

The Trinity College Dublin Art Collections

Artist: David Carson Shaw

Title: *From the Edge*

Medium: oil on board

Dimensions: 25.5cm x 25.5cm

b. 1942, Rotherham, England

David Carson Shaw is a contemporary British painter. He studied Fine Art in Sheffield Polytechnic and also read history at Trinity College Dublin. In 1969 Shaw received a postgraduate scholarship for painting at the Fine Arts Academy in Munich. Shaw is an exhibiting member of the Art House Wakefield and is also a fellow of the Royal Society of Arts.

Shaw has stated that the aim of his paintings is to portray a 'sense of permanence and happiness- yet with an awareness of time passing'. In his distinctive bold, jewel-like colours, Shaw creates landscapes which appear as though they are being viewed through a prism. The figures and animals which populate these dreamy, surreal spaces are minute, emphasizing the awesome beauty of the world around them. These beings are often in movement, suggesting a journey of discovery through this strange and wondrous land. For the artist the landscape genre is an ideal format to represent the stillness and spirituality inherent in our world while also examining our place as beings within this world.

Though in general, Shaw's scenes do not bear any realistic resemblance to the physical world, it is possible to recognise famous landmarks or symbols of a particular culture in his paintings. Often these landmarks refer to religious or meditative spaces, such as gardens or temples, and serve to situate the viewer in a place of calm and introspection. The artist maintains that his works are primarily based upon personal experience and direct observation, yet with a universally comprehensible spiritual element. Shaw's recent works have been greatly influenced by his travels to the Peak District, Scotland, Italy, China and India.

Throughout his career, Shaw has held over forty solo exhibitions and participated in both regional and national group exhibitions. His works are in the collections of the Arts Council of England, Chesterfield Museum and Art Gallery and the Fine Arts Academy in Munich. A total of 12 pictures have been donated by David Carson Shaw to the art collection of Trinity College Dublin.

Information contained in this article is from www.davidcarsonshaw.co.uk

This information has been compiled by Art Collections assistants, interns, and volunteers
For further information please consult www.tcd.ie/artcollections