

A co-production with

**Leopard Creative**  
International Arts Consultancy

THE VANNER GALLERY

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IMAGINE:  
illustrating stories

14 JAN – 9 APR 2022



When we open a book we open our minds. Books take us to new places and offer new perspectives. The role of the illustrator is to help bring our imagination to life as we read, to make these new worlds more vivid, more magical and more alive – to show us meaning beyond the written word.

This wide-ranging exhibition brings together the work of many of the world's best-loved and internationally acclaimed picture book illustrators. It combines original artwork from household names such as Raymond Briggs, Eric Carle, Lauren Child, Shirley Hughes, Oliver Jeffers, Anita Jeram, David McKee, Jill Murphy, Helen Oxenbury, Axel Scheffler and Shaun Tan with works by artists who have come to the fore more recently.

Many of the works on show are from published books, making the opportunity to own them even more special.

A warm welcome to the gallery and we hope you enjoy the show.

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## IAN BECK

Ian Beck graduated from Brighton College of Art in 1968. He worked as a freelance illustrator for magazines before creating drawings for recording artists, most notably the cover of Elton John's 1973 album *Goodbye Yellow Brick Road*. His first illustrated books were published in the early 1980s and included several award-winning picture books. He has also written and illustrated his own books, including the Tom Trueheart series of novels which have been published in more than 20 languages.

### *I Saw Three Ships Come Sailing In*

Watercolour on paper

37 x 40cm

Unused full page spread from *The Oxford Nursery Book* (Oxford University Press, 1995)

Signed



## BENEDICT BLATHWAYT

Benedict Blathwayt started his career as a painter before going on to publish more than 50 children's books, including the hugely successful *Little Red Train* series and *Bramble*. He won the Nestlé Smarties Book Prize in the six to eight years category for *Tangle and the Firesticks* in 1987.

### *Faster, Faster, Little Red Train*

Watercolour on paper

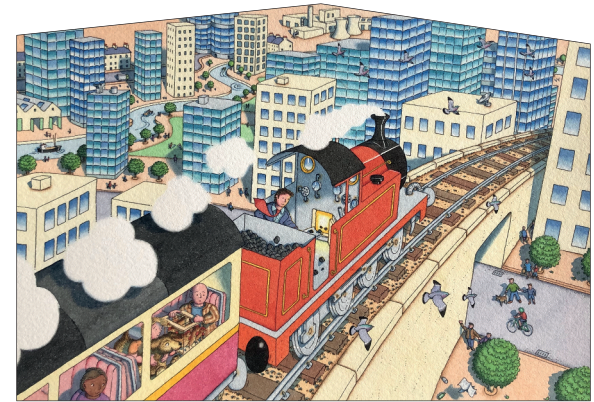
19 x 28cm

Published front cover artwork from

*Faster, Faster, Little Red Train*

(Julia MacRae Books, 1999)

Initialed



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## RAYMOND BRIGGS

Raymond Briggs studied at Wimbledon School of Art and the Slade School of Art, London. He won the Kate Greenaway Medal twice, for *The Mother Goose Treasury* in 1966 and for *Father Christmas* in 1973. He has been described as “the poet laureate of British grumpiness” and is best known for *The Snowman* (1978) which was later turned into the iconic Christmas animation. He was awarded a CBE for services to literature in 2017.

### *Fungus The Bogeyman*

Inks and watercolour on paper

29 x 42cm

Published artwork from *Fungus The Bogeyman Plop-Up Book*

(Hamish Hamilton, 1982)

Signed



## ANTHONY BROWNE

Anthony Browne studied graphic design at Leeds College of Art and began his career as a medical artist. He has published more than 50 books and is the recipient of numerous awards, including the Kate Greenaway Medal (twice), the Kurt Maschler Award (three times) and in 2000, the Hans Christian Andersen Medal, an international award given to an illustrator in recognition of their body of work. His work has been widely exhibited all over the world and his books have been translated into over 25 languages. From 2009–11 he was the Children's Laureate.

