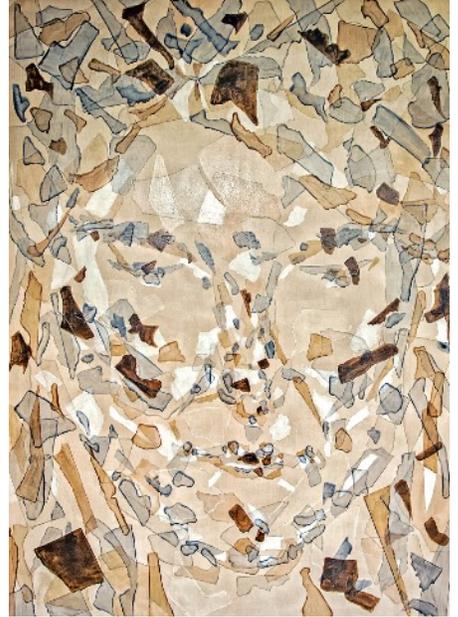


# Sam Potts

Fine Art



## Artist Statement

My work is primarily concerned with portraiture. This can encompass work from realist portrait commissions to abstract, material driven work. Through rigorously analysing the structure of someone's face through the act of painting, I am continuing the cultural tradition of portraiture.

My work can be produced to order, often aided by photography for a client. Alternatively, it may involve using more ambitious scale and mark making processes, thus presenting my subjects beyond the conventions of formal figurative painting. I regularly exhibit throughout the UK and often fund alternative projects by painting to commission. I have work in private collections internationally.

## Exhibitions

The City Screen, York. 'Paintings and Drawings' 2018

The City Screen, York. 'Portraits from Life' 2017

York Open Studios. Representing York St. John University 2016

House Gallery, Camberwell, London. 'Hello?... I Love You?' Group Exhibition. 2014

VJ's Art Bar York. 'Famous Faces of Yorkshire' 2012

The Station, Richmond, North Yorkshire. 'It's only Rock and Roll' 2011

## **Qualifications**

2014 – 2016, York St. John University, Masters (MA) in Fine Arts.

2000 – 2003, Norwich School of Art, Bachelor of Art (BA) in Fine Art.

1999 – 2000, Leeds College of Art and Design, BTEC Diploma in Foundation Studies in Art and Design. Specialising in Fine Art.

1997 – 1999, Ripon Grammar School, A Levels in Art and Design and Classical Studies.

## **Relevant Experience**

From 2014 to 2016 I worked for Accessible Arts and Media as an artist technician and later visiting artist running large group sessions. Being part of this arts charity team for adults with moderate to profound learning difficulties was an enriching and enjoyable collateral experience while studying for a Master of Arts degree.

Since graduating late in 2016 I went on to work at Brunswick Organic Nursery and Craft Workshop in Bishopthorpe. A fantastic charity organisation assisting and enabling a dedicated team of workers of various age groups with a range of learning difficulties.

Late in 2017 I became a member of Blueberry Academy at the Melbourne Centre, York. The organisation aims to support young adults with learning and physical difficulties into structured and consistent supported employment programmes. A large amount of my time was spent at the Selby branch, the 'Em People' crafts and learning centre and also at the Scarborough 'Blueberry at Woodend' studio and shop. I worked closely with the learners on all elements of running these businesses, producing stock and on more structured painting and drawing lesson programmes.

From early 2019 to present I am a member of the art department at Danesgate Community, a pupil referral unit in Fulford, York. We run bespoke, often one to one lessons to help accommodate individual students specific needs. Ages run from Key Stage 1 to Year 11 pupils.

## **Awards**

1999, The Bruce Oldfield Prize for Art and Design, Ripon Grammar School.

## **Commissions**

2016, Ms. Heather Gate, Manchester. Portrait of the singer Morrissey.

2015, Mr. Graham Hannah, Adelaide, Australia. Portrait of Paul Weller.

2015, Mr. Peter Tinker, York. His self portrait.

2013, Ms. Rosemary Shrager, Tonbridge Wells, Kent. Her self portrait.

2012, Mr and Mrs Hodgson, Harrogate. Private mural painted for children's playroom.

2011, Mr. Ramezani, Richmond. Portrait of David Bowie

2020, Mr Graham Hannah, Portraits of Genesis, Debbie Harry, Sean Connery & Elton John

