



# THE ARCHITECTURE OF TREES

INCLUDING ARTISTS FROM THE ARBOREALISTS

**21 October – 24 December 2022**

# **THE ARCHITECTURE OF TREES**

**JEMMA APPLEBY | BUCKMASTER AND FRENCH |  
CLAIRE GANSICK | PERIENNE CHRISTIAN | LARA COBDEN |  
TIM CRAVEN | ALEX EGAN | KATE GILES | JANE HUMAN |  
FIONA McINTYRE | CAROLINE POOLE | NAHEM SHOA |**

**Gallery East**

## THE ARCHITECTURE OF TREES — WITH THE ARBOREALISTS

I founded The Arborealists in 2013 from the exhibition *Under The Greenwood: Picturing The British Tree*, part 1 historic and part 2 contemporary, at St Barbe Museum and Art Gallery, Lymington, in the heart of the New Forest. I could not have imagined in my wildest dreams how the group, set up merely as a support network for me to counter the isolation of artistic practice, would become what it is today – an extraordinary bandwagon of art and exhibitions with a national profile. Since our inaugural 2014 exhibition at The Royal West of England Academy, Bristol, we have staged some 31 exhibitions in the UK and abroad with many more in the pipeline including site-specific projects and have published 8 catalogues and books.

This amazing turn of events is not serendipity: it is of course all about timing. The movement, as it has been termed, has been assisted by the fact that everyone loves trees and the exhibitions are accessible and visually appealing with the applied principal dynamic of diversity of approach, unified by the subject, attractive to many. In addition, Britain has a strong art historical legacy in tree

painting, thanks in part to Turner and Constable, our most famous and greatest artists but also because Britain has always loved and protected its trees: there are more ancient trees in this country than the whole of western Europe. Perhaps most significantly the tree has become the potent and fragile symbol of our climate crisis.

With the climate crisis now centre stage in our lives, many UK museums and galleries have taken the opportunity to stage tree exhibitions to raise awareness of these critical issues. But this is nothing new; campaigning artists in the 1870s staged *The New Forest Exhibition* in London to save the forest from enclosure and commercialisation. Trees, the lungs of the planet, as a symbol of our ravaged and fragile natural environment have truly become a powerful subject. Timing is all for *The Arborealists*. We hope you enjoy this exhibition which features members of The Arborealists alongside Gallery East artists.

**Tim Craven**  
Founder, *The Arborealists*

## JEMMA APPLEBY

Jemma Appleby is a London based artist working in charcoal. She is a founder member of the Arborealists group of artists. 'My work', says Jemma, 'is about the non-narrative use of architectural spaces which offer no information but have the authority to reconvene memories and experiences of our human space.'

Jemma graduated from City and Guilds London Art School and her works have been included in major exhibitions in the UK, France, Italy, Spain and Colombia including The RA Summer Show and Architecture as Metaphor with Phyllida Barlow, Rachel Whiteread and Richard Deacon at The Griffin Gallery, London. She has won a number of prizes for her work including The Arts Club Prize for Finest Drawing at the National Open Art Competition in 2010 and The Haworth Trust Award for Painting. Her works are in the permanent collections at The Royal Academy of Engineering and The Royal West of England Academy, Bristol amongst others.



