

Art Fair East 2022

...a selection of artist profiles

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Leslie Gerry Editions

Dowdeswell, the Cotswolds

Artist and designer, Leslie Gerry paints and prints digitally, creating limited-edition prints on paper and metal, and also large format limited-edition artists' books which are works of art in their own right.

His work has received multiple awards and is represented in many of the Special Collections in the UK and USA, including the British Library and Library of Congress, Washington.

His last book, *Marrakesh*, included 30 paintings of the red city. It was awarded Best Limited Edition and Fine Binding Book 2021 by the British Book Design & Production Awards.

Leslie's latest book, *Lighthouse*, has just received three nominations by the British Book Design & Production Awards. Bound in full leather with a light, the book contains 15 paintings of lighthouses.



Left: *Berber carpet Marrakesh* by Leslie Gerry. Right: *Self Portrait* by Leslie Gerry.

Patrick Wilkins
Ixworth, Suffolk

“This will be my first time at Art Fair East, having recently moved to Suffolk from Kent, so now Norwich doesn't seem like the other end of the planet quite so much!

“It will be exciting to exhibit in a new area and meet a new audience, and, as always, it's a pleasure to meet the other exhibiting artists.

“I draw, mostly in coloured pencil, but often with some gouache thrown in. My subject matter is usually architectural, sometimes local, sometimes taken from my travels in America. I have always been drawn to the work of American realist artists, Edward Hopper in particular, I also have a keen interest in Film Noir and these influences appear in my pictures whether I intend it or not!

“I have exhibited at the Royal Academy Summer Exhibition, I have won the 'President's Award' at the UK Coloured Pencil Society Open Exhibition, 'Best In Show Show' (Colour) at the Society of Graphic Fine Art Open Exhibition, the Caran D'Ache Award at 'The Artist' Magazine Exhibition at Patchings, and three times have been shortlisted for the 'Artist and Illustrators' Magazine' Artist Of The Year.

“I also appeared on TV on Sky Landscape Artist of the Year (first aired in January this year). Before the recording I was asked 'What would be the worst subject matter for you?' to which I answered, 'Green fields and a lake'. The heat took place among the green fields of Compton Verney in Warwickshire, next to the lake. Remembering my stated concerns, one of the Sky production team did at least apologise! Given the subject matter, it was inevitably not my finest hour, but I did ok after some initial distress and panic. It was an enjoyable day nonetheless.”



Patrick Wilkins.

Jill Blakey

Buckingham, Buckinghamshire

“This is my first-time taking part in Art Fair East, I chose it because it has a brilliant reputation for bringing high quality art, both nationally and internationally, to the East of England.

“Visitors can expect to see abstract art with an urban, street art flair. I use a huge amount of colour and texture which creates stylish, standout artwork for those looking for a statement piece.

“I am a colour addict and an intuitive artist, which means I paint with no plan, but I can't help but use all of the colours I can in my work.

“My art career began in Lockdown 1! That's when I suddenly had some time to set up my website, socials and start selling my work. I now work three days a week as an artist and two days a week as a Maths Teacher and absolutely love it!”



Jill Blakey. Credit: Chris Blakey.

Paul Zawadzki and Ally Zawadzki

Bungay, Suffolk

Paul said: “We are excited to be showing work from both our practices at Art Fair East, it will be the first major event for Ally and a chance to promote some of my most recent work. It’s a great chance to reconnect and make new friends, as well as contribute to fascinating and engrossing conversations and valuable feedback.

“I took part for the first-time last year and loved every minute of it! A great experience and very interesting dialogue with a wide range of visitors, customers, and exhibitors – some of whom I have remained in touch with since the event.”

Ally said: “There will be a selection of recent work from both me and Paul. Some of Paul’s paintings were produced while studying for his Masters in Fine Art (MA) at Norwich University of the Arts and some are reworked and re-presented pieces resulting from the experience. We have a variety of sizes to suit all needs, all in hand-made frames and ready to hang.”

Working on the principal of 'embracing the happy accident', and sharing of resources as well as ideas, a concept or material from one piece often kick-starts another.

Both artists work in a tactile manner, employing unusual or unexpected materials: cement, fabric and acid staining for Ally, while Paul incorporates unprimed canvas, rusted steel, poured varnish and even detritus from the studio floor in addition to traditional oils.

Spontaneous use of recycled and ‘found’ objects also forms part of their practice, which is primarily about the celebration and unpredictability of the natural world, looking beneath the surface of the landscape that surrounds us.

Paul said: “As a major part of my MA I explored the fragile and impermanent nature of materials and surfaces in context of the eroding cliffs and fallen trees at Covehithe on the North Suffolk coast – an area I’ve known for 50 years. My nostalgic memories are tinged with sadness and lament for loss and an uncertain but inevitable future.”



Left: Ally Zawadzki. Credit: Paul Zawadzki. Right: Paul Zawadzki. Credit: Paul Mills.

