



BRIDGET MACDONALD



Magpie
sepia/Indian ink on card 10 x 15 cm

BRIDGET MACDONALD

Bright Clouds of May

5 – 28 MAY


campden
gallery

Bright Clouds of May

The drawings and paintings are mostly of places I know well – either the countryside around the Malvern Hills where I now live, or the coastal landscape of the Isle of Wight where I spent my childhood.

The sources of the work are a blend of observation, memory and imagination: for example, I came across the magnificent black bull with his cows on a brilliant July day several years ago while walking along the cliff near St Catherine's Lighthouse. That encounter led to the painting *Summer Cattle*. But I have only encountered The May Bull in the form of a tiny photograph (no more than 5 × 8 cm) dating from the 1930s. He belonged to my farming grandfather and has acquired almost mythical status, appearing over the years in various guises in my charcoal drawings.

May is of course the flower of the hawthorn which blossoms in the month of May. Images of trees recur throughout the works in this exhibition: the unusual sight of trees in heavy leaf standing in water in *September Flood*; the dark clumps in the Oxfordshire landscape glimpsed from the train to Paddington in the *Rainy Country (Great Western)* paintings; the blossoming tree in *Hawthorn and Oak* and the small paintings of elder bushes in flower in June.

I have borrowed the title from Edward Thomas, a poet I admire for his delicate descriptions of nature and his search for timelessness beyond the immediate scene. It also reminds me of one of my favourite paintings, *The Bright Cloud* by Samuel Palmer, which hung in my exhibition at Worcester City Art Gallery two years ago.

BRIDGET MACDONALD
Malvern, March 2018



The May Bull charcoal on paper 122 × 152 cm

Summer Cattle
oil on linen 102 x 127 cm





Rainy Country (Great Western) 1
oil on linen 46 × 61 cm



Rainy Country (Great Western) 2
oil on linen 46 × 61 cm



Late Summer Lighthouse
oil on linen 46 x 76 cm



Lighthouse and Black Cattle
oil on linen 76 x 102 cm



The Blue Hour
oil on linen 51 x 51 cm



Newtown Bird Hide
oil on linen 31 x 31 cm

The Bridge across the Flooded River
oil on linen 102 x 152 cm





The Goat Octavius
charcoal on paper 56 × 76 cm



Ewes
charcoal on paper 94 × 122 cm



Looking towards Bredon Hill from the Roof Terrace
oil study on linen 25 x 51 cm



September Flood
oil on linen 76 x 127 cm



Quince
oil on linen 15 x 15 cm



Apple 2
oil on linen 15 x 15 cm



Malvern Nocturne: Venus, Jupiter and the Crescent Moon
oil on linen 25 x 25 cm



Malvern Nocturne: The Blue Moon
oil on linen 25 x 30 cm



Elder in June 1
oil on linen 31 x 31 cm



Elder in June 2
oil on linen 25 x 31 cm



Spring Landscape
charcoal & graphite on paper 81 x 122 cm



Tulip and Butterfly
oil on linen 20 x 15 cm



A Sprig of Bay
oil on linen 31 x 25 cm

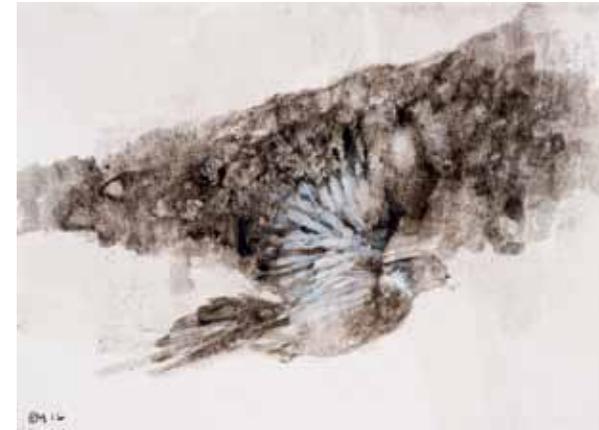


Sail
sepia/Indian ink & watercolour on paper 10 x 15 cm

Bridget Macdonald studied Fine Art at Stourbridge College of Art and the School of Art and Design, Wolverhampton Polytechnic from 1983 to 1987. She has had major solo exhibitions at Wolverhampton Art Gallery, Worcester City Art Gallery and Quay Arts on the Isle of Wight. She has also exhibited regularly with Art First in London over the last 25 years.

Her work is held in the collections of Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery, Wolverhampton Art Gallery, Worcester City Art Gallery, the House of Lords at 1 Millbank and in many private and corporate collections.

She lives and works in Malvern, Worcestershire.



Pigeon
sepia/Indian ink & watercolour on paper 10 x 15 cm

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FRONT COVER
Hawthorn and Oak oil on linen 36 x 46 cm

BACK COVER
Apple 1 oil on linen 15 x 15 cm





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