

'CORNUCOPIA' AUTUMN SHOW

at Porthminster Gallery, St Ives, Cornwall, TR26 2DY

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Exhibition: 'CORNUCOPIA'

Location: Porthminster Gallery, Westcott's Quay, St Ives, Cornwall, TR26 2DY, UK

Exhibition Dates: Saturday 9th September – Saturday 9th November 2017

Opening Times: Mon – Sat, 10 am – 5 pm.

Free admission.

'CORNUCOPIA'

The award-winning Porthminster Gallery celebrates the rich autumnal bounty of original art with its latest curated selling show in St Ives.

A 'cornucopia' of delights – a visual feast – awaits the collector and non-collector alike, with the works of seven mature leading lights in their fields:

PAINTERS: Nick Bodimeade; Angela Charles; Masako Tobita; Erin Ward; Vincent Wilson.

CERAMICIST IN THE SPOTLIGHT: Craig Underhill.

SCULPTOR: Dr Margaret Lovell D.Litt. Hon FRBS.

Prices of the works in show range from £40 to £10,000, and the Own Art interest-free purchase plan is available on all artworks from £100 and upwards.

The Curator's Perspective:

David Durham, gallery owner and curator, said, "As summer gives way to winter, autumn is a special time here at the gallery: gone are the surging waves of beach-going day-trippers and St Ives resumes a more mellow and relaxed pace once more. This beautiful show is sure to appeal to both the seasoned connoisseur and to the budding collector."

The artists being shown in exhibition are:

Nick Bodimeade is best known for his distinctive, startlingly eye-catching canvases crowded with beach-goers – 'pixelated' figures which hover and shimmer in a shifting summer heat-haze, coming into and out of focus as if viewed through the zoom lens of a camera. Nick also has a flair for investing each individual figure, or group of figures, with its own space, place and character within the expertly-composed ensemble. Neither 'abstract', nor 'representational', Bodimeade's paintings have a universal appeal and following.

Nick Bodimeade was born in 1957 in Richmond, London. He gained a BA (Hons) in Fine Art from the University of Wolverhampton and, after many years as a lecturer in Fine Art at a number of art colleges, now lives and works as a full time painter near Lewes in East Sussex. He has been exhibited in solo and group exhibitions in London, the south and in Europe since 1984, and he is represented exclusively in the southwest by the Porthminster Gallery.

Angela Charles creates semi-abstract, expressionistic paintings, inspired by the natural colours and rhythms of the landscapes of West Cornwall, in response to memory of place, rather than a figurative representation. These works, on primed aluminium, and wooden boards, can be compared with Roger Hilton's works from the early 1960's. However, there is also a strong resonance with the 1970's abstract works of Victor Pasmore: compositions of flat colour fields energised with an edgy quality of line. With these associations in mind, this collection of new paintings by Charles will be complemented by a display of signed prints by Pasmore.

Angela Charles was born in Brighton in 1966, and studied on the Foundation Course at Worthing College of Art from 1983–86. She then went on to study BA (Hons) Fine Art (Textiles) at Goldsmiths College, University of London, graduating in 1989.

Since 1989, she has exhibited successfully throughout the UK. Her first one-person show was held at Sherborne House, Dorset in 2003. More recently, she has had a solo show at the Porthminster Gallery, and has been shown at the London, and Bristol, Affordable Art Fairs, and at the Brighton, and Edinburgh, Art Fairs. She is also a part-time gallery curator.

Charles has lived in Crewkerne, Somerset since 2001, and is represented exclusively in Cornwall by the Porthminster Gallery, St Ives.

Masako Tobita is a well-respected artist whose varied cultural upbringing inspires her work, which she says is "like an autobiography, layers of feeling about the past, the present and the future." In preparation for this show, Masako rented a small cottage at Cape Cornwall and created a series of new paintings in response to walking and exploring the coastal landscape of West Cornwall.

Masako Tobita was born and raised in Japan and gained a BA in Fine Art from Joshibi University of Art and Design in Tokyo. At the time, she was more interested in photography than painting, but after moving to New York, she realised that painting was her main interest. She took a drawing class at The Art Students League and started painting more seriously.

After moving to England in 1989, Tobita's paintings have been exhibited at many galleries and venues. Her paintings are in many public and private collections in Europe and Japan.