Val Jones
Sudbury, Suffolk

“I’m taking part in Art Fair East again this year as it’s my favourite venue. I think I’ve taken part every year since it began and really enjoy the atmosphere and staying in the beautiful city of Norwich for four days. I’m based in Sudbury, Suffolk where I have a studio in my garden.

“I’ve taken part in several other gallery exhibitions successfully this year. I love wild swimming and this has been an inspiration for many paintings. During Covid Lockdowns I spent many hours walking across the famous Sudbury Water Meadows in the footsteps of Sudbury’s famous artist, Thomas Gainsborough and this led to a series of flooded trees paintings which have sold well.

“I’m eagerly awaiting the reopening of Gainsborough’s House which is undergoing a multi-million redevelopment. I intend to fully immerse myself in the support of this marvellous project.”

After a career in secondary school art teaching, Val returned to her own education and gained an MA in Fine Art. She now devotes her time to pushing the boundaries of her own art practice.

Her work floats between figurative and abstract/impressionism. Water is her muse with a strong engagement with the human figure. Composition and tonal balance dictate the initiation of her images and then the physicality of the paint takes over and ultimately determines the outcome.

The magic moment when an image is resolved can happen quickly or can be the subject of a long process of development. Memories and the senses are more important than visual appearance.



Nandini Sharma

India

"I chose Art Fair East as I find Norwich beautiful. I've always loved painting and sketching and I previously ran a salon to do makeup and create henna patterns.

"The restless artist in me popped up again and I started creating artworks. It has been a decade now. Though I am well provided and loved, to maintain my inner calm and positivity I realised that art is the best meditation. I enjoy my own company.

"I would like to address people with restricted abilities as I can empathize with them, also fighting syndromes with art is very soothing.

"I quote Vincent van Gogh - 'and then, I have nature and art and poetry and if that is not enough, what is enough?'

"I have wanted to do an art fair in UK as I have relatives in London. I have been to London a few times and look forward to visiting Norwich, like all artists I love beautiful places."



Nandini Sharma. Credit: Kritica Sharma.

Astra

Aldeburgh, Suffolk

"I love taking part in Art Fair East, I have exhibited previously and thoroughly enjoyed my time at past shows. It is always such a well curated and exciting mix of great artists. I can't wait to return."

Astra creates surreal-realism pen and ink drawings inspired by a lifelong love of wild animals. Toying with the surreal, Astra plays with juxtapositioning wild and endangered animals with a familiar and easily recognisable splash of colour.

Astra is now in her fourth year as an international artist selling with gallery representation in London, New York and Singapore. Each year Astra donates art to the Norfolk based conservation charity Explorers Against Extinction and her work was exhibited at COP26 United Nations Climate Change Conference 2021.

She was also invited by Saatchi Art to participate in the first gallery collection of NFT's and was one of just 154 international artists to be included. The collection sold out in minutes and 19 of her 20 NFT's are available to re-purchase on Opensea.

Astra is also a children's book author and illustrator with two published books to date and the next book in her Blue Tit Travels series underway. Based in Aldeburgh, Suffolk, she shares her studio with her cat Dave.



Left: *King Never Sleeps* by Astra. Right: Astra and her cat Dave. Credit: Astra.

Bella Bigsby

Norwich, Norfolk

“I am an artist working in oils. Having lived and exhibited my work in California for 17 years, I recently returned home to Norfolk, where I grew up. I currently work from a studio at The Fairhurst Gallery on Bedford St in Norwich.

“I am excited to be exhibiting for the first time at Art Fair East this year where I’m looking forward to introducing my work to a wider audience. I love making new connections and meeting other artists and seeing their work.

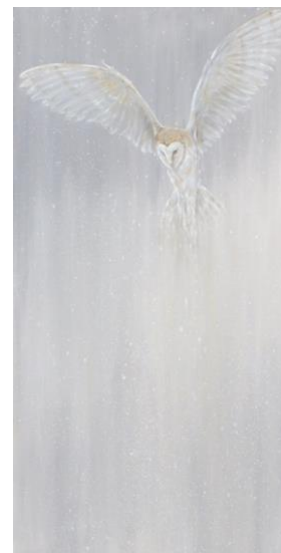
“The fair is a great platform as it has visitors from all over the UK not just from our region. I will be exhibiting my original, nature inspired oil on canvas paintings.

“In my work, I combine tangible elements of the natural world around me with my memories of landscape and home along with a love of the magical nature of myth and fairytale. I am interested in the details of things, their textures, in how the place where you grow up shapes the person you are. It becomes an internalized landscape, like the shape of a familiar tree.

“My years away from Norfolk made me see it more clearly. It was always the muse for my work and I continue to be inspired by its quiet beauty.

“I started painting professionally in the San Francisco Bay Area around 2002 where I built up a firm following. I have continued to exhibit there since my return to Norfolk, in 2019, where I have since seen my practice grow.

