

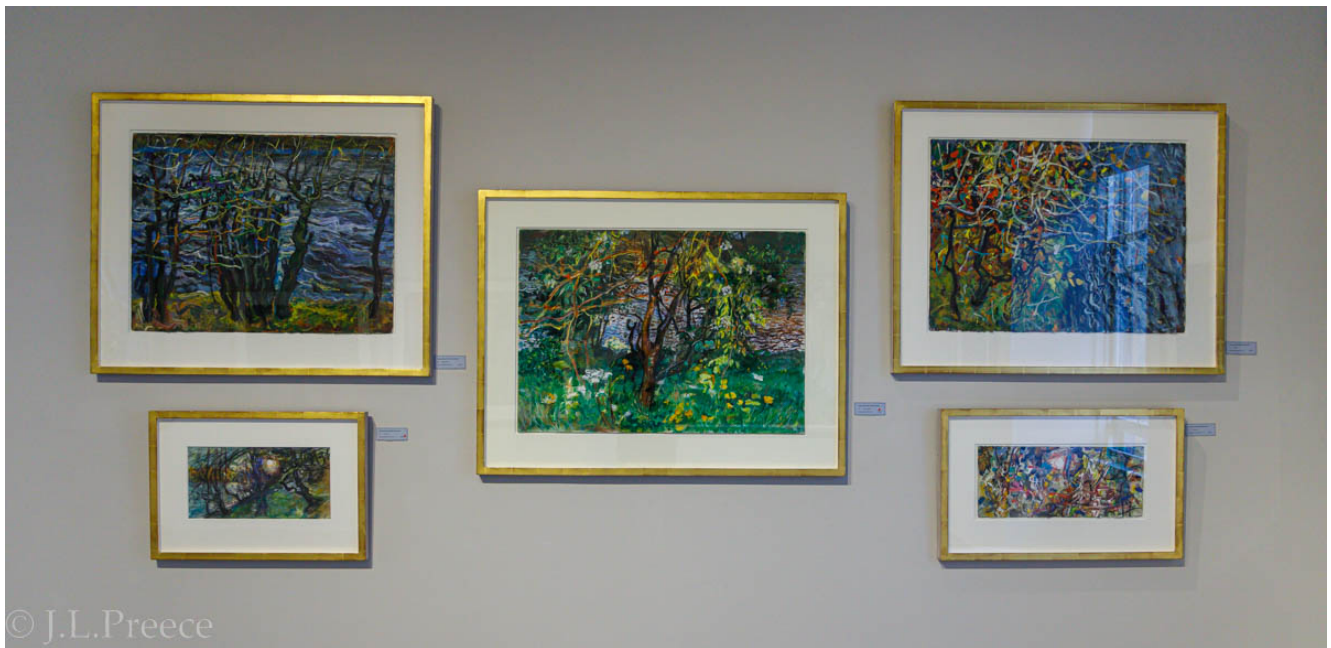
New exhibitions at The Scottish Gallery

Duncan Shanks is returning to The Scottish Gallery this summer with 'The Riverbank – A Landscape of Sorrow and Hope'. These vibrant and energetic paintings, heavily inspired by lockdowns and Shanks' consequential artistic turn to subjects closer to home, are fuelled by the constant flow of water, presenting its resilience in nature.

Having lived in Crossford in the Clyde Valley for 60 years, with the river that flows past his house and garden a constant presence in his life, Shanks finds inspiration in the consistent energy of the river. The water lapping the tangled bank is an ever-present soundtrack in his environment. His paintings capture the river's constant motion, with each brushstroke overcoming an instinct to organize and structure the chaos.



