**Sheila Anderson Hardy**

Short Biography

Born in a small seaside village in Galloway, Scotland. I am a graduate of Glasgow School of Art.

I am a full-time painter exhibiting in select galleries across Scotland and in London.

I have exhibited with:

* RSW at the Royal Scottish Academy,
* Flora Scotia at the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh,
* The Society of Women Artists, Mall Gallery London,
* The Society of Botanical Artists, London

Returning to rural Scotland after a long absence, my creative arena is the exquisite natural beauty of the Scottish Border’s countryside, where I now live. The changing seasons, the colours of the landscape, natural forms, the light and the mood and memory they evoke provide endless inspiration.

My preoccupation is with the importance and fragility of the eco-systems which guard our future.

My subjects are the wild places, often verges and hedgerow. My attention is drawn, not so much to the “grand vista” but to the often overlooked flora and fauna, which thrive by our roadsides and field margins.

Statement

My work is rooted in nature. The landscape is my focus but my attention is invariably drawn to the banks and field margins, with their abundance of flora, observing their transformation through the seasons. My interest is in the small elements which make up the bigger picture.

I approach my work by walking in the countryside around my home taking notes and sketching. I take photographs too, as source material for later work in the studio. Still life and flowers in vases serve as favourite studio subjects, especially when the cold winter wind blows outside.

I love the pared down graphic impact of monochromatic images and they feature strongly in my folio. I have been influenced by the traditional Japanese ink technique Sumi-e. Using varying dilutions of black pigment ink to capture the essence of natural subjects leaving out extraneous detail. I might also use charcoal to describe woodland, hedgerow or animals. I make prints, small lino or wood cuts and dry point etchings.

I work in water-colour merging pigments and glazes, layering and adding other media, striving to capture light, reflections, trees and plant forms. I work in oil on canvas by building up thin layers blending and spattering paint, drawing and scraping back to create texture and interest.

My responses vary, figurative images emerge, sometimes, for example, in the form of botanical studies. Occasionally a more abstract expression takes place on the paper or canvas, subliminal imagery triggered by dreams, memory or emotion.

Tuition

I have a broad range of techniques in many different media to teach and demonstrate.

* Painting in watercolour inks and acrylics (mixed media)
* Oil Painting
* Drawing, charcoal, pencil and ink
* Lino and Woodcut printing
* Drypoint Etching

I teach a variety of subjects,

* Still life Drawing and Painting
* Botanical Drawing and Painting
* Landscape Sketching and Painting (Outdoors, weather permitting)
* Lino printing

Individual and Group tuition charged at £25 per hour + mileage and materials

Available for Day Workshops and Art Groups

Bookings welcomed email ….......or call 07903602092

Watch this space for upcoming workshops



