

The Tree Art Gallery

Newsletter

May 2022



A warm welcome to the sculptor **Paul de Monchaux** to The Tree Art Gallery. Paul was born in Montreal in 1934 and studied at the Art Students League, New York (1952-1954) and at the Slade School of Fine Art (1955-1958). After teaching at the Nigerian College of Arts, Science and Technology (1958-1960) and Goldsmiths College of Art (1960-1965), he went on to become Head of Sculpture and Head of Fine Art at Camberwell School of Art. In 1986 he retired from teaching to focus attention on his own work. The **Tree Art Work of the Month** is Paul's lime wood sculpture illustrated above, entitled *Studies for Male & Female Columns (Study 1)*. As Art Work of the Month the gallery is offering 10% off the purchase price for this month only. The work is available as a single piece or as part of a series email us at info@thetreeartgallery.com for more details.



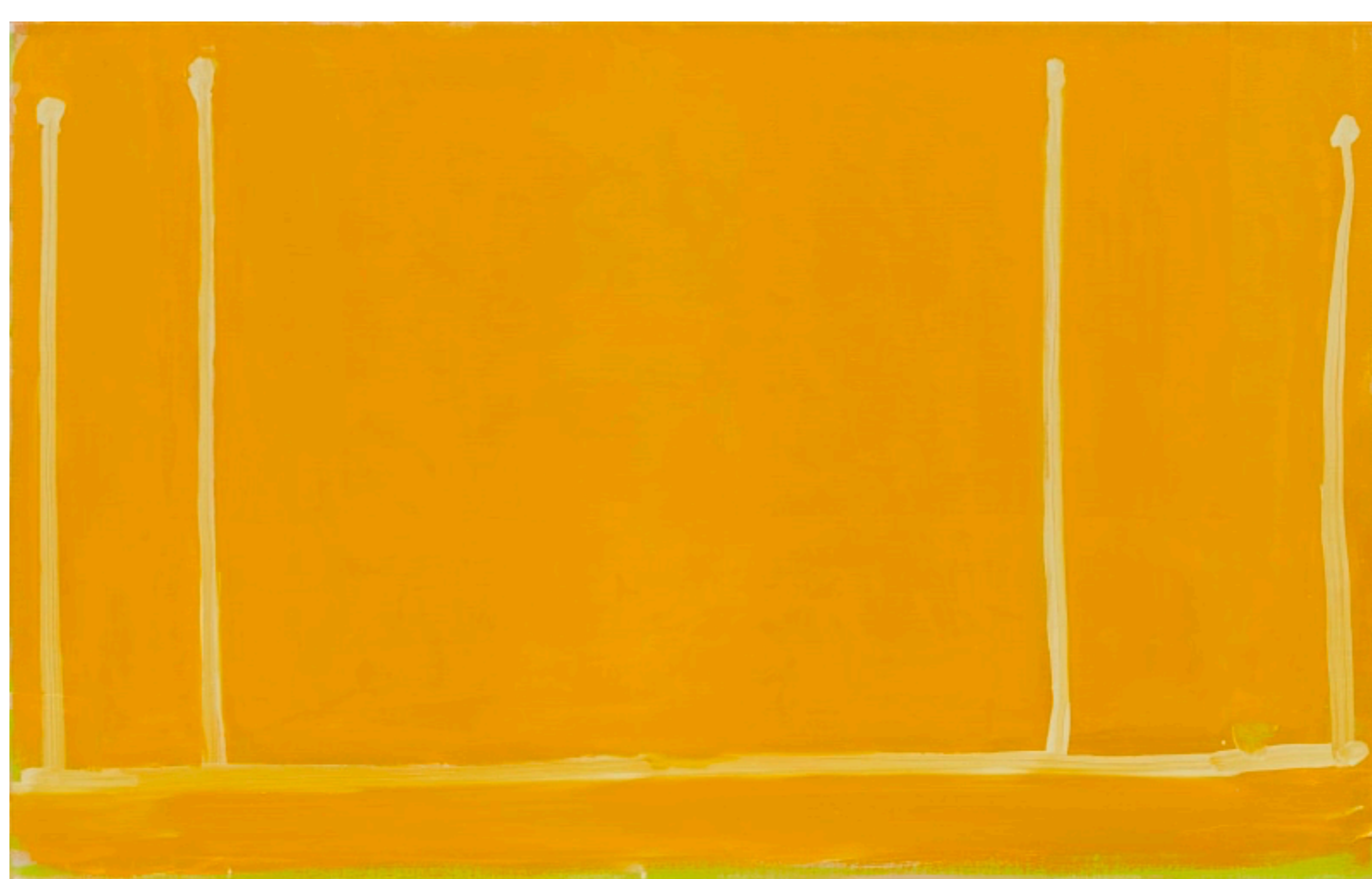
Trees in British Art - A Brief History

by Dr Christiana Payne

We are delighted that Dr Payne, the author of **Silent Witnesses; Trees in British Art 1760-1870** has written a very brief history of Trees in British art which is our May blog on the website, follow this link to read the full fascinating article that is a taste of the broader discussion found in her book published by Sansom & Company (2017); <https://www.thetreeartgallery.com/blog/>

Can anyone guess the artist of the Larch Tree drawing illustrated here? Email info@thetreeartgallery.com if you know!

