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KURT JACKSON PORT QUIN

MESSUMS WILTSHIRE & LONDON

Kurt Jackson

Time and Tide - Port Quin

Art Photography
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Portrait photography
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Kurt Jackson

Time and Tide - Port Quin

MESSUMS WILTSHIRE



I intended to make a series of paintings positioned on a tideline, a point on the coast to engage with the idea of this shifting transient marker. For this project I chose Port Quin, a North Cornish cove I had known as a child.

The tideline is the frontline where our treatment of the marine environment becomes visible; the strandline is often a mark of pollution, the jetsam and flotsam of all our lives, the physical signs and evidence.

Being on this particular rocky shoreline, focussing on this slow daily process, time ruled. Here the tideline was subtle, not marked by a line of deposited items but simply the delineation between the wet and dry. The relationship between the sea's ebb and flow and the topography of the coast is determined by the clock. Watching the water creeping up and down, in and out of the cove is like watching the hands of a clock rotating on a clock face, the twice daily rise and fall of the sea level is arguably time made visible, almost tangible.

During these months of lockdown and isolation time can hang heavy, pass slowly. The pandemic is all about viral waves and recovery, progress and countdowns and time. We think back to brighter times and forwards to hopefully easier more normal times; globally together we are all sharing in this together.

Together is a good narrative for this collection of works. As a gallery we are delighted to share them with you and to be working with Kurt and Caroline on this exhibition and our other projects together.

There are few artists who more elegantly respond to the sea and also to our troubled relationship with the environment. What is so remarkable about these terrible times is the future.

However we change and adapt, the tide will keep coming in and out regardless, as Kurt says, but our way of living almost certainly will, and we are seeking those adaptations even now. Art is the most significant pointer to our ability to evolve because it enshrines our ability to create. We hope that you will enjoy these beautiful works as images and as objects, and adapt with us to the ways of engaging with them.

Kurt Jackson & Johnny Messum

Painting this series of one place, one composition, one set of landmarks, the markers. The light changes, the tides change, I change. Varying scale, media, view point. The perspective moves as I move. These two headlands and the sea between. As I move, they move, in relation to each other and to the sea and the skyline beyond. So it's never the same. The tides come and go, the sun comes out and goes in, the rain falls and stops; I choose a different rock to sit on (and paint) it's another composition each time. Subtle changes lead to profound differences.

This cut in the cliffs is an incision into Port Isaac Bay – that magnificent sweep between King Arthur's Tintagel Castle and the Rumps off the Camel. Leave Port Quin and stand on either headland (Kellan Head and Drydon Castle) and there is one of those two cliff castles in the distance. Back in the cove, Port Quin is quiet, secluded, light and shade. Her flock of resident rock doves hand clap across the porth flying from one sea cave to another. The three oystercatchers, two gulls and the odd rock pipit wander along the water's edge; rock pool to rock pool. The grey slate has a scattering of mussels, limpets and winkles amongst the emerald green weed. Port Quin means the white cove, the one colour absent from this rocky place; was it the now vanished but once prevalent pilchards, their scales shining silver and white across the cove or were the few cottages painted white? Maybe it fills with foam in a big sea. Porth Gwin.

The surrounding cliffs give the cove good acoustics. When the oystercatchers get going, piping and screaming it does your head in. Two swimmers chatting as they head out to sea are audible all the way out, every word of their conversation clear as in a room. A young recently fledged buzzard, repeatedly mewing as it looks down on us from its glide over, fills the cove with sound. A dog running over the pebbles resembles the clacking of a stonechat.

One morning it is grey and overcast, another is Mediterranean blue. But the headlands sit pointing at each other whatever.

Kurt Jackson



1
Last of the sunshine, 2019
Mixed media on canvas board
61 x 61cm



2
The winkle pickers, 2019
Mixed media on canvas board
61 x 61cm





3

The tide drops, the rain falls, 2019

Mixed media on canvas board

61 x 61cm

4

Wet and windy, oystercatchers squeal, 2019

Mixed media on canvas board

61 x 61cm



5

Rain and mermaid tears, 2019

Mixed media and collage on canvas board

61 x 61cm





6

The seaweed collector, 2019

Mixed media on canvas board

61 x 61cm



7

The tide is on its way in, 2019

Mixed media on canvas board

61 x 61cm

8
Low tide mark, 2019
Mixed media on canvas board
61 x 61cm



9
"My feet have gone numb", 2019
Mixed media on paper
57 x 61cm







11
**Late evening and tomorrow's weather
is on its way, 2019**
Mixed media on museum board
24 x 24cm