“I currently exhibit my work in galleries in Norwich and North Norfolk, and also sell limited edition reproductions of my work at many venues in the region.”



Left: Bella Bigsby. Credit: Lee Warden. Right: *Ghost Owl* by Bella Bigsby.

Shelley Nott

Nr Saxmundham, Suffolk

“I am really looking forward to being a part of Art Fair East again. It’s always such a great atmosphere and I get the opportunity to meet regular clients and create new ones. This is my fourth time here and each year has a different vibe to it. I think that is because of the mix of artists as although there are quite a few regulars there are always new ones joining, breathing fresh air into the show.

“I am based in East Suffolk, just outside Saxmundham and a few miles from Aldeburgh on the North Sea coast.

“I will be showing a selection of my still life photographs. Visitors will see the influence of the Dutch Masters in my work although I also offer a modern approach, but still full of symbolism. All my work is window lit which creates a depth and vibrancy of colour that I feel studio lights reduce somewhat. It is the antithesis of modern digital photography as my pieces can take many hours, if not days, to create (one piece is on-going some seven years after first starting it!).

“Each photograph takes a long time to plan (even down to which bulbs to plant for next year’s work), then I have to wait for the right light and the items I’m photographing to look their best. It’s the ultimate in slow photography.

“Bringing the art of the 17th and 18th centuries into the 21st is a challenge but that is what I love about it. Where many photographers can measure their work in minutes or, at most, hours, mine can take months, if not years, to achieve.

“People who collect my work are all over the world and they often combine it with traditional still life paintings which I take as a great compliment.”



Left: *Renewal* by Shelley Nott. Right: Shelley Nott. Credit: Robert Foyers 2020.

Karen Turner

Eye, Suffolk

“Art Fair East last year was my first ever physical show, and it turned out to be a real launchpad. The incredibly positive response reinforced my direction of travel and as a result I’ve since found myself featured in magazines and on podcasts, winning awards and grants, and selected as Fair Director’s Pick at The Other Art Fair in London.

“As my work challenges conventions of body image it always garners an interesting response, and last year’s visitors were both engaged and engaging so I’m really looking forward to being back in Norwich to share my latest work.

“I’ll be bringing with me a number of figurative oil paintings that are bright, bold and celebratory, and I can’t wait to see how this year’s audience responds.”



Karen Turner. Credit: Phil Turner

Claire Oxley
Costessey, Norfolk

“Art Fair East is an incredible opportunity for me to showcase landscapes to those who are familiar with - and love - the region. I've never taken part before and am delighted to be able to have a space in the extraordinary setting of St Andrew's Hall.

“As a teenager I knew the halls as a concert venue - I was a horn player in the Norfolk Youth Orchestra - and it's a place of great creativity and formative memories. In the 1990s we premiered a work by the Norfolk composer Sir Malcolm Arnold: The Robert Kett Overture. And now I paint the region in which I was born and brought up. How things circle around...

“After studying at the Norwich School of Art (as it was named then), which is just a stone's throw from The Halls, I moved away from the county to study Art and Music in Lancaster and Oxford. But I have returned, as people tend to do, and I am now based in Costessey - my studio is the top floor of my home.

“I am a synaesthete, which in my case means that colour and sound are experienced interchangeably. The artist Kandinsky had synaesthesia, as did the musicians Duke Ellington, and Olivier Messiaen. It's a rich source of experience from which to draw. I use environment, music and seasonal rhythms as a starting point for many pieces.

“My work is distinctive by its colour intensity and rhythmic mark making. Taking inspiration from surrounding landscapes, my starting point is often the passing seasons and wide, changing moods of East Anglia.

“I make paintings that chart and describe the seasons, skies, seas, moons, fields, flowers, and foliage of the area: canvases of both poise and flux. I hope that visitors to my stand will enjoy the vibrancy and energy emanating from the canvases – they are designed to bring inspiration and joy.”



Claire Oxley. Credit: Claire Oxley.

Andy Walker

Minchinhampton, Gloucestershire

"This will be my third time exhibiting at Art Fair East, one of my favourite art shows of the year. I'm based in the Cotswolds, so it's a bit of a way to go, but the friendly and knowledgeable visitors always make the trip so worthwhile for me.

"My artwork is unique in that although it's mostly landscapes and seascapes, it's digital art comprising many thousands of hand-drawn coloured triangles.

"Many people are intrigued by an apparent photorealism from a distance, only to find an intense profusion of abstraction upon closer inspection. All my work is available as strictly limited edition Giclee prints.

"I will also look forward meeting the other artists and collectors of my work again at this welcoming and fun event."



Andy Walker. Credit: Bearclyff Photography.

Anna Boon

Nayland, Essex/Suffolk border

“Having previously visited Art Fair East and seeing what a great show it is in the centre of Norwich I am looking forward to exhibiting my work to a new audience and the ability to showcase my work after two years of the pandemic.

