

Anne Gournay

When I discovered printmaking at Central Saint Martins in 2007, I really enjoyed the planning and technical skills required, as well as the freedom to experiment and the forever-thrilling element of surprise – you never know what your work will look like until the first print! I decided to refocus my work on printmaking, always trying to discover new ways of exploring its endless possibilities.



- 1971** Born in Nantes, France
1990–1994 Studied at ESCP Europe, Paris (Master in Management)
1993–1994 MBA programme at University of Toronto, Canada
1994–2004 Worked as Marketing Manager for Danone Group in France and UK.
1997–2001 Art Evening classes at Kensington and Chelsea College, London.
2004–2006 Retrains and studies Fine Art and Painting at Ateliers Beaux Arts de Paris–Glacière, and École des Arts Décoratifs, Paris.
July 2007 Painting Exhibition at the Alliance Française in New York City, USA.
2007–2008 Central Saint Martin (Graphic Design Portfolio Course), London
2009 Experimental Printmaking Course and Illustration Course at Central Saint Martin, London.
2012 Becomes a member of the Printmakers Council
2013–present Represented by Byard Art in Cambridge.

Exhibitions in 2015 include:

Christmas crackers, Byard Art Gallery, Dec 2015; 50 years of Artists prints, Bankside gallery, Nov 2015; 50:50, Affordable Art Fair in Hampstead, June 2015; New Ashgate Gallery, May-June 2015; Works on Paper, Barbican Library, March 2015.

Collections: V&A print collection, Private collectors in the UK, France, Spain, Germany, USA, Abu Dhabi, Australia, New Zealand.

After having practised art in parallel with a marketing career, I decided to fully dedicate myself to art in 2003. I retrained and specialised in painting at Ateliers Beaux Arts de Paris-Glacière and École des Arts Décoratifs and was selected for a painting exhibition in New York (2007). I then discovered Printmaking at Central Saint Martins and found that on many levels, this medium fitted my personality. It was like when you meet someone for the first time and know immediately that you were making a new best friend!

Through solitary landscapes and close-up portraits, I explore the issues of loneliness and intimacy, in a modern world where people are very often disconnected with their real selves. In our modern age, and contrary to what still happens in some primitive societies, people have distanced themselves with nature and their own nature.

Saturated with communication, bombarded with constant stimulation, we loose touch with who we really are. By picturing empty nature (often isolated from an overcrowded urban environment), I am aiming at reconnecting us with our inner selves, giving us time and space to recollect ourselves, and think... a space to meditate.

I find inspiration in my passion for charcoal drawing, and photography and aim at recreating the atmospheric images associated with these media. My screenprints are more graphic and conceptual. I use my camera as a sketchbook and rework my images many times in my head before starting the plate-making or screen-making process. Enthusiastic about new techniques, I use various forms of printmaking, from relief, to screenprint, including photopolymer and traditional etchings, sometimes combining them.

L'invitation au voyage, 28 x 20 cm, 2 plate etching & aquatint (edition of 40)



OPPOSITE
Listen to my heart beat II
40 x 40 cm
aquatint and solar plate
(edition of 40)