

## PRESS RELEASE

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Peter Godwin  
Landscape as Experience  
9 August – 8 September 2023  
Messums London



Peter Godwin with *Red Mountains, White Clouds, Version 2, 2015*

For over 15 years, Peter Godwin was painting, drawing and making prints while pursuing his teaching career, but at the time was hesitant to exhibit his work. He is recognised as one of Australia's most accomplished painters, and now expanding his practice into printmaking and becoming established in the UK.

This exhibition presents a spectacular body of hand-painted carborundum reliefs by Godwin, on display in the UK for the first time. These extraordinary layered calligraphic landscapes grew out of Godwin's trip to China with fellow painter Euan Macleod to Hong Kong and Guilin, as part of 'The Painter's Journey' sponsored by the Nock Art Foundation. Godwin looked back to Ian Fairweather, creating layered

calligraphic landscapes that were Chinese in inspiration, but very different to the traditional brush-and-ink renditions. Wall-sized, these transformative works resulted from several months of endeavour of Godwin working with a master printmaker in England. Immersive in their large-scale, the prints express his gesture of line across the gallery space.



*Yellow Mountains Version 2, 2023*

The carborundum process is a mixture of carborundum grits and a bonding agent that sets solid on the plate, thus capturing the mark made and energy, this is then inked up with various colours and wiped down so when the dampened paper is pressed on to the plate the essential gesture is captured on the paper, in reverse. Peter Godwin started platemaking and printing in the spring of 2015 with Andrew Smith in his studio in Dorset. Working exclusively with carborundum, he created over 65# plates and 26# different images. Godwin found the method offered him the direct and fluid mark-making form that fitted well with his painting and drawings, no messy processing, or filters but direct frozen gestures that were captured on the plates and subsequently printed. Proofing and exploring created a body of work that is still evolving, with close and regular discussions between artist and printer.

## Biography

Godwin graduated from the National Art School in Sydney and has since spent many years lecturing in painting, drawing and printmaking at the school. He was awarded the Gruner Prize at the Art Gallery of New South Wales in 1979 and again in 1985. He has been a recipient of the Mosman Art Prize and was a finalist in the Sulman Prize at the Art Gallery of New South Wales. A major survey of Godwin's work is scheduled to be held at Orange Regional Gallery, New South Wales, in 2024. His work is held in public collections across Australia including at the National Gallery of Australia; Art Gallery of New South Wales; Government House, Sydney; Gosford Regional Art Gallery; Sydney Institute of Technology Collection; Parliament House, Canberra and Mosman Art Gallery.



*Green and Red Mountain, Li River, 2015*



*Black Mountains, Grey Clouds, Version 2, 2015*

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MESSUMS LONDON is a 2,000 sq ft exhibition space on Cork Street behind the Royal Academy. It hosts a rolling programme of exhibitions for our contemporary artists.