“I will be exhibiting unique, fabric resin sculptures and other limited edition cold cast sculptures which are created and finished from my own molds.

“I create semi-abstract figurative forms. From metal armatures, the form is created intuitively and then bound with strips of natural fabric, soaked in fabric resin. This is a great use for old T-shirts or cotton material. Once dry further layers can be built with fabric or cotton fibres to create form and add texture. Finally, they are patinated with metal powders and waxes to highlight the texture. From those, some are then cold cast from my own molds into limited editions.

“Fabric resin is not widely available in the UK and having seen it at an art fair, I struggled to find it in any art shops. I was delighted one birthday to receive a kit from my husband who had found it in a back street art shop in London.

“Previously, solely a painter, this started me on a journey in 3D and having spent many years drawing the figure, I now love to create the figurative form with wire and fabric. Inspired by Giacometti, I want to create semi-abstract figures which convey ephemeral movement and the beauty of being human.”



Anna Boon. Credit: Tony Boon.

Robert Moore
Corpusty, Norfolk

“I’ve been making kinetic/rolling-ball sculptures for the last 15 years, and I have been fascinated by this very niche art form ever since. I love the linear quality of stainless-steel wire and how the work evolves during construction - all sections of track need constant testing and adjustment which dictates the flow of the ball and what should happen next.

“It’s satisfying to reach out for an antidote to our digital world by creating physical machines that can be enjoyed in the most palpable manner, and I hope to dissolve any preconceptions by appealing to all onlookers on different levels: artistically, scientifically and educationally - or just simple captivating fun. I see a future for using rolling balls to demonstrate a variety of scientific narratives, and in doing so, celebrating that uncommon bond between art and science.

“I’m originally from Norfolk, and currently live in Corpusty, and I look forward to showing my kinetic creations locally 'in the raw'. I’ve not exhibited at Art Fair East before but see this as a great opportunity to make some valuable contacts with visitors and other exhibitors.”



Robert Moore. Credit: Robert Moore

Jane Cochrane
Ufford, Suffolk

“Light is everything to me – I love the fleeting magic that brings such drama and life to our vistas and landscapes.

“When I lived on an island, I was fascinated by the impact that the water-laden atmosphere had on the quality of light. Differing levels of humidity would see the mainland appear much closer or drift further away.

“Crisp, dry polar air would mean that I could see a heat-haze on the mainland coastline, and, even at high tide, I felt I could simply stride across the brilliant blue band of water. On moist days the mainland was just a smudge on the horizon, and I’d feel remote, cut off from the rest of my family.

“My work simply strives to capture that transient quality of light in a way that retains the vibrancy of my materials and engages my viewers.”

This September, Jane will begin her studies for a MA in Fine Art at Norwich University of the Arts.



Left: *Tulips in the Mist* by Jane Cochrane. Right: Jane Cochrane. Credit: TFS Photos.

Gabriella Buckingham
North Walsham, Norfolk

“This will be my third year showing with Art Fair East and I'm really looking forward to meeting local people and fellow artists again. For me it's a really good way to feel connected to my local area and see what opportunities may arise.

“I live in North Walsham in North Norfolk, about half an hour from Norwich and quite near the sea.

“Visitors can expect to see a mix of expressive still life and landscape paintings. Increasingly I love to work with colour from imagination and memory, this is where most of my landscape paintings arise from.

“Light and how it falls around objects is usually the inspiration for my still life paintings but even that is shifting now towards a more exploratory combination of form and composition. What I love about being an artist is the potential for discovery, so my work is always evolving.

“As well as creating my own art I run an online art experience called Experimental Still Life; I've run it twice now over two consecutive summers and am now developing it as a self-paced course too. It's perfect for budding artists to really immerse themselves in colour, composition and discovery of how really excites them as individuals to paint. If you want to know more visit www.braveinpaint.com.”



Gabriella Buckingham. Credit: Tony Buckingham.

Patricia Robinson

Norfolk

“I am greatly looking forward to exhibiting my work for the first time at Art Fair East. It’s a perfect opportunity to meet visitors, collectors, guests and fellow artists who love art in all its forms.

“This is also a wonderful opportunity for my latest work to be seen on a large scale since we all experienced for a couple of years such isolated times. I live on the beautiful Norfolk Suffolk border and my paintings are principally of land and seascapes of East Anglia, The West Country, the South coast and from my travels to my much-loved Provence, the Mediterranean and parts of Italy.

“I would describe myself as an impressionist and colourist, painting only in oils. I always want to capture the atmosphere of the scene, my palette awash with colour to create the light which I love so much. I like to think I paint with bold brushstrokes but always try to be definitive in style with warmth and vibrancy.

“I had the most wonderful training under my late father Geoffrey Wilson , the East Anglian plein-air artist.