#1200818 Charcoal on paper 50 x 50cm



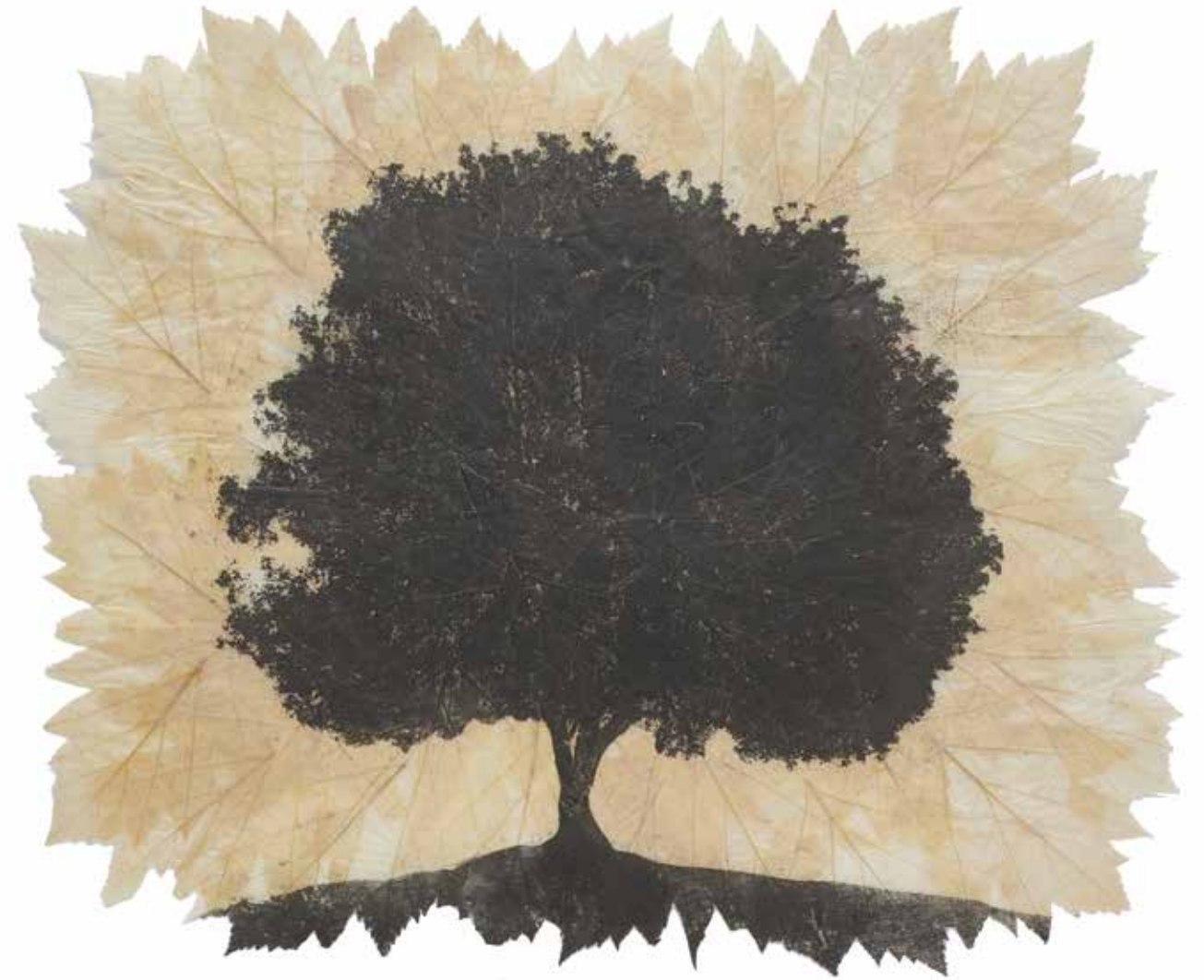
#3150918 Charcoal on paper 50 x 50cm

## BUCKMASTER AND FRENCH

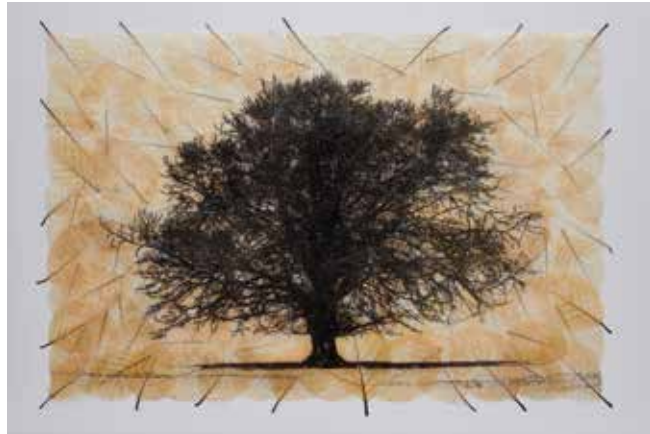
Emma Buckmaster and Janet French are printmakers and members of the Arborealists, both living in Suffolk. They work as a team to create etchings of British trees printed onto paper made from the leaves of trees. The leaves are collected and prepared to form delicate sheets of paper using only the natural constituents of the leaves to bind them together. Whilst the paper is still damp the etched image is printed onto the leaves from a steel plate using a traditional etching press. Janet French gained a BA (Hons) Fine Art at Colchester School of Art and Emma received an MA in Printmaking at the Cambridge School of Art. They became Fellows of the Society of Botanical Artists in 2019 and jointly chaired Gainsborough's House Printmakers for three years. Emma and Janet's story was featured on the BBC2 documentary about the RA Summer Exhibition 2016, and in the *FT How To Spend It Magazine* 2014. Their work is in private and public collections worldwide



**Ilex Aquifolium** Etching on Holly leaf 44/100 29 x 28cm



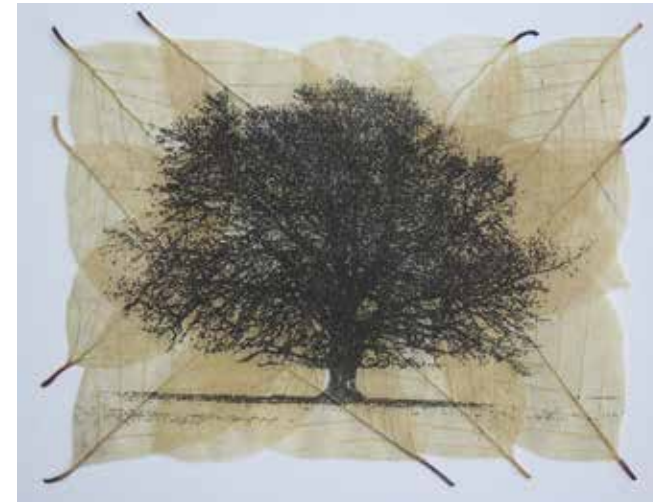
**Sorbus Tominalis** Etching on Wild Service Tree leaf paper 2/25 45 x 48cm