### *Little Bear*

Gouache on paper

20 x 20cm

Published artwork from *A Bear-y Tale* (Hamish Hamilton, 1989)

Signed



## ERIC CARLE

Eric Carle was born in New York and educated in Germany, where he graduated from the prestigious Akademie der bildenden Künste in Stuttgart. After returning to New York he worked as a graphic designer and art director before illustrating and writing stories. He is the author and illustrator of more than 70 books, including the classic picture book *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*, which has been translated into 66 languages and sold over 50 million copies worldwide.

### *Papa, Get Me the Moon*

Paper collage

33 x 23cm

Independent artwork

Signed



## LAUREN CHILD

Lauren Child studied art at Manchester Polytechnic and London Art School. She is the author and illustrator of the hugely popular *Clarice Bean* and *Charlie and Lola* books, among others. She has won the Kate Greenaway Medal and the Nestlé Smarties Book Prize (twice). In 2010 she was awarded an MBE for services to literature and was the Children's Laureate from 2017–19.

### *Slightly Invisible*

Inks on paper

98 x 63cm

Independent edition based on the front cover of *Charlie and Lola*:

*Slightly Invisible* (Orchard, 2010)

Signed



## PETR HORÁČEK

Petr Horáček was born in Czechoslovakia and grew up on the outskirts of Prague. He studied design and painting at the Academy of Fine Art in Prague, graduating as a Master of Fine Art in 1994. In 1995 he moved to England and began to write and illustrate books soon after his first child was born. *Strawberries are Red* and *What is Black and White?* were published in 2001 and he received the Books For Children Newcomer Award in the same year. Since then Petr has written and illustrated many books for children, winning awards in the UK, the USA and The Netherlands. *Solitary* comes from the point where Petr's need for painting meets his need for illustrating books. Similar paintings are inspired by books or music.



### *Solitary 2020*

Mixed media, acrylic paint, collage

29 x 39cm

Independent artwork

Signed



## SHIRLEY HUGHES

Shirley Hughes studied fashion and dress design at Liverpool Art School, before continuing her studies at the Ruskin School of Drawing and Fine Art in Oxford. Her first book, *Lucy and Tom's Day*, was published in 1960. She has won the Kate Greenaway Medal twice, for *Dogger* in 1977 and for *Ella's Big Chance* in 2003, the Other Award and the Eleanor Farjeon Award. Shirley was awarded an OBE in 1999 for services to children's literature and in 2017 became a CBE for services to literature.

### *Alfie and Annie Rose Storytime*

Gouache on paper

26 x 41cm

Alternative version of published cover artwork from *The Big Alfie and Annie Rose Storybook* (Red Fox, 1988)

Signed



## ROBERT INGPEN

Robert Ingpen studied art and book illustration at The Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology (now RMIT University) and began his career as an illustrator and storyteller in 1968. In 1986 he became the only Australian to be awarded the international Hans Christian Andersen Medal for his contribution to children's literature as an illustrator. He has illustrated an acclaimed series of children's classics which continue to be published in many editions worldwide.



### *The Owl*

Watercolour on paper

25 x 57cm

Published artwork from *Who is the World For?*  
by Tom Pow (Walker Books, 2000)

Signed

## SIMON JAMES

As a child, Simon James gained a great affection for the cartoonists' books found on his father's shelves. They were to play a big influence in his approach to making picture books, leading Simon to consciously chose line-work to depict his ideas visually. Simon has published over twenty titles in many languages around the world. Titles such as *Dear Greenpeace*, *Sally and the Limpet* and *Baby Brains* have established him as a much-loved author/illustrator of children's books.

His latest book, *Mr Scruff* is a personal favourite. "The theme, the text and the illustrations encapsulate so much of what I enjoy seeing in a picture book," he says. "There's an economy of word, a lightness in the handling of the underlying theme and in the illustrations."

