

SIMON BURTON

BRAD FAINE

BRENDAN NEILAND

G X G A L L E R Y

43 Denmark Hill London SE5 8RS

T: +44 (0)20 7703 8396

www.gxgallery.com

info@gxgallery.com

@gxgallery

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Artists share many things

Simon Burton, Brad Faine and Brendan Neiland on the surface seem to share very little. However scratch that surface and you may discover the story of what it is to be an artist.

Brad and Brendan met in 1973 and started their creative relationship together. Brad as the Master Printer at Coriander Studio developed with Brendan a series of commissioned prints. Working in this way Brad has been able to journey with many of Britain's leading artists. It is probably this aspect that emphasises one of the overlooked elements of what it is to be an artist. Namely that an artist shares; he is not merely a 'lone rider', but one who along the route develops close friendships, often spurred from a deep recognition of an endeavor that has haunted us since the caves of Lascaux.

Brendan is always quick to relate how important friendships develop, through shared experiences, shared values and also through challenging one another. This doesn't conform to the archetype of the artist undertaking the journey entirely alone.

While planning this show, a conversation with Brendan revealed the scope of that journey. Brad and Brendan have continued to work together over four decades. This relationship has been cemented with frequent summer visits to France, including an amusing trip to Monet's garden at Giverny to develop prints. The journey continues to this day. Simon joined the 'road' later, having been taught by Brendan at the University of Brighton in the 1990s. His shared journey has taken the three of them, in a literal sense, to places like the UAE and Poland.

Artists work, travel and show together, fostering friendship, understanding and empathy. It may be difficult to understand how important this is, but Brendan, Brad and Simon have said that seeing each other's work and being able to develop an honest and deep familiarity with it, results in a situation where criticism can be direct and purposeful, because it can get to the core of what the other artist is about. What do they share with the people who view their work?

Each one has a strong link to art history but there are more immediate ways into each of the artist's works. Brendan creates poetry from observation, light, form and colour while consciously avoiding literary allusion to focus us on the present through visual sensation. Brad, whose work is essentially conceptual, reflects on aspects of the human condition utilising historical, popular and frequently political references. To quote Mel Gooding "This Art dazzles the eye and plays games with the mind". Simon's paintings are created out of the chaos of material substance, creating a haunting atmosphere, punctured with an unexpected remembered fragment from a dream.

For artists to be able to have conversations with viewers, it is important that there is a shared 'language'. Each of these three recognises this and uses a form of it. While a language, based on the formal issues of painting exists, perhaps it only does so in the form of different dialects. This reminds us that language and painting are a form of living in and experiencing the world. Perhaps what artists do is ultimately is share those dialects with us.

As with all dialects we may understand some of it without necessarily understanding all of it. We are left with questions to ask and ideas to understand; thus artists are not engaged in a private adventure on a lonely road; they are inviting us to join them.

