

**DAVID  
PRENTICE  
1936 - 2014**

**WORKS ON PAPER  
NOT PREVIOUSLY EXHIBITED**



**Janet's Foss, Gordale Scar - 1984**  
Charcoal, 3 ¼ x 23¼ in

# DAVID PRENTICE

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**NOT PREVIOUSLY EXHIBITED**  
**1982 - 2012**

**20th June - 11th July 2015**  
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# David Prentice – Works on Paper

## 1982 to 2012

### An Introduction by John Davies

By the time that I met David and Dinah Prentice in late 1995, the couple were extremely well established in Malvern. My first show of David's work was at Stow-on-the-Wold in June 1996, by which time David has already produced and sold a large volume of watercolours, pastels and oil paintings, dating from around 1987.

Since his death in May 2014, with Dinah's help, Jemima Webb has most efficiently reorganized and consolidated her late father's studio; it was in this process that some forty-five previously un-exhibited works on paper were found in one of David's plan chests. It is these drawings, pastels and watercolours, mainly dating between circa 1982 and 1993 that form this exhibition. In addition there are later works from 2008 – 2012 not exhibited for some reason, certainly not on grounds of quality or lack of it.

Dinah Prentice maintains that David always regarded himself as a "stay at home painter – with excursions". In fact during a recent telephone conversation that I had with Dinah, she said that they did travel a good deal, both in the British Isles and in France and Spain. With four daughters, to keep costs to a minimum, travel in earlier years meant camping or staying in a cottage loaned by a friend or contact. Only in later years came the comparative luxury of renting a cottage.

While David was teaching, the Prentices' first home from circa 1960 to 1970 was at Coleshill, Warwickshire. A move to Hellidon, Northamptonshire followed with the purchase of a large house, economical at the time, in the centre of Northampton. The family spent another decade there through to 1990, David retiring from teaching in 1986.

Trips to Wales were relatively frequent, both to the Barmouth Estuary in the North and the Gower in the South as well as other locations on the borders and hinterland; it was on David's retirement in 1986 that they rented a cottage at Barmouth. The Prentices had a strong attraction to Wales; the possibility of a move there was strongly considered, but the Malverns also had long standing association for David from childhood visits with his father. For practical considerations, Malvern won through; a friend had lent them a house in Malvern which then led them to rent a house in nearby Upton-on-Severn for six months. They used this time to look for a suitable property; initially reluctant to view the villa in which Dinah still resides, this turned out to be a fine choice providing the two of them with ideal working space on the two main floors. The Malvern compositions mostly date from 1987 and more intensely with the move to Ashdown Villa in 1990.

Dinah also recounts lots of trips to France and on two occasions such trips were made as a result of her work, textile wall-hangings, being hung there. One such visit was a result of her work being shown at the Grand Palais in Paris, another at Le Bazacle in Toulouse. One early trip to France extended to camping in the Pyrenees, by car for David and Dinah, motorbike for their daughter and partner Nick, tents almost being washed away in torrential rain.

Much later, from around 2007, visits to the Isle of Skye also featured, a result of visiting Kate and Nick who had settled there, the two of them building something of an eco-house in magical terrain.

It is clear to see that David worked industriously capturing both distant scenery as well as views of his later home environment at any given opportunity and over an extended period of time. This exhibition provides a fascinating insight to the capability of this outstanding artist. It features contrasting compositions that one does not normally associate with this master landscape draughtsman, yet which display equal authority to those works of his that we know best.

