

creative COVERAGE

Publicity for professional artists and craftspeople

www.creativecoverage.co.uk

Somerset summer show

Somerset has been an extremely welcoming county for Creative Coverage writes *Caroline Saunders*.

It all started last year when we had our first exhibition there at The Brewhouse in Taunton. There were numerous sales and as a result we were invited to return this year. Our second exhibition featuring works by Mike Service, Janet Judge and others has just finished and we await the results. We thought that was Somerset covered for the year and then a very exciting opportunity arose at Heritage Courtyard Studios and Gallery at 6 Heritage Courtyard, Sadler Street in Wells.

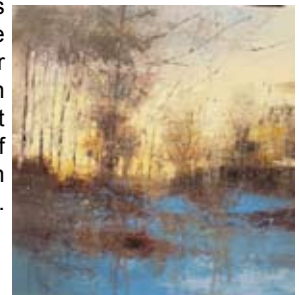
Some of our members have been selected to exhibit there between August 12 and 26, 2017. Entitled *Celebrating Somerset* it will feature paintings, ceramics and sculptures by selected Creative Coverage artists including Rebecca

Barnard, Joanna Commings ASWAc, Richard Guy, Simon Jewell, Frances Knight and Sarah Jane Brown with ceramics by Bronwyn Williams-Ellis and Brian Holland (pictured).



Proactive artists get rewards

Following our discovery that Archant, the county magazine publisher, was running a series of Artist of the Year competitions across its titles, notably in Cornwall, Devon, Dorset, Hampshire and Somerset, we alerted our members. Winners stood to receive £250, their work in a gallery and a feature in the relevant magazine. It was great to hear that so many of you entered, some being shortlisted and Claire Wiltsher even being named as the winner of the Hampshire Life Artist of the Year. This is fantastic news, congratulations Claire. After submitting a press release about Claire's favourite New Forest walk we have been able to secure further press coverage for her in the In the Frame feature of The Great Outdoors magazine. Some of Claire's paintings also feature in our New Forest exhibition, below.



First Frost by Claire Wiltsher

Our New Forest exhibition runs until April



Sixty works of art by 20 exhibitors feature in the Creative Coverage exhibition at the New Forest Centre, Lyndhurst, Hampshire.

Caroline and I, together with our children Harriett (5), Heidi (3) and Henry (1) attended the official opening where Down the Lane by Joanna Commings ASWAc won the £100 Creative Coverage award presented by Chairman of the New Forest, Cllr Goff Beck.

There was a real buzz with plenty of chatter and it was great to meet some of our members as well as visitors to the event.

We thank Hilary Marshall and her team for this opportunity and for hanging the exhibition.

Press coverage for the show has appeared in *Bournemouth Echo's seven days* and *New Forester* magazines. A regular advert is published in the *Lymington Times* and *New Milton Advertiser*.

Watch the video here:

<https://youtu.be/wDhvzqLaplo>

Tim Saunders



Really valuable introductions

During our regular approaches to galleries we have introduced Lesley Birch, Jill Barthorpe, Colin Merrin and Mike Service to Snape Maltings Gallery in Suffolk, which the Saunders family enjoyed visiting in 2015. It takes time but we get there in the end. We have also introduced Mike Hall to The Fletcher Gate Gallery in Nottingham and have put the Tincton Gallery near Dorchester, Dorset in touch with Terry Whitworth and Judy Tate. We have introduced Vandacrafts to Boha Glass. *There will be a Creative Coverage Mixed Show at St David's Cathedral, Pembroke in March 2018.*

Right: *Winter Cometh* by Lesley Birch
Acrylic and ink on canvas, 71 x 71 cm



In conversation with Liz Watts

Liz Watts joined Creative Coverage in January 2014.

Here she outlines what she has achieved through her membership, using the opportunities to help fill her exhibition diary and in turn generate sales.