SIMON BURTON



Ah, it goes, is lost (Cy)
2011

Oil on linen 220 x 195 cm

Guitar Player
2014

Oil on linen 100 x 80 cm





Where, Who, Where
2011

Oil on Canvas 137 x 112 cm



Appearance of Birds
2011

Oil on linen 220 x 195 cm

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Adders and Ladders 2

2015

120 x 120cm

Limited edition hand-finished digital print on canvas

Edition of 5



Discreet Charm

2015

140 x 120cm

Limited edition hand-finished digital print on canvas

Edition of 5



Diamond Geezers
2015

120 x 120cm
Limited edition hand-finished digital print on canvas
Edition of 5



Pretty Ribbons
2015

120 x 120cm
Limited edition hand-finished digital print on canvas
Edition of 5

BRENDAN NEILAND



Downtown
2014

121 x 91 cm
Acrylic on canvas



Banter
2012-13

Acrylic on canvas
120 x 183 cm



Serendipity
2014

Acrylic on canvas
121 x 91 cm



Fusion
2012-13

Acrylic on canvas
122 x 183 cm

Simon Burton Selected CV

1973 Born UK
1992–95 Achieved a BA in Painting at The University of Brighton
1995–97 Achieved an MA in Painting at The Royal College of Art
1998 Solo Exhibition at Bantam Studios, Connecticut
2002 Selected for Artist Residency at National Gallery, London
2004 LAB 04, Group Exhibition at ICA, London
2005 LAB 05, Group Exhibition at ICA, London
2007 Awarded Arts Council of Ireland Grant
2007 Faith, Group Exhibition at Dean Clough Gallery, Halifax
2010 Black Swan Blue Woman, Solo Exhibition at Huddersfield Art Gallery and Museum, Huddersfield
2010 Floating World at SIB Contemporary Art in Hacchobori, Tokyo
2010, 2012 Selected to exhibit in the RA Summer Exhibition, London
2011–2012 Solo Exhibitions at Arch 402, London
2011 A Sort of Night to the Mind, Group Exhibition at ARTARY Gallery, Stuttgart
2011 Exhibited at SCOPE Art Fair, Miami
2012 Exhibited at SCOPE Art Fair, New York
2012 Between Cave and Gate, Solo Exhibition at Artary Gallery, Stuttgart
2013 One Year Later, Solo Exhibition at York College Gallery, York
2014 Elected Trustee of AGBI
2014 @Paintbritain, Group Exhibition at Colchester and Ipswich Museum
2014 Opinion Makers 2, Group Exhibition curated by LUBOMIROV – EASTON
2014 About Face, Group Exhibition at Swindon Museum and Art Gallery, Swindon
2014 Some of My Colours, Group Exhibition at The Eagle Gallery, London
2015 Rugby Collection 2015, Group Exhibition at Rugby Museum and Art Gallery, Rugby

Public Collections:

The Aldrich Collection, PWC Collection, Dimensional Media Associates Collection, Robert and Susan Kasen Summer Collection, Swindon Museum and Art Gallery, Rugby Museum and Art Gallery, and the Abbot Hall Collection.

Brad Faine Selected CV

1945 Born in Brighton
1965–66 Studied at West Sussex College of Art
1966–67 Studied at Southampton College of Art
1966–69 Leicester College of Art
1968 Selected as Britain's Entry to the Paris Biennale
1969 Exhibited in 3rd Chess Set, Invention of Problems at ICA, London
1972 Founded Coriander Studio with his wife Jane Fisher
1984 Produced the 'Band Aid for Live Aid Print' with Peter Blake
1998–2004 Part time lecturer at Royal Academy of Art
2004 Invited studio to Sao Paulo print Biennale
2011 Icons, Perceptions, Metaphors, Group Exhibition with Sir Peter Blake and Brendan Neiland at New Walk Museum & Art Gallery, Leicester
2012 Prints-r-us joint show with Steve Thomas at Chelsea Futurespace.
2001-2003 Selected to exhibit in RA Summer Exhibition, London
2011-2013 Selected to exhibit in RA Summer Exhibition, London
2013 Made an Honorary Doctor of Art at De Montfort University
2013 Solo Exhibition with GX Gallery at Searcy's, The Gherkin
2014 Intimations of Mortality, Solo exhibition at Dark Matter Studio Gallery, London
2014 Last Exist from Ealing solo show at For Arts Sake Gallery.
2014 I Editions solo show at Albermarle Gallery, London

Brad Faine's works are in many public collections in the UK, USA and the Middle East.

Brendan Neiland Selected CV

1941	Born Litchfield, Stafford
1961-66	Birmingham College of Art
1966-69	Royal College of Art, London
1971, 72, 74, 76	Solo Exhibitions at Angela Flowers Gallery, London (Now Flowers Gallery)
1973	London & Travelling, Solo Exhibition at the V & A, London
1976	Solo Exhibition at Arts Council Gallery, Belfast
1976	Solo Exhibition at Oxford Gallery, Oxford
1978	Awarded the John Moore's XI Prize
1979, 1984	Solo Exhibitions at Fischer Fine Art, London
1988	Elected Fellow of Royal Society of Painters and Etchers (RE)
1988	Solo Exhibition at Tate Gallery, London
	Archive display of the work in creating the print Lloyds
1989	Painting Beyond Architecture an Independent Observation, Solo Exhibition at Royal Institute of British Architects Galleries, London
1992 – 2005	Royal Academician
1993, 1997, 2011, 2014	Solo Exhibitions at Redfern Gallery, London
1996	Appointed Professor of Painting University of Brighton
1996	Cityscapes and Landscapes, Solo Exhibition at Pallant House, Chichester
1997	Solo Exhibition at the Royal Academy (Friends Room)
1998-2004	Keeper of The Royal Academy Schools
2014	Received an Honorary Doctorate from de Montford University
2014	Selected as Artist in Residence from Nan Yang Academy, Singapore
2015	Neiland in Singapore, Solo Exhibition at Galerie Belvedere, Singapore

Public Collections:

Tate, London; Victoria & Albert Museum, London; South London Gallery, London;
Arts Council of Great Britain, London; The British Council and many other public galleries and collections.

GX Gallery, established 2001, is a leading contemporary art gallery in London, representing emerging and established artists. The gallery has a regular programme of solo and group exhibitions through the year at the gallery and art fairs. Located in the heart of Camberwell, GX Gallery is within walking distance of the South London Gallery (SLG) and Camberwell College of Arts (UAL).

GX Framing offers museum-quality bespoke framing.
www.gxframing.com

Sales enquiries please contact: Lily Forwood
lily@gxgallery.com

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e: info@gxgallery.com

[@gxgallery](#)

Design Ferdy Carabott
Printing TG Print

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[@gxgallery](#)