### *Mr Scruff*

Watercolour and ink on paper

38 x 29cm

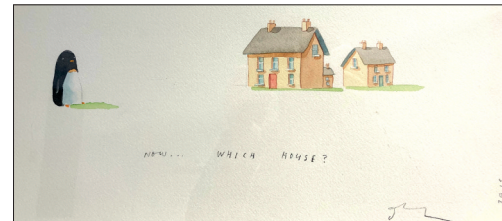
Alternative version of published cover artwork from *Mr Scruff* (Walker Books, 2019)

Signed



## OLIVER JEFFERS

Oliver Jeffers grew up in Belfast. His practice encompasses painting, bookmaking, illustration, collage, performance and sculpture. His original artwork has been exhibited in prestigious institutions worldwide, including the Brooklyn Museum in New York, the Irish Museum of Modern Art in Dublin, the National Portrait Gallery in London and the Palais Auersperg in Vienna. He is the recipient of numerous awards, including a New York Times Best Illustrated Children's Books Award, the Bologna Ragazzi Award, an Irish Book Award and a UKLA Award.



### *The Penguin*

Watercolour and pencil on paper

30.5 x 40cm

Preliminary watercolour image for  
*Lost and Found* (HarperCollins, 2005)

Signed



## ANITA JERAM

Anita Jeram studied art and illustration at Manchester Polytechnic. Her first book, *Bill's Belly Button* was published in 1991 a year after she graduated. Anita has written and illustrated her own books as well as working with many other children's authors. Anita illustrated the much-loved classic *Guess How Much I Love You* written by Sam McBratney (Walker Books, 1994) which has sold over 50 million copies worldwide and been translated into over 50 languages.

### *Little Nutbrown Hare Wanted to Play*

Watercolour on paper

38 x 57cm

Alternative version of published artwork from *Will You Be My Friend?* by Sam McBratney (Walker Books, 2020)  
Signed



## JOHN LAWRENCE

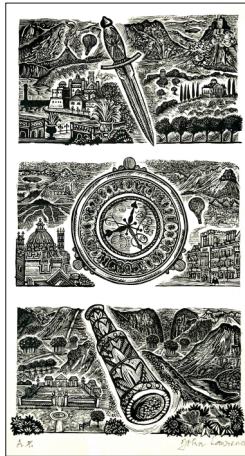
John Lawrence is an illustrator and wood engraver who attended Hastings School of Art and the Central School of Arts and Crafts (now Central Saint Martins). He has illustrated more than 250 books, some of which he has also written. His work covers a wide range, from picture books for children to adult titles including the bestselling *Watership Down* by Richard Adams and Philip Pullman's *His Dark Materials* trilogy. His work is in several public collections including the V&A, the Ashmolean Museum and Manchester Metropolitan University.

### *His Dark Materials*

Vinyl engravings – ink on paper

35 x 25cm

Front cover artwork for all three books in the *His Dark Materials* trilogy by Philip Pullman (Scholastic Children's Books/David Fickling Books, 1995–2000)  
Signed



## ALICE LICKENS

Alice Lickens is an award-winning author and illustrator whose work has been published around the world. She studied illustration at Kingston University graduating in 2010 and since then has worked extensively in publishing. Alice is one of the first illustrators in the UK chosen for the Sendak Fellowship and in Autumn 2012 went to live and work at Maurice Sendak's residence in Connecticut.

### *No 9 Stork Street*

Gouache, collage, house paint, coloured pencils

and ink on paper

42.5 x 22cm

Preparatory artwork for a new picture book  
Signed



## DEBRA MCFARLANE

Debra McFarlane graduated from Kingston University in 1997 with a BA (Hons) in Illustration. Her work is inspired by fairy tales, stories, animals and places she has visited. She has illustrated books by a wide range of authors including Barbara Pym, J.M. Barrie and Kenneth Grahame. Her work has been exhibited at The Illustration Cupboard, the British Library and the Royal College of Art.

### *The Delights of Flying*

Lithograph with aquatint

38 x 28cm

Published artwork from *Peter Pan and Wendy* by J.M. Barrie (The Folio Society, 2005)  
Signed



## DAVID MCKEE

David McKee studied at Plymouth Art College. He has written and illustrated over 50 picture books, including children's classics such as *Mr Benn*, *Not Now Bernard*, *King Rollo* and most famously *Elmer*. David was named Illustrator of the Year at the 2020 British Book Awards and in the same year was awarded the prestigious BookTrust Lifetime Achievement Award, which honours the body of work of an author or illustrator who has made an outstanding contribution to children's literature.

