

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 with no intellectual mediation.

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 | **2021**
Through Great Waters, Arusha Gallery, Edinburgh, Scotland

2020
Rebecca and Her Children, Newton House, Dinefwr, Wales

2019
Don Quixote Goes West, Arusha Gallery, Edinburgh, Scotland

2018
The Garden Enclosed, TEN, Cardiff, Wales

2017
Lost Conquistadors and Other Works, Oriol Myrddin, Carmarthen, Wales

2016
Three Act Play, Gallery Ten, Cardiff, Wales

2015
Printmaker In Focus, Oriol Wrecsam, Wrexham, Wales
The Horse With The Human Heart, Oriol Mwldan, Cardigan, Wales

2014
Vena Cava, Arcade Cardiff, Cardiff, Wales

2013
Exile All The Longer, Looking Glass, Bristol, England

2011
Permission To See Freely, The Emporium, Bristol, England

2009
White Lies and Crocodile Tears, Elysium Gallery, Swansea, Wales

**SELECTED
EXHIBITIONS**

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

dim ond geiriau (ydi iath) (a language is) only words, Bayart, Cardiff, Wales

Summer/Haf, TEN, Cardiff, Wales

2016

Winter, TEN, Cardiff, Wales

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, National 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

2012

Hullabaloo, Elysium Gallery, Swansea, Wales

Drawing The Line, 20th Century British Art, Norwegian Church Cardiff, Wales

Cardiff Open, Cardiff Arts Collective, Cardiff, Wales

Blowback - The Final Show, Tactile Bosch, Cardiff, Wales

Who People Are + Why They Do It: Josef Herman + John Abell, The Taliesin Arts Centre, Swansea, Wales

2010

A Taste of Wales, Frieise Museum, Berlin, Germany

2009

Citizen, Tactilebosch, Cardiff, Wales

2008

Young Guns, The Old Peanut Factory, London, England

1 + 1, Tactilebosch, Cardiff, Wales

Works on Paper, Elysium Gallery, Swansea, Wales

2007

Brake Pads, Garej, Pontcanna, Cardiff, Wales

2006

Young Painters, Sassoon Gallery, Peckham, London, England

Young Painters: The Sequel, Sassoon Gallery, Peckham, London, England

2005

Punk, Pent Corn Exchange, Maidstone, England

The Great Exhibition, Brecon Exhibition Space, Brecon, Wales

RESIDENCIES

2019

Artist in Residence at National Trust Dinefwr, Wales

2019/17

Adw Artist in Residence at Bryn Celli Ddu, Wales

2015

Castell Coch, Cadw and Arts Council Wales Residency

2012

The Josef Herman Centenary Print Residency at the Curwen Studio, Wales

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

PULICATIONS

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

2016

The Book of Job, The Old Stile Press

2014

Diary of a Dead Officer, The Old Stile Press

2013

Rarebit: New Welsh Fiction, Parthian Books