Christopher le Brun PPRA will be interviewed at the next PoetryEast event at the London Buddhist Centre on 28th May 2022. Christopher's stunning painting *Woodlines VIII* (illustrated below) is available as a single work or one of a series of works inspired by his musings on wood engravings and lines, as Christopher explains: "The question I had set myself was how to make woodcuts out of habitual and ordinary actions such as cutting, pressing and covering - that already feel dense enough with significance to stand up for themselves outside any context of technical sophistication. Cutting a line suggested a direct analogy with making a path through an unknown forest or wood. Some paths lead to a clear destination, some just wander along or return on themselves or even suddenly end. Putting oneself on the wood-path or wood-line is therefore to set out, guided not by everyday logic, but by something else. Woods and trees have formed a central motif of my work, in particular culminating in the four monumental paintings made between 1987 and 1990: *Forest, Aram Nemus Vult, The Briar Wood* and *Tristan*. The *Woodlines* paintings feel like the concentrated essential inheritors of those works and indeed, for proof of the idea's longevity, I can still remember one my very earliest paintings - three simple white columns spaced a little apart, like a portico against a dark wood." For more information email info@thetreeartgallery.com.



Jasper Goodall has been invited to join the group exhibition **Once Upon a Time** exploring Folklore, Myths and Fairytales, co-curated by Flora Fairburn and Katie Heller; 6-25th May; Chiltern St, London. Jasper's photograph *Visitant* (below) will be on view email info@thetreeartgallery.com for more details.



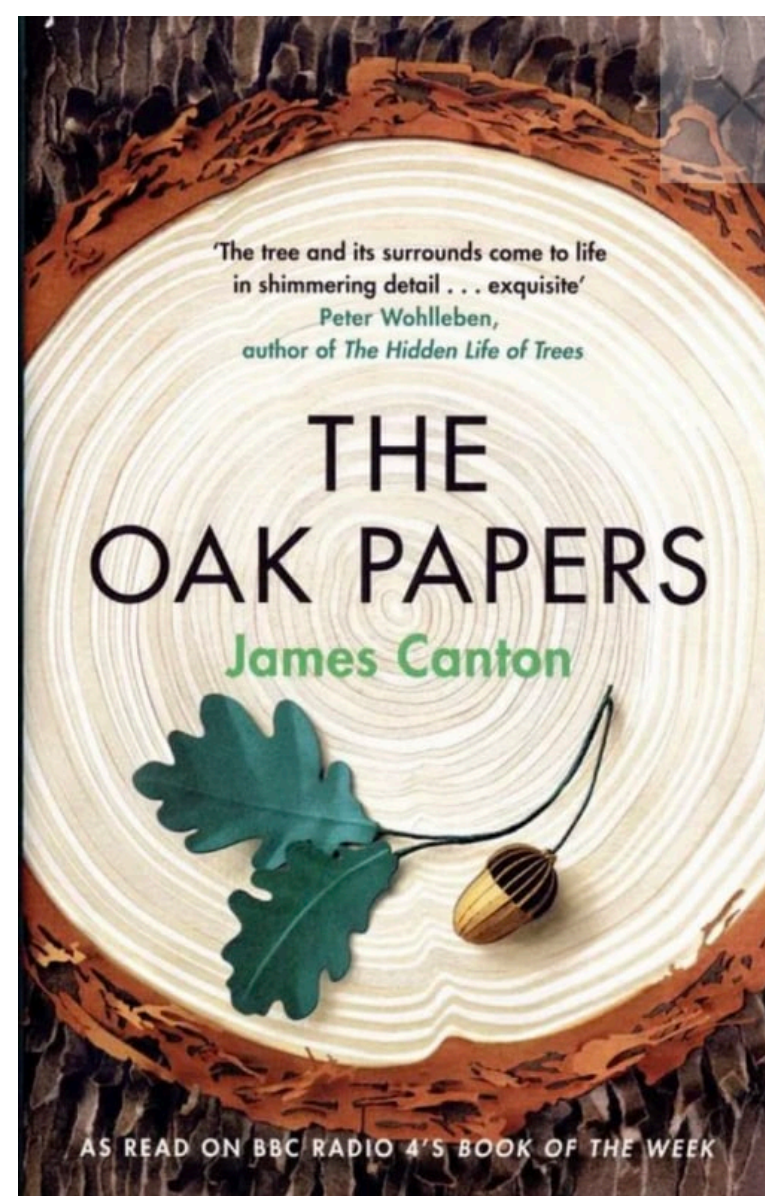
Tree Book

We highly recommend this lovely book about James Canton's two years spent with an ancient Honeywood Oak tree and the related poetry, people and stories he encounters during that time:

"My hand upon the oak.

How do you explain that feeling, that rising emotion, which comes as your hand rests against an ancient oak? What is it we feel? Perhaps we do not always appreciate the significance of the value of that touch from one species to another species, from one individual to another individual. How do you explain that sensation which each human being knows when we as one living creature touch upon the life-force of another being of another species?"

J. Canton, *The Oak Papers*, Canongate, 2020, p. 71



Tree News

We are really looking forward to visiting **Forestry England's new exhibition amongst the trees at Grizedale Forest** in the Lake District. The specific site commissioned sculptures are by artists including Anthony Gormley, Sadie Claton, Saad Querishi, Steven Anwar, Kerry Morrison amongst others; <https://www.forestryengland.uk/grizedale> A new Art Fair concept?

Next Month there will be news about a very exciting new collaboration between the Tree Art Gallery artist Mary Anne Aytoun Ellis and The Queens Green Canopy charity, more books on the theme of Trees, Tree poetry and news on an interesting new arts project for children called The Oak Project.

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