

## Rhythm of Line Shelly Bancroft • Jane Lacy Hodge

3rd - 9th February 2014 • 11am - 9.30pm **54 The Gallery,** Shepherd Market, Mayfair, London, W1J 7QX www.shellybancroft.com www.janelacyhodge.com info@rhythmofline.co.uk (contact for details of private views)

'Rhythm of Line' shows work by Shelly Bancroft and Jane Lacy Hodge. Whilst their subject matter is ostensibly quite different, both artists' practice is rooted in a passion for observational drawing and a desire to find the 'line' to recreate the seen and felt experience.

The exhibition includes drawings, etchings and other print media and sculptures.

**Shelly Bancroft's** focus is the expressive vitality of the figure. Through her portraits (both faces and nudes), she aims to capture not only a likeness, but also a sense of character and mood, with lyricism and sensitivity. Also, to produce a beautiful and enduring object in the work. Inspired by imagery that combines the spiritual, sacred and sensual, she is particularly drawn to the great draftsmen and Middle Eastern/Asian sculpture. She is now working toward a more defined vision which could become more narrative and iconic.

She has a BA in Fine Art from Leeds University and an MA from the Royal College of Art, School of Film and Television. She turned to film making, believing this to be a natural progression of her representational art work, and has worked in the film industry for a number of years - as a film studio executive and in feature film acquisition, development, project assessment and as a creative producer. She recently returned to drawing and sculpture, realising that she missed the tactile, felt process of making an image. She is now drawing, painting, etching and sculpting, in parallel with her work in film.

Recent portraits include Victoria Bateman, Professor Christopher Cordess and Derek Wyatt MP. Exhibitions include selection for 'The Discerning Eye' in 2008 and 2009. She is represented by Ramsay Prints and online at Commission A Portrait Ltd and Go-Figurative.

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**Jane Lacy Hodge's** work is about looking at and responding to landscapes with which she has a particular connection, such as the steep South Downs 'Hangers' around her home and studio. All her work is the product of observational drawing and an accumulation of looking at and being within an environment. Her stimulus is that direct emotional engagement, the longing and the exhilaration.

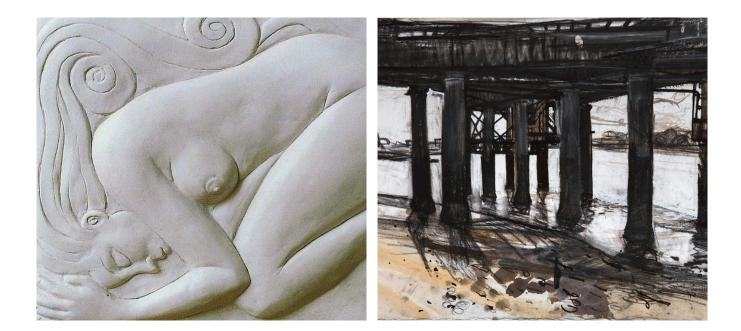
Although trained as a painter, for some time she has worked mainly in printmaking, which she loves for its potential for mysterious and vibrant markmaking and for the physicality of the 'hands-on' processes. And also for the works' capacity to become itself, to take on its own life – to surprise her. For many years she has found the combined rhythms of walking, looking and drawing an essential; three years ago she spent two months walking the pilgrim route, the Camino de Santiago, 500 miles from the French Pyrenees to Santiago de Compostela in NW Spain, making drawings every day. A current project involves experimenting with a form of 'intaglio' from plaster blocks based on imagery of the field, trees and hill across from the studio, using clay dug up from that field and hill.

Jane studied at The Slade School for her DFA, followed by an MA in painting at The Royal College of Art and an MA in Printmaking at Camberwell College, University of the Arts London. She recently completed the Postgraduate Diploma, The Drawing Year at The Prince's Drawing School.

She has taught life drawing at St Martins School of Art, Morley College of Art and Heatherley School of Art. For a number of years she combined her own practice with her position of Director at Hodge & Partners Limited, an international award winning corporate design consultancy.

Jane exhibits regularly with East London Printmakers and Loop, and shows at Bankside, The Printroom and the RA Summer Exhibition. Her large composite piece 'Fish Island', a 'riveted' collage of etchings celebrating the network of industrial buildings and streets in the area 'fish island' opposite the new Olympic Stadium and relief prints from found metal, was selected for the 'Artist's Eye' at the Hackney Museum, an exhibition combining film, 2D and 3D works responding to the dynamic of the area and the changes occasioned by the 2012 Olympics.

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For more information, please contact **info@rhythmofline.co.uk 54 The Gallery,** Shepherd Market, Mayfair, London, W1J 7QX 3rd - 9th February 2014 • 11am - 9.30pm