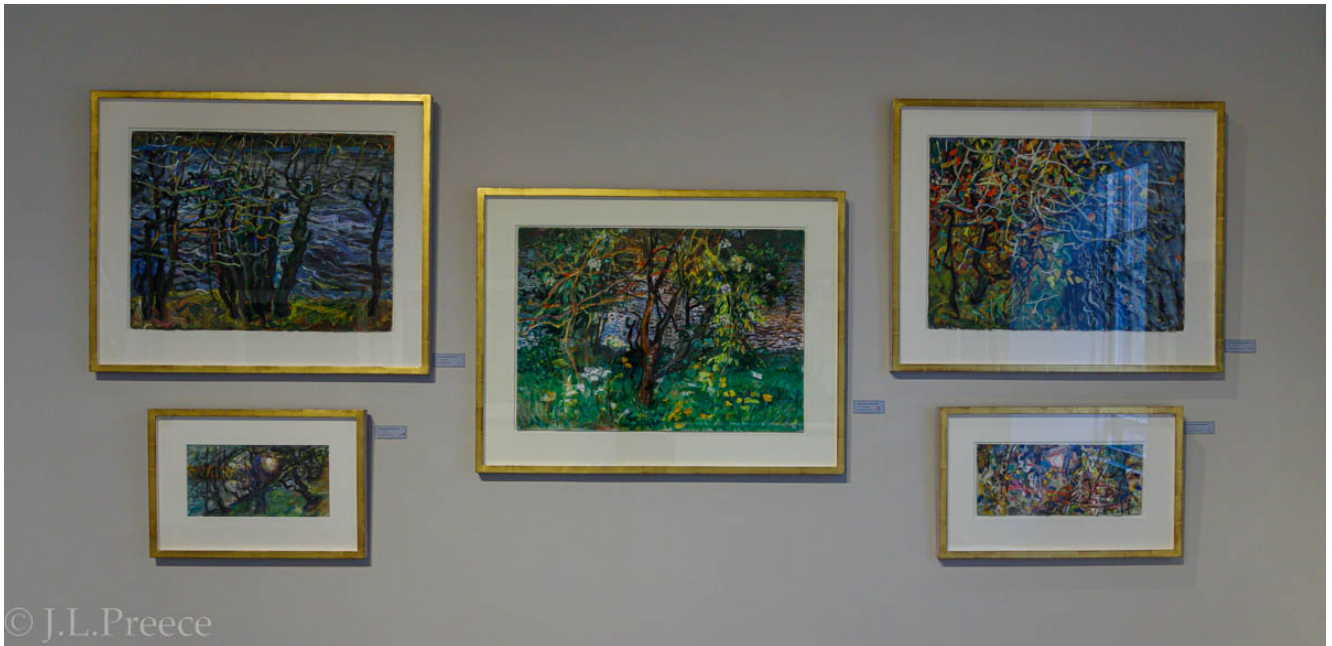
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Shanks' previous exhibitions have focused on the drama of the landscape and the balance between structure and chaos. 'The Riverbank – A Landscape of Sorrow and Hope' illuminates his little corner of the Clyde Valley with all the magnificence and drama of a grand vista. It is the act of looking which is the driving force behind his art; by observing the garden and river every day, moments can be witnessed that he will have never seen before.

For Shanks, the studio and garden are intrinsically one; the journey of a painting echoing the life of the garden, which is cultivated, but then left to follow its own untamed path.

Shanks commented, "From the blocks of moving paint, I gradually find my river images, continually dismantling and reconstructing their form and design in a search for that elusive moment when paint and nature come together. Though unplanned and unintentional, the predominant theme and character which has emerged from my work has been a sense of enclosure.



The Riverbank – A Landscape of Sorrow and Dreams photo call,
The Scottish Gallery, Edinburgh, 28th July 2022

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“It is a restless yet invigorating, confident and unlike the tranquillity of a medieval enclosed garden or the well tender flowerbeds and pools of Giverny, in an unforgiving close up of untamed nature”.

A life dedicated to art and an attitude that views a day without painting or drawing as wasted, looking for parallels in writing and music; this is Shanks’ world. After a career spanning six decades, his thirteenth exhibition at The Scottish Gallery will be highly anticipated as a vivid feature in the 2022 Edinburgh Art Festival.

Running in parallel with Shanks’ exhibition at the gallery is the ceramics exhibition ‘Uncertain Cadence’ featuring works by Australian ceramist Kirsten Coelho.

Coelho works in porcelain creating functional forms and vessels of distilled and otherworldly perfection, which represent her preferred fusion of the formal with the abstract.



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Kirsten Coelho
Uncertain Cadence
28 July - 27 August

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Deeply grounded in North-Asian ceramic history and the powerful legacy of the British studio movement, her refined interpretations of humble domestic wares nevertheless possess a distinctly contemporary and Australian sensibility. Her work is held in numerous collections worldwide.

The monograph Kirsten Coelho by Wendy Walker was published in 2020. Signed copies are available in The Gallery and online – [click here to view.](#)

Title – The Riverbank – A Landscape of Sorrow and Hope
Exhibition

Title – Uncertain Cadence

Dates – Thursday 28th July – Saturday 27th August 2022

Location – The Scottish Gallery, 16 Dundas Street,