“My family tell me and I know it too really, that I have to be mentally charged to be in my studio - emotional perhaps - be that sad, happy, excited, worried or annoyed. It could be simply a wonderful sky, or a hot white light, the ever changing colours of the sea, storms, trees or wonderful memories of people and animals .

“Sometimes it’s a scene in front of my eyes or something I’ve witnessed and photographed or a memory that’s so clear in my thoughts that it triggers my necessity to get to my easel. My family always joke that they know when I’m in my studio as the phone is quiet for many days.

“Quite simply I put onto a canvas what I’m feeling in my heart.”



Patricia Robinson. Credit: Lucy Seppings.

Louise Chapman
Hessett, Suffolk

Louise is a painter living and exhibiting predominantly in Suffolk, so taking part in Art Fair East is a fantastic opportunity to broaden her horizons and exhibit to a whole new audience for the first time in her home city of Norwich.

She works in oils on canvas creating abstract and semi-abstract paintings that are contemporary, joyful, full of life and which “radiate happiness with colour, pattern and design”.

Her work is intuitive, with no preconception of theme or content. Only planning a restricted palette, she works freely building layers of paint, feeling her way through the work until she has achieved a sense of balance in composition and colour.

Each painting is an outcome of transformations, designed to grab your attention, intrigue and draw you in. Ultimately Louise hopes to reveal a sense of the love of painting that is her inspiration.



Louise Chapman. Credit: Alan Chapman.

Wendy Kimberley
Little Melton, Norfolk

“I’m really looking forward to Art Fair East. It’s the first time I have taken part and I’m really excited to show my work. I normally show at the contemporary art fairs near London so this will be a real treat not having to travel as I live in Norfolk.

“I am a born and bred Norfolk lass, I love the countryside around us here and the big expansive skies so a lot of my landscapes will be familiar to people.

“I paint mainly landscapes and wildlife which you can expect to see on my stand. Some urban and nature mixed with more traditional landscapes plus pallet wood paintings of local scenes or wildlife. It’s an eclectic mix, which works together due to the distinctive colour pallet of muted greys, black and gold that I use to capture the atmosphere and sense of space.

“I am also known for my Portraits for Heroes' paintings which I completed during the Covid epidemic and lockdowns. I was honoured to be named in the Late Queen Elizabeth II birthday honours this year receiving a BEM for charitable services to the NHS. I also had a landscape painting included in her private art collection at Windsor Castle in 2018.”



Left: Wendy Kimberley BEM with portraits for NHS heroes. Credit: Wendy Kimberley. Right: *Beyond the wall, Windsor Castle* by Wendy Kimberley.

Susan Lynda Taylor

North Burlingham, Norfolk

“I am thrilled to have been selected for Art Fair East. This will be a chance to reach new audiences with my work and I am excited to be showing in a fair that has already exhibited international names like Banksy and Nando Kallweit. I plan on displaying artworks which show my diverse styles of painting using different mediums.”

Susan Lynda Taylor started painting in 2018. After many years of waiting for the opportunity to find the time to paint the journey began and took off quite quickly - exhibiting in various galleries and starting off in a corner of her office which very soon expanded into the living quarters and then finally into a small studio at her home.

Susan has exhibited in London and Cambridge and will be exhibiting overseas for the first time next year. Susan takes commissions and enjoys experimenting with various mediums and textures she truly loves what she does and puts her heart and soul into what she creates.



Left: *Amore* by Susan Lynda-Taylor. Right: Susan Lynda Taylor with her artwork. Credit: Malcolm Taylor.

Rosalind Bieber

Holton, Suffolk

Rosalind relocated from London to Holton near Halesworth five years ago.

In her early life she was a concert pianist and had to give up performing because of injury. She then became interested in painting and studied painting at the City and Guilds of London Art School for four years, winning a British Council prize in her second year.

Her work is wide ranging and experimental. For this exhibition she has chosen to show her animal images.

“I have come to love animals through drawing them, rather than the other way round. The tensions, the shapes they make, the movement - are always fascinating.

“I use drawing as a basis for improvisation. I use cut up pieces of monoprint and something may suggest a form. I improvise with other materials integrating the original piece of monoprint. Something may happen in this way and using accident is an exciting way to work.”



Rosalind Bieber with her work. Credit: Geoffrey Harrimann.

Louise Stebbings

Wiggenhall St Germans, Norfolk

Louise is Norfolk based printmaker working mostly in linocut printing & etching. Her images start with a sketch before creating colour linocuts or etchings.

Louise will be showing some of her local landscape linocuts and etchings as well as some of the "Rises" depicting portraits of artists.

Lockdown gave her time to work on a project she had been thinking about for a long time, to look at some of the artists who have inspired her. Throughout her art college training there have been different artists that have influenced and invigorated her, this is her homage to them.

Louise is lucky to have a well-equipped printmaking studio attached to her house so was able to play with ideas throughout lockdown. Months of work went into creating the "Rises" of artists. She now feels there are many more to add to the list. One of these Rises was selected for the Royal Academy Summer Exhibition in 2021.

