

ARTIS

G A L L E R Y

BRENDAN BURNS

b. 1963

Brendan Burns currently lives and works in Cardiff, United Kingdom. He studied Fine Art at Cardiff College of (1981-1985) and undertook a postgraduate degree in painting at The Slade School of Art, University College London (1985-1987).

Burns is drawn to the details and avoids the horizon – he avoids the picturesque and celebrates the beauty in the macrocosm. His love of nature’s secrets, combined with his love of paint, come together in his studio to celebrate art. Burns is deeply concerned with the spiritual in nature, with notions of time and with the act of painting as a meditative process.

“My work is not abstract in the formal sense, but it has enjoyed the relationship with ambiguity; it is concerned with inner emotion and the sensed experience of the viewer; it is about the contemplative and experience of self-reflection. All my work has endeavoured to present the clarity, yet simultaneous abstraction of a ‘peripheral’ experience: the afterimage burnt onto the retina, something which is both precise yet ambiguous, fixed yet transitory, permanent yet ephemeral. The work allows for the personal, philosophical and the emotive, as well as the sense of journey and time. I aspire to celebrate nature’s ability to seep absorbed light, almost as liquid colour when dusk sets.”

Burns' work is held in numerous private and public collections including The National Museum and Galleries of Wales, The Derek Williams Trust, The Contemporary Art Society of Wales, A Fundacion Casa Museo 'A Solaina' de Pilonio, Spain and Contemporary Art Society of Britain (Tom Bendhem Bequest), Austria, Australia, China, Denmark, Dubai, Holland, Hong Kong, Jordan, Kuwait, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Switzerland, Taiwan, Thailand, USA and The United Arab Emirates.

An exhibition by Burns, ‘Aotearoa- A Brighter Light’, was held in ARTIS during 2021 and he continues to be represented by ARTIS Gallery.

Burns is also represented by Caldwell Snyder in California and Osborne Samuel Gallery, London, UK.

ACADEMIC:

- 2011 PhD, Shadow into Parent Light; Beyond Pembrokeshire, Beyond Landscape
- 1987 Postgraduate Painting, Slade School of Art, University College London.
- 1985 First Class BA (Hons) Degree in Fine Art, UWIC, Cardiff.
- 1982 Foundation Studies, UWIC, Cardiff.

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AWARDS:

- 2014 Creative Wales Arts Council Major Award to research new materials including ceramics and glass at the National Glass Centre, University of Sunderland.
- 2008 First Artist in Residence, Oriol y Parc, Landscape Gallery, St Davids.
- 2007 The Richard and Rosemary Wakelin Purchase Award, Glynn Vivian Art Gallery, Swansea.
- 2005 Innovation Award, The Big Draw, Oriol Davies Gallery, Newtown. Wales
Arts International Funding travel award, Venice Biennale.
- 2004 Wales Arts International to participate in VII Xuntanza Obradoiro
Internacional das Plásticas, A Solaina Pilon, Galicia, Spain.
- 2003 Welsh Artist of the Year
- 2001 Arts Council of Wales grant to participate in 'Different Lights,
UKwithNY, Angel Orensanz Arts Centre, New York.
- 2000 Welsh Artist of the Year.
- 1999 University of Glamorgan Purchase Prize.
- 1998 Gold Medal in Fine Art, National Eisteddfod of Wales, Bro Ogwr, Bridgend
- 1997 Friedrich Konekamp award for painting.
- 1993 Gold Medal in Fine Art, National Eisteddfod of Wales, Llanelwedd, Builth Wells
- 1992 Welsh Arts Council Travel Scholarship, New York, USA.
- 1991 Artist in Residence Llanfrechfa Grange Mental Health Unit, Cwmbran.
- 1989 Welsh Arts Council Travel Scholarship, Florence, Italy

SELECTED EXHIBITIONS:

- 2022 Aotearoa – A Brighter Light, Artis Gallery, Auckland, New Zealand.
- 2019 Edging West New Paintings and Ceramics, Osborne Samuel Gallery, London.
New Paintings, Rosenberg & Co, New York.
- 2018 Recent Paintings, Open Eye Gallery, Edinburgh. Collaboration with Osborne Samuel Gallery,
London.
- 2016 Flow & Pulse, Painting, drawing and ceramic, Rosenberg & Co. New York.
Ooze, New Ceramics, Craft in the Bay, Cardiff.
- 2015 Gesture /Glimpse/ Memory – Osborne Samuel Gallery London.
- 2014 Pulse, Oriol Myldan, Cardigan.
- 2015 Gesture | Glimpse | Memory, Osborne Samuel Gallery, London.
- 2012 Glimpse, St Davids Hall, Cardiff.
Glimpse, National Botanical Gardens of Wales, Carmarthenshire.

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- 2011 Kooywood Gallery, Cardiff.
One-man show, Oriol Ynys Mon, Anglesey.
Shimmer, Oriol Myrddin, Carmarthen.
- 2009/2010 Inluere, Oriol y Parc, Landscape Gallery St Davids. Curation of works from the residence alongside significant inspiration from the collections at National Museum of Art Wales.
- 2009 Tidal, Oriol Clwyd, Mold.
New works, Atrium, University of South Wales Cardiff
- 2008 Oriol Q Gallery Narberth.
Tidal, Kettering Museum & Art Gallery, Kettering.
Liquid Light Series, Cynon Valley Museum & Art Gallery.
In View, Glynn Vivian Art Gallery, Swansea. Works selected by David Alston from the National Museum of Art Wales permanent collection.
- 2007 New Works, Llantarnam Grange Arts Centre, Cwmbran.
- 2006 Spindrift, Kooywood Gallery, Cardiff.
- 2005 Tidal, Oriol Davies Gallery, Newtown.
The Taste of Sight, Kooywood Gallery, Cardiff.
- 2004 Price Waterhouse Coopers, Cardiff.
- 2003 Not the Stillness..., Newport Museum and Art Gallery.
Not the Stillness..., Oriol Clwyd, Mold.
Not the Stillness..., selected works, Rhondda Heritage Park.
Not the Stillness..., National Library of Wales, Aberystwyth.
- 1999 Museum of Modern Art Wales, Mychynlleth.
As Well as being..., National Museum of Art Wales, Turner House Gallery.
- 1995 Wyeside Arts Centre, Builth Wells.
- 1992 Llantarnam Grange Arts Centre, Cwmbran.
- 1991 The Florentine Experience, The Powerhouse Gallery, Laugharne.

RESIDENCY:

Artist in Residence at *Earthskin*, Piha, New Zealand Feb – March 2020