



PRESS RELEASE

D CONTEMPORARY GALLERY
23 GRAFTON STREET
LONDON, W1S 4EY

CONTEMPORARY

E: sok@strategyinternational.co.uk

T: 07966214806

www.dcontemporary.com

David Clapham

'The Borders' – 'das Beiras'

EXHIBITION DATES | 8th - 21st November

PRIVATE VIEW | 7th November 6:30 - 9pm

RSVP - sok@strategyinternational.co.uk

David Clapham was born in North Yorkshire and following study at Harrogate College of Art in the 1960s was accepted at the Slade School in London and enjoyed a unique education under the guidance of Professor William Coldstream and William Townsend.

London at that time was a hotbed of new ideas in the arts and the advent of pop culture contrasted strongly with the figurative traditions of the Slade School. This encouraged a re-evaluation of objective painting and sculpture, and the work of Michael Andrews, Euan Uglow, Leonard McComb, Anthony Gormley and Paula Rego reflected this new Slade philosophy.

While at the Slade, Clapham worked in both painting and sculpture largely from life, later experimentation with abstract expressionism was strongly influenced by the American Exhibitions held at the Tate Gallery. While at the Slade he was awarded a travelling scholarship, and stayed in Paris, later moving south to the Med in Colliouer, and then, Banyuls, the birthplace of Maillol, and once a favourite haunt of Matisse and Derain.

Returning to England, he lived and worked in London supporting himself with casual work at the BBC and in theatre, he then returned to post graduate studies at Bradford College of Art, exhibiting at the Spring Exhibition in 1965.

The same year he was appointed as a lecturer in Fine Art at Wolverhampton Polytechnic, moving to Liverpool College of Art in 1967 to teach painting. Here he made a notable contribution in the development of 'new media' by including film and moving image into the Fine Art vocabulary.

While still painting and exhibiting, he established an Art Gallery, and was a founder member of a studio complex 'Bridewell Studios', that included among others Anish Kapoor, Ian McKeever, Adrian Henri and Maurice Cockrill as resident artists.

While working as a Fine Art lecturer, Clapham developed a successful twenty-year relationship with mainstream television, eventually moving full time into documentary film-making in 1989 frustrated with the increasing bureaucracy of Art Education.

David Clapham's work has moved full circle back to the painter's studio within the last ten years. His body of work is the culmination of a career of visual experiment and in particular the ongoing challenge of combining the use of technology with the painter's art. As a reoccurring image the landscapes around his home in Portugal are incorporated with those of his riverside home in Rotherhithe South London, and images from other influences including personal and inherited memories. The resultant paintings are as much about the mood and changes of light that occur in the landscape as they are about the computer generated means of their reproduction. The time and labour involved in reworking of the image allows for the assimilation of influences from previous paintings, drawings, videos and memories. These paintings have a 'time warp' quality about them, holding the possibility that a glimpse has been captured of another dimension.



Transition painting one
Acrylic and collage on canvas,
2013.
1540 x 500 mm



Unique exhibition space in Mayfair

Opening Times: Monday - Friday 11am - 6pm

Saturday: 11am - 5pm

FACEBOOK - @dcontemporay

TWITTER - @dcontempart

INSTAGRAM - @dcontemporary