Tobita is represented exclusively in the southwest by the Porthminster Gallery.

Erin Ward is an award-winning painter whose layered and textured expressive coastal landscapes are inspired by visits to the St Ives area, where she spends time walking the coastal paths and absorbing the land- and seascapes. Her fascination with the coastlines defining this area – where the sea meets the land and the rivers; where salt water meets fresh water; where the dark volcanic rock meets water – is the defining inspiration in her work: a fascination with opposites, the meeting of extremes. But it is the vibrancy and energy of the Cornish light that really leaves its mark in Ward's paintings: natural colours.

Ward's paintings usually begin from a memory of the place, or a moment: sometimes just looking at the sky can trigger an idea or a feeling needing to be recorded in paint. The work comes very much from within – she doesn't usually work from sketches, just paint straight onto the canvas, working fast, using large brushes, rags and sometimes her fingers to "push the paint around until it forms a response" that she's after. The result is usually a painting rich with complex layering, areas of built-up impasto combined with thin, glazed areas. Texture and mark making are an important part of her work.

Erin Ward was born in 1966, and trained at Northumbria University, Newcastle, gaining a BA (Hons) Fine Art: Painting. Since 2008 she has exhibited successfully in the UK and abroad, with works being

held in private collections in London, UK and Cyprus. In 2009 Ward was awarded the 'Best Newcomer' Award at Leeds Art Fair. Ward's work was shown for the first time in the southwest at the Porthminster Gallery in 2009, and in the gallery's 2010 'New Beginnings' spring show, her paintings were a sell-out success.

Ward is represented exclusively in St Ives by the Porthminster Gallery.

Vincent Wilson draws incessantly, looking at, and recording, the landscapes of Cornwall, and the effects the changing weather has, on a day-to-day basis. In his studio he builds up new landscape compositions from torn paper fragments which are arranged, layered, painted and reworked constantly. The resulting works 'encapsulate' a history of these changes and processes, much as the landscape itself records the effects of weather and erosion.

Vincent Wilson was born in Mold, Flintshire in 1933. He trained at Chester School of Art and Liverpool College of Art. As a student he was represented in 'Young Artists from The North of England' at The Walker Art Gallery Liverpool (1955) and later took part in Three Welsh Arts Council Exhibitions which toured Wales. In 1962 he moved to Cornwall, where he works from his studio in Saltash. He has produced etchings and aquatints since 1970, as an extension of his work as a painter.

Wilson has exhibited extensively over many years including, solo exhibitions, amongst others, at: The City Art Gallery in Plymouth; Falmouth Art Gallery; the Brewhouse in Taunton, and St Anne's College in Oxford. His work is also regularly shown in mixed collections at: The Royal Academy; The Royal Cambrian Academy; The Royal West of England Academy; The Newlyn Society of Artists, and The Penwith Society of Artists, St Ives.

His work has also been exhibited at many commercial galleries in the UK, including: The Thackeray Gallery, London; The Beaux Arts Gallery in Bath, and at Hillsboro Fine Art, Dublin. He is represented permanently by Porthminster Gallery, St Ives.

In 1992, a set of Wilson's etchings was purchased by The British, Foreign and Commonwealth Office for various embassies abroad. Works have also been purchased by: The Victoria and Albert Museum; Devon County Council; Plymouth City Museum and Art Gallery; Surrey Education Committee, and the City of Celle, Germany. Many works are in private collections in Britain and abroad.

Wilson is a full member of both The Newlyn Society of Artists and The Penwith Society of Arts. In 1995 he was elected as a member of The Devon Guild of Craftsmen.

Dr Margaret Lovell D.Litt. Hon FRBS RWA is an eminent award-winning sculptor whose cast works in bronze are inspired by organic, natural forms – such as plants, and the elements of sea and wind. A recurring theme and feature of Lovell's works are undulating planes with polished edges that suggest or define a movement through space; often the sculptures consist of two individual forms in relationship to each other, striving to create a unified harmony. The works on show in this exhibition will include early sculptures from the 1960s and Lovell's most recent works.

Margaret Lovell was born in Bristol in 1939 and studied at the West of England College of Art between 1956–60. She then went on to study at the Slade School of Fine Art in London, from 1960–62, where she won first and second prizes for sculpture, drawing and etching. From 1962–3, she studied on an Italian State Scholarship Award at the Academy of Fine Art in Florence.

