

# CREATION FINE ARTS

INTRODUCTIONS

Myles Linley





Welcome to *Introductions* - a series that aims to bring artists showing with our gallery into the wider public sphere.

CREATION FINE ARTS is based in Beverley, East Yorkshire. It has regular (roughly six weekly) exhibitions of art work and also houses ceramics, jewellery, photographs and prints .

We seek to support local artists but also have work of note by national and international creators from across Europe. We also have close links with Cuba.

This volume introduces Yorkshire artist Myles Linley, whose growing reputation is well deserved. You will find some details of his background and influences as well as a critique by art historian Alina Cretu.....and obviously some of Myles recent work.

In summer of 2014 Myles will be one of only a handful of living artists showing in the Mercer Gallery (Harrogate) show "Art of Yorkshire - from Turner to Hockney"

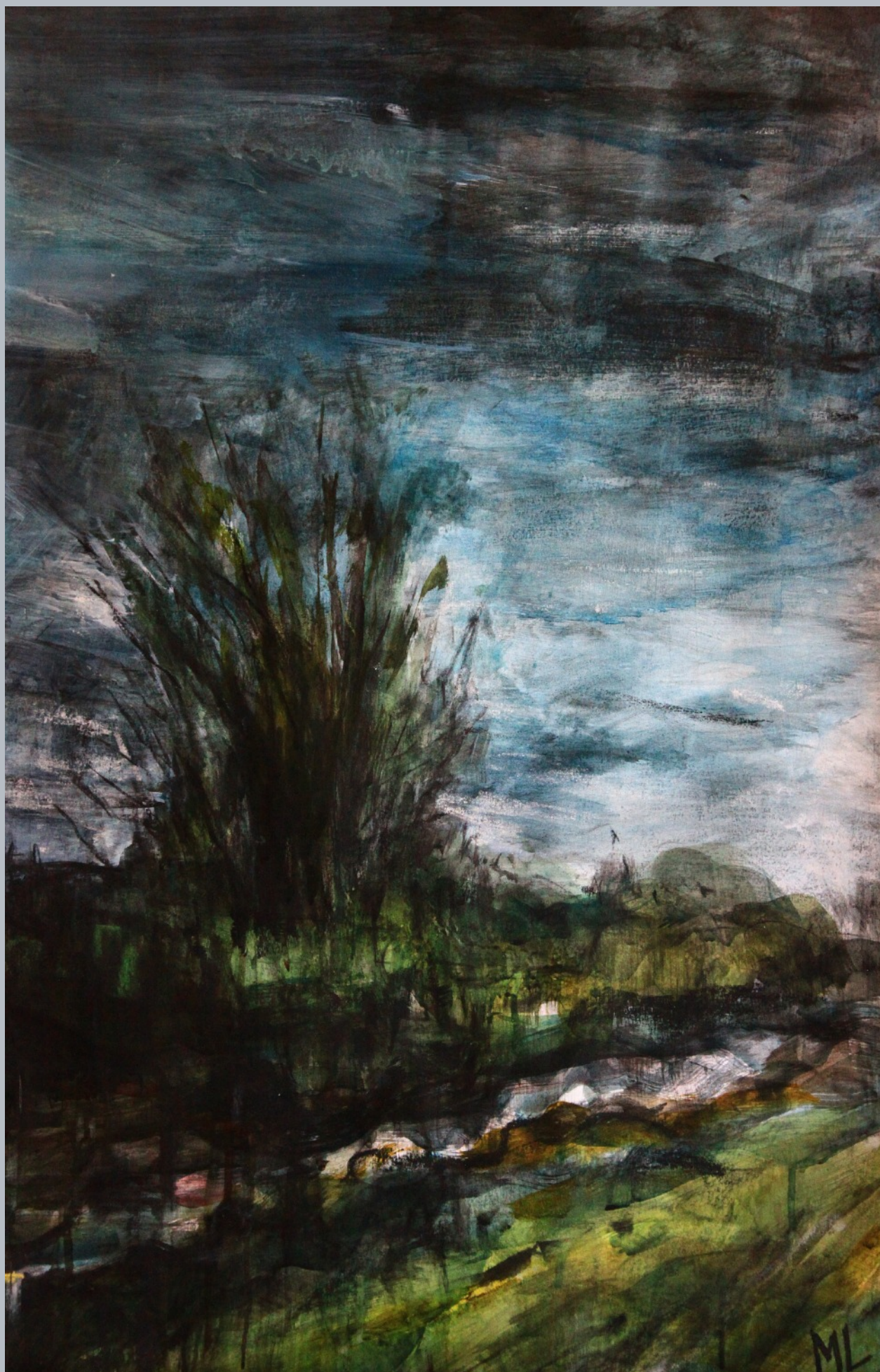
*Nigel Walker*

Director/Curator











Edward Degas said “Art is not what you see, but what you make others see” and artist Myles Linley is a past master at this, taking the landscapes and urban scenes of Yorkshire and helping viewers see them afresh. Whilst Hockney has done this for the East Yorkshire Wolds with exceptional brightness and freshness Linley’s work has a vigorous, striving note and a darker, more sombre palette. Yet there is exceptional tenderness at work.

Born in North Yorkshire in 1967 Linley studied fine art in Harrogate and Bristol during the 80’s and then returned north, moving to East Yorkshire five years ago. Now with two young sons he paints or draws daily taking his inspiration from the landscapes near his home and from the powerful Yorkshire cities of York, Leeds and Hull. “I concentrate on light, shade, movement and stillness to try and create dramatic brooding images. It is the tension between these opposites which I like to see fill the picture.”





Linley cites wide influences including Goya, Van Gogh, Turner and Canaletto. “But I am also especially influenced by the energy and rhythm of the German and Austrian Expressionists with their dramatic themes and alienation”.

Myles has been showing his work regularly, albeit in intimate shows in northern galleries - and this year on the Saltaire Arts Trail - but his work is starting to sell consistently as people recognise his skill in drawing out the nature and mood of places that lends his work a psychological element. This latter is often lacking in others who work with landscapes. His work creates mood and demands attention.

An internet post after his show at the Harrison Lord gallery in Harrogate commented “Wow, your pictures just buzz with energy ..... your skies move and dance – the houses become alive rather than just static monuments.” This is true. The scenes, whilst they are usually empty of people, are full of drama, questioning and a sense of history, both past and future. At its best Linley’s work reminds us of his fellow Yorkshireman Ted Hughes poems, dark, intense and utterly engaging.