**Fagus Sylvatica II** Etching on Beech leaf paper  
12/50 58 x 72cm



**Crataegus** Etching on Hawthorn leaf paper  
3/25 35 x 42cm



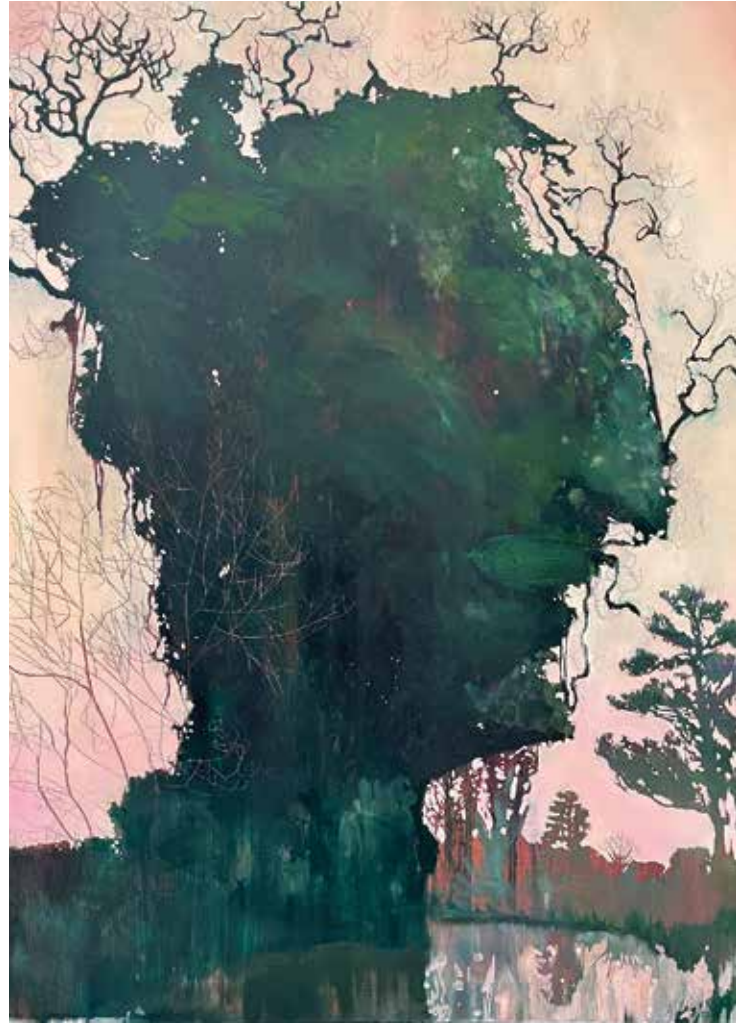
**Fagus II Winter (Beech)** Etching on paper  
made from the tree leaves A/P100 24 x 26cm



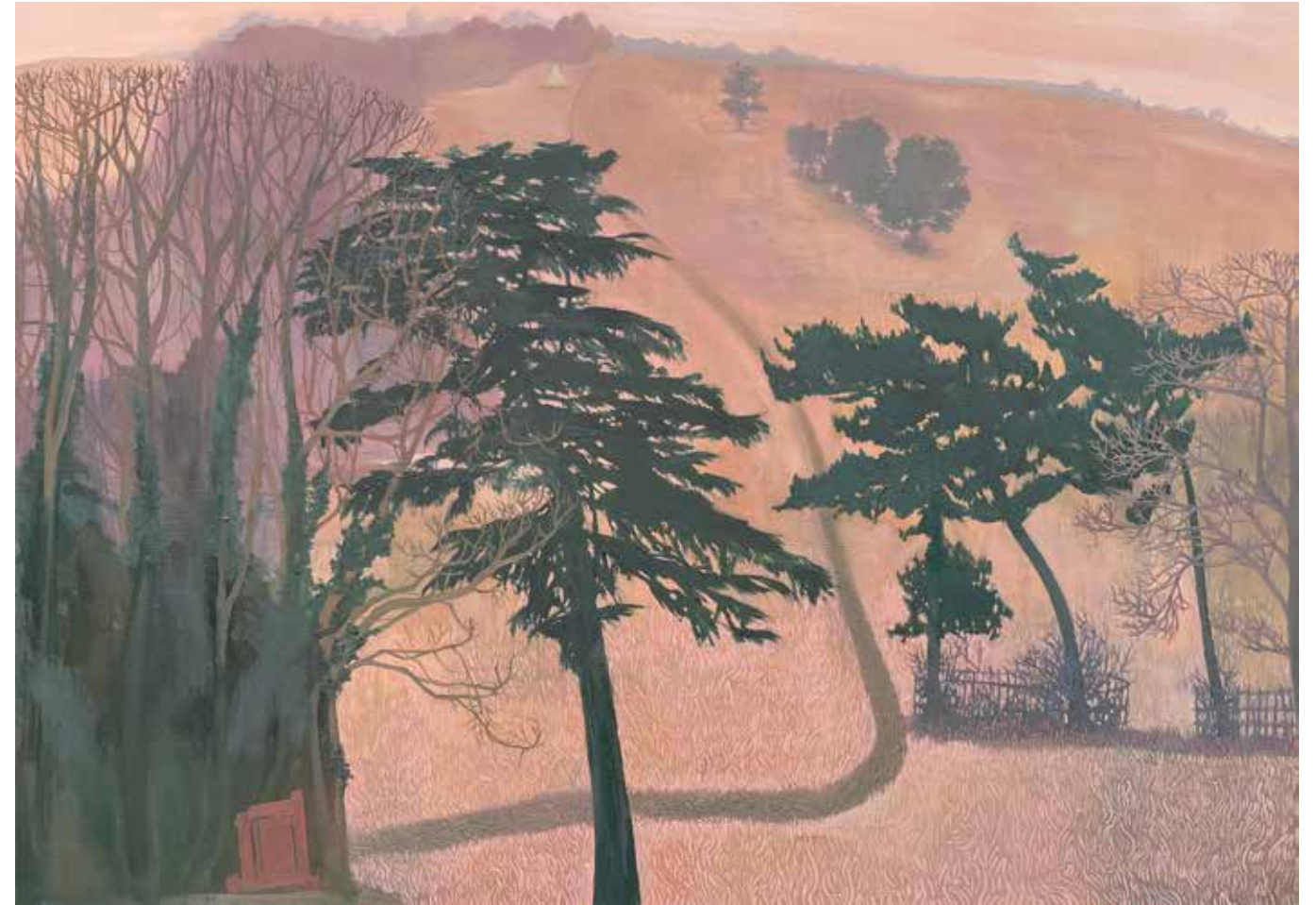
**Quercus II** Etching on Oak leaf paper 5/25 51 x 43 cm