Since the late 1950's her sculpture has been exhibited extensively in the UK. She has enjoyed many solo shows, the first being in 1965 at the Marjorie Parr Gallery, London, including in 2009, at Royal West of England Academy, Bristol, and here at the Porthminster Gallery, St Ives in 2009 with a major retrospective solo show to celebrate her 70th birthday in 2009).

Lovell's work was featured in the national touring show, 'Unpopular Culture', curated by the artist and ceramicist, Grayson Perry, from works selected from the Arts Council's collection, and features in the show's catalogue.

Lovell's works are in many public and corporate collections throughout the UK Europe and the USA, including: City Museum & Art Gallery, Plymouth; The Arts Council of Great Britain; University of London, and University of Southampton. Commissioned works include: sculpture for Barclay's Bank Ltd, Bristol; 5-metre high sculpture for the Great Ouse Water Authority; World Sailing Championship Trophies for John Player & Son; sculptures for World Achievement Awards, Unilever.

She is a Fellow of the Royal Society of British Sculptors, and a Member of the Royal West of England Academy, and is represented exclusively in the southwest by the Porthminster Gallery, who have represented the artist and her work since 2004. Lovell splits her time living near Bristol, and New Zealand.

Lovell is represented exclusively in the southwest by the Porthminster Gallery.

Craig Underhill builds innovative, painterly, and richly textured slab-built, engobe layered pots that evoke the essence of 'place'. Influenced by his experience of landscape – both natural and man-made – walking the coastal landscapes of Cornwall and the southwest.

Craig Underhill was born in Scotland in 1968. He studied for a Btec HND in Design (Ceramics) at Harrow College of Higher Education, from 1987 – 89, and then went on to study BA (Hons) Fine Art (Ceramics) at Portsmouth Polytechnic, from 1989 – 90. He then went on to a graduate assistantship at University of Eastern Illinois, USA, in 1990.

In 2004 and 2006, Underhill was awarded Arts Council grants to produce and promote new bodies of work. He lives in Stourbridge, West Midlands and since 1997 he has lectured in Ceramics at Dudley College, and has exhibited extensively in the UK, France and The Netherlands. In 2013 he was an invited artist at the Landscape and Ceramics Symposium in Kecskemet, Hungary.

Underhill is represented exclusively in the southwest by the Porthminster Gallery.

The work of all seven artists will be available to view at the Porthminster Gallery, St Ives, until Saturday 9th November 2017.

Curated by Gallery Director David Durham.

All works are available to buy. Price range: £40 – £10,000.

Running alongside the exhibitions will be a collection of collectible Modern St Ives and British Art by Sandra Blow, Terry Frost, Barbara Hepworth, Patrick Heron, Henry Moore, Peter Lanyon, Ben Nicholson, Victor Pasmore, Bryan Pearce and other both century modern masters.

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Notes to editors Throughout 2017 the award-winning Porthminster Gallery celebrates its tenth year in St Ives, Cornwall with a diverse programme of expertly curated exhibitions and events.

Established by art patrons and gallery directors Dee Bray and David Durham in York in 1999, the business was relocated to St Ives in 2007 to concentrate its focus on the art of St Ives and Cornwall. Since then the gallery has championed the work of more than 80 living British artists through its progressive and expertly curated shows, and has showcased and introduced many young up-and-

coming artists to an appreciative local and global collectorship. The gallery has also gained a strong reputation during the ten years for its impressive shows and changing stock of Post War St Ives and British Art.

Porthminster Gallery won the *Cornwall Today* readers' award for 'Best Art Gallery in Cornwall' 2014/15, and has been featured in BBC2's *Coast* series and most recently in Sky Art's *Tate Walks* series.

Porthminster Gallery also works to raise awareness of, and funds for local and national charities including Shelter Box and Breast Cancer Care. through gallery exhibitions and events.

The gallery offers buyers and collectors the easy and affordable incentive to buy original art up to £25,000 at 0% APR over 10 equal 0% APR monthly instalments with the Own Art and Own Art Plus purchase schemes.

For further information, please contact gallery manager H  l  ne Chaussavoine at the gallery on 01736 795888 info@porthminstergallery.co.uk www.porthminstergallery.co.uk

Porthminster Gallery, Westcott's Quay, St Ives, Cornwall, TR26 2DY, UK

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