

## THE SMALL PAINTINGS GROUP

Some twenty one years ago, in a conversation at the Chelsea Arts Club, with Sandra Pepys (then chairman of the Society of Landscape Painters) and Dennis Gilbert (NEAC) and others it was mentioned that many of them often painted small scale works and that it would be good idea if there were a forum for exhibiting such works.

The potential membership was discussed with a shortlist of names agreed on and the Small Paintings Society - subsequently renamed the Small Paintings Group -was founded.

It was agreed to approach Duncan Miller at his then gallery in Hampstead and he welcomed the idea to include only very small paintings. The inaugural exhibition of the Small Paintings Group at Duncan Miller in Flask Walk in December 1991.

Membership consists of a maximum of 35 distinguished and eclectic artists, many of whom also belong to other exhibiting societies - NEAC, RWS, RBA and others - and of course paint on a much larger scale as well. The paintings to be exhibited are limited to 12" by 12" or 144 sq ins and may be in any medium. These are 'cabinet' sized and intimate paintings and thus easy to place and affordable.

There is a long tradition of collecting small scale paintings in Britain. Many of the Grand Tour travellers in the eighteenth century purchased such works from the Bamboccianti or Bentvoeghels in Rome (the Bamboccianti were a loose and convivial group of northern, mainly Dutch and Flemish, artists working in and around Rome who produced works the size of a 'palma di mano' - a man's hand - convenient for Milord to take back home. They are the small jewels of many major collections - Dulwich, the Wallace, Kenwood and the National Gallery as well as numerous stately homes.

The Small Paintings Group has exhibited annually since 1997 at the Piers Feetham Gallery, 475 Fulham Road and at least twice each year at other prestigious galleries in London and elsewhere in Southern England. Exhibitions have also been held in Jersey.

*Small Paintings Exhibition at The Piers Feetham Gallery 475 Fulham Road, London SW6 1HL*

*Exhibition Dates: 1st -23rd February 2013*

*Gallery Open: Tuesday - Friday 10-6; Saturday 10-1*

*Enquiries: 0207 381 3031 / piersfeethamgallery@hotmail.com*

*Images - www.piersfeethamgallery. Click Artists>Small Paintings Group*

The exhibition will include work by the following group members

Julian Barrow	Ken Howard RA NEAC RWS	Roy Pettit
Cinzia Bonada RBA	Mary Jackson NEAC RWS	Richard Pikesley NEAC RWS
Bob Brown NEAC	Peter Kelly NEAC RBA	Mike Pope
Jane Corsellis NEAC RWA RWS	Caroline McAdam Clark RWS	Sallian Puttman NEAC RWS
David Eustace RBA	Christopher Miers RBA	Barbara Richardson RBA
Judith Gardner NEAC RBA	Ronald Morgan RBA ROI	Jacqueline Rizvi NEAC RBA
Dennis Gilbert NEAC	William Packer NEAC	RWS
Christopher Hall RBA	David Parfitt NEAC	Diana Schofield
Charlotte Halliday NEAC RWS	James Parfitt	Richard Sorrell NEAC RWS RBA
Charles Hardaker NEAC RBA	John Paul	Linda Sutton
Ann Heat RBA	Sandra Pepys	Charles Williams NEAC RWS
Julia Heseltine	Melvyn Pettersen NEAC RE	Anne Wright RBA