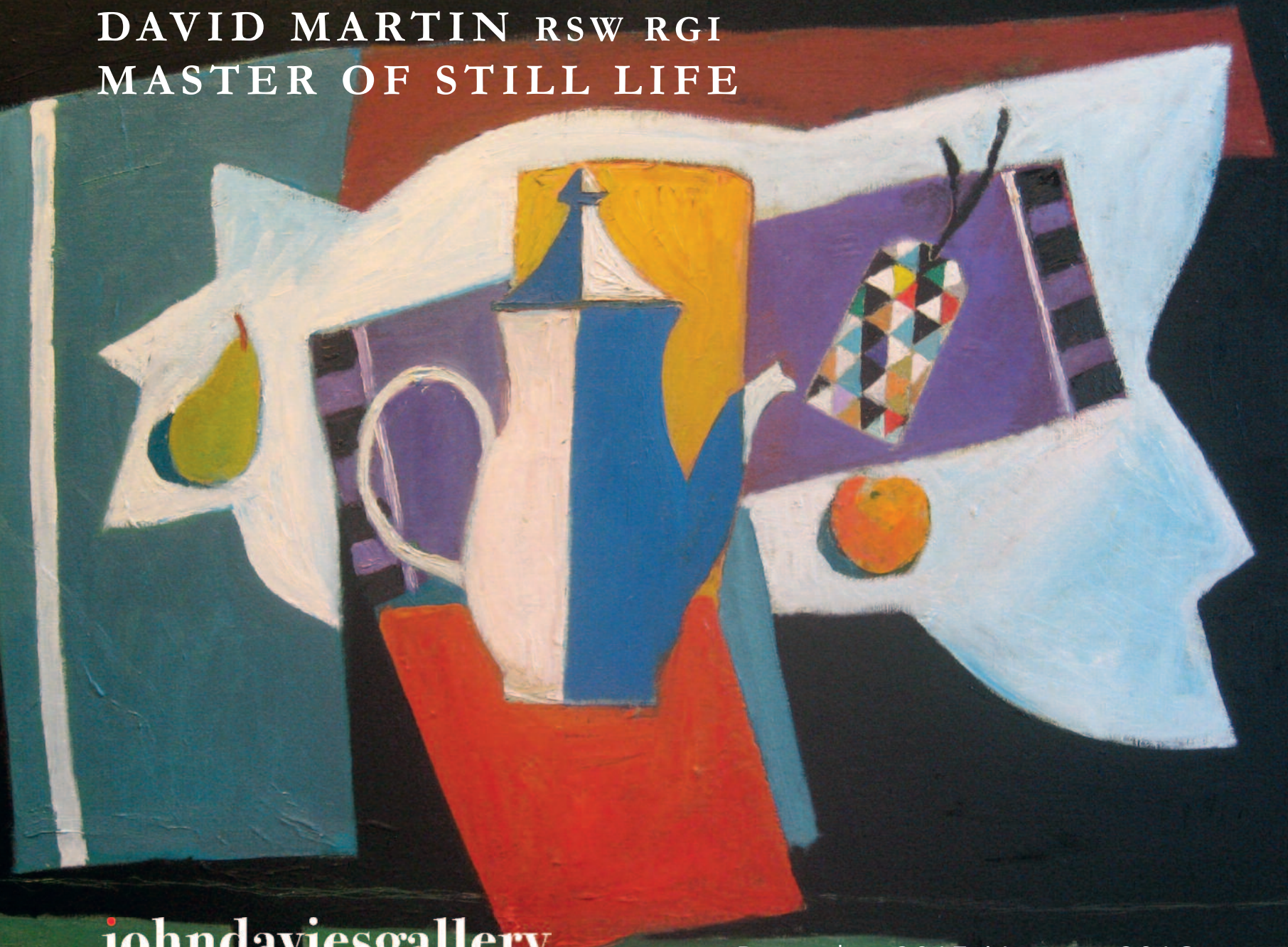


DAVID MARTIN RSW RGI
MASTER OF STILL LIFE



johndaviesgallery
Period, Modern & Contemporary Art

December 2015 / January 2016



Rose in a Clear Glass
Oil on canvas, 12 x 10 ins

Front Cover: The Blue Table
oil on canvas, 30 x 30 ins

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DAVID MARTIN RSW RGI
MASTER OF STILL LIFE