Louise have been printmaking for 40 years and has exhibited extensively and won many awards for her printmaking.



Left: Louise Stebbing. Credit: Jane Reynolds. Right: *Foxgloves in the Woods* by Louise Stebbing.

Will Teather
Norwich, Norfolk

“This will be my first exhibition in Norfolk this year, following my one-man exhibition at the Royal Exchange in London this summer.

“I will be bringing many new works, made especially to show at Art Fair East. I've spent the summer working with theatre groups and circus performers to create new magical-realist compositions.

“The new paintings that have emerged from these collaborations are as theatrical as they are surreal, with many of the performers modelling in costume and bringing along their own props.”



Left: *The Candidate* by Will Teather. Right: Will Teather. Credit: Sophie Laslett.

Brian Korteling
Norwich, Norfolk

“This year I plan to show a selection of studio pieces inspired by my plein air practice as well as some of my Kintsugi inspired pieces.

“I also aim is to get 46 wooden panels, all 15cm square, painted ready to exhibit for the first time at Art Fair East. These will be plein air oil sketches painted over the months of October and November capturing the changing season and vibrant colours of Autumn.”



Brian Korteling in his studio. Credit: Sophie Laslett.

Rachel Collier-Wilson

Norwich, Norfolk

Rachel Collier-Wilson has been a practicing artist since gaining a BA in Fine Arts, Printmaking at Central Saint Martins School of Art.

Rachel creates an emotional response to surroundings, particularly in nature, highlighting the richness of our natural environment and adding a suggestive narrative. Rachel continues with her printmaking practice, exploring different ways to portray their energetic sketchy line when producing linocuts.

Having grown up in the Peak District, Rachel has lived in London, Auckland, and is now based in Norwich, working out of a potting shed studio at the bottom of the garden.

“My work will include a number of images centred around corvids. Throughout lockdown, I observed crows flitting between properties on the roof tops, and imagined they were our connections with others, passing between households, messages about activities and talk of cancelled plans. There was communication within communities 'as the crow flies' so to speak, telling tales of our journeying through difficult and challenging times.”



Pink Crow by Rachel Collier-Wilson

Alex Bell

Norwich, Norfolk

“I am a local artist who has studied art at Norwich City College and Games Art & Design at the Norwich School of Art. I have been painting wildlife now for over 12 years and work predominantly in acrylic paints due to speed and layer building.

“I create paintings at my home. I always start my paintings with a primary sketch on primed canvas or board. Once I am happy with the composition and feel of the sketch, I then use fixative to seal it. Once dry, I begin to add undertones to give colour and contrast. At this stage it’s just loose and to help the piece develop I then start to refine and build in details usually focusing on the eyes. Once this final stage is complete, I will sit with the piece at a distance and often upside down to make sure proportions and overall look is right.

“I finish the piece with a couple of coats of gloss varnish to bring out the depth and colours, as well as to protect the painting.”



Left: *Eyes Wide Open* by Alex Bell. Right: Alex Bell. Credit David Bell.

A Heart of Glass

Norwich, Norfolk

“We are a mobile and online gallery specialising in contemporary art glass. Established in 2004, we seek out the most artistic and inspired designs from across the world and bring them to the discerning customer here in the UK.

“Our wide collection of vases, bowls and sculptures is constantly changing as we look for unique pieces that add a touch of colour, design and personality to the home or office.

“Living in Norwich, it's always a pleasure to end our trading year at Art Fair East and we're delighted to have been part of this great event since the start. This year we're lining up an incredible mix of work from over 12 artists including renowned British artist Bob Crooks and popular Czech artist Pavel Havelka.

“All our pieces are handmade, the vast majority are blown but we also have some lovely cast work too. We'll have over 100 creations on sale this year so hopefully something to tempt and delight everyone.”



Left: *Del Mar* by Emmy Palmer. Right: *Day Break* by Pavel Havelka.

Arboretum Gallery
South Norfolk

“This our first time at Art Fair East and we're excited to have the opportunity to promote our style of furniture design and the use of local sustainable timbers.

“Visitors will be met with an array of refined furniture including some unusual native timbers. Our gallery is hidden away just south of Loddon, set in the beautiful rural landscape.

“Our artist's focus is on producing contemporary furniture while maintaining traditional techniques and quality, while the gallery hopes to shine a light on an often overlooked form and medium in artistic expression.”



Arboretum Gallery/ Credit: Arboretum Gallery.

Lucy Perry

New Buckenham, Norfolk

“This is my first year exhibiting at Art Fair East. I have been following the success of the fair for several years and a recent move to Norfolk means it’s the perfect time for me to take part.

“Being an artist can be quite isolating and the opportunity to exhibit alongside other professionals is always an exciting one - I am looking forward to meeting up with fellow artists, art lovers and clients, old and new.