John Davies, June 2015



**Arenig Fawr Y Castell and Gelli Deg from Ffridd Y Fawnog - 1987**  
Charcoal and body colour, 23¼ x 35¾ in





**St Non's near St Davids Head, Wales - 1982**  
 Pastel, 23¼ x 35¾ in



**The Gower**  
 Pastel and watercolour, 23½ x 35½ in



**The road to Machynlleth from Cadar Idris, 2000 ft - 1987**  
Watercolour, 23¼ x 35 in



**St Davids, South Wales - 1982**  
Watercolour and gouache, 23¼ x 35¼ in



**Landscape with Rainbow**  
Pastel, 23½ x 35 in



**Incoming Tide, Trebarwith Strand - 1988**  
Watercolour, 23¼ x 35¾ in





**Lane, Trees and Rainbow**  
Watercolour & body colour, and pastel, 23¼ x 35¾ in



**Isle of Skye, Sunset**  
Watercolour, 24 x 34 in



**Sligachan Bridge, Isle of Skye - 2012**  
Watercolour, 23½ x 33¾ in



**Footpath from Stow to Broadwell, Gloucestershire - 1987**  
 Pastel, 22¾ x 35¾ in



**Iron Bridge, Bewdley - 2005**  
 Ink and watercolour, 14 x 19½ in





**Banks of the Seine, Paris - 2003**  
Pastel, 14 x 19½ in



**La Rochelle - 2009**  
Watercolour and body colour, 14 x 19½ in



# **Travels through FRANCE AND SPAIN**



**Pyrenees - 1997**  
Watercolour, 23¼ x 35¾ in



**Col de Puymorens, Pyrenees**  
Pastel, 23¼ x 35¾ in

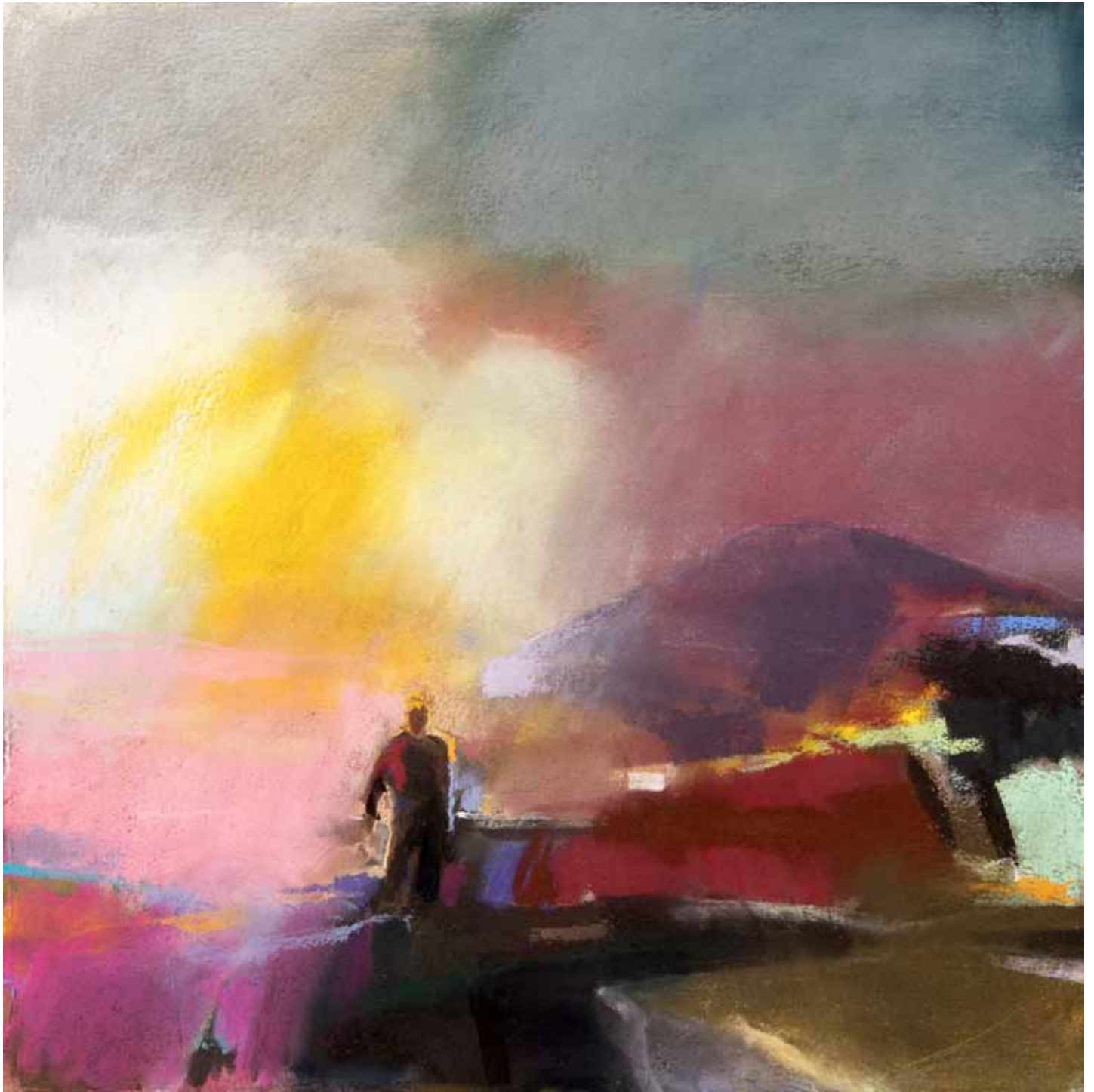


**The Road to Calais and Boulogne I**  
 Pastel, 23½ x 35½ in



**The Road to Calais and Boulogne II**  
 Pastel, 23½ x 35½ in





**Evening Hill Walker**  
Pastel, 23½ x 24 in



**Watercolours & Pastels  
of  
THE MALVERN HILLS  
1987 to 2011**



**Malvern Common I - 28.02.2011**  
Pen and ink, 10½ x 10½ in



**Malvern Common II - 28.02.2011**  
Pen and ink, 10½ x 10½ in



**Malvern Hill Sketch I - 09.05.2008**  
Reed pen and wash, 10¼ x 10¼ in



**Malvern Hill Sketch II - 09.05.2008**  
Reed pen and wash, 10¼ x 10¼ in





**Worcestershire Lane Sketch I - 2010**  
Pen and ink wash, 13¾ x 19¾ in



**Worcestershire Lane Sketch II - 2010**  
Pen and ink wash, 13¾ x 19¾ in





**Malvern Hills - 1993**  
Watercolour, 14 x 19½ in



**Walkers near the Heathland, Malverns**  
Pastel, 23½ x 35¼ in





**Snow on the Malvern Hills - 1993**  
Watercolour, 14 x 19½ in



**Trees and Wild Grasses, Malverns - 1993**  
Pastel, 23½ x 35¼ in