5th December - 16th January
Open 9.30am - 5.00pm

Works may be purchased on receipt of the catalogue

THE JOHN DAVIES GALLERY

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DAVID McLEOD MARTIN RSW RGI (b. 1922)

Still life has been a prominent subject discipline for many 20th Century Scottish artists - Samuel J. Peploe, Francis Cadell, Leslie Hunter, Anne Redpath and Robin Philipson being some of the most prominent examples. David Martin must now be one of the most notable Scottish artists painting today who was a young man when these illustrious artists were in mid-career, and who has now progressed this tradition well into the 21st Century. A distinctive landscape painter too, it is in this genre that the influence of William Gillies is detectable.

There are many enticing elements to Martin's often graphically punchy still-life compositions. There is wonderful colour in all examples, reflecting the Scottish colourist tradition, as well as distinct structure and wonderful juxtaposition. A musical man (who regularly plays the piano), instruments such as mandolins, guitars, violins, cornets and examples of woodwind make regular appearances in his paintings. Coffee pots, jugs, fruit bowls, as well as fruit and fish give many a culinary flavour, and the frequent use of decorative rugs and other fabrics contribute much to the impact. Most of his arrangements reflect many devices used by great early to mid-20th century artists such as Braque and Picasso - the faceting of spherical jugs to two sides for example - as well as the upturning and flattening of the picture plane by tilting table tops often associated with the work of Matisse – are just some of the features that lend his paintings a thoroughly cosmopolitan and pan-European atmosphere.

Flowers too are a favourite subject, and here it seems the artist can take two contrasting approaches; in some, particular flowers dominate as the main subject, such as in *Rose in a Clear Glass* (Inside front cover), *The Decorative Jug* and *Summer Bouquet* (pages 22 & 23) and *Oriental Poppies & Moon* and *Oriental Poppies* (pages 24 & 25) in which the blooms are all depicted against an apparently simple, decorative semi-abstract backdrop. In others, flowers form just part of a more complex orchestration of elements such as in *Oriental Poppies & Ceramic Bird* (page 12) and *Red Still Life, Carafe & Lilies*, and *Sunflower & Fruit Dish* (pages 16, 17 & 19).

Martin's landscapes are highly individual, and an interesting thread is traceable within these back to Matisse, Bonnard and even Munch. He studied under the extremely distinguished William Gillies, the Scottish still-life and landscape painter, who in turn studied with André Lohte in Paris and was highly influenced by the afore mentioned French and Norwegian artists. Here again, Martin can take contrasting approaches to landscape subjects, some distinctly naturalistic in their treatment, while others can be strongly colourist, even to a *Fauvist* extent.

David Martin has lived at Eaglesham, near Glasgow, for the last sixty-three years and will be ninety-three in December. Born in Glasgow, he studied at the famous Charles Rennie Mackintosh School of Art from 1942, but his studies were interrupted by a call up for service with the RAF in India until 1946. On demobilisation he returned to the Glasgow School and studied under the renowned David Donaldson through to 1948.

From that date he has exhibited annually at both the Royal Scottish Academy and the Glasgow Institute, to date a run of sixty-seven years. In the early 1970's he was appointed principal teacher of art at Hamilton Grammar School but took early retirement in 1983 to paint full time. Awards that have come his way include the Robert Colquhoun Memorial Art Prize (1974), the May Marshall Brown Award at the Royal Scottish Watercolour Society (1984) and the Mabel Mackinlay Award at the RGI in 1990. The Scottish Arts Council, Scottish Television and the City of Edinburgh are amongst a number of notable collections that include his work.

In this catalogue we have a body of work by David Martin that are, quite simply, the product of a life-time's experience and which are nothing short of a class act. These are paintings capable of giving endless pleasure over an extremely extended period.

