

## SPW PRINTMAKERS FORUM MONDAY APRIL 28:2008

### SWANSEA....my favourite place.

**Present:** Sheila Clark, Elissa Evans, Alan Figg, Jackie Ford, Sarah Hopkins, Judith Stroud & Alan Williams

**Apologies:** Alison Porter, Nina Morgan

**Food was eaten; tea was drunk and then after blocking out the noise from the Swans Victory Parade the forum began:**



Jackie gave brief overview of our **Changing Swansea** Projects and from this, discussions on paper type and print sizes, prices and ideas evolved; We are working towards being able to put portfolios of prints together. Without being too prescriptive, these need to have some basic format in common.

**Paper:** Judith and Sheila are going to look at some suitable paper samples- smooth yet thick enough for collagraphs, or possibly a few types for all to choose from depending on their chosen technique. The desire to have paper all one colour was felt to be important. The paper may/will be sold as close to cost price as possible.

**Print sizes:** will be determined from the type of paper agreed on as need to be as economical as possible – aim to get 6 sheets out of one etc  
As a rough size the paper will be around A3: many people professed a preference for a square image which will be around 8"x8". A full set of guidelines will be available next week.

**B&W:** As previously agreed Prints are to be B&W- however if colour is nec perhaps just as a hand embellishment? Chine Collé

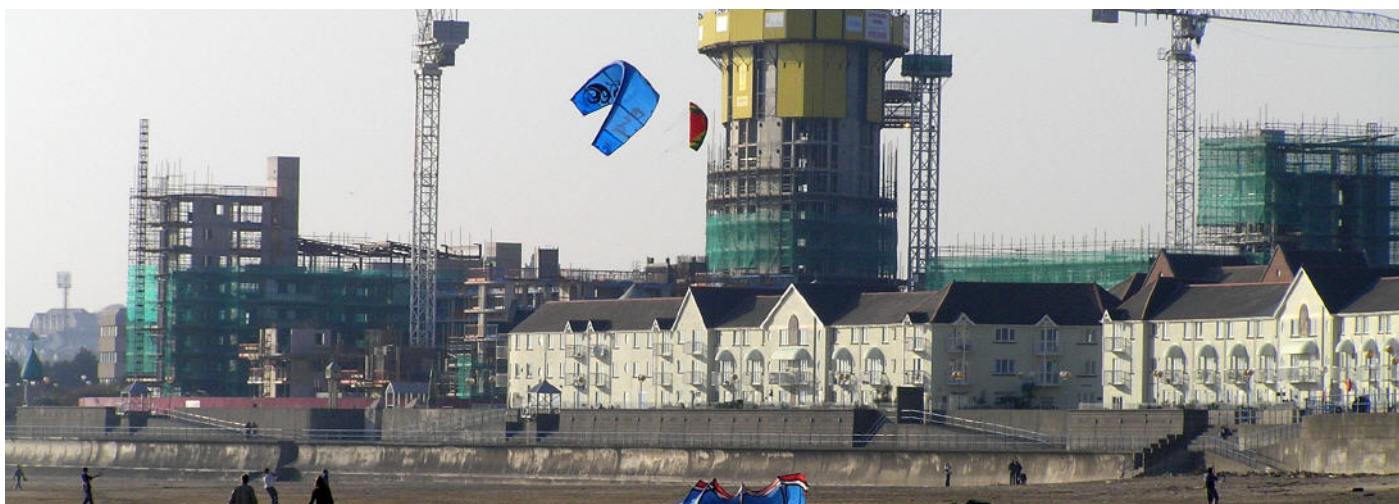
**Techniques:** Etching, Digital, lino, collagraphs, screen... Mixed prints the lot! Just make sure you can do 50-I for one will not be doing an intricate collagraph or etching!

**Edition size:** Various amounts discussed;  
25-too few especially if selling well.  
100 too many- DT experience!

It was agreed that the edition size should be around 50[Tbc] but no need to produce all in one go unless technique demands /allows this. If we have more than one image/design then the incentive is to make them and sell them- but we don't want too many-or do we?

**Prices:** Some discussion on pricing brought up various amounts;  
£60 a print?  
Keep them under £50.  
£30 too cheap...

Cost more as individuals prints than if buying a folio of 3 or 6 etc. on a pick and mix basis. Comments on this would be useful for future Forum and the end of this project- how much do you want to sell for? We don't want to under price but they need to be affordable to our local market place



Elissa had suggested we base this session around the phrase-  
**'My Favourite place [In Swansea]'**

With reference to the ideas of Artist as *commentator* or as a *visionary* or a *recorder/documentor/chronicler*, the group took it in turns to say and show a little of their ideas so far. Be warned- some have lovely prints already!!

It became clear that there will be a variety of approaches and regardless of technique and this will produce a varied selection of prints for the buyers and an extremely exciting exhibition. [The Grand Theatre is provisionally booked for August 2009 - dates to be confirmed by Jackie/SPW.

**Just to wet the appetite and get those creative juices flowing; some of the ideas for prints so far:**

Alan Figg-The slip bridge [that should never have been removed!]

Sheila Clarke lives out of Swansea and regularly uses the Park and Ride and so has had the chance to watch the evolving landscape through SA1. This is likely to be her starting point.

As a Swansea boy Alan Williams is looking at some 60's Swansea references.

Judith Stroud-Pages from a Swansea Note Book

Sarah Hopkins- SA1 Docks Dev, Traffic, Cranes, or maybe something more ...'cute' (I'm sure you said this Sarah? Or perhaps I'd eaten too much humous! Sorry!)

Elissa Evans-Line drawings of Fav places/coast line-reflections of self in Swansea Windows- past and present. Has an old Foundation sketch book of unfinished ideas to choose from- but how to choose?

Jackie Ford-Marina, Promenade Walk, Robin Campbell Public Art, Cranes and Scaffolding Silhouettes-how to narrow the choice from the great photos already taken down is the hard bit.

Many of us have worked on Swansea themes in the past and this can be an opportunity to revisit unfinished ideas in old sketch books or even carry on from some work that has already been successful. All present agreed that working on sketches, artists proofs will lead to further decisions and selections and that at the next session it would be good to share these images and possibly get help with any technical or design queries/difficulties.

For the final prints/images the idea that some sort of quality control has to be in place, was raised- especially if we are to sell these but then again, as Full Members and Printmakers of varied experience this really needn't be a big issue- Plus who knows what the buyer wants- this is a great chance to have a complete mix of styles and images and techniques.

### **Next Session**

Due to May bank holidays and SPW Studio commitments the following dates have been agreed.

**May:** Because of the Bank Holiday **no printmakers forum**

**June 30th:** This session will be used for a short general meeting of full members at 6.30: The main session will start at 7.00pm, Don Owen, Wood Engraver, will be coming to talk about his delightful work- as seen at the PF on 31.03.08.

Please note: this session is open to all

**July 28th:**

A volunteer is required to run/organize this Forum - and I for one will be eating there beforehand- if you fancy sharing some bread and smelly cheese see you there from 6.30pm!

SO get drawing and printing and see you then!

Elissa Evans