**Single Walker, Malvern Hills, High Summer - 1993**  
Watercolour, 23½ x 35¼ in



**Malvern Ridgeway, Looking South - Autumn 1987**  
Watercolour and pastel, 23½ x 36¼ in



**The Path below Black Hill, Malvern - 1992**  
Watercolour, 23½ x 35¾ in



**Walking Family, Malvern Hills I**  
Watercolour, 23½ x 35¾ in





**British Camp Reservoir - 1993**  
Pastel, 23½ x 31½ in



**The Wet Lane, Malverns - 1987**  
Pastel, 23¼ x 35¾ in



**Malvern Ridgeway - January 1988**  
Watercolour and gouache, 23¼ x 36¼ in



**A Lane on the Worcestershire/Herefordshire Border - 2010**  
Watercolour, 23½ x 33¾ in





**Worcester Beacon and the Wells Hills, Malvern - 1992**  
 Watercolour and body colour, 23½ x 36¼ in



**Summer Grass, Malvern Hills I - 1991**  
 Pastel, 23½ x 36¼ in





**Bonfire, Wych and Beacon - 1991**  
Watercolour, 23½ x 35¼ in



**Walking Family, Malvern Hills II - 1993**  
Watercolour and body colour, 23½ x 35¼ in



**Single Walker, Snow and Trees, Malvern Hills**  
Watercolour, 23½ x 34 in



**Falling Snow, Malvern Hills, 1993**  
Watercolour and gouache, 23½ x 35¼ in





**Malvern Hills, the Western Slopes under Snow - 1992**  
Watercolour and gouache, 21¼ x 35¼ in



**Frost and Snow, Malverns**  
Pastel on watercolour, 23½ x 35¼ in



# DAVID PRENTICE 1936 - 2014



## Biography

1936	Born near Birmingham
1949-1952	Moseley School of Art & Crafts
1952-1957	Birmingham College of Arts & Crafts
1964-1972	Co-Director & Founder, Ikon Gallery, Birmingham
1980-1990	Lived in Northampton
1986	Retired from teaching in Birmingham
1986-1987	Artist in Residence at Nottingham University
2014	Died, Malvern, May 7th 2014

## Selected Solo Exhibitions

1968	Arts Council Gallery, Cambridge
1971	Serpentine Gallery, Kensington Park, London
1977	Coracle Press, London
1974/80	Ikon Gallery, Birmingham
1993	Gainsborough's House, Sudbury, Suffolk
	Midlands Contemporary Art Ltd, Birmingham
1992/94	Anna-Mei Chadwick, London
1994/97	Art First, London
1996/98/01	The John Davies Gallery, Stow-on-the-Wold
	Malvern Theatres
2002	ART London, Duke of York's HQ, Chelsea
	Malvern Theatres, 'Paintings from the Sixties'
2003/05/06/08	The John Davies Gallery, Stow-on-the-Wold
2006	Modern British Artists, London
