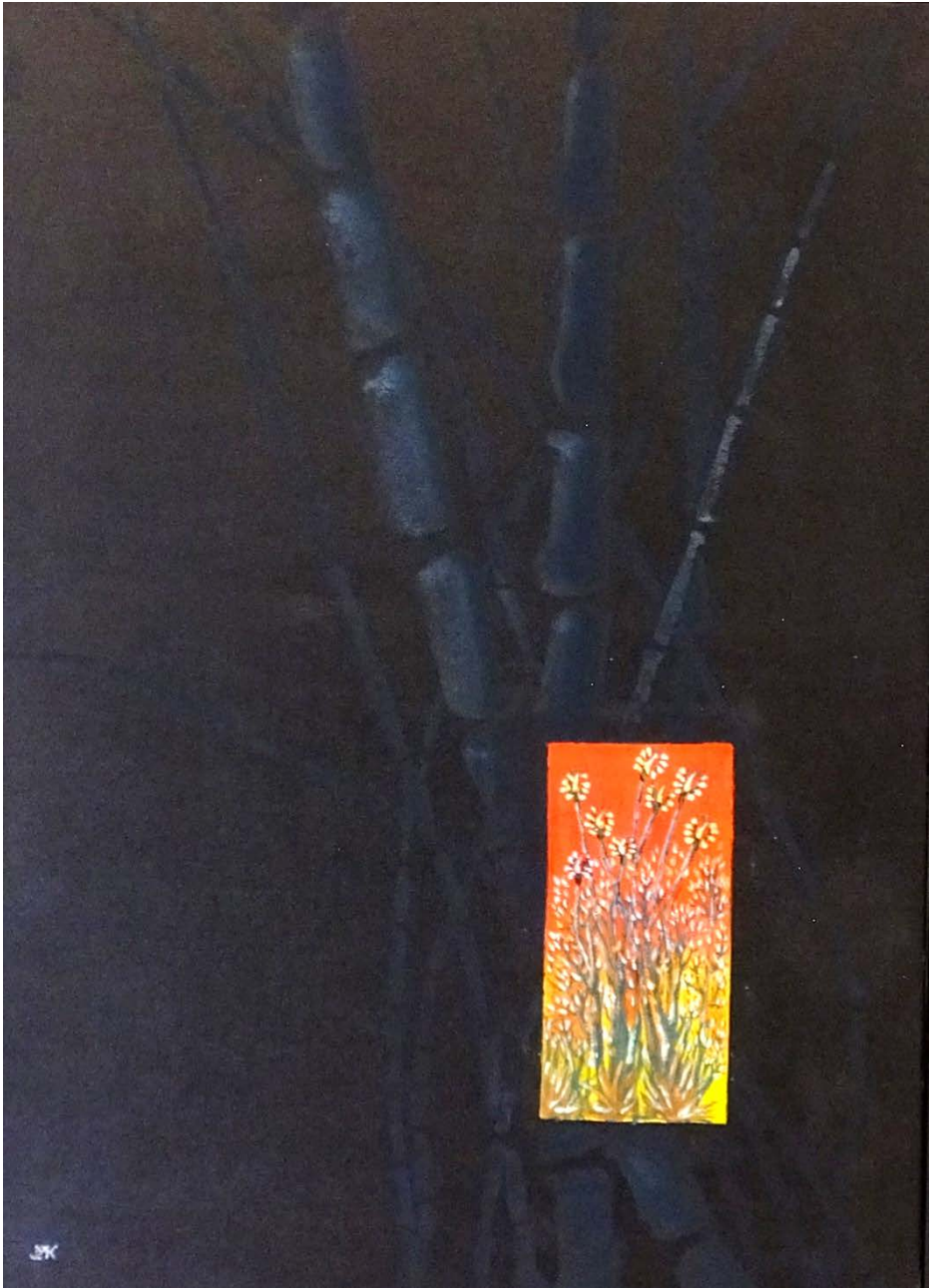
James is primarily renowned for his clay and ceramic sculptures which, while being contemporary, contain reflections of a much longer history, with motifs and styles echoing the artworks of ancient civilisations such as the Newgrange standing stones.

Since moving to Dromara, however, he has begun to produce a significant body of oil paintings featuring a new dynamic style, influenced and inspired by the locality surrounding his home, and by his travels to Australia, Egypt Morocco and Sweden.

