

SANCTUARY

Somerset Art Weeks 2022



**Welcome to our home since 1962.
We hope you enjoy the works
of art presented by our members.**



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In 1961 Jean Rees RWA with John 'Jack' Fieldhouse founded The Chandos Society of Artists to encourage the practice and appreciation of the visual arts, a principle still honoured today. In 1946 Jean Rees was a founder member of the Bridgwater Arts Centre. The centre is England's first art centre to be funded by the then new Arts Council. The close association with Bridgwater Arts Centre started on October 12 1962 with a Lecture "Abstract Art" by Warren Storey, Principal, Weston-super-Mare College of Art. Thereafter many of the Exhibitions and Events were held in the Bridgwater Arts Centre.

It was not until 1983 when the Art Centre acquired No 13 Castle Street, (arranged by the late John Allen who later became Chairman of the Society) that a dedicated gallery was established. Since then the Chandos Society of Artists has staged at least two exhibitions a year there.





Maureen Carveley

Maureen has had a lifelong passion for Art, and having qualified in the 60s at Bournemouth and Hornsey College of Art, she continues to practice and expand her skills. Now retired she is able to enjoy working in watercolour and acrylics both in her small studio and outdoors and is particularly inspired by the landscapes of Somerset.





Ken Church

Sanctuary to me is about a place outside with nature where the noise and bustle of modern life has retreated and I can enjoy 'me time'.





Ann Day

I began to paint about 20 years ago as I was assured that I would find it a relaxing hobby. What lies!! How can something that requires such concentration and such a critical eye be relaxing? Absorbing and other worldly – yes, it is and like many others I am now an addict





Anne Farmer



Taking the rather abstract term 'Sanctuary' as a starting point seemed to require, for me, a very different approach. Normally I'm motivated to paint something I have observed in the world around me.

My starting point, by chance, was the 'Sanctuary Knocker' at Durham Cathedral. I found it dramatic and thought-provoking. Although it is a tangible artefact, on the North Door of the ancient Cathedral, it spoke of a powerful 'other' world, and the beliefs and fears held nine centuries ago. The fearsome lion head represents the Hellmouth, and close inspection reveals a poor wretch being swallowed up, while, for good measure, he is also being devoured feet first by two snakes. Sanctuary – freedom from immediate

arrest – was granted to anyone who could grasp the knocker handle. Thus summoned, monks would give the fugitive 37 days of shelter. The supposed sinner had to wear a black gown bearing the cross of St Cuthbert, whose remains lie in the Cathedral. At the end of that period the choice was to go into exile or stand trial: so – no easy way out.

This led me to imagine many hands universally reaching out to grasp safety, refuge, and comfort. I then looked at the interior of the ancient Cathedral with its timeless quality of light and shade. And finally I brought myself back to familiar ground and the end of a journey: to my own more humble and homely parish church at Moorlinch, hundreds of miles south.





Sandy Flores

Art, Design and Crafts are my lifelong passion. Pattern and Texture my inspirations. I make art because I have a mind that won't stand still, hands that can't be idle, and it gives pleasure.



My work is not perfect, life is not perfect, my work is life and it's there to enjoy.





Steve Gathercole

Whilst I always had an interest in Art I did not pursue art until I took early retirement from the I.T industry. My wife suggested I took up Art as a hobby. Initially I focused on Airbrush art but soon became interested in Oils, Pastels, Coloured pencils, Graphite and more recently Watercolour.

Growing up in rural Norfolk villages and coming from a farming background, I was always fascinated by wildlife

which is the main subject matter for my artwork. Over the years I have developed a style of fine detail and realism which I have tried to apply to each medium I use.

Now living in a small Somerset village I am also lucky to live near an amateur photographer who specialises in local bird photography. He has been an excellent source of Somerset bird reference material, allowing me to study all types of birds in greater detail.





Jonet Middleton

My sanctuary over the last few years has involved painting, drawing and a lot of wool!

All these aspects of my work are connected by creativity and mental activity. This has brought calm and serenity in traumatic times.





Pat Preater

All my pictures touch upon the theme of Sanctuary, I have thought about it a lot. Painting has been a time of solace through difficult times. Each painting can tell a story describing what it is like to find comfort on my own or in company. Sketches form the basis of the works completed in a variety of media.





Louise Prior

Louise is exhibiting 4 canvases that are personalised with subtle nuances that entice the viewer to understand how their lived experiences relate to how they perceive the world and, in turn, how this reflects in their interpretation of an image.

Hello, welcome to my journey into art. I primarily paint using acrylic, but enjoy using pastels and oils too. My Jack Russell and I often go on adventures to find the subject of my next painting, sometimes accompanied by one of my three lovely children or my partner. In the past I have seen the impact art can have on people. I truly believe that creativity is needed to enhance life.





Hiroyuki Sakurai

I have always been a keen photographer with a particular interest in architecture, landscape, and abstract work incorporating dark & light and close-up.

I use several vintage medium format cameras which have been upgraded to digital. I also use a panoramic film camera and digital compact camera.

Since retiring I have become a member of the Sedgemoor Camera Club, recently becoming image secretary for the club. I also joined Chandos Society of Artists where I derive inspiration from my fellow artists. This also applies to my fellow camera club members.

My focus when taking a photograph is to capture the essence of the image, whether place, or an abstract image within an

everyday item.



To me personally, sanctuary is the state of mindfulness in which I am able to capture the timeless beauty of sacred buildings





Rob Shuttleworth

Rob's work is mainly figurative, underpinned by accomplished drawing skills and approached in a painterly / impressionistic style. Rob's landscape subjects range from sea level (beaches & harbours, Venice, Somerset Levels) to the lakes and mountains of Wales, Scotland, Lake District and the Alps.

He can find sanctuary in all these places. Rob grew up near the Lake District but has lived in Somerset for over 40 years. He went to art college for 2 years but quit a fine art degree and followed a different career path which included some architectural illustration.

For many years Rob specialised in watercolours but now works mainly in oils. He has exhibited and sold paintings at various venues in Somerset and North Wales, with some works finding their way to foreign embassies.





Geoff Sully

*I paint people and places
that have enhanced my life.
Anchorage points.
My home is like a photo
album, filled with fond
memories.*



We all hope that you enjoyed your visit to our exhibition and that you will come back to visit us again soon.

Meanwhile you can view our members' work on The Chandos Society of Artists' website:

chandosartistsociety.uk

There you can view some of their work under the tab '*Members Galleries*'. You can also find out when the Society's next exhibition or event is held under '*Events Programme*'.

If you would like to speak to any of the artists in the exhibition to discuss a commission or other aspect of their work please feel free to email them at the address given on the right.

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