2007	Lemon Street Gallery, Truro, Cornwall
2008	Medici Gallery, London
2008/10/11/12	The John Davies Gallery, Moreton-in-Marsh
2010	Finding Landscape, University of Birmingham
2011	Monnow Valley Arts, Walterhouse, Herefordshire
2011	Number Nine the Gallery, Birmingham
2012	Shell House Gallery, Ledbury
2013/14	The John Davies Gallery, Moreton-in-Marsh

## Selected Group Exhibitions

1956-1997	Royal Birmingham Society of Artists
1964/65	Betty Parsons Gallery, New York
1965	Museum of Modern Art, New York
1967	Albright-Knox Gallery, New York
1968/69	Axiom Gallery, London
1968/70	Arts Council Touring Exhibition, UK
1968/70/72	John Moore's Liverpool Exhibition, Liverpool Art Gallery
1969	Curwen Gallery, London
1970/71	Lisson Gallery, London
1976	Birmingham City Art Gallery
1985-2000	The Royal Watercolour Society, London
1988/89	Camden Arts Centre, London
1989	Anita Shapolsky Gallery, New York
1989/90	Royal Institute of Painters in Watercolour, London
1989-2007	Singer & Friedlander/Sunday Times Competition, UK
1995	Birmingham City Museum & Art Gallery
2000/02	Discerning Eye, London
2004	Ikon Gallery 40th Anniversary Exhibition
2014	Worcester City Art Gallery 'Skylight Landscape'

## Awards

1955	Painting Prize	Industrial Britain
1958	Painting Prize	Royal Artillery
1990	First Prize	Singer & Friedlander/Sunday Times
1996	Third Prize	Singer & Friedlander/Sunday Times
1999	Second Prize	Singer & Friedlander/Sunday Times
	Third Prize	Kaupthing Singer & Friedlander /Sunday Times
2011	Short listed for House for Lords, No 1 Millbank	

## Principal Collections

Miami-Dade Community College, Miami, Florida  
House of Commons Acquisition Committee  
Betty Parsons, New York  
Albright-Knox Art Gallery, Buffalo, New York  
Art Institute of Chicago, Robert Mayer Collection  
Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery  
Victoria & Albert Museum, London  
Arts Council of Great Britain  
Rank Organisation  
Charterhouse Bank Ltd  
Ashmolean Museum, Oxford  
Bass Museum of Art, Miami Beach, Florida  
Museum of Modern Art, New York (member's gallery collection)

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Period, Modern & Contemporary Art

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