“Exhibiting in a space like St Andrews Hall offers an artist the opportunity to hang their work how they want it to be seen, create their own story with their artworks and communicate directly with art lovers and art buyers, bringing their inspiration and ideas straight to the customer.

“I hope that visitors will enjoy the vibrancy of my work and take the opportunity to chat about my processes which include mixed media painting, cyanotype prints and gold leaf. I have lots of local followers on social media so it will be a perfect opportunity for them to come and see my work ‘in the flesh’. I can’t wait to meet them!

“My practice is about responding to being in nature - that feeling you get when you breathe in sunlight on a fresh spring morning or lose yourself in the sunlight sparkling through a leafy canopy.

“The colours I see around me constantly inspire me and I love mixing, layering and playing with colour to help me intuitively represent natural forms and spaces. Gestural brushstrokes and mark making are also intrinsic parts of my process and help to communicate the energy I find in nature.

“I have always wanted to create artworks that enhance our interior spaces as positive and engaging distractions from our frantic modern world - something I call aesthetic escapism.

“My locality within rural Norfolk plays a central role in my work. I can be taken by the colours in the trees around me, the sweeping hues of our beautiful coastline and the exciting forms in my garden and gardens around the county, most recently Bressingham’s autumn displays.

“As a creative soul who is constantly experimenting with ideas I then push this further using canvas, gesso, paint and even 23ct gold leaf to develop the cyanotype works. Using the sun and natural forms to record nature creates a perfect circle in these works, embedding them in their inspiration, connecting the viewer directly to nature.”



Left: Lucy Perry. Credit: Lucy Perry. Right: *It's a beautiful morning* by Lucy Perry.

Colin Revell
Norwich, Norfolk

“I am a Norwich based artist who mainly paints in watercolour. I paint plein air as much as possible so you may see me out and about in the city now and again!

“I then complete larger works in the studio. I enjoy travelling to different countries capturing the vibe and the mood of the place in my paintings.

“I am taking part in Art Fair East to showcase my art to the public in one of the biggest art events of the year. I’m looking forward to meeting and greeting people and am happy to answer any questions about my painting process.

“I have taken part in Art Fair East before and had quite a successful show so excited to see what unfolds. Earlier this year I featured on BBC Look East in a short film about art and painting, which involved a live Timelapse demo and a short interview back at the studio on how painting has inspired me to pursue my passion.”



Colin Revell in his studio. Credit: Helen Revell.

John Sparks
Norwich, Norfolk

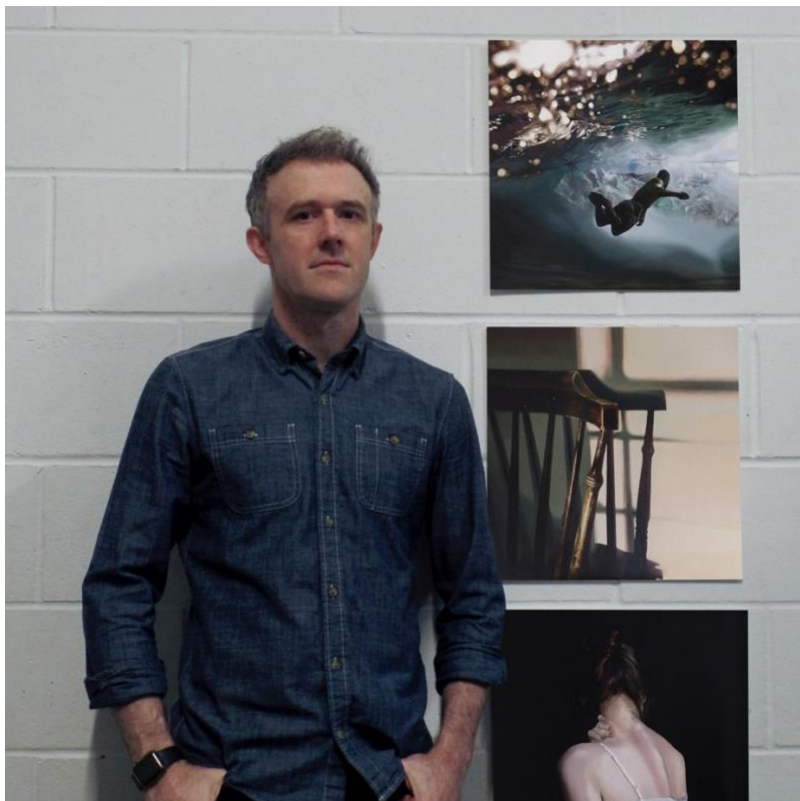
“I am a self-taught oil painter, based in Norwich. I am looking forward to participating in this year’s Art Fair East, as it’s the only event of its kind in East Anglia - boasting a roster of local and international artists and galleries, representing a spectrum of disciplines including painting, printmaking, illustration, photography, sculpture, glass, furniture and more.