12

Two bathers, 2019

Mixed media on museum board

16 x 19cm





13

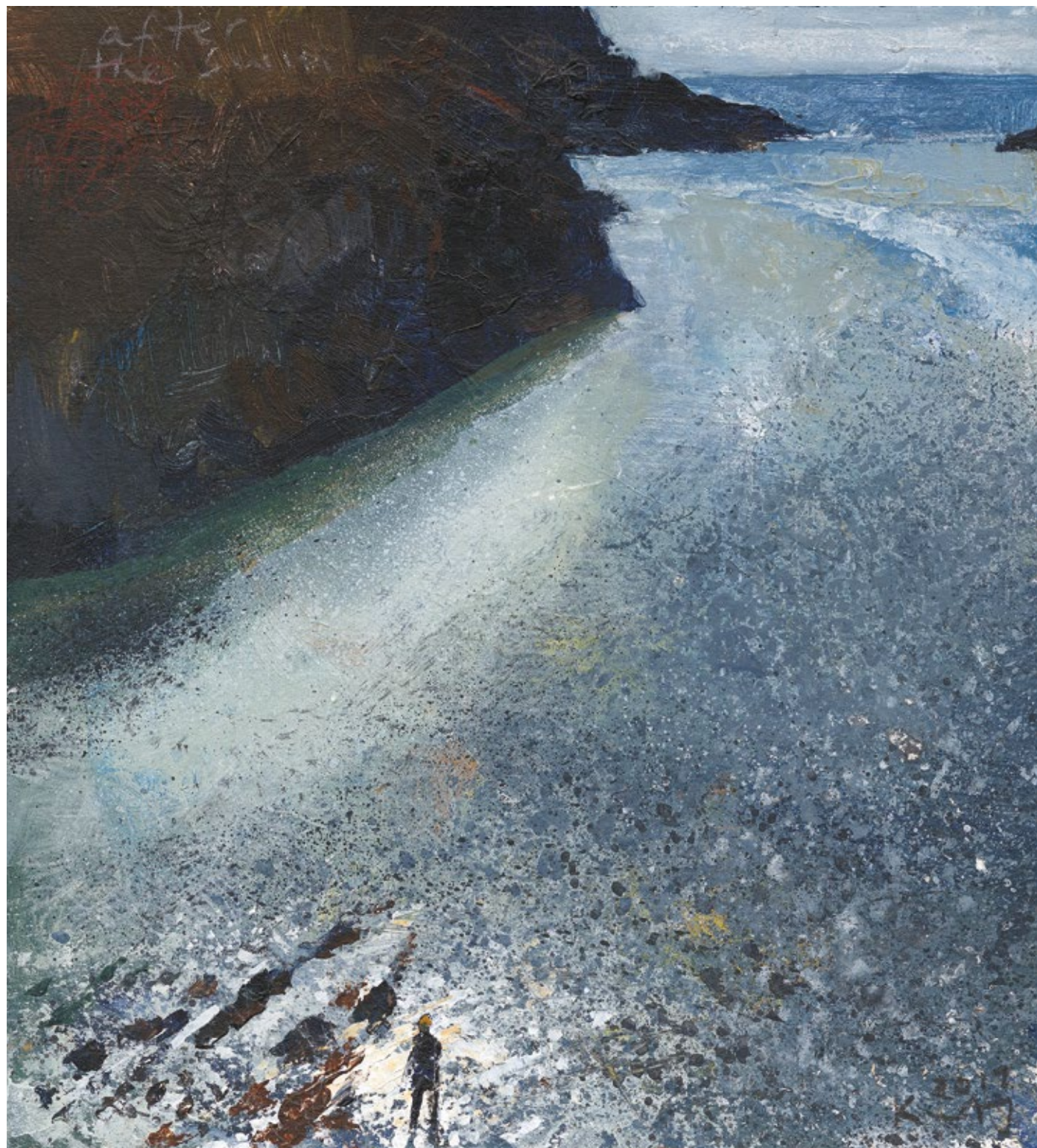
Tideline trophies, 2019

Mixed media on museum board

23 x 23cm

14
Shell seekers, 2019
Mixed media on museum board
23 x 23cm





15

After the swim, 2019

Mixed media on museum board

23 x 21cm

16
Mid-tide barnacles, mussels, limpets and winkles, 2019
Mixed media on museum board
26 x 30cm



17
Low water, evening tide, 2019
Mixed media on museum board
23 x 23cm





19

Sunday midday, 2019

Mixed media on museum board

14 x 23cm

20
Just ebbing, 2019
Mixed media on museum board
22.5 x 21cm



21
Dusk high tide, the cove is full, 2019
Mixed media on museum board
21 x 19cm





22

**From above the cove; sea campion, sorrel,
dandelion, corn marigold, chamomile, 2019**

Mixed media on museum board

26 x 24cm

24
Weekend barbecue, 2019
Mixed media on museum board
41 x 41cm



25
Flock of rock doves, 2019
Mixed media on museum board
35 x 41cm





26

Sun in, sun out, tide in, tide out, 2019

Mixed media on museum board

41 x 41cm





27

Tide line, time line, 2020

Mixed media and collage on canvas

91.5 x 91.5cm

28

Eventide, evening tide, stillness, 2020

Mixed media and collage on canvas

91.5 x 91.5cm



Selected Solo Exhibitions

2020
‘The Fonthill Brook’ Messums Wiltshire

2019
‘My Father’s River’, Messums London
‘Frenchman’s Creek’, Jackson Foundation Gallery, St Just, Cornwall
‘Plan Bee’, Eden Project, Cornwall
‘Thorn’, Jackson Foundation Gallery, St Just, Cornwall
‘Crab and Lobster’, Jackson Foundation Gallery, St Just, Cornwall

2018
‘Biodiversity’ Environment and Sustainability Institute, University of Exeter Penryn Campus, Cornwall
‘Scilly’, Jackson Foundation, St Just
‘Seacrows’, Jackson Foundation, St Just
‘Olive and Fig’, Messums London
‘Pigeonholed’, Jackson Foundation, St Just
‘Revisiting Turner’s Tourism’, Jackson Foundation, St Just

2017
‘Bees and (and the odd wasp) in my Bonnet’, Jackson Foundation, St Just
‘The River Exe’, Lymptstone Manor, Exmouth
‘The Cornish Seas’, Messums London
‘Cot: A Cornish Valley’, Jackson Foundation, St Just
‘A Cotswold Village, Campden Gallery, Gloucestershire

2016
‘Pigeonholed’, The Guardian, Kings Place, London