John Davies
December 2015 ©



The White Jug
Oil on canvas, 20 x 24 ins



The Blue Table
Oil on canvas, 30 x 30 ins



The Striped Mat
Oil on canvas, 25 x 30 ins



Cut Pepper
Oil on canvas, 12 x 16 ins



Mandolin and Pear
Oil on canvas, 30 x 30 ins

Mandolin, Bottle and Fruit Bowl
Oil on canvas, 36 x 36 ins





Oriental Poppies and Ceramic Bird
Oil on canvas, 30 x 30 ins



White Jug and Indian Horse
Oil on canvas, 30 x 30 ins

Cornet and Cut Pear
Oil on canvas, 36 x 36 ins





Red Still Life

Oil on canvas, 30 x 30 ins



Carafe and Lilies
Oil on canvas, 30 x 30 ins



Jug and Mandolin
Oil on canvas, 30 x 30 ins



Sunflowers and Fruit Dish
Oil on canvas, 30 x 30 ins

Table by the Sea

Oil on canvas, 36 x 36 ins





The Decorative Jug
Oil on canvas, 30 x 30 ins



Summer Bouquet
Oil on canvas, 32 x 30 ins



Oriental Poppies and Moon
Oil on canvas, 24 x 24 ins



Oriental Poppies
Oil on canvas, 30 x 30 ins



Winter Trees and Moon
Oil on canvas, 20 x 24 ins



Lanarkshire Landscape
Oil on canvas, 20 x 20 ins



Trees in the Village
Oil on canvas, 30 x 30 ins



Beyond Eaglesham
Oil on canvas, 25 x 30 ins

DAVID McLEOD MARTIN RSW RGI (b. 1922)

Biography

Born 1922	Glasgow
1934–39	Educated Govan High School
1940–42	Glasgow School of Art
1942–46	RAF Instrument Mechanics in Trichinopoly, Southern India
1946	Instructor in Art under the Forces Educational & Vocational Training Scheme
1946–48	Glasgow School of Art under David Donaldson Meets the painter Isobel Smith at Glasgow School of Art
1948–49	Jordanhill Teacher Training College
1949–59	Studied design with Robert Stewart, GSA
1949	Elected Professional Member SSA
1952	Married Isobel Smith. Moves to Eaglesham
1956	Design for Fabric selected by Arts Council for inclusion in an exhibition in the Design Centre, Glasgow, Printed by Gayonne Fabrics Ltd
1959	Elected a member of the Royal Glasgow Institute of Fine Arts
1959	Meets Marc Chagall in Glasgow
1961	Elected a member of the Royal Scottish Society of Painters in Watercolours
1973–83	Principal Teacher of Art, Hamilton Grammar School
1981	Elected Member of Royal Glasgow Institute Fine Arts
1983	Retires from teaching to become a full-time artist
1991	Member SAAC
1993	Elected Honorary Member of Society of Scottish Art

Selected Solo Exhibitions

1965	Stone Gallery, Newcastle
1979	Strathclyde University
1983	Fair Maids Gallery, Perth
1984	Gallery 22, Cupar, Fife
1985/90	Torrance Gallery
1991	Kingfisher Gallery
1992/94	Thackeray Gallery, London
1994/98/01/04	Roger Billcliffe Fine Art
1995/97/99/00	John Martin Gallery, London
1995	The Fosse Gallery, Stow-on-the-Wold
1999	Perth Museum & Art Gallery, David Martin Paintings 1948–99
2002	John Martin Gallery, Eightieth Birthday Exhibition
2003	John Martin Gallery, Chelsea, Landscapes
2004	John Martin Gallery, David Martin Rhythm & Hues
2005/09	Lemon Street Gallery
2006	John Martin Gallery, New Paintings
2007/11	Roger Billcliffe, Fine Art
2011	Lemon Street Gallery, Truro Thoughts on Landscape and Still Life Richmond Hill Gallery
2012/15	John Martin Gallery, London
2013	Lemon Street Gallery, Truro David Martin at 90
2015	Lemon Street Gallery, Truro Tactile Space
2015	John Davies Gallery, Moreton-in-Marsh



Back Cover: Ruth's Gift
oil on canvas, 20 x 24 ins



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