### *Elmer and Rose*

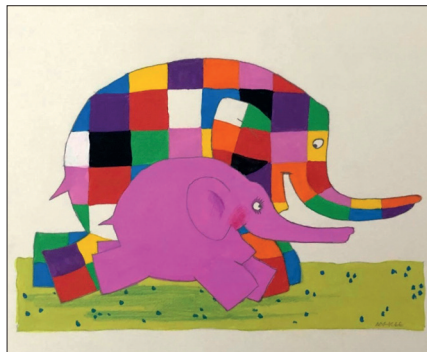
Gouache on paper

16 x 34cm

Published artwork from the title page of *Elmer and Rose*

(Andersen Press, 2005)

Signed on reverse



## JILL MURPHY

Jill Murphy attended Chelsea Art School and Croydon Art School. The success of her first book *The Worst Witch*, published when she was 24, paved the way for her long and successful career. She had further success with the *Large Family* books which have sold more than five million copies around the world. Jill's work has been awarded many prizes, including Commendations for the Kate Greenaway Medal, the 1987 Parents Magazine Best Books for Babies award and the Nestlé Smarties Book Prize. Jill Murphy died in 2021.

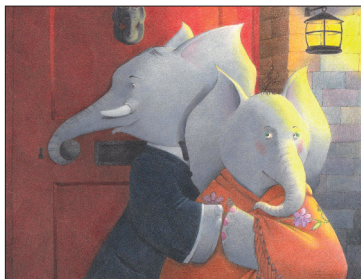
### *We've Escaped!*

Pencil crayons on paper

21 x 25cm

Published artwork from *All in One Piece* (Walker Books, 1998)

Signed



## HELEN OXENBURY

Helen Oxenbury is one of the best-loved and most widely-acclaimed illustrators of her time. She has illustrated many iconic and bestselling titles, including *We're Going on a Bear Hunt* by Michael Rosen, *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* by Lewis Carroll and *Ten Little Fingers and Ten Little Toes* by Mem Fox. The illustrator of more than 80 books for children which have together sold more than 35 million copies, she has been awarded the Kate Greenaway Medal, the Kurt Maschler Award and the Eric Carle Honor.

### *"Don't Grunt," said Alice*

Watercolour on paper

23 x 19cm

Character study from *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* by Lewis Carroll (Walker Books, 1999)

Signed



## NEIL PACKER

Neil Packer studied graphics, illustration and printmaking at Colchester School of Art. He worked as a graphic designer in London before turning to illustration full-time in 1984. His work has been widely exhibited, including at the Royal Academy, the British Museum, the British Library and the V&A. Neil was awarded the prestigious Bologna Ragazzi Award for non-fiction for *One of a Kind* at the Bologna Children's Book Fair in 2021.

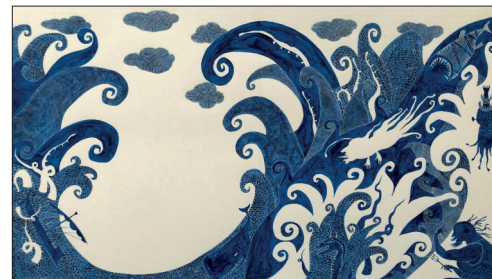
### *Poseidon*

Gouache on paper

24 x 44cm

Published artwork from *The Odyssey* retold by Gillian Cross (Walker Books, 2012)

Signed



## KORKY PAUL

Korky Paul was born in Zimbabwe and studied at Durban School of Art. He began his career as an illustrator in Greece. After working in advertising in the UK and the USA, he studied film animation before publishing his first children's book in 1980. He illustrated *Winnie the Witch* which won the Children's Book Award in 1987 and has been published in more than 10 languages. His work is on display at the University of Findlay's Mazza Museum in Findlay, Ohio.