## CLAIRE CANSICK

Claire Cansick is an oil painter living and working in Norfolk where she also grew up. Claire graduated from Great Yarmouth School of Art and Norwich University of the Arts with a BA in Printmaking. Her work starts and ends with a choice around colour, usually only three or four colours. Claire says she is inspired by her immediate surroundings, poignant memories and current affairs, particularly climate change, which motivates her to explore recessive colour to create mood and ambience. She works from photos and drawings as source material up to a point, and then the painting takes over and Claire is guided by what's happening on the surface. She has been a member of the Arborealists since 2017 and has exhibited widely throughout the UK in solo and group shows. In 2022 two of her paintings were selected for the Royal Academy Summer Show.



**The Thinking Tree** Oil on wood 83 x 59cm



**Gunton - Assembly** Oil on wood panel 59 x 84cm

12



Observatory – Gunton Oil on wood panel 59 x 84cm

13



There-is-Hush-in-the-Trees Oil on wood panel 59 x 84cm



## PERIENNE CHRISTIAN

Perienne Christian is a masters graduate and teacher at the Royal Drawing School, living and working in Suffolk. She also works as a freelance art tutor at the V&A, the Tate and the Art Academy in London. Perienne weaves together stories of landscapes, wild plant medicine and the forgotten feminine. She says, 'Like a patchwork quilt of memories, dreams, observations I stitch together stories that exist in multi layers on the one picture plane. I work intuitively, allowing unseen elements to guide me as I work'. Perienne has exhibited nationally and internationally including the Royal Academy (her work *Calling*), Buckingham Palace and Christie's in New York. From 2009 – 2011 she sat for a painting for the artist Lucian Freud which was the last painting before he died in 2011.



Dancing In The Redwoods Watercolour on paper 80 x 59cm



Caught In The Light Watercolour on paper 41 x 31cm

16



14

**Roots** Watercolour on paper 31 x 41cm

17



**Forest Secrets** Watercolour on paper 31 x 41cm



**Shining** Etching (edition of 6) Watercolour with hand colouring 26 x 22cm



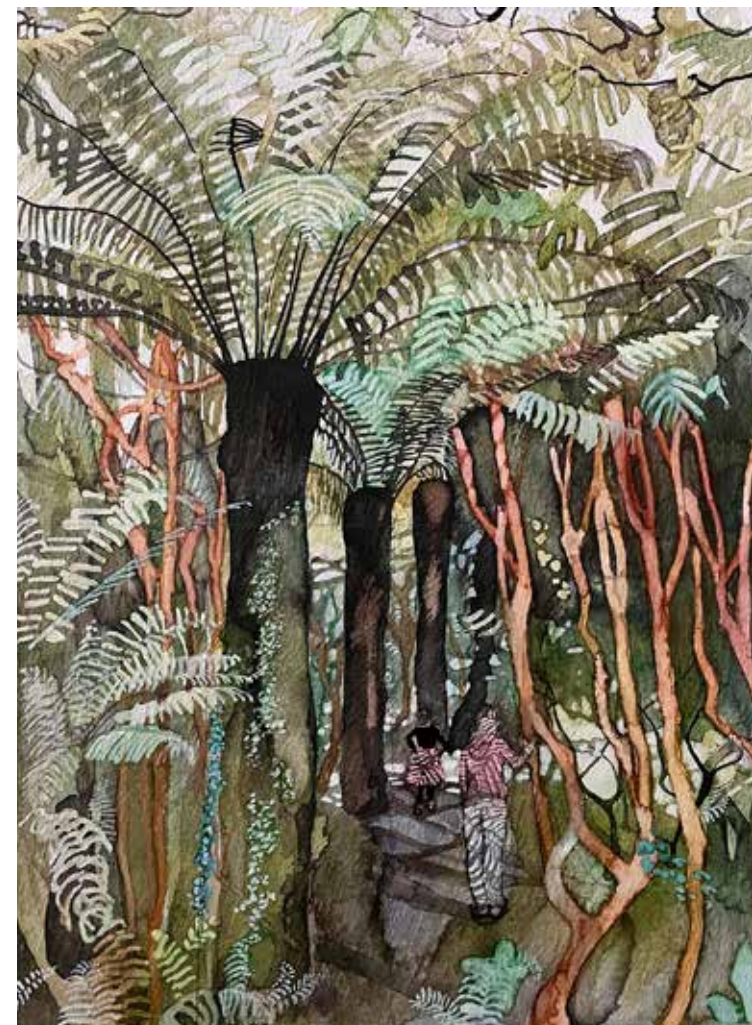
**Light Above** Etching (edition of 6) Watercolour with hand colouring 26 x 22cm

