

DESTINATION HARROGATE

NEWS RELEASE: New Open Exhibition Opens At Harrogate's Mercer Art Gallery

The Mercer Open, a biannual open exhibition that takes place at Harrogate's Mercer Gallery, has opened at the historic art gallery in the heart of the spa town.

For the first time, the exhibition includes work from artists whose connections stretch beyond the Harrogate district and more widely into the Yorkshire region.

In another first, buyers wishing to make purchases are able to take their artwork home before the end of the exhibition. Offering the opportunity for more artwork to be added to the exhibition throughout its run.

Some of the artists featured have shared their Yorkshire connections and their journey to creating the artwork, with stories available to discover at the exhibition.

With a stunning range of artwork from drawings and paintings in a variety of media to sculpture and ceramics, the exhibition encourages visitors to experience the artwork through "slow looking".

Slow looking involves spending more time with art: being curious and present in the moment; looking at the details of the artwork and considering how it affects mood and emotion.

Karen Southworth, Curator at the Mercer Gallery, said: "We were thrilled to receive such an impressive and wide range of quality artwork for The Mercer Open. This exhibition welcomes new artists to the gallery, welcomes back many who have supported the Open during its twenty year history, and celebrates talent across Yorkshire."

Courtney Spencer, Guest Curator of The Mercer Open said: "This really is an exhibition with something for everyone, from meticulously observed paintings to bold and colourful abstract work. It's a visually exciting exhibition - there's something wonderful in the contrast between such vibrant contemporary art and the elegant historic interior of the Mercer Gallery."

The Open Exhibition runs until 8th January 2023 at the Mercer Gallery, which is open from Tuesday to Sunday, 10am-4pm.

- ENDS -

NOTES TO EDITORS:

A selection of images (attached) is available for print and online publications. Please note, images of artwork should be credited to the individual artist(s). Images of the gallery exhibition should be credited The Mercer Open. High res images are available on request.

For enquiries about the exhibition please contact Courtney Spencer, Guest Curator, The Mercer Open: court.spencer.court@gmail.com 07786 181968

For media enquiries please contact Luisse Whiting, PR & Social Media Manager, Destination Harrogate: luisse.whiting@destinationharrogate.co.uk 07759 132110

More information about the Mercer Art Gallery is available [here](#).