"My first outing with Creative Coverage was a very successful exhibition with The Gallery on The Street in Puttenham where I enjoyed sales to rock stars!

"In 2014 Creative Coverage introduced me to the startup EDS Gallery in Edinburgh, which then led to Edinburgh Festival Fringe installations in 2015/16. Both of these installations were subsequently shown and set to be shown in other venues in 2017. My work is now permanently exhibited at EDS."

In November 2016 Liz sold a porcelain sculpture at Art in Clay to Valentines Clays, for a new gallery of contemporary ceramics opening in Stoke on Trent 2017.

"Creative Coverage has produced several good press releases most recently generating a double page spread in the *Wiltshire Times* in December 2016 and a *BBC Radio Wiltshire* interview.

"Through my membership I was introduced to the United Society of Artists, which led to my election as a full member. I have shown with them in Cork Street and at Bankside Gallery where I won first prize in April 2016. I shall submit work to show with them in Margate and London in 2017.

"Following a lead from Creative Coverage a small part of my 'Beached' installation was accepted by Exhibit Here for the Artmaze at The BargeHouse, Oxo Wharf, Southbank, London in

December 2016."

Through Creative Coverage three of Liz's pieces were accepted for the Sherfield Open Exhibition between January and March 2017 and one of her pieces was accepted for the Hatched exhibition in Oxford this February to March.

Liz is exhibiting her 'Beached' installation at Greenhill Cottage Gallery in April 2017.

Liz is exhibiting at Gallery Highwaymans in Risby, Suffolk alongside Gerry Defries, Jane Vaux, Clare Blois, Nicola Leader, Pedro Brock, Rowan Barnes-Murphy as part of its countryside exhibition in conjunction with The English Open Clay Shoot from May 9 to 14.

She will exhibit part of 'Beached' at Art in Clay, Hatfield in August and has applied for Farnham in November.

In November/December Liz is planning an exhibition with botanical watercolourist and fellow Creative Coverage member Sue Thomson at BRLSI, 16 Queen Square, Bath, following an introduction from Creative Coverage. "I will show a sample of my Bohemian Banquet installation here," says Liz, adding: "I have applied for a number of other opportunities after receiving information from Creative Coverage and am awaiting the results."

Through Creative Coverage Liz has exhibited at galleries in the New Forest, Bristol, Salisbury, Sidmouth, Mertsam and Northampton.



The February winner was William North. Visit: www.pegasusart.co.uk

In January the lucky winner of the Pegasus and Creative Coverage competition to win a £25 voucher to spend on art materials at Pegasus Art was Brian Steventon RBSA.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Hong Kong bound

Susie Lidstone had her Purple Dahlias painting selected for the Department of International Trade's VIP Pop Up Shop in Hong Kong in February after acting on this export opportunity unearthed by Creative Coverage.

Designer interest

Following our groundwork we have been approached by another interior design company looking to either hire or buy a piece of work by one of our members for another series of a well-known television programme. Unfortunately, we cannot say anymore than that at this stage but it's very exciting.

Prize awarded

Marjorie Collins received a prize at the Sherfield Gallery Open Exhibition in Hampshire. "I was awarded the prize for my group of watercolours," says Marjorie, whose prize was a solo show in spring 2018 at the gallery. "While there I also ran into (actually met for the first time) a fellow member of the Society of Botanical Artists, who had come to the show with a friend," says Marjorie, who discovered this opportunity through Creative Coverage.

Anyone for coffee?

Creative Coverage member Jenny Sutton values meaningful contact with other artists. "This is a valuable aspect of Creative Coverage," she says. "I would like to see if there is any scope for an occasional artists social get together with the purpose of networking, exchanging experiences and professional tips and information. This is intended to be for serious artists. The first meeting will be in Brockenhurst at The Snakecatcher pub. There is no cost involved, apart from individual (liquid) refreshments!" Register your interest at: info@creativecoverage.co.uk or email Jenny directly: info@jennysutton-fineart.co.uk

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