

Bruce Clark



Bruce Clark M.A., D.A.E., CertEd.

Bruce Clark was born in London in 1937. He studied painting and sculpture at one of the most famous of English Art Schools, the Bath Academy of Art at Corsham. He gained his initial qualification there in 1960 working under artists who had gained or were about to gain international reputations, including the young Howard Hodgkin. He also holds a Diploma in Art Education and was later awarded a Master of Arts degree by the University of Kent. Having held several teaching and lecturing posts from 1960 onwards he decided in 1996 to paint full-time. Throughout the past five decades his work has been widely shown in the U.K., France and North America. He has been included in publications such as 'Who's Who in Art', the 'Dictionary of International Biography' and 'Artists in Britain since 1945', and has written a number of research papers.

Throughout his long painting career Bruce Clark has constantly experimented within a wide range of styles and techniques, both abstract and figurative. A common thread in much of the work has been a strong landscape element, the favoured locations both real and imagined often being lonely, desolate and mysterious places. Other themes have been inspired by literature, mythology, genealogy, architecture and also the simple geometry to be found within a wide variety of artefacts. Hard edge techniques have been employed where appropriate alongside more painterly methods on other occasions. There has been no single approach, no set formula, but there has been a general move towards simplification and clarification. Extensive travels have been influential, especially in Scandinavia, U.S.A. and Japan. Bruce Clark has also had poetry published in various magazines and anthologies and won an Itoen award for a haiku in English. (Tokyo 1994).

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

1961 - Chiltern Gallery, London, W1
1962 - Chiltern Gallery, London, W1
1967 - Compendium Galleries, Birmingham
1968 - Worcester City Art Gallery
1985 - Graphics Gallery, University of Kent
1990 - One Off Gallery, Dover
1991 - Channel Gallery, Folkestone
1994 - Tabor Gallery, Canterbury
2000 - Cathedral Gallery, Canterbury
2002 - Metropole Galleries, Folkestone
2006 - Horsebridge Arts Centre, Whitstable

GROUP EXHIBITIONS including

1960 - Walkers Gallery, London, W1
1960 - Woodstock Gallery, London, W1
1961 - Kootenay Gallery, Canada
1961 - Assembly House, Norwich
1962 - Art and Crafts Centre, Port Alberni, Canada
1962 - Festival de Provence, France
1963 - Minotaur Gallery, Toronto, Canada

1963 - Calgary Arts Council, Canada
1970 - Piccadilly Gallery, London, W1
1976 - Royal Museum, Canterbury
1977 - Design Works, Canterbury
1980 - Nevill Gallery, Canterbury
1982 - Church of St. James, Elmsted, Kent
1990 - Philip Maslem Galleries, Canterbury
1991 - Metropole Arts Centre, Folkestone
1993 - Royal Academy Summer Exhibition
1994 - Kent County Art Fair, Bromley Civic Centre
1994 - Celebration 94, Inauguration of the Channel Tunnel
1995 - West End Business Centre, London, W1 (c/o Raw Gallery)
1996 - Royal Academy Summer Exhibition
1997 - Rowley Gallery, London, W1
1999 - Fairfax Gallery, Tunbridge Wells
2000 - Royal Academy Summer Exhibition
2000 - Cambridge Contemporary Arts
2003 - Rye Art Gallery, Sussex
2006 - DacArt Gallery, Nice, France
2007 - Stark Gallery, Canterbury
2009 - Cambridge Galleries

Artist's Statement

Some of the most recent paintings relate to the flat landscape of Cambridgeshire where the artist currently lives. A few have been inspired by personal journeys along the West Coast of America, by accounts of the Lewis and Clark expedition of 1804 - 1806, and by locations associated with the early pioneers who traveled along the Oregon Trail.

Others relate to wanderings in Nevada, particularly among the smooth stones surrounding Lake Tahoe. There is also recent work based on more familiar but slightly secluded corners of the U.K. and some which is purely imaginary. The common factor has been an attempt to create a calm, atmospheric environment which might have a soothing effect on the spectator and provide an escape from the worries and complications of life in the twenty-first century.

Hay Hill Gallery
35 Baker Street, London W1U 8EN, UK
www.hayhill.com
info@hayhill.com
Tel: 020 7486 6006, 020 7935 5315