‘Obsession, Following the Surfer’, Jackson Foundation, St Just
‘Revisiting Turner’s Tourism’, Royal Albert Memorial Museum, Exeter
‘Continental’, Campden Gallery, Gloucestershire
‘Bees [and the odd wasp] in my Bonnet’, University of Oxford, Museum of Natural History

2015
‘A Cornish Bestiary’, Redfern Gallery Cork Street, London
‘From Here’, Jackson Foundation, St Just, Cornwall
‘Forage’, Campden Gallery, Gloucestershire
‘The Liffey’, Origin Gallery, Dublin
‘Place’, Royal Cornwall Museum, Truro

2014
‘Cargodna, the cliff paintings’, Redfern Gallery Cork Street, London
‘Place’ Southampton City Art Gallery
‘Line caught and Local’, National Maritime Museum, Falmouth
‘River’ The Horniman Museum, London
‘Archipelago: The Isles of Scilly, off Cornwall’, Campden Gallery, Gloucestershire
‘A Bite of the Camel’, Collaboration with Rick Stein, Padstow, Cornwall

2013
‘The Burn’, The Lighthouse Gallery, Glasgow
‘A One Mile Walk’, Campden Gallery, Gloucestershire
‘The Thames Revisited’, Redfern Gallery Cork Street, London

2012
‘The Catacol Series: Paintings on Aran’, Dovecot Studios, Edinburgh
‘The Fishermen’s Friend’ with Greenpeace, National Maritime Aquarium, Plymouth
‘This Place: St Just-in-Penwith’, Truro, Cornwall
‘Kurt Jackson & St Just’, Royal Cornwall Museum, Truro
‘The Sketchbooks’,The Redfern Gallery, Cork Street, London

2011
‘Kurt Jackson at 50’, Falmouth Art Gallery
‘The Forth’, Dovecot Studios, Edinburgh
‘Tree/ Gwedhen’ Truro, Cornwall
‘Recent Work’ The Redfern Gallery, Cork Street, London

2010
‘Ardnamurchan’, Dovecot Studios, Edinburgh
‘The Dart’, Truro, Cornwall
‘A Taste of Glastonbury’, Oxo Tower, London

2009
‘Forest Gardens’, Messums London
‘River Avon, Part 2’, Victoria Art Gallery, Bath.
‘Enesow: An exploration of the islands of Cornwall’, Truro, Cornwall

2008
‘The Lights of West Cornwall’ Messums London
‘Wicken, a Threatened Landscape’, charity auction for Friends of the Earth, Foyles Gallery, London
‘The Solent Project’, touring exhibition: St Barbe Museum and Art Gallery, Lymington; Gosport Arts Centre, Hants; Quay Arts Centre, Isle of Wight
‘The Tamar’, Truro, Cornwall
‘The Mining Paintings’, Geevor Mine Gallery, Cornwall
‘Theatre Five’, Royal College of Surgeons, London; Royal Cornwall Hospital, Truro

