

Sarah O’Kane Contemporary Fine Art



Harold Mockford

Harold is one of the best-loved and best-known Sussex artists. He was born in 1932 in Eastbourne and lived there until the 1990’s when he moved a short way along the coast to Newhaven, where he still lives. He is closely associated with Eastbourne and its landscape setting which often form the subject matter of his paintings. He was encouraged in his artistic practice by William Gear of the Towner, and in 2012 Towner held a major retrospective of Harold’s work. The port town of Newhaven provided decades of inspiration for his art: he and wife Margaret lived in a house with a bird’s eye view of the ferry, coastguard cottages and channel. He painted in many villages and Downscapes in this small area of East Sussex, for instance Berwick, Hamsey and Firle. His paintings are charged with a strangeness of colour as he sought to portray a sense of the sacred. There are memory subjects, particularly when he was a boy in WWII, each imbued with his own mythology. There are also plenty of urban scenes of Eastbourne, as if to say his immediate world was all he needed and that he was profoundly effected by its familiar streets and buildings.

Harold’s work is held in the Government Art Collection, Towner and in many private collections.

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