



Studio Signposts

Issue 3 - Summer 2024

Studio Signposts is the quarterly newsletter
from the studio of
Stephanie Province

www.stephanieprovince.com

Greetings fellow art lovers!



Watersheds II

It was a real privilege to have been asked to contribute to the exhibition **Watersheds II - *Work about Words*** which was held at the Storey Gallery, Lancaster, in July.

Inspired by the poems of their father, the late Tom Bowker, sisters Julie Evans and Helen Cresswell invited 30 artists (including their mother, Joyce Bowker) to join them in creating a visual response to his powerful words. This exhibition followed on from the success of **Watersheds - *Mountains and Moments in Time*** which took place in the same gallery in 2023.

Visitors were treated to a memorable celebration of words and images encompassing a range of responses and techniques. Each artwork reflected an individual creative journey and provided a very personal interpretation of Tom's words.

Here is a small taste of what was on show.



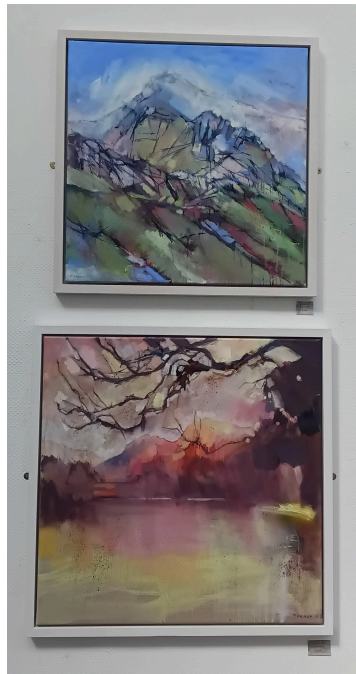
The five eagle portraits by Jenny McCabe (2 of the 5 shown here) dominated the centre of the end wall and perfectly captured the essence of Tom's poem entitled **Eagle** .

'For a moment he stopped our world.

Slammed shut all emotion save

Praise to the eagle'

www.jennymccabe.co.uk



The various landscapes referenced in many of Tom's poems were the inspiration for **Patricia Haskey's** beautiful paintings. She expresses a joyful and appreciative response to these environments bringing her unmistakable style and palette into play.

www.patriciahaskey.co.uk

Tom Bowker's poetry explores all aspects of life experiences from the delights of fatherhood to the tragedy of conflict.



Iain Sloan's response to the poem **A Fantasy on Flodden Field** brought together 25 individual prints to create a deeply poignant piece about this battle between the Scots and the English.

Iain is a longstanding member of **Luneside Studios**
(www.lunesidestudios.org)

He set up **IronPress Printmaking Studio** which opened to the public in 2015 offering a valuable resource for printmakers at every skill level.
(www.ironpressprintmaking.co.uk)



Carole Bennett tackled one of the darker themes in Tom's poetry. In response to **Open Prison**, she created three beautifully detailed yet disquieting textile wall hangings (one shown above) literally integrating Tom's words with her own imagery.

Carole is a mixed media artist and a member of Silverdale Art Group.

www.silverdaleart.co.uk

[#ceebeemixedmediaart](https://www.instagram.com/ceebeemixedmediaart)



These 3 prints from a limited edition of 9 were created by Rae Tribbick in response to the poem **Paper Glacier**. As a writer herself, she considers storytelling to be at the heart of her artistic expression.

Rae is co-founder of Assembly Arts where a range of classes are on offer, including life drawing and ceramics.

www.raeceramics.co.uk

www.assemblyarts.co.uk

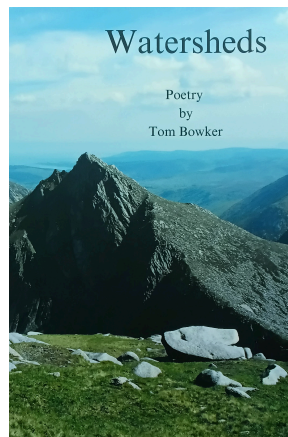


Made in response to Tom's poem **Cairns** where he playfully explores the various stone cairns he has come across while out walking, my own contribution to the exhibition included this sculpture called **Cans**.

I used over 100 'found' drink cans (i.e. litter) in this piece, all of which I came across while walking in non-residential areas - beach, woodland, field.

There will be more about this along with pictures of the other artwork I made for this exhibition on my website in the near future.

www.stephanieprovince.com



A new collection of Tom Bowker's poems along with photographs and sketches from the family archive was published this year to accompany this exhibition.

Thanks go to Julie, Helen, Joyce and other family members who worked so hard to make this exhibition such a success.

On the Horizon

I am delighted that the Trustees of The Sunderland Point Mission Heritage Centre have agreed to provide a home for my installation 'Lines' once building work at the Mission Hall has been completed.

Thanks for reading.

Cheerio until next time!

(End of Autumn)



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