

December 2007

For immediate publication

BELOW THE CAIRNGORMS

KURT JACKSON'S 2008 BI-ANNUAL SCOTTISH COLLECTION

LEMON STREET GALLERY at DUNDAS STREET, EDINBURGH

Saturday 16th March - Saturday 29th March 2008

Below the Cairngorms

One Christmas holiday when I was 12 years old my family took me on a skiing holiday in the Cairngorms. The memory of trying to dodge the multi coloured crowds on the slopes with my newly acquired skiing 'skills' still remains at the back of my mind. There was one particularly terrifying experience, when, having left my sticks on the chairlift I found myself charging down hill out of control to a rapidly approaching cliff edge! After this I took to walking and exploring the place by foot – the strongest memory of the place that remains is the lie of the land – the mountains, valleys with their streams, rivers, the vegetation, and of course the beasties that were to be seen. There was an excitement about the chance of seeing eagles, wild cat and capercaillie; being in an area inhabited by red deer, ptarmigans and mountain hare. This excitement was what I wanted to re-visit.

In the spring of 2007 we arrived in a sunny Scotland to stay on a croft beneath a huge ancient Granny Scots Pine. Using this as a base we traced the shoreline of lochs, got lost in the Caledonian Forest, followed the Spey and went a little way up the hillsides. Everything was there. The ospreys were fishing in the Spey and having their domestics at Loch Garten; every small loch had a pair of Goldeneye flirting on it ; the birches and pines were swaying with the red squirrels; the deer were glimpsed between the trunks of the trees; and I tried to paint it all – recapturing that delight I had as a 12 year old.

Kurt Jackson 2007

Kurt Jackson is one of Britain's leading painters. Born in 1961 his work embraces an extensive range of materials and techniques including mixed media, large canvases, relief work, print making and sculpture. Whether working in Cornwall, up country or abroad, Jackson's paintings are set in places that have been travelled to and explored regularly through out his life and seen through the eyes of an artist with a deep and rich understanding of natural history and ecology, politics and environmental issues; maybe recording a time and place and a way of life - a geography where past and present co exist. Jackson's paintings are fluent, dynamic and exciting, resulting from a working method that is both challenging and intense.

Kurt Jackson is primarily known for his land and seascapes of Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly, which he shows annually in a themed project with Lemon Street Gallery, Truro, Cornwall. Every other year the Lemon Street Gallery has also taken a collection of Scottish landscapes by Kurt Jackson to Dundas Street Gallery for an exhibition in early Spring. This began with *The Paps of Jura* (2004) and was followed by *Neil's Place* (2006) which featured Wester Ross and Loch Diabeg.

This March 2008, Lemon Street Gallery is proud to bring to Edinburgh, Scotland Kurt Jackson's newest collection celebrating the mountainous region in the Eastern Scottish highlands. The show will run for a fortnight and includes over thirty new pieces of work.

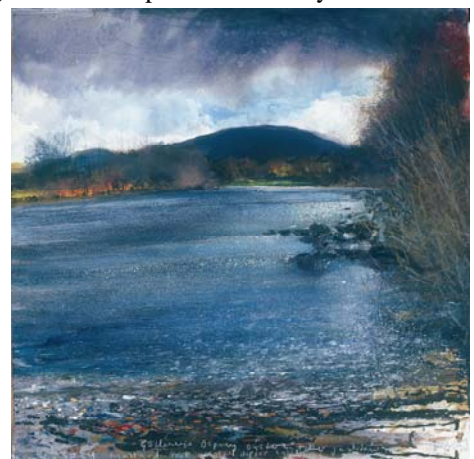


Image 2: CA3

Artist: Kurt Jackson

Title: Goldeneye, osprey, oystercatcher, jackdaw, mallard, rook, wagtail, dipper, curlew, the Spey April 2007

Medium: Mixed media

Dimensions: 57cm x 59.5cm

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Catalogue available upon request.