

What Moves Us in Art Today and How We Celebrate it at Edinburgh Art Fair 2025

Hello Art Lovers,

As we prepare for the return of Edinburgh Art Fair this September, we've been speaking with galleries and artists to capture a snapshot of what's shaping the contemporary art world today.

What's Resonating in Contemporary Art Right Now?

A few strong themes have emerged:

- **A Return to the Tangible** – Collectors are gravitating toward “understandable” painting, particularly fresh takes on nature and animals, alongside mixed media works that combine traditional skills with inventive materials. Sustainability, recycling, and ecology are especially powerful themes, with many artists creating striking pieces from repurposed materials that carry both beauty and meaning.
- **Emotional Abstraction and Symbolism** – Emerging artists are increasingly exploring what some describe as “emotional impressionism”: works that blend abstraction with colour, gesture, and symbolic resonance. These pieces echo expressive traditions while carving out new, deeply personal narratives that connect powerfully with audiences.
- **Visibility and Discovery** – Art fairs are becoming ever more vital for new artists, offering visibility, dialogue, and discovery that online platforms can't fully replicate. For many, Edinburgh Art Fair represents a pivotal opportunity to showcase, connect, and learn where their practice resonates in the broader art world.

Fringe Events:

This year marks the 20th anniversary of Edinburgh Art Fair — two decades of providing a platform for art galleries, individual artists, groups, and creative projects to share their work and vision with the broader community.

Visitors can look forward to more than just exhibitions:

- **Tapestry Stitching** – Engage with some of the expert stitchers who are helping create The Cancer Tapestry, a remarkable work that tells the stories of 1,000 individual cancer journeys.

- AGORA Exhibition – This special exhibition reflects the fair's ethos of community and sharing.
- Open Easels – Creative workshops for children, giving them the chance to make their own artworks and proudly display them at the entrance.
- Trevor Jones Presents: The Titanium Angel — An Immersive Art Experience where you become the art.
- Short Films - We will be showing three award-winning short films in our Film Loft throughout the weekend.

Artist Talks & Demonstrations:

We have a complete programme of talks and demonstrations to entertain our visitors this year. Artists Trevor Jones, Andrew Crummy MBE, Laura Gressani, Alexander Millar, Reggie Baxter, and Katy Rundle will discuss their work. At the same time, Alexander Millar, Aska Marzec, and Alastair Blain will conduct live painting demonstrations.

Details of these can be viewed on the website along with dates and times for specific talks.

Auction for Charity:

We are also proud to support the MY NAME'S DODDIE FOUNDATION with a charity auction of The Strange and Divisive Genius of William McGonagall, an original 1m x 1.4m painting by celebrated artist, illustrator, and author Charles Nasmyth.

The painting will be on display at the fair, and bids can be placed both during the event and online where you can also view the painting ahead of its unveiling at Edinburgh Art Fair next month.

Personal Invitations:

If you receive this newsletter, it is because you are signed up to our database. To keep receiving our monthly newsletters and to qualify for your personal invitation to the fair, please stay subscribed.

Your invitation to this year's Edinburgh Art Fair will be sent out to you in early September.

Your invitation will be sent as an Eventbrite link, allowing you to download up to two tickets.

Each ticket admits two people to the Preview Evening on Thursday, 18th September, from 18:30 to 21:30, and is also valid for the three public days: Friday, 19th September, Saturday, 20th September, and Sunday, 21st September.

Doors open at 11:00 each day and close at 18:00 (16:00 on Sunday).

If you have any friends or family members who would like to join us at the fair this year, please ask them to subscribe via the home page on our website, artedinburgh.com and they too will be sent an Invitation for the event.

When & Where:

The 20th Anniversary Edinburgh Art Fair takes place from Thursday 18th September and runs through to Sunday 21st September at Edinburgh Corn Exchange, New Market Road, Edinburgh, EH14 1RJ.

Doors open

Thursday 18th : 18.30 - 21.30.

Friday 19th - Sunday 21st : 11.00 - 18.00 (16.00 Sunday).

Further information can be found at www.artedinburgh.com