

JOHN ABELL

Arusha Gallery | info@arushagallery.com | 0131 557 1412

BIOGRAPHY

Born in 1986, John Abell studied at Camberwell College of Art; he is currently based in Cardiff. John is particularly known for his large-scale wood block prints and highly coloured watercolour paintings which explore life, love, lust and the human condition. The work is charged with a sense of fear and death, pessimism or even nihilism along with a large pinch of gallows humour. His aim is to represent human feeling, the world and himself as honestly as he can.

John's prints and publications are held in private and public collections worldwide, including the V&A; the National Museum of Wales; the British Museum, the National Library of Australia, Canberra; the National Library of Canada, Ottawa and Columbia University Library, New York.

EDUCATION

2006-2008

Camberwell College of Art, London

2005-2006

Hereford College of Arts & Design Foundation, Fine Art

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2022

The Foretold Sun, Arusha Gallery, Edinburgh

2021

Through Great Waters, Arusha Gallery, Edinburgh

2020

Rebecca and Her Children, Newton House, Dinefwr

2019

Don Quixote Goes West, Arusha Gallery, Edinburgh

2018

The Garden Enclosed, TEN, Cardiff

2017

Lost Conquistadors and Other Works, Oriel Myrddin, Carmarthen

2016

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Three Act Play, Gallery Ten, Cardiff

2015

Printmaker In Focus, Oriel Wrecsam, Wrexham

The Horse With The Human Heart, Oriel Mwldan, Cardigan

2014

Vena Cava, Arcade Cardiff, Cardiff, Wales

2013

Exile All The Longer, Looking Glass, Bristol

2011

Permission To See Freely, The Emporium, Bristol

2009

White Lies and Crocodile Tears, Elysium Gallery, Swansea

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2023

Hawthorn and the Feast of Julian, Arusha Gallery Summer Series, New York

Eye of the Collector Art Fair, with Arusha Gallery, London

2022

Horrorvacui, London

2020

London Art Fair, Arusha Gallery, London

2019

Literary Atlas Wales, Touring Show, Wales

2018

Sunday Times Watercolour Competition, Touring, London, England

WWI Centenary Drawings, Three Works, Scarborough, England

By Invitation of Stephen West, Royal Cambrian Academy, Conwy, Wales

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Summer/Haf, TEN, Cardiff, Wales 2016 Winter, TEN, Cardiff, Wales

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2015

Castell Celf, Castell Coch, Wales Paper, Gallery Ten, Cardiff, Wales
Society of Wood Engravers Summer Show, RWA, Bristol, England

2014

Experimentica, Chapter, Cardiff, Wales
Paradise Lost, Old Customs Building, Cardiff Contemporary, Wales
Y Lle Celf, Mational Eisteddfod of Wales, Llanelli, Wales
Print International, Oriol Myrddin, Camarthen, Wales
Welsh Print, Bayart, Cardiff, Wales
Winter Show, Gallery Ten, Cardiff, Wales

2013

Gaeaf, St David's Hall, Cardiff, Wales
Welsh Contemporary Print, Galerie Josine Bokhoven, Amsterdam, Netherlands
Welsh Artist of the Year, St David's Hall, Cardiff, Wales
Print International 2013, Oriol Wreccsam, Wrexham, Wales
The Curwen Contemporary, Curwen Gallery, London, England
Welsh Contemporary Print in Brussels. The Welsh Government Conference Suite, Brussels, Belgium
Welsh Contemporary Print in Brussels, eu Parliament Foyer, Brussels, Belgium

AWARDS

2013

Runner up, Welsh Artist of the Year, St Davids Hall, Cardiff, Wales
Print Prize, 'Welsh Artist of the Tear, St Davids Hall, Cardiff, Wales

PRESS

2020

The Daughters of Rebecca Meet Our Gaze: New Art From John Abell, Planet Magazine "Becca and Her Children": John Abell Illustrates The 1839-43 Welsh Riots', by Tulika Bahadur, On Art and Aesthetics Buzz, Featured Artist: John Abell, by Daisy Gaunt Cardiff Life, Featured Artist: John Abell Fanning the Flames: John Abell's Reflections on Newton House, essay by Louisa Elderton John Abell, Becca and Her Children, essay by Dr Russell Roberts

2019

Paintings, linocuts and etchings by Welsh artist John Abell mark the 180th anniversary of the Rebecca Riots, Creative Boom, by Tora Baker

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