

May Issue - just!

# Suzanne Nicholl

- Contemporary Fine Art -



Your life is your art as well as the thing you call your art

Georgia O'Keeffe

## May Studio Notes

Hello Friends!

This letter is flying into the back end of May by the seat of its pants! It's almost June! How did that happen? May is my birthday month - and despite miscounting the years, the wrong way! ☺ I am tickled pink to be here.

If you're new to my news letter, welcome and thank you for signing up. I've been creating it for about 18 months now as a way of connecting with art lovers and artists alike, sharing inspiration that influences my art and life.

I'm pretty late to a career in art and as such have had time to consider what I want to get out of this half of my life (if I am lucky).

At a funeral for an artist friend this month the vicar spoke of a lovely [poem](#) by Linda Ellis that talks about the dash between our year of birth and year of death.

*It is more important to consider how we lived that dash, instead of how long we lived it.*

It got me thinking on how I spend my dash. Then it dawned on me! I make art for the joy creativity brings me, the great people I meet who share my passion, and the wonderful places it takes me.

I hope that in some small way my letter ticks one or more of these boxes for you.

As my goal is to "carpe diem" my way through life and make my dash count, there's not a moment to lose.

So grab a cuppa and lets tarry a while.....

## What I've been up to this month.....

I recently read the book Four Thousand Weeks (did you know that if you live to 80yrs old, this is how many weeks you've lived!?) and in it was a story of how going beyond our comfort zone, pays off.

This is how it is with my art. It's rarely plain saying and the push and pull of painting my recent collection in a short timescale, really focused the mind. It's important to me to keep developing my practice through exploration, but I often find with time pressures the tighter my painting gets. After hours at my painting wall, I can return the following day and its just lost its energy and looks too 'predictable'.



The solution for me is to disrupt the image with marks, colour, composition. Anything that metaphorically (and sometime literally), turns it upside-down, and gives me something to respond to. And so it goes - the push and pull of the process, as long as a piece of string. Great fun, frustrating, exciting and almost impossible to put a timescale on.

That said all six paintings were completed on time and are now hanging beautifully in the Bluestone Gallery Hay-on-Wye.

If you'd like to know more about my process my blog gives you a little insight into how I've developed my practice, and there's always my instagram to keep you updated with what's going on in my studio. Come say hi!

## Expressions

*Click on the image for details*



I wanted this group of work to express what I feel when I am in certain landscapes, at particular times - spring, summer, tide in, tide out, morning calm and evening storm.

They are personal experiences gathered over time, not a one-off occasion. From time spent in these places the memories merge, then re-emerge when I'm painting.

The collection has been created by combining techniques I've developed over the last 2 years, using acrylics, oils and mixed media. Feeling my practice come together in this way is exciting, and as such I have loved making them.

The paintings all share a foundation palette, but as each painting emerged I've added and adjusted colours to reflect the places and experiences they represent to me. So there is a subtle commonality among them, but they are individuals too!

Each painting is 50cm sq x 5cm on cradled board, finished with wax to achieve a soft sheen, and off-white sides.

Please note that all paintings will be sold by the gallery. If you are interested in any of the work, just click the button to send an email.



Bluestone Gallery

## Coming up ....

Anyone who knows me, knows I love a natter, especially when it's about art! So next month I'm exploring a way to capture those conversations that certainly I love to overhear. I'm debating about the platform I'll use, but I'll be posting a link in my next letter and on Instagram, so you can also 'earwig' on two artists as we rabbit away about all things arty.

Wish me luck with the technology - the chatting I'll be fine with 😊

Save the date - Tenby

Pembrokeshire  
Phoenix Artists

ORIGINAL ART, PRINTS AND CARDS  
FOR SALE

# ART EXHIBITION

July 8th - 11th 2022  
11.00 - 4.00

St Mary's Church Hall  
High St  
**Tenby**

FOURTEEN OF  
PEMBROKESHIRE'S  
TALENTED &  
ESTABLISHED  
ARTISTS



Free entry

# Summer Exhibition

*I'm so excited to be exhibiting back in my home county of Pembrokeshire, in the beautiful seaside town of Tenby. If you're on your hols or local, come say Hi.*

□Sand Sea & Art □

## Creative Corner

Follow the Travelling Bookbinder to create a little book of circles. Rachel's blog has lots of great content and inspiration to personalise and have fun with.

*Click on image*



## Worry Free Art Buying

Have you ever stopped yourself from buying art on line because you're worried you may not like it when you get it, or it may be damaged in transit?

That's why if you're not tickled pink by what you have purchased from me, I'll gladly accept returns in their original condition within 14 days.

You'll find full details on shipping and returns [here](#) on my website.

## And finally.....Here's what's inspired me lately

Yep - it's a bit random, not all arty, but these are a few of the things that have made me think and made me smile. Hope you enjoy them!



A Painting Dog 🐕 on  
YouTube



Washing Line Art on  
Instagram



A book I'll be reading



Furry Felt Friends 🐕

## Some Useful Links

[Contact me](#)

[Instagram](#)

[Book a studio visit](#)

[View Website](#)

## Follow me on Pinterest?

[Pinterest](#)

For inspiration at home and in the studio with over 2000 pins

Well that's about it from me. I hope this letter found you in a good place and leaves you with a smile.

Let me know how will you spend your dash this month? I'd love to discover how you will make yours count.

Thank you as always for your company and allowing me to slide on into your inbox.

Until next time

Suzanne



[Get in touch](#)

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