2007
‘Caroline and the Veg Patch’ Messums London
‘River Avon Part 1’, Victoria Art Gallery, Bath
Glastonbury Festival charity auction, The Hospital, Covent Garden

‘The Cornish Crow’, Truro, Cornwall

2006 – 2019
Penzance Station installation

2006
‘Kardamili and Priest Cove’ Messum’s, Cork Street London
‘Porth’, Catmose Art Gallery, Rutland
‘Neil’s Place’, Dundas Street Gallery, Edinburgh
‘The Thames Project’, South Hill Park, Bracknell, Berks
‘Ponds, Pools and Puddles’, Truro, Cornwall

2005
‘Below Carn Gloose’, Messums London
‘Porth’, Royal Albert Memorial Museum and Art Gallery, Exeter and Canterbury City Art Gallery
‘The Painted Etchings’, Newlyn Art Gallery, Newlyn Gallery, Cornwall and Dundas Street Gallery, Edinburgh
‘Glastonbury Festival’ charity auction
‘Three Woods’, St Barbe Museum and Art Gallery, Lymington and Royal Cornwall Museum and Art Gallery, Truro
‘The Cornish Hedge’, Truro, Cornwall

2004-05
Paddington Station installation

2004
‘River Drome and Samson, Scilly’ Messum’s,Cork Street, London
‘Porth’ touring exhibition: Newlyn Art Gallery; Worcester City Art Gallery; King’s Lynn Arts Centre, Norfolk
‘Paps of Jura’, RGI Gallery, Glasgow. ‘Two Woods’, Victoria Art Gallery, Bath. ‘The Cornish Estuary’, Truro, Cornwall

2003
‘Glastonbury Festival’ charity auction, Guardian News Room, London
‘St Michael’s Way’, Truro, Cornwall

Selected Group Exhibitions 2019

‘Nocturnes’, Falmouth Art Gallery, Cornwall

2018
‘Hireth – A Cornish Landscape’, Royal Cornwall Museum, Truro
‘Common Ground’, Yorkshire Sculpture Park

2017
‘Inspiring Landmarks’, Landmark Trust, Spitalfields, London
‘Bees’, Environment and Sustainability Institute, Falmouth University

2016
Invited Artist, Paisley Art Institute, Glasgow. ‘Glastonbury’, Victoria & Albert Museum, London. ‘Elsewhere’, Campden Gallery, Gloucestershire

2015
‘Sons and Daughters of the Earth’, Penlee House Museum, Penzance

2014
‘Garden’, Campden Gallery, Gloucestershire
‘Arboretum’ Royal West of England Academy, Bristol
‘Power of the Sea’, Royal West of England Academy, Bristol

2013
‘Endless Summer’, Royal Cornwall Museum, Truro
‘Picturing the British Tree’, St Barbe Museum and Art Gallery, Lymington

2012
‘Landscape’ Redfern Gallery, London
‘Endless Summer’, Plymouth City Museum and Art Gallery
‘Sunday Times Watercolour Competition’

2011
‘Frameworks’, Falmouth Art Gallery

2010
‘Exquisite Trove’, Newlyn Art Gallery
‘Century’, Plymouth City Museum and Art Gallery

2008
Africa Calling’, Falmouth Art Gallery

2007
Presentation of paintings to Cornwall County Council collection
Art Miami, USA
Exhibition at Kew Gardens

2000-15
London Art Fair
Royal West of England Academy
Penlee House Gallery and Museum, Penzance, Cornwall

2002
Falmouth Art Gallery, ‘Delabole Quarry’ with Richard Long
1994-2008
Newlyn Society of Artists
Awards and residences

2017
Woodland Trust, Artist in residence

2015
WOCA Best Artist, Whats on Cornwall Award

2011
Made honorary fellow of St Peters College Oxford
Artist in Residence at Berne Shipyard, Bremen, Germany

2009
Elected honorary ambassador of Survival International.

1999 - ongoing
Glastonbury Festival, Artist in Residence

Public Collections

BBC
Camborne School of Mines, Penryn, Cornwall
Cill Rialaig Arts Centre, Co Kerry, Ireland
Concarneau Town Council, Brittany
Cornwall County Council
Crown Court, Truro, Cornwall
Darlington Arts Centre, Co Durham
Edinburgh University
Exeter University
Falmouth Art Gallery, Cornwall
Lancashire Mining Museum, Salford
Met Office, Exeter
Ministry of Works, Republic of Ireland
National Museum of Germany, Nuremburg
Penlee House Gallery and Museum, Penzance, Cornwall
Plymouth City Museum and Art Gallery, Devon

