

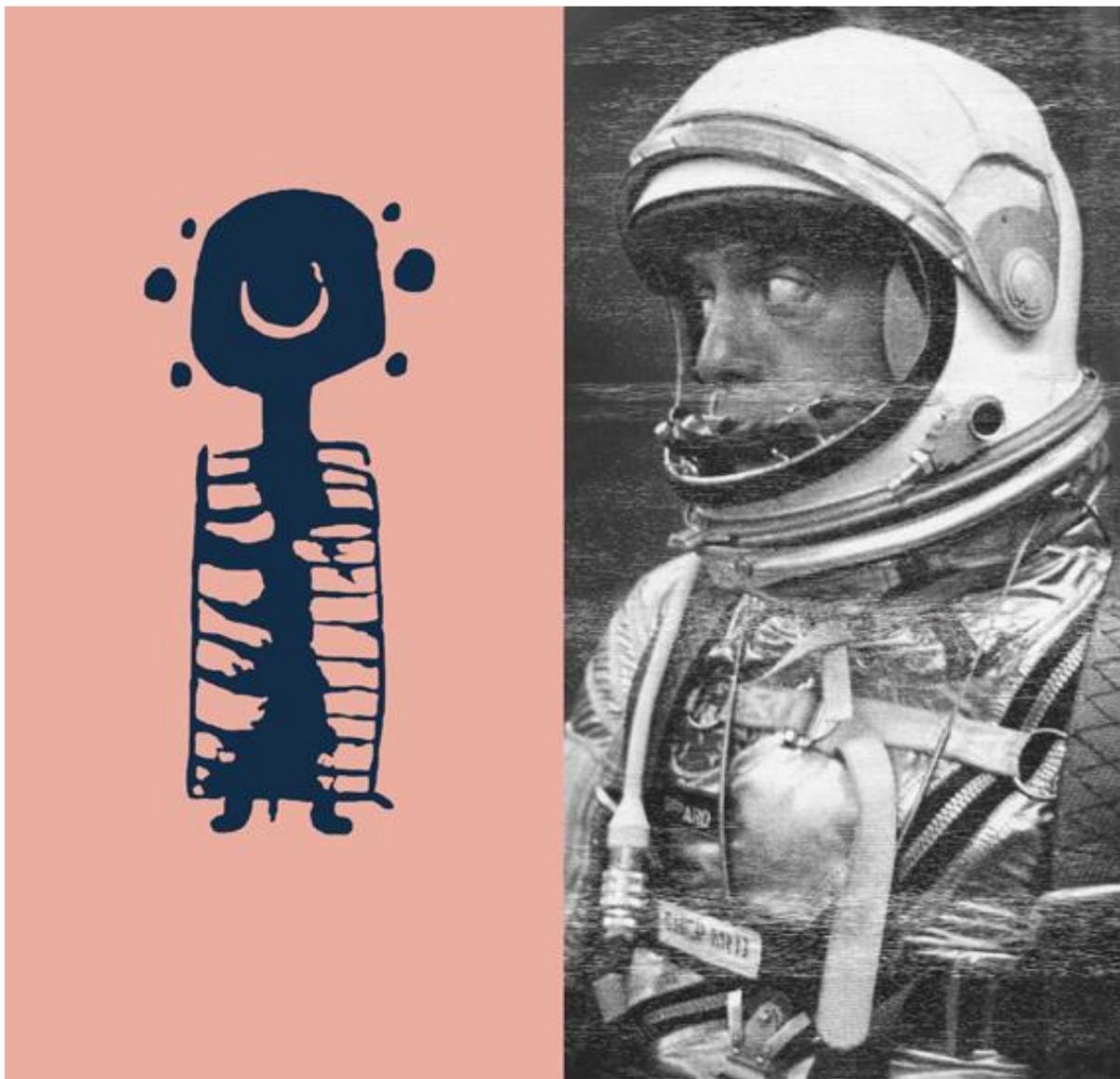
PRESS RELEASE

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NSA 125

Tremenheere Gallery
16 October to 7 November 2021



Final Frontier III, mixed media | Gordon Ellis Brown

This autumn, Tremenhoe Gallery presents a landmark exhibition celebrating 125 years of the Newlyn Society of Artists. The NSA was Founded in 1896 and is one of the longest-surviving art organisations anywhere. It currently has close to ninety members, and includes artists working across all disciplines from painting and printmaking and sculpture to film, all of whom either live in West Cornwall or have close links with the area.

The brief for this exhibition was simply for members to find inspiration from the NSA's prestigious history. The group was established by Stanhope Forbes and other innovative artists including Walter Langley, Dod Proctor and Dame Laura Knight, who challenged turn-of-the-century convention by painting the social and economic realities of real people in real-life settings. This included many of the people of Newlyn: the fishermen and women who worked in the fish industry, their children and extended families, and the local harbours and village settings of the time. Later came other waves of ideas, from Ithell Colquhoun's Surrealism to Peter Lanyon, Bernard Leach, Terry Frost, Sandra Blow and Kurt Jackson bringing new ways of seeing and making art, including Modernism, 70s Pop Art and Modern Expressionism, to the Newlyn Society.

Accordingly, the inspiration for works in the NSA125 exhibition might be inspired by a 20th century NSA artist, or a historic NSA painting, or ideas which NSA members have introduced and popularised over the last 125 years, such as working from real life, plein air painting, or using freer brushstrokes or bright colour.

Regarding this important anniversary exhibition, Yolande Armstrong, Chair of NSA, explains further, saying:

"The NSA began as a group of radical artists breaking away from tradition and seeking to create work which was fresh and unconfined by tradition, and that line of radical thought continues in the NSA today. Our artists push the boundaries and make work which is challenging in its content and form and continues to explore and experiment. This NSA125 exhibition celebrates our past but also the amazing community of artists who make up our current membership. Many have been showing exciting work with the NSA for many years, while others are new and will continue to bring welcome change. We are not looking backwards in this show – we are using our past in order to look forward. NSA shows are always vibrant and exciting and in this exhibition, presented in the lovely space of Tremenhoe Gallery, you might find the work of our members moving, or challenging, or simply beautiful and inspiring. In strange and difficult times, I think we all benefit from a pause for reflection, time to consider our past and our present, and to ponder our future."



(Left) Dream a Little Dream of Me, (right) In The Flow, mixed media on panel | Charlotte Turner



Home, glass construction with photography | Susan Kinley



Drift (detail), found objects, feather on paper | ARTIST TBC

See NSA125 from 16 October to 7 November 2021 at Tremenheere Gallery, Tremenheere Sculpture Gardens, Gulval, Penzance, TR20 8YL. For further information see www.tremenheere.co.uk or www.nsanewlyn.com

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Editors Notes

Newlyn Society of Artists

Founded in 1896 by an influential group of artists, the NSA today is a diverse group of around 85 contemporary artists working across all disciplines from painting and sculpture to performance, the moving image and more. The NSA is run by an annually elected voluntary committee, who continue to seek new opportunities and welcome new membership applications. In 2017, the NSA began an exciting new partnership with Tremenheere Sculpture Gardens, whose new, contemporary gallery space is the venue for their twice-yearly exhibitions.

www.nsanewlyn.com

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