“As such, you get the opportunity to network, and it’s also incredibly inspiring to be immersed in an environment full of art. I have participated in this event on numerous occasions, and I have seen it grow to become one of the key U.K. art fairs.

“I am based in Norwich and it’s so great to have such a big event, which draws increasing national and international interest, take place in the fine city.

“I have been painting for over a decade now. I regularly exhibit throughout the U.K., the United States, Central and Northern Europe and Australia.

“I lean towards narrative art, as I seek to conjure stories within my work. I will be exhibiting 10 new oil paintings, created over the course of this year. These paintings cover a range of subjects, including figurative, still life, ornithological and landscapes.”



John Sparks in his studio. Credit: Chris Brown.

Dan Brown

Norwich, Norfolk

“This will be the third year I have exhibited at Art Fair East and I am always thrilled to be involved. I am a fine artist based in Norwich, so it is great to see the wide variety of artworks the fair brings to the city.

“The huge audience the art fair brings is what I enjoy most, the opportunity to discuss art, creativity and my practice with so many people has proved valuable in my progression as an artist.

“I have a history in graphic design and enjoy combining bold, graphic aesthetics with loose, ethereal painting styles, ultimately aiming to create curiosity and intrigue in the viewer in the hope that a conversation will blossom.

“From a young age I questioned reality, humanity and consciousness and feel my work is a way of cataloguing my thoughts and concepts.”



Dan Brown with his work. Credit: Meleiha Youngs.

Garner+Read

Halesworth and Carlton Colville, Suffolk

Hilary Garner and Norma Read have been regular attendees at Art Fair East for many years and enjoy the high standard of work shown in the exhibition.

It will be their first time exhibiting and they are looking forward to exhibiting alongside so many talented artists and galleries - and meeting the art lovers and collectors who come to look.

Hilary is based just outside Halesworth in Suffolk; Norma is in Carlton Colville, near Lowestoft.

This year Garner+Read will be showing still life and landscapes mainly in oils.

Whatever the subject or medium, Hilary uses bold brushstrokes with thick paint and an enhanced colour palette to create an expressive painting in what has become her signature style.

Norma uses vibrant colour, expressive brush marks and palette knives to create texture in still life and contemporary landscapes.

Hilary and Norma met a few years ago on a painting holiday in Portugal and have been firm friends ever since.

In 2020 Hilary graduated with an Art Diploma from Anteros Arts Foundation in Norwich, and has since studied at Newlyn School of Art in Cornwall. As well as still life and landscapes, she paints portraits and recently has been developing some abstract work using acrylic and mixed media. She exhibits in a number of galleries including her own, which is located near Halesworth in Suffolk. Hilary is a member of Suffolk Art Society, Inspired by Becker Art Society, and Suffolk Open Studios.

Norma is a Suffolk-based painter of landscapes, people, still life and animals. She is known for her distinctive use of colour and texture and her sensitive capture of character in portraits. Her work can be found in galleries throughout East Anglia, online or by appointment at her studio in Lowestoft. She is a member of the Association of Animal Artists, and Suffolk Open Studios.



Left: Hilary Garner and her work. Credit: Hilary Garner. Right: Norma Read and her work. Credit: Norma Read.

Nikki Mckay

Newark, Nottinghamshire

“As I do mostly solo shows I am keen to see what the other artists are up to at Art Fair East. It is the first time I have exhibited here as I was recommended to take part by a fellow artist who is a fan of the fair.

“My studio is up in Newark near Nottingham in an old cow barn, but I am hoping to relocate to Norfolk to be closer to family.

“My paintings have two themes - that of the figurative stylised figures influenced by the patterns of William Morris and that of trees.

“I have a solo show at Anteros Arts, Norwich in June 2023 for a few weeks showing large scale pieces, along with various sculptures.”



Nikki Mckay with her work. Credit: Nikki Mckay.

Bridget Link and John Link

In 2021 Bridget Link exhibited the legacy paintings of her husband John Link at Art Fair East.

John, who had an impressive career as a theatre Director, TV producer, tutor and dialogue coach, died in August 2021 after a long battle with cancer.

Bridget said: "I decided to take part again in Art Fair East as it was such a positive experience last year and there are some lovely paintings of John's that have not been seen at the fair before! I thought I'd like to feature them so the public can experience the change in John's style.

"It also keeps his memory alive, as many people last year commented on how much they loved talking to John about his work and life. He loved living in Norwich and we moved from Brighton four years ago.

"I'm looking forward to talking to people about his love of Shakespeare, his passion for the link between art and language and the wonder he had for the words that Shakespeare wrote, especially the highs and lows his characters went through!

"Visitors will see an assortment of characters at John's stand, painted in vibrant rich colours and palate choices - also some prints which are very special Artist proofs.

"John and I both worked in the theatre all our working lives and his career as a theatre director and teacher shaped his artwork."



John Link pictured in his studio painting King Lear. Credit Daniel Link.