Porthcurno Cable and Wireless Museum, Penzance, Cornwall
Royal Albert Memorial Museum, Exeter
Royal Cornwall Museum and Art Gallery, Truro
Royal West of England Academy, Bristol
Slate Valley Museum, Granville, New York
St Barbe Museum and Art Gallery, Lymington, Hants
The Steiner School, Hanover
Southampton City Art Gallery
Tate Britain, London
Tremough Campus, Cornwall
Truro School, Cornwall
University of Cambridge
University of Oxford
Victoria and Albert Museum, London
Victoria Art Gallery, Bath
Worcester City Museum and Art Gallery

Selected Bibliography

2018
Jackson, Kurt, Olive and Fig, David Messum Fine Art
Jackson, Kurt, Scilly, Kurt Jackson Editions
Cocker, Mark, ‘Seacrows’, Kurt Jackson Editions, Cornwall

2017
Mullins, Charlotte, The Brightening Sea, David Messum Fine Art, London
Jackson, Kurt, Cot: A Cornish Valley, Kurt Jackson Editions
Jackson, Kurt, A Cotswold Village, Campden Gallery, Gloucestershire

2016
Jackson, Kurt, Bees in my Bonnet, Kurt Jackson Editions
Jackson, Kurt, Obsession, Kurt Jackson Editions
Jackson, Kurt, Continental, Campden Gallery, Gloucestershire
Smiles, Sam, Revisiting Turner’s Tourism, Kurt Jackson Editions
Jackson, Kurt, Revisiting Turner’s Tourism, Kurt Jackson Editions

2015
Mabey, Richard, Foraging, Campden Gallery, Gloucestershire
Mombiot, George, Re-imagining the Natural World, Redfern Gallery, Cornwall

2014
Jackson, Kurt, Archipelago, Campden Gallery
Jackson, Kurt, Cargodna, Redfern Gallery
Jackson, Kurt, Place, Sansom and Co.
Jackson, Kurt, Line Caught and Local, Kurt Jackson Editions
Jackson, Kurt, A Bite of The Camel, Kurt Jackson Editions

Evans, Paul, Herbaceous, Little Toller 2013
Jackson, Kurt, A One Mile Walk, Campden Gallery

2013
Massey, Ian and others, Under The Greenwood, Sansom and Co.
Self, Will, The Thames Revisited, The Redfern Gallery

2012
Jackson, Kurt and Livingstone, Alan, Kurt Jackson Sketchbooks, Lund Humphries
Lane, Stephanie and Maddern, Guy, The Fine Art of Surgery – A collection of paintings, drawings and murals, Royal Society of Medicine Press, London

2011
Welsh, Irvine, The Black River, The Forth
Macfarlane, Robert, The Earth as it sees itself, Redfern Gallery, London
Jackson, Kurt, And, Falmouth Art Gallery, Cornwall
Marsden, Philip, The Trees of Cornwall

2010
Jackson, Kurt A New Genre of Landscape Painting, Lund Humphries

2009
Mabey, Richard, Forest Gardens, Messums London
Hare, Bill, Ardnamurchan
Barrett, Jeff, Turner, Robin and Walsh, Andrew (eds) Caught By The River – A Collection of Words on Water, Octopus Publishing, London
Benington, Jonathan, The Avon Project Cocker, Mark, ‘Encounter: The visions of Kurt Jackson’ in The New Nature Writing, Granta, vol.102, London, 2008, pp.22–26.
Crace, Jim, Enesow

2008
Collins, Ian and Admiral Sir Jock Slater, The Lights of West Cornwall, Messums London
Dubois, Marc, Theatre Five
Jackson, Kurt, The Solent Project, St Barbe Museum and Art Gallery, Hampshire
Think Books, Icons of England, Think Publishing, London
Warburton, Josephine, and Lakin, Bill, The Mining Paintings, Pendeen Community Heritage, Cornwall

2007
McCullough, Christopher and Packer, William, The Cornish Crow: An Vran Kernewek
Packer, William, Caroline and the Vegetable Patch, Messums London

2006
Smit, Tim, The Thames Project

2005
Jackson, Kurt, Three Woods, St Barbe Museum and Art Gallery, Hampshire

2004
Taylor, John Russell, Porth, Newlyn Art Gallery, Cornwall

2003–04
Jackson, Kurt, Sketchbooks, Truran, Cornwall

2002
Gaskell, Ronald and Jackson, Kurt, The Cape, Truran, Cornwall