## LARA COBDEN

Lara Cobden is an award winning figurative painter and a member of the Arborealists. Lara moved to Norwich in Norfolk from Ireland. Her work often captures the mystical properties and stories of a landscape. Memories, recollections and a sense of place are themes which Lara returns to many times. Her starting point is often these memories and the emotions triggered which she then captures onto the surface of the canvas with oil paint, providing her with fluidity and flexibility of expression. Lara graduated from Brighton University with a degree in Painting. She received the first prize at the Sir John Hurt Art Prize 2016 and was a finalist in the National Open Art Competition and the Winter exhibit at the RA 2015. She received 2nd prize in the 2019 Lynn Painter-Stainers Prize and the Chair's Purchase Prize at the 2019 ING Discerning Eye exhibition. In 2020 she was a finalist in both the ING Discerning Eye exhibition and the John Moores Painting Prize.



**Becoming Birch I** Oil and ink on linen 120 x 76cm



**Didn't Know Then That I'd Already Lost You – study**  
Acrylic ink on gessoed watercolour paper 35 x 25 cm

## TIM CRAVEN

22 Tim Craven is a painter, curator and founder in 2013 of the contemporary art movement of trees The Arborealists which now has over 50 professional artists. He lives and works in Hampshire. His paintings are informed by a diverse range of artists and ideas, from Post Impressionism, Surrealism and Neo-Romanticism to Op, Systems and Photorealism. Tim says about painting trees, 'I have always been drawn to the optical fuzz of organic pattern and the spatial thrill and complexity of trees as an abstract subject. The strong verticals and diagonals of their trunks, branches and foliage give an infinite variety of form through the seasons.' After training in fine art and conservation Tim joined Southampton City Art Gallery where he worked for over 35 years becoming Curator of the Gallery and Curator of Art. He is currently Chair of the Friends of Southampton's Museums, Archives and Galleries. In 2015 he was invited to join The London Group of artists and curates exhibitions under the banner of the Southern Exhibitions Group.



**Buckland Tree** Watercolour on paper 40 x 54cm



**Midsummer Hill Fort** Casein on canvas 50.5 x 76cm



**Crash! (Lady Park Wood)** Casein on canvas 61 x 92cm

## ALEX EGAN

Alex Egan is a contemporary artist based in Norwich, Norfolk and a member of the Arborealists movement of tree artists. She says, 'My practice is rooted in a desire to capture the light, movement and energy of my subjects. My tree portraits are those ethereal figures in the landscape, with their beautiful twisting limbs and individual personalities. I seek to capture their presence, quiet beauty, vitality and transcendence, shaping a way to explore our natural world out of which we have grown.'

Alex graduated with a BA Hons Fine Art from Bristol University and has since exhibited extensively throughout the UK in solo and group shows at the Fairhurst Gallery, Norwich Castle Museum and with The Arborealists. She is currently the Tree Artist in Residence at Somerleyton and regularly undertakes commissions including works of the veteran trees on the Sandringham estate for the celebration of HRH Prince of Wales 70th birthday, the historic Kett's Oak at Ryston, the Daylesford estate in Oxfordshire and the Somerleyton and Houghton estates in Suffolk and Norfolk.



**Floating Points** Acrylic on board 82 x 62cm



**Look At Me, Be Still, ancient sweet chestnut** Pencil, watercolour,  
ink on paper 64 x 48cm



**The other Kett's Oak, ancient oak** Pencil, watercolour,  
ink on paper 64 x 48cm

## KATE GILES

Kate Giles is a contemporary landscape painter living and working in Norfolk. Her work for many years has been focused on a keen and intimate vision of the landscape of her native East Anglia, influenced by the Anglo-Dutch landscape tradition of Crome, Ruisdael, and in particular Constable's deep engagement and familiarity with embodied life: an alertness to what is 'known by heart'. In a dynamic and vigorous collaboration with paint her work, muscular yet sensitive, responds to these closely and repeatedly examined local landscapes through the restless flux of weather and seasons, light and shade. Kate read English at New College Oxford and then trained at Camberwell and Falmouth Schools of Art. For many years Kate has continued to exhibit widely including a solo show as the Festival Artist at the 63rd Aldeburgh Festival of Arts and Music in 2010, the Royal Academy Summer Show 2011, and the Salisbury Museum's 'Constable in Context' show 2016 – 2017 where her work was hung alongside that of John Constable, JMW Turner, Dennis Creffield, and Leon Kossoff as part of the Tate's Aspire Programme. Kate had a solo exhibition at The Maltings Gallery in Snape, Suffolk in 2020 and at Gallery East in 2021. Her work can be found in numerous public and private collections both internationally and in the UK, including The Britten Pears Foundation, Aviva and Banco Sabadell.