Like many of his contemporaries, he has attained a number of prizes, awards and accolades, is a member of several well-regarded institutions and his works can be found in many public and private collections throughout the British Isles and further afield.



Bamboo with Blue, Oil on Canvas, 40 x 30 cms



Red Card, Mixed Media, 89 x 64 cms

NEIL SHAWCROSS, MBE, RHA, RUA

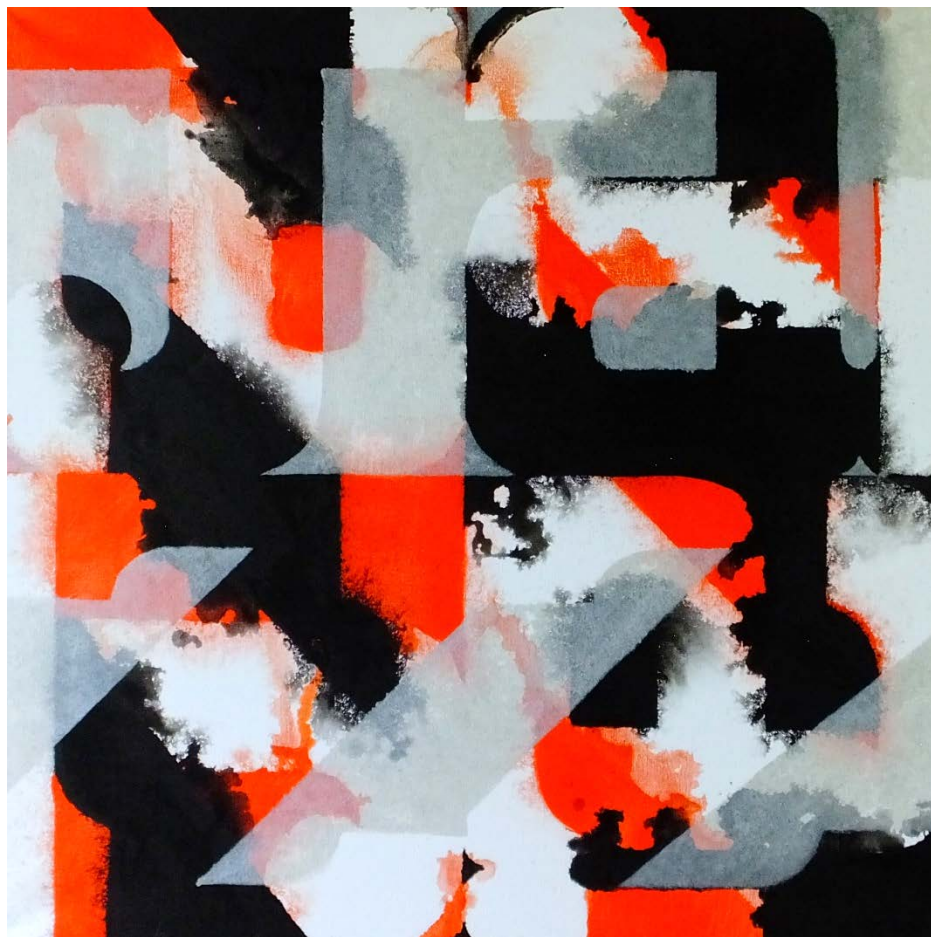
Neil was born in Lancashire, England. He studied at Bolton College of Art from 1955 to 1958, and Lancaster College of Art from 1958 to 1960, before moving to Belfast in 1962 to take up a part-time lecturer's post at the Belfast College of Art, becoming full-time in 1968. He continued to lecture there until his retirement in 2004.



Primarily a portrait and figurative painter, his subjects have included Nobel prize winning poet, Seamus Heaney, novelist Francis Stuart, former Lord Mayor of Belfast, David Cook, and fellow artists Colin Middleton, Sam McCready and Terry Frost. As well as painting still life, he enjoys printmaking, and he has designed stained glass for the Ulster Museum and St. Colman's Church, Lambeg.

In 1987 he had a residency at Virginia Centre for the Creative Arts, followed in 1991 by a residency at Vermont Studio Centre, and a visiting assistant professorship at Pennsylvania State University in 1993. The Queen's University of Belfast conferred an honorary doctorate upon him in 2007 (Duniv) and in 2014 he was appointed Member of the Order of the British Empire (MBE) in the New Year Honours for services to arts in Northern Ireland.