*Originally appeared in **Art of England** magazine 2013*











From the catalogue for Myles Linley's exhibition **Sites** at CREATION January to March 2014

### Myles Linley – An artist of his time

Ever since the tumultuous *Young British Artists* group emerged, there has been a tendency in British culture to equate artistic merit with unconventionality. Some artists have exploited and propagated this preconception by employing challenging subject matter or a shocking *modus operandi*. Myles Linley, however, presents to the viewer a different understanding of aesthetic value. His works reveal a paradox, as well as an accomplishment since, despite resulting from a fairly traditional technical approach, they transcend the visible reality. There is an elusive quality to the paintings that one can see in this exhibition: whilst all these Yorkshire settings may in the first instance appear as familiar, the artist's compositional and stylistic choices confer them an ethereal character. These places exist both materially and conceptually, in reality and on the canvas, yet they somehow escape definition. That is because they represent more than a local's evocation of his environs. They express a vision that is mediated through his multidimensional personality.





Linley's 'new works' therefore indicate the artist's artistic maturity. Stylistically, whilst proving his capacity for endless variation, Linley displays an already recognizable imprint. The combination of fluid line and saturated colour results in a landscape that is both static and mobile. The intensity of feeling becomes transparent due to the interplay between compositional elements, but at the same time it is muted by the elegance and sensibility which permeate the pictorial surface. This balance proves that Myles has gone beyond any artistic influence: he has found his own voice.





The present status of his pictures is also an indicator of Linley's progress: the artist has had several individual exhibitions over the past year in Harrogate, Leeds and Beverley.

Linley's new exhibition therefore stands as testimony to his aesthetic credo, as well as to the public's enthusiasm with it. On the one hand, it reveals the conscience of an individual who is preoccupied with the present- the present self, his present surroundings and the present world. On the other, it offers the viewer an insight into a personal, timeless universe, where acrylic paint and charcoal transcribe on the canvas the artist's old and current fears, his illusions, his hopes and sorrows.

*Alina Cretu*

Hull    December 2013



























## CREATION FINE ARTS

7 North Bar Within, Beverley, East Yorkshire HU17 8AP

Tel:- +441482868884

[www.creationfinearts.co.uk](http://www.creationfinearts.co.uk)