**Rutted. Itteringham** Oil on board 30 x 38cm



**Sentinel II (Road As Road)** Oil on canvas 90 x 90cm

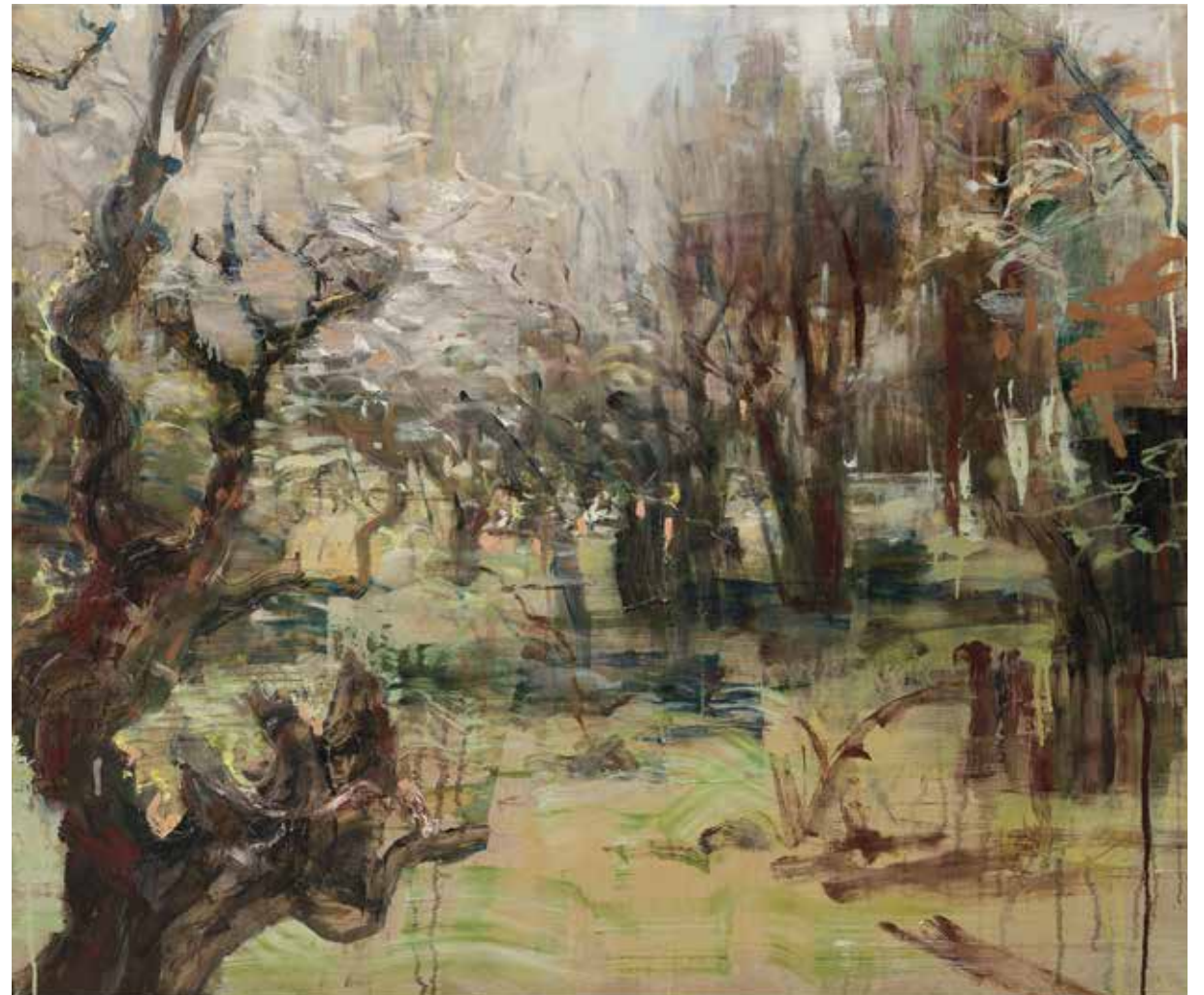




**Contre Jour II (Blackthorn)** Oil on board 30 x 38cm



**On the Brink. Bure Valley** Oil on board 36.5 x 44.5cm



**Perdita I (Dark)** Oil on canvas 100 x 120cm



Holkham Gap II. Into The Blue Again Oil on board 30 x 38cm



Unfurls Its Undercloud. Valley of the Nar Oil on board 30 x 38cm

## JANE HUMAN

Jane Human is an artist whose origins are in the East Anglian Fens. After living in London she is now back living in Suffolk with her studio on the Norfolk border. Her work is characterised by a strong sense of place, and exploration of colour, texture and space. Often working in a series Jane uniquely captures the soul of the landscape with open spaces and trees anchored by the horizon. She says, 'I am frequently drawn to coastal terrain and transient shifting vistas; open spaces anchored by the horizon where I can explore the connections between land, sea, and sky. I have long been inspired by the marshes, creeks and beaches of North Norfolk. My working process is a contemplative one, resulting in paintings which I hope can be lingered within, and which engage on both an abstract and figurative level. I see these completed works as reminiscent of place and time.' Jane uses a 1940s offset litho press which enables her to build many layers of painted and mono printed marks over many weeks in series until the image resolves and a textual richness develops. Jane's work is in public and private collections worldwide including the National Oil Paintings Collection (National IArt Fund), NHS Primary Care Trust Enfield and in private and corporate collections in the UK, Netherlands, USA, Australia, New Zealand and Republic of Ireland. Gallery East held the first solo show of Jane's work in 2021.



