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THE FINE ART OF CRAFT

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Press release

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LINE IN SLOW AND SWIFT MOTION - ON CLAY AND PAPER

'Line in Motion'

November 2nd – 25th, 2017, at Birch Tree Gallery, Edinburgh

Private View: Wednesday, November 1st, 6-8pm

'Line in Motion' is an exhibition celebrating graphic representation of movement inspired by nature. In her charcoal drawings and collages, Janine Baldwin, an artist from Scarborough, Yorkshire, uses line to capture a "movement" that is more sensory than visual. The naked raku ceramics by Moyra Stewart – an artist based in Fife, Scotland – are inspired by black, gray and white bands of colour of Lewisian Gneiss rock formations. Moyra's lines result from nature's long term evolution, whereas Janine's lines are inspired by swift movements of nature in the present.

Janine Baldwin has recently shifted her interest from painting to graphic work. Her first exhibition in Edinburgh will display charcoal and pastel drawings along with collages. 'In recent years I felt I wanted to fully explore dry media and how I could use the paper itself to be part of the artwork, using techniques such as impressed lines,' – says Janine. She gives credit to Joan Eardley's greys and muted tones for influencing her work and continues to explore an earthy palette, but has recently added more colour: 'I fell in love with pastels - their immediacy of colour allows spontaneity of mark-making, which is important as I seek to capture movement in my drawings.'



Photo: Janine Baldwin (left); 'Dusk on the Moors II' (acrylic, pastel, charcoal and graphite collage on card), 21 x 26cm

Janine's collages largely rely on juxtaposition of torn and cut edges to create a tension between shapes. "...I enjoy the process of adding and subtracting elements without needing to commit until a final decision is made," – says the artist

Moyra Stewart is known for her Lewisian Gneiss series urns and vases. The oldest metamorphic rocks in the UK, found in the Outer Hebrides are the source of her inspiration for the graphic patterns of her oval-shaped vases. 'Being inspired by rock formations like Lewisian Gneiss has made me conscious that even something as apparently solid and ancient and immovable like billion year old stone is actually in flux too,' - says Moyra.



*Photos: Lewisian Gneiss series urns (photo: Shannon Tofts);
Moyra Stewart*



Along with the Lewisian Gneiss series that helped her win the title 'Maker of the Year' 2015 by Craft and Design Magazine, Moyra will also be exhibiting her ceramic tiles. The tile-work is more representative of large expanses of land - mountains, hills, cliffs, and also introduces a new dimension through use of a hint of colour, just as Janine's pastel tones add new dimension to her drawings.

Both artists will attend the opening event and are available for interview/photos.

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