In 2018, Neil donated a collection of 36 paintings to Belfast City Council dedicated to 'Writers of Belfast' in a show of appreciation to his adopted home city. He is a Patron of the charity, YouthAction Northern Ireland, and enjoys living in Hillsborough, County Down.



Jazz (Red & Black), Oil on Canvas, 138 x 138 cms



Malbec Wine Bottle, Oil on Canvas, 115 x 54 cms

FORTHCOMING EXHIBITIONS

COLIN McGOOKIN, RUA

THE CHARGE OF THE DARK BRIGADE

3rd January – 3rd February 2024

A solo show by one of the founding members of the Queen Street Studios.



ART and SCIENCE

7th Feb - 2nd March 2024

This exhibition is part of the NI Science Festival



STEPHEN SHAW, ARUA

NEW WORKS

6th – 30th March 2024

Exceptional watercolour paintings that will take your breath away!



Join our mailing list to keep up to date with other new shows and gallery events in the future:

<https://www.artisann.org/newsletter-1.html>

ARTISTS SHOWING AT ARTISANN

Painting:

Sophie Aghajanian, RUA
Barbara Allen, RUA
James Allen, RUA
Neisha Allen, RUA
Eimhéar Atkinson
Keith Ayton
Brian Ballard, RUA
Lisa Ballard, ARUA
John Coffey
Richard Croft, RUA
Jackie Crooks
Karen Daye-Hutchinson, ARUA, ARE
Frank Eyre
Dan Ferguson
Valerie Giannandrea McKeag
Cara Gordon, ARUA
Carol Graham, RUA
Holly Mae Greer
Andrew Haslett
Gail Kennedy
Rachel Lawell
Santa Leimane
Stephanie Lindsay
James MacKeever, ARUA
Sam McCready
Colin McGookin, RUA
Rosie McGurran, RUA
Harry McMahan
Connor Maguire
Aimee Melaugh
Saffron Monks-Smith
Amber Rossi

Cont.:

Gary Shaw
Stephen Shaw, ARUA
Neil Shawcross, RHA, RUA
SMEaton
Matthew Smyth
Irene Sweeney
Jennifer Trouton, RUA
Raymond Watson

Pencil, Paper and Charcoal:

Lenka Davidikova
Terry McAllister

Sculpture, Ceramics and Glass:

Patrick Colhoun, MRSS
Alison Lowry
James McKeever, ARUA
Alan Milligan
Raymond Watson
Chris Wilson, RUA

Photography, Prints and Mixed Media:

Margaret Arthur, RUA
Ann and Ken Bartley
Julie Corcoran
Jackie Crooks
Karen Daye-Hutchinson, ARUA, ARE
Rory McVeigh
Tracey Moberly
Aimée Nelson
Peter Richards

Gift Vouchers

CAN'T DECIDE WHAT TO BUY?

Why not give an ArtisAnn Gift Voucher?

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Available on our website and sent by email to you, or directly to the recipient.

Your gift card

\$100.00



artisann.org/products/artisann-gallery-gift-card

Gift Vouchers - the thoughtful gift

Not exchangeable for cash/Valid for 6 months from date of issue

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How do I apply?



You need to be:

- Over 18
- UK Resident
- Employed, self-employed, or in receipt of a pension.

What do I need to apply?

- Photographic ID (driving licence, passport, etc.)
- Proof of address (utility bill, driving licence, etc.)
- Bank Account Direct Debit details (usually on your bank card)
- Employer/Pension details (name, address, phone no. or ref no.)

How long does it take?

Approximately 10 minutes to fill in the form either in the gallery or online at home – and, as you usually get approved straight away, you can bring your new artwork home immediately!

Is there a limit?

You can buy any original artwork from £100 to £10,000 from the ArtisAnn Gallery, including Prints and Sculptures. You pay over 10 months, starting four weeks after you sign up. You can even pay a deposit to make the monthly payments smaller!

For more information, or to sign up, just ask!

ArtisAnn – Art that works for you!

ArtisAnn

70 Bloomfield Avenue, BT5 5AE
www.artisann.org / www.artisann.co.uk

mail@artisann.org

077 263 263 90/079 053 395 69

Opening Hours

Tues – Friday 11am – 6pm

Saturday 12pm – 5pm

Viewing also by appointment