



The Nicolas and Frances McDowall Collection of
BRITISH NEO-ROMANTIC ART

4 July – 5 September 2015

MONNOW VALLEY ARTS

IN THE
GARDENS

Sculpture by
Matt Lane Sanderson
and Rachel Wood

The Nicolas and Frances McDowall Collection of BRITISH NEO-ROMANTIC ART

We at Monnow Valley Arts have always taken a keen interest in British neo-romantic art. This is not surprising given the extraordinarily beautiful place in which the centre is located. We have already shown the work of Samuel Palmer, John Piper, Graham Sutherland and Ralph Maynard Smith, and we now have the pleasure of showing some of the treasures from the McDowall collection.

Most of these works have never been shown to the public before. As Dr Peter Wakelin points out in the introduction to the catalogue that accompanies the exhibition, this collection must be one of the few that takes the genre on from Piper and Sutherland into the latter half of the 20th century.

The McDowalls have been collecting for over 40 years. The exhibition consists of 60 works which chart the rise of neo-romanticism through the work of Nash, Piper, Sutherland, Tanner, Drury and other artists working in the 1930s, to those who

took the movement on into the 1940s and 1950s such as Minton, Vaughan, Colquhoun, MacBryde and Craxton and from there up to the end of the century.

Through their work at the Old Stile Press they have met and worked with younger artists such as Rigby Graham, Bert Isaac, Garrick Palmer and Clive Hick-Jenkins. These artists show us that the neo-romantic movement is still important to artists working today.

Neo-romanticism provides a language in which artists can express the spirit of a place – the *genius loci* – and the need to find significance beyond the purely visual, and this is perhaps why these paintings are still so evocative to us today.

There is a 72-page full colour catalogue available to order at £10 (+ post and packing £2) with a foreword by Nicolas and Frances McDowall and an introduction by Dr Peter Wakelin, former director of collections at the National Museum of Wales.

Rupert Otten, Monnow Valley Arts



Front details, clockwise from top left: John Craxton, Julian Trevelyan, Michael Ayrton, Ceri Richards, Robin Tanner, John Elwyn
Above: Joseph Webb

The Trustees and Directors of Monnow Valley Arts have the pleasure of
inviting you to the opening of the exhibition

The Nicolas and Frances McDowall Collection of BRITISH NEO-ROMANTIC ART

On Saturday 4 July 2015

Dr Peter Wakelin will officially open the exhibition at 3 pm

Exhibition continues until 5 September 2015

Please note that paintings and drawings from the collection will be in the Main galleries and
prints and monotypes in the Studio



Also opening 4 July until 5 September 2015

Sculpture by Matt Lane Sanderson and Rachel Wood

An outdoor display and maquettes and smaller works upstairs in the Studio

Matt and Rachel live in Herefordshire and have forged a reputation for stylish large scale sculpture mainly in metal



Exhibitions open Thursday and Fridays 11 am to 5 pm and weekends 2–5 pm and at other times by appointment. Groups welcome by appointment

Entrance to garden £4 per person, donations requested for galleries and Studio



Monnow Valley Arts

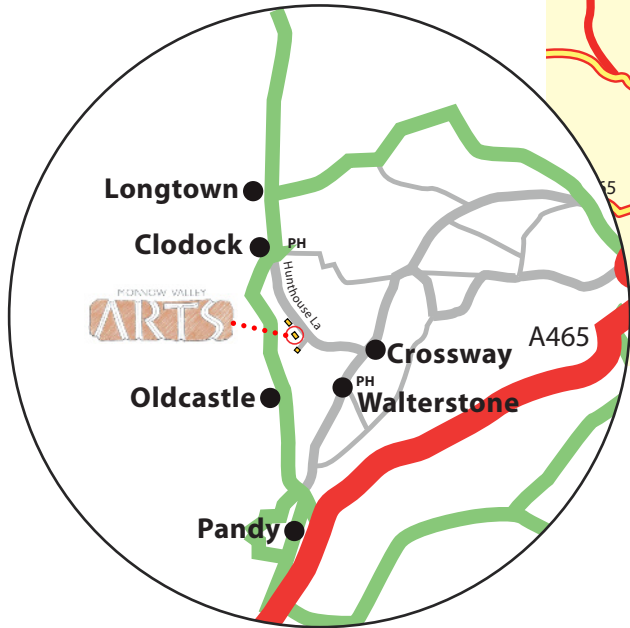
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Registered Charity No. 1123483

Directions to Monnow Valley Arts Centre

The Centre is at grid reference SO334262. Please be aware that satellite navigation systems take you to the next-door property.



From Hereford or Abergavenny take the A465 to Pandy. Turn west at the Old Pandy Inn, in the direction of Longtown. At Clodock Church turn right. Monnow Valley Arts Centre is one mile up the lane, on the right-hand side, clearly marked.