### *Left, Klunk! Left, Klunk!*

Ink on paper

37 x 28cm

Published artwork from *Left, Klunk! Left, Klunk!* by Jeremy Strong in *Eating Candy Floss Upside Down: A Carousel of Stories and Poems* edited by Carousel Magazine (Penguin, 2003)  
Signed



## FRANN PRESTON-GANNON

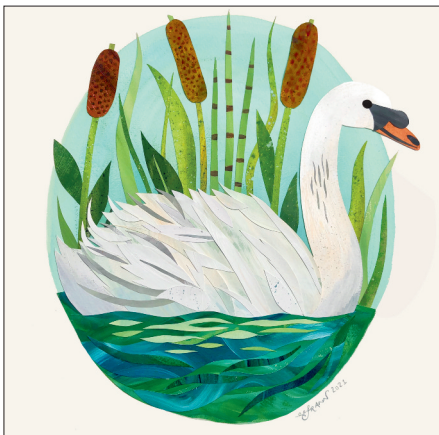
Frann Preston-Gannon is an award-winning illustrator and author for young children. Her books have been published around the world and include the picture books *The Journey Home*, *In the Swamp by the Light of the Moon*, *There's a Rang-Tan in My Bedroom* (written by James Sellick) and the highly-acclaimed anthology of nature poems *I Am the Seed That Grew the Tree* selected by Fiona Waters.

### *Swan and Reeds*

Mixed media paper collage

45 x 40cm

Personal work  
Signed



## AXEL SCHEFFLER

Axel Scheffler was born in Hamburg. He studied Visual Communications at Bath Academy of Art in Corsham, Wiltshire, a course which included an exchange to Cooper Union in New York. He is best known for his partnership with Julia Donaldson on many well-loved picture books, including *The Gruffalo* which has been adapted for the stage and film, sold more than 17 million copies worldwide and been translated into over 100 languages.

### *Zog*

Gouache on paper

22 x 18cm

Character study from *Zog* by Julia Donaldson  
(Alison Green Books, 2010)  
Signed



## KRISTINA STEPHENSON

Kristina Stephenson studied costume and set design and had a successful career in theatre and children's television before turning her hand to writing and illustrating picture books when she had her children. She was inspired to create the much-loved *Sir Charlie Stinky Socks* by her own son Charlie (who doesn't have stinky socks!). Her latest book *The Museum of Marvellous Things* (Hodder) is a celebration of creativity and imagination which Kristina and her musician husband Nigel are currently touring as an interactive family show with a live band.

### *The Wish Took Flight*

Ink and coloured pencil

62 x 25cm

Alternative artwork produced for *The Museum of Marvellous Things*  
(Hodder Children's Books, 2021)





## SHAUN TAN

Shaun Tan graduated from the University of Western Australia in 1995 with joint honours in Fine Arts and English Literature. He began drawing and painting images for science fiction and horror stories in small-press magazines as a teenager and has since become best-known for illustrated books that deal with social, political and historical subjects through surreal, dream-like imagery. Shaun is the recipient of an Academy Award for the short animated film *The Lost Thing*, the Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award and the Kate Greenaway Medal.



### *The Creation Myth*

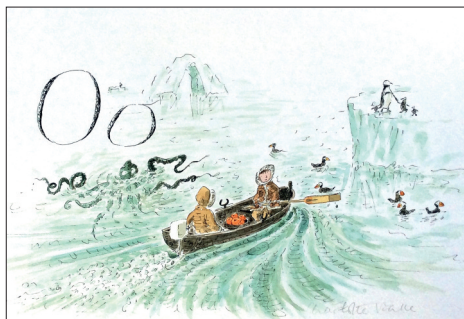
Pastels on paper  
49 x 68.5cm  
Concept artwork  
Signed

## CHARLOTTE VOAKE

Charlotte Voake was born in Wales and studied Art History at the University of London. Her first illustrations were published while she was studying there in 1978. She has won the National Art Library Illustration Award, the Sheffield Children's Book Award and the Nestlé Smarties Book Award twice, for *Ginger* in 1997 and for *Pizza Kittens* in 2002.

### *Octopus*

Watercolour on paper  
28 x 37.5cm  
Finished artwork for An Alphabet Book (unpublished)  
Signed



Exhibition catalogue designed by Sue Newnham  
Printed by Salisbury Printing Company Ltd