**Autumn Sentinel I** Oil on paper 107 x 85cm



**Autumn Sentinel II** Oil on paper 107 x 82cm



**The Copse** Oil on paper 62 x 79cm



**Woodland Rhythms III** Oil on Paper, Collage 26 x 32cm



**Woodland Rhythms IV** Oil on Paper, Collage 26 x 32cm

## FIONA McINTYRE

Fiona McIntyre is an oil painter and print maker living in the West Country with strong links to Edinburgh, Scotland where she graduated with a BA Hons in Drawing and Painting from Edinburgh College of Art, India from where she traces close family, and Sweden where she studied Printmaking, specialising in Copper Etching. She was born in Nairobi, Kenya and spent her early years in Dublin and England. Fiona's influences include the Scottish Colourists, Cubism, Surrealism and



Gateway Oil on panel 62 x 72cm

African and Oceanic art. Her oil paintings have been described as luscious, gestural expressions of a neo-romantic nature that vibrate with chromatic colour applied generously with broad brush strokes. In 2013, after a global art education and an extensive exhibiting career in galleries and museums in the UK, Spain, Sweden and Norway Fiona was one of the founders of the Arborealists. In 2022 Fiona was elected Associate Member of the Royal Society of Painter-Printmakers.

Fiona has undertaken a number of public commissions, residences and projects including her current project which is a residency and solo show at the Herefordshire home and studio of surrealist Australian painter/printmaker Sidney Nolan.



Fallen SplitTree Oil on panel 62 x 72cm



Sap Rising Oil on linen 95 x 110cm

## CAROLINE POOLE

Caroline Poole is an oil painter living and working in Suffolk and London. Caroline trained with London based artist Nahem Shoa who is particularly well known for his painting of black portraits, many of which have been acquired by major UK art museums. Caroline paints from observation and works outside in all weathers, settling her easel in a particular spot in coastal Suffolk to paint trees in the landscape, returning regularly to capture the subtle changes resulting from the seasons and coastal erosion. Caroline says, 'I am most inspired when I am outside painting in the landscape, particularly in Suffolk. I like to paint from observation. I go out to find an interesting composition, draw the subject in paint, being careful not to alter what is there. I aim to record the tones and colours I see as accurately as I can and return to the same place at the same time of day for around an hour and half so I can capture the same light on each occasion. I can work up some aspects of the painting in my studio and I then scale up to create larger images.' Her work is now attracting attention throughout East Anglia and beyond and one of her paintings will be in *Landscape Rebels* at Christchurch Mansion October 2022 alongside works by Constable, Turner and Monet.



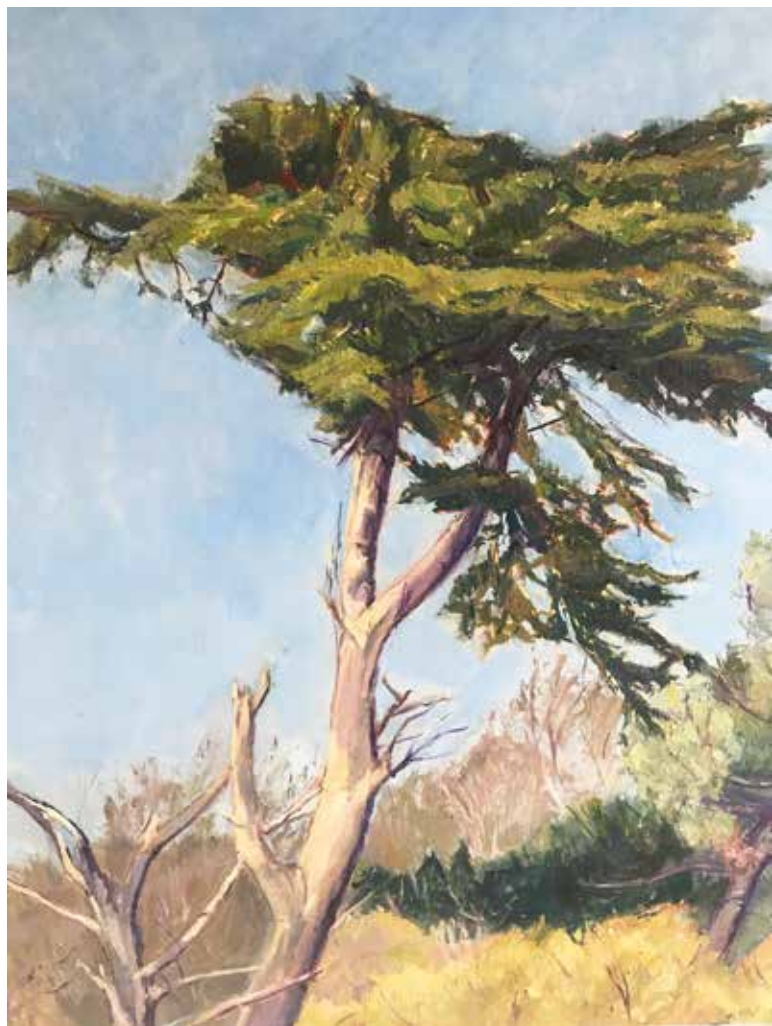
Close To The Edge Oil on board 38 x 34cm



