

20 Painters

8 February - 30 March

Open Wed - Sun, 11am - 5pm

20 Painters celebrates the strength and vibrancy of contemporary painting in the South East region today. Responding to an open submission call to artists based in Sussex, Kent and Surrey, twenty artists were selected to show their work in the gallery this year.

The artists are: **Sophia Alexander-James, Emily Ball, Tom Banks, Brian Bartlett, Pippa Blake, Julia Burns, Philip Cole, Elisha Enfield, Nina Garstang, Gary Goodman, Richard Goold, Geoff Hands, Lesley Jones, Jennifer Lock, Paula MacArthur, David Owen, Becky Rose, Angela Smith, Katie Sollohub, and Jake Wood-Evans**

Reflecting the artist-led ethos of the organisation, Phoenix based painters **June Frickleton** and **Patrick O'Donnell** were invited to develop the exhibition concept and select the work. They bring to this exhibition their own unique perspective as artists with backgrounds in studio practice as well as in curating and teaching.

Curators' statement:

'20 Painters' follows on from the vision of the '32 Paintings' in 2013. The purpose is to extend our remit further throughout the region and to create an exhibition that reflects the current trends in painting by emerging and established artists.

Last year's record attendance and visitors' desire to see more ambitious painting exhibitions has fuelled this show. Painting is still as relevant as ever, and we want to offer viewers the chance to see work they might not otherwise encounter in the vicinity.

There is no fixed theme other than this year's selection demonstrates a fluency, understanding and sophistication in the media and an engagement with the materials of painting. The work on show spans many genres, and we hope it will stimulate further discussion around contemporary painting practice. We have chosen to focus on twenty artists and to include several examples of each artist's work in order to offer a deeper insight into their practice.'

For further details of the exhibition and associated activities, please visit www.phoenixbrighton.org

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