Devastated Pine Oil on canvas 70 x 90cm



Trees On The Beach Oil on board 38 x 46cm



**One Pine And Another** Oil on canvas 54 x 44cm



**Pines Near The Bawdsey Ferry** Oil on canvas 63 x 48cm



## NAHEM SHOA

Nahem Shoa is a contemporary artist born, living and working in Notting Hill, London. He graduated with a BA Fine Art Painting from Manchester Polytechnic 1991, followed by post graduate study at Slade London 1993 and an MA from the Royal Drawing School 2004. He is a member of the Arborealists and has painted trees for over 50 years, relishing the total concentration and powers of perception required to paint and draw them well. He has established an international reputation as a painter of contemporary multicultural life and curated in 2021 an exhibition at Southampton City Art Gallery called the Face of Britain where his work of large black portraits were hung alongside historic and other contemporary black portraits. Nahem's work is in many UK gallery and museum collections including Manchester Art Gallery. He is curating a self portrait exhibition called *Unselfish Selfie* at the Atkinson Gallery, Southport which includes his own work alongside that of Euan Uglow, David Bomberg, Maggi Hambling and Celia Paul amongst others.



Holland Park Oak Ink on linen 101 x 76cm



Ancient Spanish Olive Acrylic pen on linen 101 x 76cm

## PRICE LIST

### Jemma Appleby

#1200818 Charcoal on paper £2,500

#3150918 Charcoal on paper £2,500

### Buckmaster and French

*Ilex Aquifolium* Etching on Holly leaf £575

*Sorbus Tominalis* Etching on Wild Service Tree leaf paper £1,380

*Fagus Sylvatica II* Etching on Beech leaf paper £2,520

*Crataegus* Etching on Hawthorn leaf paper £740

*Fagus II Winter (Beech)* Etching on paper made from the tree leaves £695

*Quercus II* Etching on Oak leaf paper £1,380

### Claire Cansick

*The Thinking Tree* Oil on wood £1,800

*Gunton – Assembly* Oil on wood panel £1,800

*Observatory – Gunton* Oil on wood panel £1,800

*There-is-Hush-in-the-Trees* Oil on wood panel £1,800

### Perienne Christian

*Dancing In The Redwoods* Watercolour on paper £950

*Caught In The Light* Watercolour on paper £450

*Roots* Watercolour on paper £450

*Forest Secrets* Watercolour on paper £450

*Shining* Etching £120

*Light Above* Etching £120

### Lara Cobden

*Becoming Birch I* Oil and ink on linen £2,500

*Didn't Know Then That I'd Already Lost You – study*

Acrylic ink on gessoed watercolour paper £475

### Tim Craven

*Buckland Tree* Watercolour on paper £1,100

*Midsummer Hill Fort* Casein on canvas £1,500

*Crash! (Lady Park Wood)* Casein on canvas £1,200

### Alex Egan

*Floating Points* Acrylic on board £1,750

*Look At Me, Be Still, ancient sweet chestnut*

Pencil, watercolour, ink on paper £850

*The other Kett's Oak, ancient oak* Pencil, watercolour, ink on paper £850

### Kate Giles

*Rutted. Itteringham* Oil on board £1,650

*Sentinel II (Road As Road)* Oil on canvas £4,300

*Contre Jour II (Blackthorn)* Oil on board £1,650

*On the Brink. Bure Valley* Oil on board £1,800

*Perdita I (Dark)* Oil on canvas £5,000

*Holkham Gap II. Into The Blue Again* Oil on board £1,650

*Unfurls Its Undercloud. Valley of the Nar* Oil on board £1,650

### Jane Human

*Autumn Sentinel I* Oil on paper £2,750

*Autumn Sentinel II* Oil on paper £2,750

*The Copse* Oil on paper £1,850

*Woodland Rhythms III* Oil on Paper, Collage £375.00

*Woodland Rhythms IV* Oil on Paper, Collage £375.00

### Fiona McIntyre

*Gateway* Oil on panel £1,250

*Fallen Split Tree* Oil on panel £1,250

*Sap Rising* Oil on linen £5,000

### Caroline Poole

*Close To The Edge* Oil on board £800

*Devastated Pine* Oil on canvas £1,950

*Trees On The Beach* Oil on board £975

*One Pine And Another* Oil on canvas £800

*Pines Near The Bawdsey Ferry* Oil on canvas £875

### Nahem Shoa

*Holland Park Oak* Ink on linen £7,000

*Ancient Spanish Olive* Acrylic pen on linen £7,000

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Catalogue designed by Chrissie Charlton

Front cover: Lara Cobden *Becoming Birch I*

Back cover: Kate Giles *Sentinel II (Road As Road)*




GALLERY EAST

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